

Date: April 27, 2017

For: ACTION X

For INFORMATION ___

Board Agenda: Yes X

No ___

FROM: Theresa A. Werner, M.Ed., J.D, Executive Director, Office of Specialized Instruction
THROUGH: Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer
THROUGH: Alvin L. Crawley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
TO: The Honorable Ramee A. Gentry, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City School Board
TOPIC: IDEA Grant

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004), its federal implementation regulations, and the Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Students with Disabilities in Virginia (effective July 7, 2009), local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to submit a Local Special Education Annual Plan (Annual Plan) for providing special education and related services to children with disabilities. The 2017-2018 Annual Plan serves as the formal agreement between the local school board and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) for implementing federal and state laws and regulations governing these services. Accordingly, the disbursement of state and federal funds appropriated for the education of children with disabilities is contingent upon the approval of this plan.

BACKGROUND: The application for the 2017-2018 school year delineates the required set aside amount for children with disabilities placed by their parents in private schools. The funding for this group of students is based on a formula that takes into account the total number of students with disabilities in the public schools and the total number of students with disabilities who are parentally placed in private elementary and secondary schools located in Alexandria.

Prior to submitting the Annual Plan to the VDOE, each school division shall review the Annual Plan with the local Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and submit the Annual Plan to the local school board for approval. The Annual Plan was reviewed with the SEAC members on April 24, 2017.

The staffing included in the Annual Plan specifically supports the main initiatives within the Office of Specialized Instruction which include the inclusion plan, Autism plan, and Career and Transition plan as well as students with emotional disabilities, vision and hearing impairments.

In addition, funding for materials and supplies is included to primarily address Autism materials and supplies, instructional supplies for students with visual impairments, instructional supplies, software and online charges, equipment for students with hearing impairments, visual impairments, therapy supplies, and assistive technology software and augmentative communication devices to support students who require these materials in order to benefit from their instructional program.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends that the Alexandria City School Board approve the 2017-2018 Annual Plan for submission to the VDOE.

IMPACT: The approval of the Annual Plan is essential to improve outcomes and support instructional programming for students with disabilities through the proposed funding of \$3,030,676.79 for Part B, Section 611 Flow-Through Funds and \$84,601.00 for Part B, Section 619 Preschool Funds.

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ATTACHMENT(S): 170427_IDEA_Grant_v1