

Date: June 21, 2018

For ACTION _____

For INFORMATION X

Board Agenda: Yes X

No _____

FROM: Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer
Michael Humphreys, Health and Physical Education Instructional Specialist
Carolyn Griglione, Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics

THROUGH: Lois F. Berlin, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Ramee A. Gentry, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: ACPS Swimming Program Update

SUMMARY

Students from three different elementary schools (Samuel Tucker, John Adams, and James K. Polk) participated in the *Students Physically Learning About Swimming and Health (SPLASH) Program* this year at the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility. The program has been a great success and plans are in place to start it at four more schools next year.

BACKGROUND

There has been sustained community advocacy over the last ten years for beginning an elementary swimming program. Plans were finally realized when students from one fourth-grade classroom at James K. Polk Elementary School took part in the SPLASH Pilot Program in May of 2017. The pilot was a great success, and additional schools were immediately scheduled for participation in the SPLASH Program during the 18-19 school year.

RECOMMENDATION

The Interim Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the attached information regarding the ACPS Swimming Program.

IMPACT

Students have consistently relayed deep enjoyment of the program. They have made strides in both basic skills and stroke acquisition. Teachers and other building-based personnel have also reported the many benefits of the swimming program. Finally, we are continuing to develop a reliable and valid instrument that can more objectively confirm the benefits of the SPLASH Program from an emotional, cognitive, and physical perspective.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 180621_ACPS_Swimming_Program_Update_PPT

CONTACT

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cc: Senior Leadership Team