

Date: May 13, 2016

For ACTION _____

For Board Brief X

FROM: Cheryl Robinson, Coordinator, Cultural Competence
Jeffrey Carpenter, Executive Director, Student Services

THROUGH: Julie A. Crawford, Ed.D., Chief Student Services Officer
Alvin L. Crawley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Karen Graf, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Cultural Competence

SUMMARY:

ACPS is making significant progress in student achievement; however gaps remain between groups. In an effort to address these gaps and to address areas of disproportionality, ACPS has committed to working with stakeholders on developing cultural competence through a system-wide initiative and sustained professional development. The Department of Student Services, Alternative Programs and Equity will build organizational capacity by developing the skills staff needs to eliminate the predictability of outcomes based on social identifiers.

BACKGROUND:

Previously, ACPS has supported cultural competence work primarily at the school level based on principal request. While these efforts have been fruitful, they have taken place in isolation without ongoing training and set measures of accountability.

IMPACT:

The further development of increasing the cultural competence of staff, and achieving equity, will raise the achievement of all students and close the gap between students. It will prepare every student to graduate with skills to be successful in post-secondary life to ensure that every student succeeds.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends continued support of the cultural competence work across the school system.

ATTACHMENT(S): 160513 Cultural Competence Brief v1
160513 Cultural Competence Presentation v1

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