

Date: January 11, 2018

For ACTION _____

For INFORMATION X

Board Agenda: Yes X

No _____

FROM: Kurt Huffman, Director of School, Business and Community Partnerships

THROUGH: Lois F. Berlin, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Ramee Gentry, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant Update

BACKGROUND:

LINK (Linking Instruction, Nurturing Knowledge) Club is a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant funded by the United States Department of Education. LINK Club provides afterschool services to ACPS elementary-school students who reside at Brent Place Apartments, an affordable housing complex in Alexandria’s west end (375 S. Reynolds Street, Alexandria, VA 22304).

Approximately 50 students in grades kindergarten through 5th grade receive services Monday-Friday from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and family engagement opportunities multiple nights per week for the families of participating students. Extended programming is offered on early-release days, holidays, seasonal and summer breaks.

During each regular day of programming, ACPS certified teachers provide academic coaching and homework help to students. ACPS LINK Club teachers also engage students in a variety of project-based learning activities focused on literacy and math. Social/emotional supports for students are facilitated weekly by an ACPS school counselor and social worker.

Community partners provide a variety of additional support services. For example, during extended programming days, enrichment services are provided by Smart Learning Solutions, Young Playwright Theater, UpCycle Creative ReUse and Local Motion Project. Family engagement services are provided by Literacy Council of Northern Virginia, Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) of Northern Virginia, City of Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services and the Workforce Development Center.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the attached LINK Club presentation.

CONTACT PERSON: Kurt Huffman, 703-619-8307

ATTACHMENT: LINK Club – 21st CCLC Program presentation