

Schools & Libraries Action Committee Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025

5-6 p.m.

Alexandria Black History Museum

Meeting Notes

1. The meeting was called to order at 5 p.m.
2. Guest speaker School Board Chair Michelle Rief shared information about the new accountability system and legislative priorities for the school board.

Short Summary:

In the last few years, the SBE approved new standards for all four major subjects and fast tracked a new accountability system. The system requires second language students (ESL) to show mastery of subject matter within a year-in-a-half of beginning to learn the language. ACPS has a mobile population, more than 6,000 students who are English learners and more than 7,000 who qualify for free and reduce priced lunch. The General Assembly is likely to pass legislation that would delay implementation of the new accountability system until next academic year. The Governor is expected to veto it.

A House Bill would allow students to substitute African American history for US History credit in high school.

3. A short discussion followed. S&LAC members support the house bill.
4. S&LAC will meet once a month in the Winter and Fall on the last Wednesday of the month. During those months, S & LAC is interested in receiving a monthly aggregation of relevant Virginia and Alexandria education news.
5. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m.** at Alexandria Black History Museum.