

**BOARD MEMO**

Date: May 9, 2024

For ACTION   X    
For INFORMATION       

**FROM:** Amy Creed, Executive Director of Specialized Instruction

**THROUGH:** Pierrette Finney, Ed. D., Chief Academic Officer  
Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Ed.D., Superintendent

**TO:** The Honorable Michelle Rief, Chair, and  
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grant

**ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence  
Goal 3: Student Accessibility and Support

**SY 2023-2024 PRIORITY AREA:**

Academic Achievement  
Student Supports  
Staff Supports

**SUMMARY:**

Under the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA, 2004), its federal implementing regulations, and the Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Students with Disabilities in Virginia (effective July 7, 2009), local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to submit a Local Special Education Annual Plan (Annual Plan) for providing special education and related services to children with disabilities. The FY 2024 Annual Plan serves as the formal agreement between the local school board and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) for implementing federal and state laws and regulations governing these services. Accordingly, the disbursement of state and federal funds appropriated for the education of children with disabilities is contingent upon the approval of this plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

The application for the 2024–2025 school year supports the main initiatives within the Office of Specialized Instruction, which are enumerated in the Office of Specialized Instruction Project Plan. Focus areas include Specially Designed Instruction (SDI), Co-Teaching, Interventions, and Transition. This application was done in collaboration with the Financial Services Department.

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This application delineates the required set aside amount for children with disabilities placed by their parents in private schools. The funding for this group of students is based on a formula that considers the total number of students with disabilities in the public schools and the total number of students with disabilities who are parentally placed in private elementary and secondary schools located in Alexandria.

Alexandria City Public Schools continues to be identified by VDOE as having a significant disproportionality in the following area of race/ethnicity and disability category when compared to the general population: Black students with an Emotional Disability (ED). As such, ACPS is required to set aside fifteen percent of grant funds towards Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS) to address this issue. A plan to provide those services will be developed separately in conjunction with VDOE.

Prior to submitting the Annual Plan to the VDOE, each school division shall review the Annual Plan with the local Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and submit the Annual Plan to the local school board for approval. The Annual Plan was shared with SEAC members on April 24, 2024.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board approve the 2024–2025 Annual Plan for submission to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE).

### **IMPACT:**

The approval of the Annual Plan is essential to improve outcomes and support instructional programming for students with disabilities through the proposed funding of \$3,988,561.00 for Part B, Section 611 Flow-Through Funds, and \$103,273.00.00 for Part B, Section 619 Preschool Funds.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. 240509\_IDEA\_Grant\_Annual\_Plan

### **REFERENCES::**

None

### **CONTACT:**

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