

Date: June 6, 2019
For ACTION X
For INFORMATION
Board Agenda: Yes X
No

FROM: Michael Humphreys, Health and Physical Education Instructional Specialist

THROUGH: Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer
Julie Crawford, Ed. D., Chief Student Services Officer

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

TOPIC: Title IV, Part A--Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant

SUMMARY

This is the continuation (third year) of ACPS’s Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant.

In March of 2018, ACPS staff began planning use of current Title IV, Part A grant funding to increase structured nutrition and physical education at the Alexandria City Public Schools found on the West End of Alexandria. Implementation began in fall 2018, and a large percentage of the funding was allocated to supporting professional development for ACPS teachers. The program has supported academic enrichment through the following activities:

1. Sustained focus on students’ monitoring of their own heart rates (with recording and analysis of data integrated into Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math [STEM] lessons);
2. Sustained focus on students’ monitoring of their exercise regimen and its impact upon their sense of personal well-being (with FitBit recording data to determine their patterns of exercise and its relationship to their psychological sense of well-being); and
3. Support for students to enhance their understanding of general nutrition while emphasizing fruit and vegetable intake (with STEM lessons to include the study of nutritional choices in each of the early learning grades and taste-testing activities).
4. Student Services will train teachers and student support team members in trauma informed care and social, emotional, academic learning.

BACKGROUND

Continued funding from this grant supports the following ACPS 2020 Goal 5 (Health and Wellness) objectives:

5.1 Student Physical, Social, and Emotional Health

ACPS will develop, implement, and monitor effective programs that promote physical, social, and emotional wellness in order to maximize students’ learning potential.

5.3 Physical Fitness, Recreation, and Play

ACPS will promote activities and curricula designed to promote lifelong commitments to active, healthy lifestyles among its students and to creative expression.

5.5 Healthy Meals and Nutrition

ACPS will ensure that all students are ready to learn by having the benefit of access to nutritious, appealing school meals and that lessons on the importance of nutritious foods are included in the curriculum.

Further, the funding has allowed for expansion into the additional ACPS elementary schools located on the West End of Alexandria (i.e., Samuel Tucker and Ferdinand T. Day), as well as schools located on the East End of Alexandria with higher Free and Reduced Meals (FARM) rates (i.e., Cora Kelly and Mt. Vernon).

This grant proposal is a continuation of ACPS's current Title IV, Part A grant. The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) has informed ACPS that although its final allotment for this formula grant has not yet been determined, ACPS should continue to use last year's allotment for budgeting purposes.

RECOMMENDATION

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board approve the Title IV, Part A Student Enrichment Grant.

ATTACHMENT

1. Title IV, Part A—Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

CONTACT

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