

Date: December 14, 2023
For ACTION
For INFORMATION

FROM: Taneika Taylor Tukan, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement
Julia Burgos, Chief of School and Community Relations

THROUGH: Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Michelle Rief, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Recommendation for Approval of Community Donation

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 1: Systemic Alignment

Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation

SY 2023-2024 PRIORITY AREA:

Academic Achievement

FY 2024 BUDGET PRIORITY:

N/A

SUMMARY:

On November 22, 2023, Alexandria City Public Schools received \$87,230.00 in funding from Amazon.com Services LLC for our [Student Experiences and Integration in STEAM Learning](#) proposal.

In accordance with ACPS Policy KH and Regulation KH-R, any donation over \$2,500 requires School Board approval. The donation must meet the established standards of acceptance requirements. Those standards and the appropriate responses are detailed below:

DETAILS:

ACPS Donation Standards of Acceptance

1. Have a purpose consistent with the goals of ACPS;

The donation will be allocated to extend career and technical education (CTE) experiences beyond the classroom for grades 6-12 science and CTE students. As we prepare for the new middle school career explorations course along with academies and pathways related to the high school project, providing students with experiences beyond the classroom will foster increased interest and passion in STEAM careers.

2. Impose no undesirable, unacceptable, or hidden costs in terms of resources to ACPS;

The donation has no identified undesirable, unacceptable or hidden costs.

3. Place no unacceptable conditions or restrictions on the school division or its educational or extracurricular programs;

This donation places no unacceptable conditions or restrictions on the school division or its educational or extracurricular programs.

4. Not assume that the School Board will accept responsibility for continuing the benefit of or program supported by the donation if or when the funds are exhausted;

This is considered a one-time donation. It is assumed that the ACPS School Board will not have any further action or responsibility related to this donation.

5. Meet any applicable federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations, Board policies, regulations or guidelines associated with its construction or use; and meet any applicable safety standards.

This donation meets all local laws, regulations, Board policies, regulations and guidelines.

BACKGROUND:

In 2022-23 Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) celebrated increases in division performance in annual Standards of Learning (SOL) student pass rates in the areas of Mathematics, Science, Writing and History/Social Sciences. Academic achievement gaps in Mathematics and Science, widened by the COVID-19 pandemic, began to narrow with most historically underserved student groups increasing proficiency at rates greater than all students.

Building on the positive trajectory for academic achievement and nurturing student growth, this funding creates the opportunity for all eighth grade students and ACHS Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Academy students to participate in hands-on, experiential learning experiences facilitated by local partners.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board accept the donation of \$87,230.00 from Amazon.com Services LLC to fund these unique STEAM experiences for secondary students.

IMPACT:

Funding for student experiences and integration in STEM learning will foster increased interest and passion in STEM careers.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Policy KH
2. Regulation KH-R

REFERENCES:

None

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