

BOARD BRIEF

Date: March 4, 2022

BOARD INFORMATION: X

MEETING PREPARATION:

FROM: Tina Constantine, M.Ed, Evaluation and Assessment Analyst
Clinton Page, Ed.D., Chief of Accountability and Research Officer

THROUGH: 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: ACPS Equity Climate Survey 2021-22

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

- Goal 1: Systemic Alignment
- Goal 2: Instructional Excellence
- Goal 3: Student Accessibility and Support
- Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation
- Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

SY 2021-2022 FOCUS AREA:

- Focus Area 1: Social Emotional and Academic Learning Recovery
- Focus Area 3: Middle School Educational Experience

FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY:

- Implementation of 2025 Strategic Plan
- MTSS Implementation with Restorative Practices and PBIS
- Continue Engagement with Hispanic Families to Improve Graduation and Chronic Absenteeism
- Professional Learning and Cultural Competency Training for all Staff and Partners

SUMMARY:

From March 11 to April 3 Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) will be conducting its second annual equity climate survey with the purpose of measuring perceptions of the current climate and equity within ACPS. This innovative approach blends a traditional climate survey with an equity audit. The equity climate survey is an initiative tied directly to the ACPS Equity for All Strategic Plan. The survey is provided as an attachment to this brief. The information gathered from the equity climate survey will further illuminate potential areas of inequities within our environment. These data will be a part of informing school and department improvement planning over the summer and serve as progress measures for the ACPS 2025 strategic plan.

BACKGROUND:

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As a component of the new Equity for All strategic plan, ACPS will be administering an equity climate survey to staff, students in grades 6-12, and families. The survey combines elements of a traditional climate survey and past ACPS equity audits to gauge school and division climate through the specific lens of equity.

The survey will be administered to staff, students, and families from March 11 to April 3. The survey is provided as an attachment to this brief and is available in English, Spanish, Arabic, and Amharic. The first equity climate survey was administered in spring 2021 and the survey will continue to be administered annually as a part of the strategic plan. This represents a far more representative and frequent approach as historically climate survey work was limited to certain staff and administered once every two years. During this administration the division and schools will work to ensure both high and representative participation across stakeholder groups. Information will be included in the Insider and Express beginning today and is available on the ACPS website. The survey will be highlighted in an upcoming Supe Spotlight video message as well as through graphics and videos across four languages. An awards program is underway for schools that reach key survey participation goals and building leaders will have access to a dashboard to monitor live participation rates.

Data from the survey will be made available prior to the end of the school year and will be leveraged in informing both school and department improvement planning processes as well as other data driven discussions such as the Board's annual Budget Priority Setting discussion.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review this information for an understanding of the ACPS equity climate survey administration.

IMPACT:

The ACPS equity climate survey will generate understanding on how stakeholders are experiencing our organization each and every day through an equity lens.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. ACPS Equity Climate Survey 2021-22

CONTACT:

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