

Date: March 2, 2017

For ACTION _____

For INFORMATION X

Board Agenda: Yes _____
No X

FROM: Clinton Page, Ed.S., Chief Accountability 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: End of Second Quarter Chronic Absenteeism & Suspension Results Brief

BACKGROUND:

Chronic absenteeism and out-of-school suspension are two indicators that link directly to an array of short- and long-term negative outcomes for students including decreased academic performance, decreased school engagement, and ultimately a decreased likelihood of earning a high school diploma. For these reasons, it is critical that these indicators be tracked in formative and summative manners to inform immediate division- and school-level actions when necessary.

This brief reviews chronic absentee and suspension data from the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year through the end of the second quarter on February 2, 2017. The brief is broken into two discrete sections with narrative and accompanying tables specific to chronic absenteeism and suspension results. All 2016-2017 statistics came from data as entered within the division's student information system as of February 3, 2017. As these data are from mid-year, change can be expected as data are finalized and the division progresses through the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year.

SUMMARY:

Chronic absenteeism rates remained largely stable compared to the previous year and equivalent to end-of-year state averages for the 2015-2016 school year. An area of continued focus for the division, and the nation, remains the persistent elevation of chronic absenteeism rates at the high school level. In regards to suspension, out-of-school suspension incidents showed large levels of decline when compared to previous years. These declines are most noted at the high school level and for the subgroup of Black Males across both middle and high school grade levels.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends review of the End of Second Quarter Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension Results Brief for possible planning, procedural, and/or programmatic changes.

IMPACT:

These results have been reviewed by the ACPS Senior Leadership Team. The results are now in the process of being reviewed with principals and assistant principals so that school-level

strategies may be developed to address areas of focus where required and individualized to fit the localized context of each school.

CONTACT PERSON: Clinton Page

ATTACHMENTS: *1. End of Second Quarter Chronic Absenteeism & Suspension Results Brief*