

Date: August 18, 2017

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

For INFORMATION  X

Board Agenda: Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No  X

**FROM:** Tina Constantine, Evaluation & Assessment Analyst, Accountability  
Clinton Page, Chief Accountability Officer, Accountability

**THROUGH:** Lois Berlin, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Ramee Gentry, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria  
City School Board

**TOPIC:** 2017 Preliminary AP Results Brief

**BACKGROUND:**

The Advanced Placement (AP) program provides students with the opportunity to take college-level courses during their high school careers. AP courses are designed to prepare students for college-level academics and students can potentially earn college credit based on their performance on the corresponding AP exam. This brief, prepared by the Department of Accountability, is intended to provide preliminary summative data for the 2017 Advanced Placement results.

*Results*

A total of 858 ACPS students took 1,799 Advanced Placement (AP) Subject Tests in the spring of 2017. The 858 students who took at least one AP test in 2017 represented a 10% increase (n=78) from 2016. When considering the overall student enrollment, one-third of students in grades 10-12 took at least one AP test in 2017. In regards to the number of AP tests taken, more tests were taken in 2017 (n=1,799) compared with those taken in 2016 (n=1,702).

AP tests were scored on a five-point scale; the College Board required a score of “3” or greater to recommend a student for college credit or advanced placement. The College Board awarded scores of “3” or greater to 61% of the AP tests taken by ACPS students in 2017, up four percentage points from 2016 (57%) and 22 percentage points higher than the 2005 total (see Table 1). The proportion of scores of “5” earned (16%) was two percentage points greater than last year’s results and the highest percentage of “5’s” earned since 2005.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Review the attached 2017 Preliminary Advanced Placement Results Brief for an overview of student participation and performance in AP testing.

**IMPACT:**

Compared to spring 2016, there was an increase in both AP participation and performance in spring 2017. There was a two percentage point increase in the proportion of students who took an AP exam and a four percentage point increase in the proportion of scores earning a score of '3' or greater compared to 2015-2016 results. The proportion of students earning the highest AP score of '5' (16%) was the highest percentage earned since 2005.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Clinton Page

**ATTACHMENT:** 2017 Preliminary Advanced Placement Results Brief