

## BOARD BRIEF

Date: March 4, 2022

**BOARD INFORMATION:**   X  

**MEETING PREPARATION:**       

**FROM:** John Porter, Strategic Partnerships

**THROUGH:** Kurt Huffman, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement  
Julia Burgos, Chief of School and Community Relations  
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:** Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC)

**ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 3: Student Accessibility and Support

Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

**SY 2021-2022 FOCUS AREA:**

Focus Area 1: Social Emotional and Academic Learning Recovery

Focus Area 2: Hispanic Males

Focus Area 3: Middle School Educational Experience

Focus Area 4: Early College

Focus Area 5: Talented and Gifted

**FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY:**

Implementation of 2025 Strategic Plan

**SUMMARY:**

In the fall of 2021, the superintendent discussed with the Department of School and Community Relations, the formation of a Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) designed to engage students in issues of importance and utilize their insight in the decision-making process for ACPS. The SSAC will be composed of students from each high school campus and will reflect the diversity of the school division.

The first meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2022, with a second meeting planned for late May/early June 2022. Meetings will be approximately an hour and a half in length and held during the high school lunch period. King Street Campus students will attend in-person with students from other campuses joining virtually. Students will be selected to participate through an application process with a maximum of twenty-six students serving on the SSAC.

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The agenda for meetings will be established in advance with the superintendent and, while a portion of the agenda will be devoted to providing students with pertinent division information and soliciting their feedback, the majority of the time will be designated for the superintendent to hear from students about their issues and concerns.

### **BACKGROUND:**

ACPS has previously had at least one version of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council concept and thus, this iteration is a relaunching of the concept. Research indicates many school divisions nationally support some form of this concept with most neighboring school divisions providing this opportunity to better involve students in learning more about the functioning of the school division, offering input on upcoming initiatives and providing feedback on issues most directly impacting students.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends the School Board review the information in this brief. The team plans to provide updates as the concept is implemented.

### **IMPACT:**

The implementation of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council will provide an opportunity to increase student voice on issues of importance to the school division and students.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

None

### **CONTACT:**

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