

**BOARD MEMO**

Date: May 29, 2020

For ACTION  \_\_\_

For INFORMATION  \_\_\_

Board Agenda: Yes  \_\_\_

No  \_\_\_

**FROM:** Stephen M. Wilkins, Ed.D., Chief Human Resources Officer

**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:** Update: Review of Pre-Labor Day Calendar Start in August 2021

**ACPS 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 1: Academic Excellence and Educational Equity

Goal 2: Family and Community Engagement

Goal 6: Effective and Efficient Operations

**SY 2019-2020 FOCUS AREA:**

Focus Area 5: Strategic Plan

**FY 2020 BUDGET PRIORITY:**

Academics

Communications and Customer Service for External/Internal Stakeholders

**SUMMARY:** The 2021-2022 Academic Calendars have been recommended by the Calendar Committee and are presented to the School Board for information. Highlights of the calendars include an earlier start to the school year for both calendars, with a first-time pre-Labor Day start for the traditional calendar. Please note that academic calendars may change due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**BACKGROUND:** At the December 19, 2019 School Board Meeting, the Board approved the study of a pre-Labor Day start in August for the 2021-2022 Academic Calendars. A public survey on the question was completed in January 2020, and the results were reviewed and considered by the Calendar Committee. The Committee studied the question of a pre-Labor Day start in order to align the academic calendars with other divisions in the region. The Committee recommends that the School Board approve the 2021-2022 Academic Calendars in May 2020 in order for staff and families to plan accordingly for this change.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends the School Board adopt the SY 2021-2022 Academic Calendars.

**IMPACT:** Making this calendar decision this early in the process, will allow the staff to plan for changes to school programs, facilities projects and operational services. Likewise, families will be able to plan their family activities around the new start dates for the SY 2021-2022.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. SY 2021-2022 Pre-Labor Day Start Traditional Calendar
2. SY 2021-2022 Modified Calendar

**REFERENCE:**

[February 7, 2020—Board Brief: Review of Pre-Labor Day Calendar Start in August 2021](#)

[May 1, 2020—Board Brief: SY 2021-22 Academic Calendar](#)

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