

# City Council/School Board Sub-Committee Shared Operations

Update: February 26



## 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:

- ACPS recently toured the former Health Department Building (4480 King Street) for consideration for new office when Braddock lease is up in 2029. The building is owned by the City and is the size needed for ACPS offices, but has significant renovation needs for long-term use.
- Conversations continue for seeking potential new locations for ACPS warehouse on Pickett (lease expires 2025)

# 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:

- City staff joined the ACPS hiring fair on February 10
- City and ACPS staff are collaborating on joint employee development opportunities
- Will provide extended report out on March 18

# 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 CTE Classes

# Youth Employment

## **Key Activities:**

- Advancement of community-wide youth job board
- ACT for Alexandria Youth Employment Event held February 22
- Ensuring planning around the High School Project includes links to partnerships for expanding youth employment opportunities, specifically through new DCCHS Workforce Development Satellite Office at Minnie Howard
- Mapping of existing systems to find opportunities for increased pathways for economic opportunity for youth and efficiency in services, to lead towards development of a plan for alignment of programs