

**BOARD BRIEF**

Date: June 7, 2019

For ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

For INFORMATION X\_\_\_\_\_

Board Agenda: Yes \_\_\_

No X\_\_\_\_\_

**FROM:** Clinton Page, Chief Accountability 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:** Updates to the Strategic Planning Process

**SUMMARY:**

As discussed at the March 7, 2019 Board Meeting, the division has drafted a timeline for the strategic planning process. This Board Brief is intended to provide an update to the strategic planning process as it relates to the Request for Proposals (RFP) process, the identification of both the steering and larger strategic planning committee, and the planned kick-off event.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6 provides that each local school board shall adopt a division-wide comprehensive, unified, long-range plan based on data collection, an analysis of the data, and how the data will be utilized to improve classroom instruction and student achievement. The plan is to be developed with staff and community involvement and is to include, or be consistent with, all other division-wide plans required by state and federal laws and regulations. Each local school board shall review the plan biennially and adopt any necessary revisions. ACPS Board policy, AF - Comprehensive Plan, implements the Code of Virginia's requirement.

In planning for the creation of the next strategic plan within ACPS, an RFP was released on March 12, 2019. After a pre-proposal conference, review of proposals received and vendor presentations, a contract has been awarded to FourPoint Education Partners. Having been in operation for 15 years, FourPoint Education Partners brings unmatched organizational experience in helping Local Education Agencies (LEAs) assess needs and plan strategically to improve school quality and ensure equity. FourPoint has significant experience engaging stakeholders and helping school systems assess needs, plan strategically, develop leadership capacity, and improve school quality and instruction, specifically with districts serving large percentages of low income and diverse student bodies. ACPS has begun working with FourPoint to plan key activities to guide the division through the strategic planning process. To learn more about FourPoint please visit their website at <https://www.fourpointeducation.com/>.

The Steering Committee has been appointed by the Superintendent and represents a diverse group of various stakeholders including representation from: School Board, Superintendent's

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Senior Leadership Team, City of Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services, parents, support staff, teachers, principals, student service support team members, and community and business leaders. The Strategic Planning Committee has also been identified and is in the final stages of confirmation. The committee consists of a diverse group of staff representing all schools from all levels of the organization, community partners, and parents. In the coming days, the list of all Strategic Planning Steering and Full Committee members will be publicly posted to the ACPS 2025 Strategic Plan web page (<https://www.acps.k12.va.us/Domain/1330>).

The Kick-Off event with both the steering and strategic planning committees will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> at Ferdinand T. Day Elementary to launch the development of the next strategic plan. The objectives of the kick-off event are to highlight the purpose of strategic planning, discuss the role of committee members, note the importance of community engagement, and ensure a shared focus on equity. Committee members will be asked to review salient data and information sources over the summer months to meaningfully inform the work of building a draft strategic plan in the fall/winter months.

At the June 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, FourPoint will introduce their team and as well as discuss the purpose of strategic planning and introduce the strategic planning approach proposed for the coming months.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Superintendent recommends the School Board review the attached materials for possible planning, procedural, programmatic, and/or budgetary changes.

### **IMPACT:**

Specific action steps within the Strategic Planning Timeline have shifted slightly. The division remains on target to have all key activities identified through June 2019 complete.

### **CONTACT:**

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