## City/School Board Subcommittee Meeting Monday, April 29, 2024 5:00pm

## **Attendees:**

Justin Wilson, Mayor John T. Chapman, Councilman Dr. Michelle Rief, Chair, Alexandria City School Board Kelly Carmichael Booz, Vice Chair, Alexandria City School Board

Margaret Browne, ACPS (Virtual) Julia A. Burgos, ACPS (Virtual) Laura D. Durham, RPCA Dr. Pierrette P. Finney, ACPS (Virtual) Kate Garvey, DCHS

James F. Parajon, City Manager Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Superintendent Dr. Alicia Hart, ACPS (Virtual)
Sophie Huemer, ACPS (Virtual)
Dr. Tricia Jacobs, ACPS (Virtual)
Yon Lambert, Deputy City Manager
Randy Little, RPCA
Marisol Morales, ACPS (Virtual)
Jane Richardson, ACPS
Taneika Taylor Tukan, ACPS (Virtual)
Dominic Turner, ACPS (Virtual)

Dana Wedeles, CMO

**Agenda Item Description** Discussion/Follow Up/Action Responsible Party(ies) **Item** No. **Approval of Meeting Summary 02.26.2024** I. **Approved Major Projects:** II. a. High School Project They reported that they received the temporary Sophie Heumer Certificate of Occupancy on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We're continuing to work on the site and getting furniture moved in, and relocation efforts will start in earnest in June. They will be do training at the facility. Looking forward to sharing the building with everybody. Our team will be working with the respective Dr. Alicia Hart administrative assistants so we can get the city

	council a tour of the new building prior to a ribbon cutting event.	
	We are continuing implementing and	Dr. Pierrette P. Finney
	developing the master schedules as it relates to the academies. The Department of Teaching	
	Learning & Leadership have been working the Director of School Counseling at the high	
	school along with Transportation and other	
	departments to ensure that the teachers and students know their schedules.	
b. Facility Assessment/CIP Planning	We don't have any updates from ACPS side.	Dr. Alicia Hart
c. Early Childhood Education	From the DCHS report submitted in March 2024, on April 17th, ALX preschool was launched. Any family with the QR code can register for an early childhood experience.	Kate Garvey
	As the budget is up in the air, when we look at our enrollment with VPI, the increase in the match requirement to \$10,700 was made in the new budget. They can't make any decisions until they see that. If we look at different models to deal with that impact for us, one being the reduction of VPI slots, shifting some of the community-based slots over to "Mixed delivery by the state." The benefit of making this shift is two-fold – no match required for mixed delivery and the rate of reimbursement is much higher. It's 18,000 plus for community-based providers.	
	She states that schools can't be mixed delivery. on the community-based side, yes, we really do want to drive toward that, but that's not a viable solution on the school-based side.	Jane Richardson

	We been allotment 569 slots for FY2025. The application for VPI is due May 15 <sup>th</sup> . They can do projections but there's no consequence for projecting more slots. the first application is just a projection of slots for our four-year olds and three-year olds. We are staying within the numbers that they filled last year. We filled 411 slots last year, 405 by Oct. 1st & added six more by Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> which was the late enrollment.	
Out of School Time	Highlights from the presentation includes: LINK Club program – this year by March, we had 354 participants out of 1,409 overall within the OSTP program. Over 52% of the participants paid the full rate. We are hoping that the number will go down because many of the participants will received financial assistance and are entering the program through LINK Club instead.	Laura D. Durham
	Summer enrollment: back in March – we were at 768 but up to 851 and still growing. Preregistration process is increasing successful.  We did since last September is start an Onboarding Academy where we are hiring staff with that has little or no experience. We do a 2-week onboarding where they 2 days of classroom and 8 days of hands on training.  There will be part of a hiring fair in May for 16 to 24-year olds.	Randy Little

We excited to share with you a sort of an abridge version of an update that we share with the school board last month about out of school time and a sustainability plan that we're working on for out of school time and some of the things that we're doing some long term planning.	Julia Burgos
LINK Club forecast: How LINK Club is delivering comprehensive services, what we've learned about the needs here for out of school time programming in Alexandria city, and finally, how our sustainability planning efforts are taking shape.	Taneika Taylor Tukan
SY 2022-23 Impact*– 493 Elem, Middle and High School students participated in VDOE Link Club sites. 2205 House of academics support 94% showed increased in learning while 68% demonstrated improved attendance during the school day. 77% of students attended 90 hours or more of programming throughout the year.	Marisol Morales
Scenarios for Exploration: Rightsizing LINK Club, Expanding division-wide LINK Club OST Program and Redesigning LINK Club for wider participation through fee structure	
The CM suggests that we can come back. Dr KY and I can get together and strategize about how to follow at least the core of the Early Learning Model, and put something for reconsideration about how we would approach this jointly.	Jim Paragon

d. Budget Update	The City Manager noted that we are scheduled to adopt our budget on Wednesday evening (May 1 <sup>st</sup> ). On the operating side, an additional \$4,000,000 appropriation of the school board and on the capital side, additional \$4,700,000 devoted to school funding.	Justin M. Wilson
	Hopefully, we'll have a state budget by May 15 <sup>th</sup> at the latest but it could all the way to June 30 <sup>th</sup> . We are confident in our state revenue projection. From the Governor's proposed range, we'd be \$2.7 million less, to general assemblies approved, we'd be 1.7 million to the good.	Dominic Turner
e. Shared Operations	The three priorities that were identified last May that we work together on shared operations, real estate, youth employment and human resources. Real Estate – no big update. We are waiting until the transportation study is complete, and then we can discuss facility and fleet needs. This plan is expected to staff in June, then we can start discussing it in the fall.  In HR, we have been continuing conversations between the two HR departments. Areas to highlight - RPCA held a job fair in April and promoted ACPS opportunities at the job fair. ACPS is working on instructional hiring fair for May 10 <sup>th</sup> . We've also just identified there's a strong need in special needs and therapeutic recreation in both areas. Recruitment at the community cookouts for both organizations.	Dana Wedeles

In Youth Employment, the youth employment and CTE workgroup act has pulled together in really creating an environment for us to look at across the board. They had their first meeting this month. In May, they'll begin doing gap analysis and the compiling of shared goals. By October, there's be a report of preliminary findings. November, they'll design implementation strategy with partners and by December, they'll finalize the next steps with working group. From February to December 2025, the project plan will be executed with continued engagement.

Margaret Browne (virtually)

We currently have three academies: the governor's Health Science Academy, the Academy of Finance and the AC STEM Academy. We have 56 instructors, six program areas, plus JROTC. There are 80 high school courses, about 79 pathways that we have now narrowed down for our new academy system, and nine Middle School courses that we offer currently. Our CTE enrollment stands at about 6,700 with 492 students in dual enrollment courses.

Dr. Tricia Jacobs

The goal of the new academies is to increase that student engagement and increase student participation. All of our high school CTE courses have been embedded in the new academy system and the academies. ACPS was awarded a \$100,000 Go Virginia grant partnered with Jason Learning.

We also have plans to create pathways for Parks and Rec to highlight the lifeguard

	certification that is needed in our community, as well as pairing for an event planning with culinary marketing and hospitality.	
f. Amazon/VA Tech	VA Tech have worked with us in a computer science cohort. This year, our teams of teachers from ACPS has completed their final training session for the year, and they highlighted meaningful integration of computer science, computation and technology for K through 8th students. Also, two of the teachers were selected to present at a conference this summer. Virginia Tech has also partnered with us on the US drone soccer team competition that was held this Saturday.  Earlier in this school year, Amazon provided us	Dr. Pierrette P. Finney
	with a grant for building momentum field trips. Finally, we are in the planning stages of collaborations with Amazon career externship that would hopefully take place this summer.	
g. Safety and Security	Two quick updates from the ACPS side. We are working on finalizing our presentation as it relates to weapons abatement. Had a recent survey. The results are in - the plan is to present that information to the board in later May, and we'll make sure to share all the information with the city as it relates to the future of the weapons abatement program within ACPS.	Dr. Alicia Hart

	The second update is in regards to our team working with APD to restart our Bradlee (Shopping Center) walkthroughs.  We also had our last meeting with the Slept 2.0 subcommittee. Dr Hart and I expect to have a wrap up report out to the school board and to the council by the end of the school year. The subcommittee made nine specific recommendations to the MOU. They are recommending that we do a couple of surveys: a pulse survey next year and then a more formal survey.	Yon Lambert
h. Collective Bargaining	Since the last joint City Schools meeting, the Board adopted a collective bargaining resolution on May 21st. They are moving into the phase of needing to verify the 30% showing. Then they'll be able to share out a timeline for election of exclusive representative.	Michelle Rief
	I went to lunch, I saw that we had somebody out at our cafeteria at gatehouse talking and collecting cards. Fairfax is going through that same process, and what they've done, they actually have kind of a united front by multiple unions that have kind of joined to work together to kind of move things forward. Is that a possibility?	John T. Chapman
	We've had interest from the Education Association of Alexandria, that's the only entity that's come and shown interest so far. But if they have the appropriate showing and we move into an election, then the law or the	Michelle Rief

		resolution requires an opportunity for interveners.  I think Fairfax is a unique situation, since they already had two unions. So they, I work with AFT during my day job. I know that they've been working hard to coordinate. Yeah, we've always been more of an NEA affiliate	Kelly Carmichael Booz
III:	Other Discussion Items:		
	a. Minnie Howard Pool Operations	We are finalizing an MOU so hopefully that will be completed very, very quickly as the pool is. There is a certificate that it is regulation for competition. We have hired a manager for the site who from our RPCA position in terms of managing the operations there.  We have a lot of opportunities here to grow some careers in in aquatics. Our programming in terms of the community use side of it, we program for the fall in May. Then also coordinating with ACPS in growing the Splash program.	Laura D. Durham
		We are rolling out and phasing in a middle school athletics program starting next year. An update in our last meeting that a swim team is one of the things that will be added.	Michelle Rief

## Next meetings:

- Monday, May 20, 2024, CC/SB Subcommittee City Hall, Council Workroom
- Monday, June 24, 2024, CC/SB Subcommittee ACPS