

BOARD MEMO

Date: April 25, 2024

For ACTION X

For INFORMATION

FROM: James Parker, Executive Director of Athletics & Student Activities

THROUGH: Pierrette Finney, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer
Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Michelle Rief, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Athletics Update

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

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

SY 2023–2024 PRIORITY AREA:

- Academic Achievement
- Student Supports
- CASEL Social Emotional Learning Competencies
- Student Connection and Attendance
- Staff Supports

FY 2024 BUDGET PRIORITY:

- Target Chronic Absenteeism
- Increase Support for Social and Emotional Learning

SUMMARY:

This memo and the supporting documents provide an overview of several programs that the Alexandria City Public School (ACPS) athletic department has launched or is in the process of launching. The overview also provides a broad picture of the athletic department with some fun facts and details.

DETAILS:

The ACPS athletic department has created a program that promotes the department's core values for our athletes and coaches to follow and adhere to. This program recognizes the character, effort, and commitment to excellence that our athletes display on a weekly and monthly basis. During the 2022–2023 school year, the school board voted to fund the athletic department with academic advisors who are assisting our athletes with the college recruiting process, tutorial needs, hosting study halls, and staying connected with our most at-risk student-athletes. The athletics department is also in the process of

BOARD MEMO

launching and promoting a middle school athletics program which is proposed to start during the 2024–2025 school year.

Additionally, this report provides a five (5) year overview of the number of athletes from Alexandria City High School (ACHS) who have received athletic scholarships to play in college. Finally, this report also details the educational and professional development of coaches.

BACKGROUND:

On September 21, 2023, the athletic department provided a school board presentation focused on the details of implementing an ACPS middle school athletics program. While in the budget approval process, an update was provided on the planning stages necessary for implementation pending full budget approval. The athletic department continues to remain focused on being innovative and creating programs that will help enhance the athletic experience of our students.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the information in this Athletics Update Board Memo.

IMPACT:

The impact of the ACPS athletics and student activities program supports and enhances the athletics experience of students. The ACPS athletics program aims to keep our student safe, more connected to their school community, physically active, and more successful in the classroom.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 240425_Presentation_Athletics_Update

REFERENCES:

- September 9, 2021, Board Memo - ACPS Middle School Athletics Program

CONTACT:

- James Parker, james.parker@acps.k12.va.us