



1340 Braddock Place
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: 703-619-8000
TTY: 711 (Virginia Relay)
www.acps.k12.va.us

 @ACPSk12
 facebook.com/ACPSk12

Interim Superintendent
Lois F. Berlin, Ed.D.

School Board

Chair
Ramee A. Gentry

Vice Chair
Cindy Anderson

Members
Ronnie Campbell
William E. Campbell
Hal E. Cardwell
Karen A. Graf
Christopher J. Lewis
Margaret Lorber
Veronica Nolan

November 28, 2017

By email and U.S. mail

Dr. Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Virginia Department of Education
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218-2120
steven.staples@doe.virginia.gov

Re: Alexandria City Public Schools Superintendent Search Status

Dear Dr. Staples,

I am writing to update you on the Alexandria City School Board's progress in recruiting its next superintendent, in accordance with the provisions of Va. Code § 22.1-60, which require:

“A school board that has not appointed a superintendent within 120 days of a vacancy shall submit a written report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction demonstrating its timely efforts to make an appointment.”

As you are aware, Alexandria City's former superintendent, Dr. Alvin Crawley, resigned his position effective July 30, 2017. In August 2017, the Alexandria City School Board contracted with the executive search firm Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA), to lead a nationwide search for its next superintendent.

During September and October 2017, HYA partnered with our school division to collect input from stakeholders and the wider Alexandria community on the desired characteristics for ACPS' next superintendent. Between individual interviews, focus groups and both paper and online surveys, this outreach effort resulted in approximately 1,500 community members participating in the development of a leadership profile for the ideal candidate. HYA's report to the School Board can be found here:
http://esbpublic.acps.k12.va.us/public_itemview.aspx?ItemId=10265&mtgId=1185.

Upon completion of its leadership profile report, HYA began to recruit and prepare its slate of candidates in earnest. Earlier this month, HYA presented its slate and the School Board selected

candidates for an initial round of interviews. That first round will be completed by the end of November 2017, and the Board plans to hold a follow-up round of interviews shortly thereafter.

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the Alexandria City School Board expects to complete all interviews, enter into contract negotiations with the selected candidate, and announce the appointment of its next superintendent by the end of 2017, well ahead of its January 30, 2018 (180-day) deadline, as further mandated by Va. Code § 22.1-60.

Please let me know if I can provide any further information on the status of ACPS' superintendent search. I look forward to sharing the news of an appointment with you in the very near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ramee Gentry".

Ramee Gentry, Chair, on behalf of the
Alexandria City School Board