

BOARD MEMO

Date: June 15, 2023

For ACTION

For INFORMATION

Board Agenda: Yes

No

FROM: Dr. Michelle Rief, Chair, and Members of the Ad Hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee

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

TOPIC: Ad Hoc Committee Update

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 2022-2023 FOCUS AREA:

Strategic Plan Implementation

FY 2023 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Systemic Alignment
Family and Community Engagement

SUMMARY:

In March 2021, the Ad Hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee (“Ad Hoc Committee”) was formed to evaluate and strengthen the relationship between the School Board and its advisory committees. The Ad Hoc Committee reconvened this spring to continue its work reviewing the policies governing the Board’s advisory committees. The purpose of this memo is to provide an update to the Board on the committee’s work and proposed direction.

Through the review of advisory committee policies and structures, the Ad Hoc Committee discovered the need to review internal Board governance structures to support effectiveness and efficiency. The committee engaged in reflection and analysis of current Board functioning and reviewed best practices for Boards. As a result, the Ad Hoc Committee would like to recommend the following:

- Reorganize the policies around key functions:
 - Board committees (Policy BCE)
 - Advisory committees (Policy BCF)

BOARD MEMO

- Develop a procedure around advisory committee recommendations modeled on the APS Advisory Committee Recommendations Strategy (see Attachment 1).

- Expand the concept of the Policy Subcommittee to other core Board functions:
 - Budget
 - Strategy
 - Board Operations

BACKGROUND:

The School Board appoints parents, students, staff, and community members to its advisory committees to provide stakeholder input and expertise on school division policies and operations. The Board currently has six advisory committees: Athletic Hall of Fame, Budget Advisory Committee, Career and Technical Education, Talented and Gifted, School Health Advisory Board, and the Special Education Advisory Committee. Each advisory committee meets throughout the school year and provides a Scope of Work and Annual Report.

The School Board established the Ad Hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee in 2021 in an effort to assess the processes, goals and support required by its advisory committees to keep them functioning and thriving. The Ad Hoc Committee presented its recommendations to the School Board on December 16, 2021, which included a proposal to reconstitute the Ad Hoc Committee in 2022 to review the policies governing Board advisory committees. On February 10, 2022 the Board appointed Abdel-Rahman Elnoubi, Michelle Rief and Ashley Simpson Baird to the Ad Hoc Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Ad Hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee recommends that the School Board review this update and share any feedback with Ad Hoc Committee members.

IMPACT:

The recommendations of the Ad Hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee will improve collaboration between the School Board and its advisory committees, as well as overall Board effectiveness and efficiency.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Sample Advisory Committee Recommendations Strategy

REFERENCES:

[December 16, 2021—Ad Hoc School Board Advisory Support Committee Recommendations](#)
[February 10, 2022—Appointments to the Ad Hoc Scholl Board Advisory Support Committee](#)

CONTACT:

Dr. Michelle Rief, michelle.rief@acps.k12.va.us