Revised April 5, 2016

FROM: Ramee Gentry, Chair, Redistricting Steering Committee

THROUGH: Julie A. Crawford, Ed.D., Chief Student Services Officer
Alvin L. Crawley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Karen Graf, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Proposed Revisions to Redistricting-Related Policies – 4/7/16 School Board Work Session

SUMMARY:
On March 10, 2016 and March 16, 2016, the School Board reviewed the following policies that may be impacted by Redistricting. Board feedback has been incorporated into these new drafts for review. (Hyperlinks to the current policies are included below for reference.)

Policy IGBJ - Academic Excellence and Educational Equity (Revised to reflect ACPS 2020 Strategic Plan language, ACPS practice and 3/16/16 School Board feedback.)

Policy IHB - Class Size (Contains minor policy reference updates.)

IHB-R - Regulations Pertaining to Class Size (Updated to refer to the Code of Virginia’s Standards of Quality requirements and to incorporate 3/16/16 School Board feedback.)

Policy JC/JCD – Student Placement (At the Board’s request, this new policy combines Policy JCD: School Attendance Areas and Policy JCD: Modified Open Enrollment for Elementary Schools. It has been updated to reflect ACPS practice and to clarify both intra-division transfers and student moves out of ACPS.) Further revised since being published to reflect 4/4/16 Redistricting Steering Committee feedback. Steering Committee revisions appear in blue.

JC-R/JCD-R - Regulations Governing ACPS Student Placement Options (Updated to reflect ACPS practice and to clarify both intra-division transfers and student moves out of ACPS.) Further revised since being published to reflect 4/4/16 Redistricting Steering Committee feedback. Steering Committee revisions appear in blue.

DRAFT Policy JCE - Redistricting Implementation ( Newly proposed policy discusses Redistricting implementation and proposed phasing-in guidelines.) Further revised since being published to reflect 4/4/16 Redistricting Steering Committee feedback. Steering Committee revisions appear in blue.
BACKGROUND:
In 2015, the Alexandria City School Board began the process of Redistricting with the goal of implementing new school boundaries. Redistricting is needed because all but two elementary schools are at capacity and enrollment is projected to continue to grow over the next decade. The process will involve significant parent and community input through a variety of ways.

In June 2015, the Alexandria City School Board furthered the Division-wide Redistricting process to address capacity challenges across the school division by selecting an independent third party consultant, Reingold LINK, in collaboration with a Redistricting Steering Committee comprised of three School Board members and senior level staff, to provide guidance and facilitation for a Redistricting Review Committee of 35 parents and community members from across the Division.

RECOMMENDATION:
The Steering Committee recommends that the School Board review the attached policies.

IMPACT:
By reviewing the policies related to Redistricting, the School Board ensures that student placement decisions are aligned to support academic excellence and educational equity.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Proposed amendments to various policies related to Redistricting
2. Staff Response to School Board Requests for Additional Data
3. School Year 2015-2016 School Boundary and Student Transfer Report
   Presented to School Board January 13, 2016
   http://eboard.acps.k12.va.us/attachments/f14edb51-1a57-4d1e-b3a4-ad5456e9b7f5.pdf

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