

Date: March 7, 2019

For ACTION: \_\_\_\_\_

For INFORMATION:  X

Board Agenda: Yes  X   
No \_\_\_\_\_

**FROM:** Mignon R. Anthony, Chief Operating Officer  
Erika Gulick, Senior Planner

**THROUGH:** Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** The High School Project: Update

**BACKGROUND:** On February 21, 2019, staff outlined a work plan to address and identify a program and site approach for the Connected High School Network (CHSN), and perform a comparative analysis of a second comprehensive high school, aligning all work with the School Board's priorities which include:

- Using a re-build of the **Minnie Howard** site, expansion of **satellite campus** and **early college** program as part of the CHSN
- Ensuring **equitable access** to programs and support services and giving a focus to our special education and English learner student populations
- Providing students the **option to change** their paths and/or remain in one building to complete graduation requirements
- Promoting **co-location of programs** and ensuring that any new programs are **data driven**
- Continuing to **engage the community** throughout the remainder of the planning phase

**SUMMARY:** The work plan identified an estimated total cost for this planning work as \$1,200,000 the use of which is outlined below. These funds are expected to fund high school planning work through December 2019.

Services	Currently Committed	Estimated Additional Funds	Total
Stantec Contract:K-12 Architecture and Engineering Firm	\$467,000		\$467,000
Educational Design PM Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Support		\$150,000	\$150,000
Expanded Educational Research and		\$150,000	\$150,000

Consulting			
Additional Real Estate Advisory Support		\$50,000	\$50,000
Project Management		\$200,000	\$200,000
Space for Office		\$100,000	\$100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$467,000</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>	<b>\$1,117,000</b>

The estimated funds needed reflect work already begun as well as an expansion of communications and engagement, and the additional work required in response to developments in the project, including the extended timeframe and the questions and priorities conveyed from stakeholders and the amended motion from the School Board. Some of the requested funds also represent an advancement of certain aspects of the project in order to increase coordination and project management at this time versus later in the planning and design stage. Many components need to be tracked and managed to maintain timely and consistent response between all involved entities and stakeholders.

It is anticipated that the project work will continue on an accelerated timeframe in order to meet the capacity demands and educational objectives committed to and agreed upon by the City Council and School Board. Contracts related to this work will be brought to the School Board as per policy.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the above information.

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