

BOARD MEMO

Date: March 16, 2023
For ACTION ___
For INFORMATION x
Board Agenda: Yes x
No ___

FROM: Matt Smith, Policy Services Consultant
THROUGH: Melanie Kay-Wyatt Ed.D., Acting Superintendent of Schools
TO: The Honorable Meagan L. Alderton, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board
TOPIC: Proposed Revisions to Policies

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

- Goal 1: Systemic Alignment
- Goal 2: Instructional Excellence
- Goal 3: Student Accessibility and Support
- Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation
- Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

FY 2023 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Implementation of the 2025 Strategic Plan

SUMMARY:

As part of the Board’s continuing Equity Audit of School Board Policies, changes to the Code of Virginia, the requirement that policies are reviewed every 5 years, and policies and regulations that have been identified for revisions, staff are proposing the revision of five policies and regulations. Summaries of the revision, including links to code changes where appropriate, are below. All policies and regulations receive the standard changes listed below. Red-line changes and additional comments are in the draft policies.

Standard Changes:

- Remove gender-affirming terms
- Replace parent with parent/guardian
- Reduce the use of ‘shall’ per VSBA model policy changes
- Add breadcrumbs to other policies
- Reword and reform to improve readability
- Align content with VSBA model policies and the Code of Virginia
- Use abbreviations consistently
- Add line numbers

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REVISION SUMMARIES:

FA - Facilities Development

FA-R - Energy Conservation and Energy Management Regulations

- 5-year review
- No VSBA Model Policy
- Standard Changes
- Added reference to Alexandria's 2019 Green Building Policy
- Added breadcrumbs to FB and FEA
- Updated language so it's clear the governance applies to all facilities and staff
- Updated the Unoccupied Cooling Set Point to current practices (80F)
- Clarified rules and approval process for personal appliances

FB - Facilities Planning and Community Funded Facilities Projects

FBA - Community Funded Facilities Projects

FBA-R - Regulations for Community Funded Capital Projects (was FB-R)

- 5-year review
- VSBA Model Policy alignment
- Standard Changes
- Changed the title from Community Funded Capital Projects to Community Funded Facilities Projects to reflect that not all projects are part of the CIP.
- Moved Community Funded Facilities Projects into a new policy (FBA - Community Funded Facilities Projects) and moved the regulation under this new policy. This improves alignment with the VSBA model policy and clarifies the distinction between the two types of projects.
- Removed the committee language to improve flexibility for each project
- Aligned the Regulation with the current process and project classifications
- Removed specific roles from the review process
- Revised the final approval step to align with the three types of projects.

FECBB - Accessible Facilities

- 5-year review
- VSBA Model Policy alignment
- Standard Changes

FF - Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of School Division Facilities

FF-R - Regulations for Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of School Division Facilities

FF-A - Appendix A

- Requested review
- Renumbered to FFA as VSBA's policy FF has different content
- Standard Changes
- Added a belief statement
- Reorganized the regulation to improve readability

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- Added a new process where the Board has the option to pursue renaming if requested. The current governance is silent on what happens if a request is received.
- Added that any request that does not comply with naming guidelines would not be considered.

FG - Retirement of Facilities

- 5-year review
- VSBA Model Policy alignment
- Standard Changes
- Noted that retirement of facilities is part of the CIP process
- Clarified that many ACPS facilities are owned by the city
- Added that any retired facility should be considered for the purpose of supporting students and the community.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the standard ACPS policy revision process, these policies have been:

- Reviewed for code changes and alignment with the VSBA model policies
- Reviewed for equity
- Reviewed by staff members whose work is closely related to the policy and/or regulation
- Reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team
- Reviewed by the School Board Policy Subcommittee

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the policies and regulations.

IMPACT:

By auditing policies for equity, code compliance, and appropriate governance the School Board ensures that ACPS has high-quality policies.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 230316_FA - Facilities Development.pdf
- 230316_FA-R - Energy Conservation and Building Management Regulations.pdf
- 230316_FB - Facilities Planning.pdf
- 230316_FBA - Community Funded Facilities Projects.pdf
- 230316_FB-R - Regulations for Community Funded Capital Projects.pdf
- 230316_FECBB - Accessible Facilities.pdf
- 230316_FF - Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of School Division Facilities.pdf
- 230316_FF-R - Regulations for Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School Division Facilities.pdf
- 230316_FG - Retirement of Facilities.pdf

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