

Schools & Libraries Action Committee Meeting

ACRP

Monday, Nov. 18, 2024

6-7 p.m.

Black History Museum

Meeting Notes

In Attendance: Corrine Baker, Audrey Davis, Lisa Guernsey, Tracy Thomas, Victoria Thomas, Tiffany Pache, Sarah Whelan.

1. Tiffany Pache called the meeting to Order at 6:05.

2. Welcome and Introductions.

3. The Update on Issues Included:

Discussion of recent election results and president elect's plans for the Department of Education and implications for Alexandria's schools. Discussion of new Accountability System introduced by the State Department of Education that will apply to Alexandria Schools this year.

4. Ideas for programs.

Providing field trip/adult classes on Alexandria's History as it pertains to African American and Native American issues – things we didn't learn in school. Alternatively, curating available programs. Discussion of using classes to raise money for ACHS students to go on pilgrimage next October.

Discussion of focusing work on raising funds for ACHS students to go on pilgrimage to Montgomery, AL next October. About 75K is needed to send 30 students and 15-20 staff.

Discussion of creating a ceremony focused on students and their achievements, an opportunity to recognize them, perhaps an essay contest.

Desire to learn more details about the new accountability system and how it might impact ACHS students and teachers. Discussion of then making the Alexandria community aware of the new system and how to best review the data. Try to develop new ways of thinking about accountability. Request to have the school board president speak to the group at the next meeting.

Discussion of banned books and request for better understanding of the books that are allowed. Each person attending was asked to find a children/m/s book being taught and read it and report back at next meeting about what is being taught.

5. Date for next meeting: tentatively Jan. 29 at Black History at 6 p.m.