

BOARD MEMO

Date: September 17, 2020

For ACTION ___

For INFORMATION x

Board Agenda: Yes x

No ___

FROM: Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
Gerald R. Mann, Jr. Ed.D., Executive Director of Instructional Support
Dr. Alicia Hart, PMP, Acting Executive Director of Facilities and Operations

THROUGH: Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: The High School Project Update

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation

SY 2020-2021 FOCUS AREA

Focus Area 3: Strategic Plan Implementation

FY 2021 BUDGET PRIORITY

Facilities Audit Implementation

Outreach to Underserved Communities to Increase Engagement

Improving Customer Relationship Services and Management

SUMMARY

Project Updates

The attached presentation outlines the major activities that need to occur from now until the occupancy of the new building which is targeted for the 2024-2025 school year. The team is transitioning from the planning phase in an effort to start design in alignment with the project schedule.

Educational Design Team (EDT)

Beginning in September, the EDT will resume the effort to reimagine the high school experience, as well as, refine the educational programming enough to inform and complete the site-specific educational specifications.

Industry Advisory Boards (IABs)

On August 26, 2020, the Industry Advisory Boards (IABs) chairs and co-chairs held a work session to discuss the program's status to date and outline strategies for continued progress. There was an agreement to support the EDT's request for teacher professional development

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and provide virtual work-based learning opportunities in each action plan.

Site Development

Proposals for the Architect and Engineer (A&E) Services for the redevelopment of the Minnie Howard Campus were received on August 12, 2020, and are now being evaluated. The project team anticipates awarding the Architect and Engineer (A&E) Services contract after School Board vetting and approval, but no later than November 30, 2020.

ACPS staff will develop an engagement strategy on the colocation of services to determine uses on the Minnie Howard Campus by January 2021. A determination of colocated uses by January is necessary to deliver a school building for use in September 2024.

In addition, if the School Board would like to exercise the option to have the architect conduct preliminary test fits of the colocation options with the school program, fields, and entirety of the site to inform the January 2021 decision, ACPS will need to know when the A&E contract is awarded.

Minnie Howard Displaced Fields During Construction

City and ACPS staff continue to collaborate on viable strategies and locations for alternative field usage when the Minnie Howard fields will need to close for construction starting in Spring 2022 and going through Summer 2025. Community engagement on fields will need to be coordinated with the CIP budgeting process informing some key decisions on this issue.

Community Engagement

This Fall, staff is proposing to host several virtual events to bring the community up to date on the High School Project and begin the pre-design community engagement process for the new building and site at Minnie Howard.

BACKGROUND

The High School Project began in the summer of 2018 and has progressed steadily. On September 26, 2019, the School Board voted in favor of a Connected High School Network strategy to address Alexandria's future high school capacity needs that included the construction of an expansion to the T.C. Williams High School by building on the fields portion of the Minnie Howard Campus.

RECOMMENDATION

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the attached materials and remain current with project progress.

IMPACT

The aforementioned activities and milestones continue to support the progress of the High School Project.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 200917_Att1_HSP_PowerPoint_Presentation
2. 200917_Att2_August_17_to_August_31_Meeting_Summaries

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