

BOARD MEMO

Date: October 6, 2022
For ACTION _____
For INFORMATION X
Board Agenda: Yes X
No _____

FROM: Clinton Page, Ed.D., Chief of Accountability & Research
Anthony Sims, Ph.D., Executive Director of School Improvement

THROUGH: Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools
Wendy Gonzalez, Ed.D., Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership

TO: The Honorable Meagan L. Alderton, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: School Accreditation & Improvement Update 2022-23

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

SY 2022-2023 FOCUS AREA:

Social Emotional and Academic Learning Recovery
Hispanic Males
Implementation of Student with Disabilities Plan
Continuous Improvement in KPI Disparities

FY 2023 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Special Instruction Evaluation Implementation as a part of the Strategic Plan
Address Chronic Absenteeism & High School Graduation Rate Among Hispanic Male Students

SUMMARY:

This presentation provides a more detailed synopsis of the 2022-23 preliminary Virginia Accreditation results for all schools. All schools within ACPS are accredited this year, with four school’s accreditation status being assigned with conditions. The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) designates a continuous improvement process supported by the Office of School Quality (OSQ) for all schools with a level two or three performance level in one or more accreditation indicators.

BACKGROUND:

This presentation provided to apprise stakeholders to school accreditation results as determined by data collected within the 2021-22 school year. Overall, all ACPS schools earned a status of accredited, with four schools having a status of accredited with conditions. More

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detailed accreditation results are presented within the PowerPoint and the attached tables through the state Accreditation accountability system. Additional information on the Virginia Accreditation system can be found in the VDOE attachment.

Combined pass rate results in English and Math show that student growth and overall achievement within the 2021-22 school year led to a vast majority of schools achieving a Level One designation of at or above the state accountability standard. Science pass rates do not include any within year growth indicators and are cumulative, in that the assessments given at grades 5 and 8 are cumulative from learning across the three previous school years. Several schools fell below the Level One designation in Science within the most recent year making this a key area for growth going into the current school year. Chronic Absenteeism was not considered as an indicator for the current year Accreditation calculations based on the continuing impact of the pandemic. Data however do show that it will be critical for ACPS to focus on efforts to engage families and students in the importance of school attendance and having the support structures in place when students do need to miss school. Finally, as discussed across data sources, disparities continue to present across student groups and show lower achievement levels within the Black, Hispanic, Economically Disadvantaged, and Student with Disabilities student groups.

The VDOE Standards of Accreditation prescribes monitoring and evaluation activities for the OSQ and divisions with schools identified with school quality indicator performance levels of two and/or three. Schools must complete a Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) and use the results to revise their CSIP. The CNA is a framework for reflection and analysis of teaching and learning in schools relative to VDOE Standards of Accreditation. The process allows stakeholders to look for data trends to better understand challenges and determine the root causes of gaps between current realities and accreditation goals.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Interim Superintendent recommends review of the 2022-23 Accreditation and Improvement Update presentation for possible planning, procedural, programmatic, and/or budgetary changes.

IMPACT:

All schools within ACPS are accredited this year, with four school's accreditation status being assigned with conditions. Results across data sources have identified areas of continuous improvement as ACPS works to inspire all students and address barriers to learning.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. *School Accreditation & Improvement Update 2022-23 Presentation*
2. *2022-23 Accreditation Results Tables*
3. *VDOE In Brief: School Accreditation*

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