

BOARD BRIEF

Date: September 29, 2021

BOARD INFORMATION: X
MEETING PREPARATION:

FROM: Peter Balas, Executive Principal, Alexandria City High School
Jesse Mazur, Ed.D., Principal, George Washington Middle School
Pierrette Peters, Principal, Francis C. Hammond Middle School

THROUGH: Wendy Gonzalez, Ed.D., Executive Director of School Leadership
Terri H. Mazingo, Ed.D., Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

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

TOPIC: Fall 2021 - Secondary Parent-Teacher Conferences for Alexandria City High School, Francis C. Hammond Middle School, and George Washington Middle School

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

SY 2021-2022 FOCUS AREA

Social Emotional and Academic Learning Recovery
Hispanic Males
Middle School Educational Experience
Talented and Gifted
Strategic Plan Implementation

FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY

MTSS including Restorative Practices and PBIS
Chronic Absenteeism among Hispanic Students
Outreach to Hispanic Families to Improve Attendance and Graduation
Outreach to Underserved Communities to Increase Engagement

SUMMARY

This memo updates the school board about adjustments of schedule for secondary parent-teacher conferences.

BACKGROUND

Alexandria City High School, Francis C. Hammond Middle School, and George Washington Middle School conduct Parent-Teacher Conferences twice each calendar school year to provide parents and teachers the opportunities to discuss students' social, emotional, and academic progress. For the 2021-2022 school year, the first round of secondary conferences are on the approved traditional academic calendar for

Thursday, October 7, 2021. Students will not attend school on October 7, 2021 due to parent-teacher conferences. To further foster home-school communication, we invite students to attend the parent-teacher conference with their parent(s). On *Friday, October 8, 2021,* students will follow an early release schedule, as noted on the ACPS calendar for secondary students.

SUMMATION

The schedule for secondary parent-teacher conferences will be communicated to students and parents and include the following highlights:

September 29, 2021

- Beginning on *September 29, 2021,* parents and guardians will receive specific communication through school newsletters and other communication tools, directing them to schedule conferences electronically through digital scheduling platforms.

October 7, 2021

- Conferences will be held on *Thursday, October 7, 2021,* beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 7:00 p.m. to accommodate families' schedules.
- School Administration will develop and communicate scheduled times for lunch, dinner, and breaks for staff.
- Conferences will be held virtually via Zoom. Staff will have the option to work from their classrooms or from home. Digital conferencing is an important mitigation strategy to minimize community spread of COVID-19 and is in alignment with the Essential Visitors Policy.

October 8, 2021

- *Friday, October 8, 2021* is listed as an early release day for students. Given the late hours of the conferences, staff will also be released with students.

RECOMMENDATION

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the information in this memo.

IMPACT

This schedule provides the opportunity for Alexandria City High School, Francis C. Hammond Middle School, and George Washington Middle Schools to maximize time and equity in parent-teacher conferences.

CONTACTS

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