

BOARD MEMO

Date: November 11, 2021

For ACTION: _____

For INFORMATION: ☒ _____

Board Agenda: Yes ☒ _____

No _____

FROM: Gerald R. Mann, Jr., Ed.D., Executive Director of Instructional Support
Peter Balas, Executive Principal, Alexandria City High School
Tricia S. Jacobs, Ph.D., Coordinator, Career and Technical Education

THROUGH: Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
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: High School Educational Design Team Update

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

SY 2021–2022 FOCUS AREA:

Focus Area 1: Social-Emotional and Academic Learning Recovery

FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Implementation of 2025 Strategic Plan

Complete Educational Programming Design for the High School Project

SUMMARY:

The Educational Design Team (EDT) has reconvened to continue planning for the Alexandria City High School (ACHS) connected network. In this phase two of the work, the EDT has expanded to more members from ACHS. The EDT has been divided into three work groups: Student Pathways led by Fredericka Smith, Instructional Excellence led by Michelle Campiglia, and Student Experience led by Carlos O. Gonzalez. These work groups will define each area for the high school as we prepare for the opening of the new Minnie Howard campus. The leads for each work group will turnkey details to ACHS administration and staff leadership on the work status and receive feedback.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) is a significant factor in the connected network of ACHS. Dr. Jacobs has charged the Industry Advisory Boards (IABs) with two goals:

1. Provide teachers with experiences to enhance their understanding of what skills and further learning students will need to succeed in each IAB's career-cluster pathways.

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2. Develop real-world connections to the daily experiences in the career fields represented in each IAB for teachers and students.

Along with these goals, the IABs have work plans that include:

- Building Externship (40 hours)/Internship (280 hours) experiences for teachers to be held in evenings, during the summer, or on weekends (both paid and unpaid)
- Creating two 2.5 hour professional learning experiences for ACPS teachers at two different places of business represented in the IAB
- Developing up to five senior experience opportunities to be held May 16–22, 2022
- Planning new pathways in Construction Trades and Management, Firefighting, Energy, and ACTech

BACKGROUND:

The High School Project began in the summer of 2018 and has progressed steadily throughout the past year. On January 24, 2019, the School Board voted to continue the High School Project work to focus on several priorities and a commitment to a multioption evaluation process. On September 26, 2019, the School Board voted in favor of a Connected High School Network strategy to address Alexandria City's future high school capacity needs. This includes designing and constructing a new Minnie Howard Campus that will house more students and offer more programming opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review information in this memo and the attached presentation.

IMPACT:

Reviewing the status update will align the School Board's understanding of the budget priority of completing educational programming design for the High School Project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 211111_Board_Presentation_EDT_update

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