

BOARD BRIEF

Date: October 11, 2019
For INFORMATION: X

Upcoming Board Agenda:

Yes X

No

Agenda Date: 10/24/19

FROM: Mignon Anthony, Chief Operating Officer
Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer
Gerald R. Mann, Jr. Ed.D, Executive Director of Secondary Instruction

THROUGH: Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: The High School Project Industry Advisory Boards

ACPS 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 1: Academic Excellence and Educational Equity

Goal 4: Facilities and the Learning Environment

Goal 6: Effective and Efficient Operations

SY 2019-2020 FOCUS AREA:

Focus Area 3: High School Project

FY 2020 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Gap Group Achievements

Academics

Communications and Customer Service for External Stakeholders

Safe Schools for Students and Faculty

Optimal and Equitable Learning Environments

SUMMARY

ACPS coordinates with multiple advisory committees to enhance educational programming. These committees, which are made up of members from Alexandria business and industry leaders, provide advice to ACPS program staff, principals, and the School Board. As part of The High School Project, ACPS is convening Industry Advisory Boards (IABs) comprised of leaders in industry, business, Higher Education, government, and nonprofit institutions. The IABs will provide input to the Educational Design Team (EDT) on the types of educational programming and work-based learning opportunities necessary to prepare students for success in the 21st-century. The IABs will coordinate with and reinforce the activities of the standing advisory boards.

The chairs have been asked to serve for at least one year and to host quarterly meetings. The desired outcome of the kick-off meetings is to confirm roles and responsibilities, recruiting strategy, focus areas, and next steps. The IABs and Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee will coordinate these efforts.

BOARD BRIEF

ACPS is convening two IAB Kick-Off meetings this month as follows:

Meeting #1: Wednesday, October 9, 2019, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Industry Advisory Boards: Business and Government, The Arts, Education and Human Services

Meeting #2: Thursday, October 24, 2019, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Industry Advisory Board: STEM

The chairs of the IABs are as follows:

Business and Government	Jennifer Ferrara, Vice President M&T Bank
Education and Human Services	Kate Garvey, Director Department of Community and Human Services City of Alexandria
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)	David Baker, Assistant Director Government and Community Affairs Virginia Tech
	Megan Wallace, Associate Director Industry Partnerships Virginia Tech
The Arts	Mario Rossero, Senior Vice President of Education The Kennedy Center

BACKGROUND

The High School Project began in the summer of 2018 and has progressed steadily throughout the past year. On January 24, 2019, the School Board voted to continue high school project work with a focus on several priorities and a commitment to a multi-option evaluation process. On August 22, 2019, the School Board had a work session that focused on the EDT's models of what a two high schools model or Connected High School Network could look like, as well as a preliminary discussion on the site analysis. The School Board Work Session on September 19, 2019, focused on the detailed site analysis and cost comparison between two high schools model and Connected High School Network. On September 26, 2019, the School Board voted in favor of a Connected High School Network strategy to address Alexandria's future high school capacity needs that included the construction of a high school building (and associated site amenities) on the Minnie Howard campus for 1,600 students.

RECOMMENDATION

The Superintendent recommends the School Board review this and subsequent briefs regularly as a means to stay current with project progress. The project team will respond to and accommodate inquiries from the Board on an as-needed basis.

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