

BOARD MEMO

Date: January 21, 2021
For ACTION ___
For INFORMATION ___
Board Agenda: Yes ___
No ___

FROM: Mr. Kurt Huffman, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement
Ms. Julia Burgos, Chief of School and Community Relations

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: Recommendation for Approval of Community Donation

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

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

SY 2020-2021 FOCUS AREA:

- Focus Area 1: Reopening of School
- Focus Area 5: Academic Disparities

FY 2021 BUDGET PRIORITY:

- Outreach to Underserved Communities to Increase Engagement
- K-2 Literacy Programming

SUMMARY:

On January 4th, Alexandria City Public Schools received a donation from Amazon of 6,680 classic edition books for ACPS middle and high school students, valued at \$ 44,707. In accordance with ACPS Policy KH and Regulation KH-R, any donation over \$2,500 requires School Board approval. The donation must meet the established standards of acceptance requirements. Those standards and the appropriate responses are detailed below:

ACPS Donation Standards of Acceptance

1. Have a purpose consistent with the goals of ACPS;

The donation supports educational equity for ACPS students by providing Amazon Classic Edition books for our students throughout the Division. This donation aligns with ACPS 2020 Strategic Goal 2, 3, 4, and 5.

BOARD MEMO

2. Impose no undesirable, unacceptable, or hidden costs in terms of resources to ACPS;

The donation has no identified undesirable, unacceptable, or hidden costs.

3. Place no unacceptable conditions or restrictions on the school division or its educational or extracurricular programs;

This donation will place no unacceptable conditions or restrictions on the school division or its educational or extracurricular programs.

4. Not assume that the School Board will accept responsibility for continuing the benefit of or program supported by the donation if or when the funds are exhausted;

The ACPS Teaching, Learning and Leadership Team (K-12 Literacy) will continue to work with Amazon through the receiving and distribution of this donation. It is assumed that the ACPS School Board will not have any further action or responsibility related to this donation.

5. Meet any applicable federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations, Board policies, regulations or guidelines associated with its construction or use; and meet any applicable safety standards.

This donation meets all local laws, regulations, Board policies, regulations and guidelines.

BACKGROUND:

In December, 2020, Amazon reached out to the Office of Community Partnerships and Engagement to offer 44 Amazon Classic Title selections for our students. The Office of Community Partnerships and Engagement connected the opportunity to the ACPS Teaching, Learning and Leadership Team (K-12 Literacy) and they collaborated with Amazon to secure 6,680 total units from the list of available titles. The 6,680 books will be received, sorted and distributed throughout our middle and high school locations for libraries and classroom utilization.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board accept the donation of 6,680 classic edition books for ACPS middle and high school students, valued at \$44,707.

IMPACT:

This donation will help support the ACPS Literacy program.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Policy KH
2. Regulation KH-R

CONTACT:

Mr. Kurt Huffman, M.Ed.
Director of School, Business and Community Partnerships
kurt.huffman@acps.k12.va.us