

Date: September 28, 2017

For ACTION ___

For INFORMATION ___

Board Agenda: Yes ___

No ___

FROM: Jennifer Abbruzzese, Clerk of the Board & Policy Liaison

THROUGH: Lois F. Berlin, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools
Richard Jackson, Interim Chief Operating Officer
Helen Lloyd, Director of Communications

TO: The Honorable Ramee Gentry, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Policy Revisions

SUMMARY:

Best Practices/School Division-Initiated Policy Revisions:

As part of the School Board's continuing policy review, we recommend that it approve the proposed policy revisions discussed by the Board at its September 14, 2017 Board Meeting. (Hyperlinks to the current policies are included for reference.)

[Policy BDDE – Rules of Order and Bylaws](#)

The School Board has expressed its desire to maximize the efficiency of its Board Meetings. As part of that goal, the Board proposes including the approval of meeting minutes as a consent item on Board agendas. To implement this change, the Board's Rules of Order, last reviewed in 2014, must be amended to move the approval of minutes from the "Adoption of Meeting Agenda and Approval of Meeting Minutes" to the "Consent Calendar." In addition, Policy BDDE has been revised to reflect the most recent version of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, the 11th Edition.

[Policy EB – School Crisis, Emergency Management, and Medical Emergency Response Plan](#)

In line with federal guidelines, law enforcement agency recommendations, and the *School Crisis, Emergency Management, and Medical Emergency Response Plan* developed by the Virginia Board of Education and the Virginia Center for School Safety, this policy has been revised to reflect ACPS' shift toward options-based responses to violent intruder situations. The proposed revision is a necessary first step in a year-long implementation process across the Division. In conjunction with outside experts and law enforcement, ACPS will train staff and students in the latest response techniques during lockdowns. This policy was last revised in 2016.

[Policy EBCA – Emergency Preparedness Drills](#)

Also revised in 2016, this policy has been updated to align with the changes to Policy EB discussed above.

BACKGROUND:

The Code of Virginia § [22.1-253.13:7](#) requires that each local school board shall maintain and follow up-to-date policies, and that all policies shall be reviewed at least every five years and revised as needed. In addition, the Alexandria City School Board's Policy BF provides that

policies will be reviewed at least every three years and revised as needed.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board approve the proposed policy revisions.

IMPACT:

By reviewing policies periodically, the School Board ensures that ACPS operations are aligned to support excellence and high performance.

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed revisions to Policies BDDE, EB, and EBCA

CONTACT:

Jennifer Abbruzzese, 703-619-8314