

# City Council/School Board Sub-Committee Shared Operations

Update: April 29



## What are we trying to achieve through Shared Operations?

“Through shared operations, City Council and the School Board will collaborate to achieve economic efficiencies while serving to improve student performance and resident services.”

*Based on responses from the School Board and City Council Members on May 15, 2023*

City Council and the School Board Identified 3 top priorities for shared operations at their joint session in May 2023:

- Real Estate
- Youth Employment
- Human Resources/Recruitment

Since then, staff have worked collaboratively on identifying short and long term opportunities collaborations.

# Real Estate



## Direction:

Seek the most cost-effective way of utilizing and maintaining city and school facilities, including for office, educational, and recreational purposes, in both the short and long term.

## Goals:

- Decrease in overall cost of City/ACPS leased space
- Increase in shared space square footage
- Increased satisfaction for shared facilities

## Update:

- No new updates until in Transportation plan complete, at which time can discuss Old Dash Facility and Fleet needs (plan is expected to staff in June)

# Human Resources



## Direction:

Collaborate on attracting talent to work for the City of Alexandria government and schools, and determine areas in which we can work together to retain our employees.

## Goals:

- Increased number of qualified applicants for City and ACPS positions
- Reduced costs associated with recruitment, including career fairs and advertisements

## Update:

- RPCA held a job fair on April 16 and promoted ACPS opportunities
- ACPS is organizing an instructional, virtual hiring fair May 10, which will jointly provide a great opportunity for RPCA recruiting, including in post event materials
- Strong for hiring needs in RPCA & ACPS for special needs/therapeutic rec instructional positions - Joint Opportunities for careers part-time and career development
- Recruitment at community cookout tables

# Youth Employment

## Direction:

Increase collaboration on workforce opportunities and career development for high school students and reduce barriers to employment, leading toward greater lifelong economic stability.

## Measures:

- Increase in teens employed
- Increase in key measures on developmental assets survey
- Increase enrollment in Post-Secondary Education
- Increase enrollment in Career & Technical Educational (CTE) program

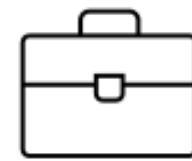
# Youth Employment & CTE Working Group



ACT for Alexandria has convened a Youth CTE Employment Work Group to ensure Alexandria's youth have access to exceptional career and technical education (CTE), work-based learning opportunities, and meaningful employment prospects that fosters skill development, exploration, and clear pathways toward a prosperous, self-sufficient life filled with joy and community engagement.



Data Transparency & Accessibility



Enhancing cohesive career readiness strategy & support



Increased work-based learning

# CTE Workgroup Learning Journey Timeline



**April 2024:** Working Group Kick-Off

**May 2024:** Begin Gap Analysis and Compiling of Shared Goals

**October 2024:** Report of preliminary findings

**November 2024:** Design implementation strategy with partners

**December 2024:** Finalize next steps with working group

**January 2025:** Draft Implementation Plan and Develop Project Plan

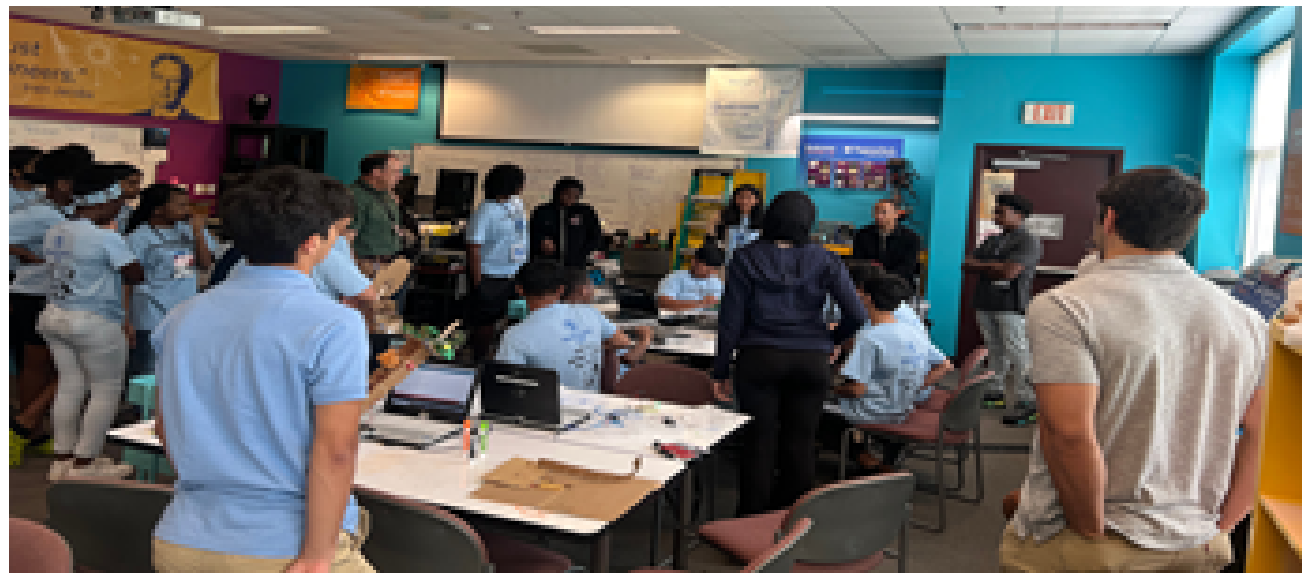
**February 2025 - December 2025:** Execute project plan with continued engagement

# Student Enrollment in Career and Technical Education (CTE) Courses Data

CTE provides students with a variety of options to apply academic knowledge and earn the technical skills necessary for the workplace of the 21st century.

### Currently includes:

- Three Academies
- 56 instructors
- 6 program areas plus JROTC
- 80 high school courses
- 9 middle school courses



Years	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
CTE Student Enrollment	6698	6399	8129	7620	6668
CTE Dual Enrollment	507	613	682	590	492



# Career Investigations: Pathways to Your Future



## Project Description

- Development of a comprehensive 9-week middle school-level career readiness and exploration curriculum that aligns with the 18-week VA Career Investigations course competencies and the GO Virginia Region 7 industry clusters, including: **Computer Software, Cybersecurity, Life Sciences, Financial Services, Emerging Technologies, and Healthcare.**
- Features real-world examples, Northern Virginia employers, and a dedicated module that helps students develop their personalized academic and career plans.
- Includes professional development workshops and training sessions to enhance educator's proficiency in delivering the curriculum.
- An advisory committee for the project consists of CTE leadership representatives and educators from each participating school division.

## Project Outcomes

By introducing students to local career opportunities, industry certifications, various occupations, and credentials, we estimate that there will be an increase in the number of students trained, upskilled, enrolled in dual enrollment (DE) classes, and participating in internships and apprenticeship programs in high school and post-graduate.

# Summer Youth Employment



DCHS Workforce Development Center offers an immersive journey of skill development, goal setting, and financial development. Youth ages 14-21, placed in meaningful six-week work experiences, working up to 30 hours per week, earning \$12.00 per hour.

## **FY2024 Program Dates: June 26th – August 8th**

- 515 Application Received
- Funded to serve 255 youth, a 26% increase
- 69 Employers registered to host and mentor our youth
- 220 current committed placements

**Friday Workshops: Career exploration and career readiness including:** Mental Health, Goal Setting, Time Management, Teamwork, Problem-Solving Skills, Conflict Resolution, Networking, Financial Management, workplace Etiquette, Career Exploration, Guest Speakers,

**Closing Ceremony on August 8, 2024, location TBA**

**New at WDC: TRANSFR Virtual Reality Career Exploration Lab:** Simulation-based training in a virtual environment with an SME coach helps students develop competence and master core skills for in-demand jobs. Available to SYEP participants and partnering with the CTE program for Jobs for Virginia Graduates



# Shared Next Steps



- Continued planning around the High School Project includes links to partnerships for expanding youth employment opportunities, specifically through new DCHS Workforce Development Satellite Office at Minnie Howard
- Coordination of CTE Learning Journey
- Identify all relevant data sources, gathering baseline data, to measure outcomes
- Advancement of community-wide youth job board
- Mapping of existing systems to find opportunities for increased pathways for economic opportunity for youth & efficiency in services