

# **Committee Report**

Ad hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee School Board Meeting May 2, 2024













## **Essential Questions**

• Do we provide appropriate guidance, governance and support to our Advisory Committees?



 Can standing Board committees improve Board functioning and efficiency?



## Ad hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee

- Formed: March 2021
- Charge: Evaluate and strengthen the relationship between the School Board and its advisory committees
- Members: Abdel Elnoubi, Ashley Simpson Baird, Michelle Rief
- Policy Support: Matt Smith



# **Current Policies and Regulations**

- BCE School Board Committees
- BCF Advisory Committees to the School Board
- BCF-R School Board Advisory Committee Regulations
- BCF-R2 Electronic Participation in Advisory Committees to the School Board Regulation
- BCFB Bylaws for School Board Advisory Committees
- BCFC Roles of the Staff and Board Liaisons to Advisory Committees



### **Committee Work Phases**

- 1. Separate the Board Committee and Advisory Committee policies and regulations
- 2. Revise the Advisory Committee Governance
- 3. Revise the Board Committee Governance











## Advisory Committees

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 6



## **Advisory Committees Work**

- Reviewed prior survey data from advisory committee members
- Conducted a listening session with current advisory committee chairs
- Identified areas of improvement
- Drafted revised policies, regulations, and supporting materials
- Gathered feedback from advisory committee chairs on drafts
- Revised drafts



## **Findings**

Areas that are working well

- Resources provided to the advisory committees
- Partnerships with Board, Staff and other committees
- Providing recommendations



## **Findings**

#### Areas of Opportunity

- Improved listening
- Improved recruitment, selection process, and onboarding
- Clear direction to the committees (perhaps a charter)
- Clear responsibilities for the board liaison
- Systematic opportunities for the committee to present findings and recommendations
- Recognition of advisory committee members



## **Improvements**

- Refined the purpose of advisory committees
- Documented and improved the application and appointment process
- Added an onboarding requirement
- Standardized the scope of work process
- Revised the recommendations process, including creating a template
- Created an Annual Calendar
- Refined the bylaws template











# **Board Committees**

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



### **Board Committees Work**

- Read and discussed books and articles on best practices in governance
- Reviewed Board key responsibilities
- Reviewed Board process to perform key responsibilities



#### **Board Committees Recommendations**

- Create a Board Manual
- Establish three standing committees
  - Operational Excellence Committee
  - Governance Committee
  - Strategy and Accountability Committee
- All key Board functions assigned to one of the committees
- All Board members serve on a committee



## **Operational Excellence Committee**

Provides support and guidance to the full Board in the areas of:

- Stakeholder engagement;
- Advisory committees to the Board;
- Liaisons to City Boards and Commissions;
- Board / City Council relations;
- Agenda setting for Board meetings, retreats, and work sessions;
- Board development including onboarding of new Board members;
- Board self-evaluation;
- Student liaisons to the Board; and
- Evaluation of the Superintendent.



#### **Governance Committee**

Provides support and guidance to the full Board in the areas of:

- Policy;
- Regulations;
- Board processes and procedures; and
- Division legislative priorities.



## Strategy and Accountability Committee

Provides support and guidance to the full Board in the areas of:

- Strategic Plan development, revision, and monitoring;
- Annual Board Areas of Focus;
- Budget;
- School capacity; and
- Monitoring the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the division.



# Questions?

Matt Smith
Policy Services Consultant
matt.smith@acps.k12.va.us



**Superintendent** Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

School Board Michelle Rief, Chair Kelly Carmichael Booz, Vice Chair

Meagan L. Alderton Tim Beaty Abdel-Rahman Elnoubi Jacinta Greene Christopher Harris Tammy Ignacio Ashley Simpson Baird