

Family Council

Feb 2025 Qs to ACPS

Thank you, Eric, for helping us get answers to these new 10 questions. We received more questions than we have room to submit, but have included the extras FYI. We added the not-answered Jan 2025 question to this list of [Open Qs 2024-25](#).

We're reminding you that we're still awaiting these [Back-to-School QnA](#) and [Elementary Math Follow-Up Qs](#)... ALL are important, and we'd appreciate your help getting answers.

Instruction

- **Q1 – Elementary Foreign Language** [Greer] – Why is foreign language included as part of the curriculum of some elementary schools but not at others? For example, Greer, Agnor Hurt, & Woodbrook do not offer it. However, Stony Point, Ivy, Murray, Crozet, Broadus Wood, Mountain View, etc., do offer it as part of the curriculum. It seems like the Title 1 and more diverse elementary schools in the county are the ones that do not offer foreign language which is not fair AND does not allow students the same opportunities for learning. Early exposure to foreign language is SO important. What opportunities exist to allow students in ANY elementary grade level, for example, kindergarten at Greer, to take foreign language, when it's not part of the school curriculum?

Officer Note – The latest information about Foreign Language in Elementary School in ACPS was that a program evaluation was completed in Spring 2024. Family Council was provided a [PPT](#) by Lauren MacLean, but we are unclear if this can or should be shared publicly, and whether there is new information.

- **Q2 – Teacher Training on Behavior Management** [Follow-up on Jan Meeting] – What training do ACPS classroom teachers receive on behavior management? To what extent is this training required vs. optional, and if required what % of educators have completed? Note that we are interested in K-12.
- **Q3 – Teacher Training on Differentiation** [Follow-up on Jan Meeting] – What training do ACPS classroom teachers receive on effectively differentiating instruction based on individual student needs, including both academic levels and non-academic factors? To what extent is this training required vs. optional, and if required what % of educators have completed? Note that we are interested in K-12.

Student Services

- **Q4 – High School Seat Time** [Officers based on MoHS below & WAHS conversation] – Will ACPS use the flexibility granted by the Virginia state legislature ([HB1477](#)) to change seat time rules for ACPS high school courses?

Background – We are aware that the VDOE has held a series of “[Seat Time Flexibility](#)” sessions for division leaders including [multiple models](#), and that the [Feb 26 meeting](#) will be final approval.

Seat Time Flexibility

Seat time flexibility empowers Virginia's school divisions to provide all students with personalized and mastery-based learning opportunities based on their individual needs.

These models prioritize student outcomes and mastery of academic content over fixed instructional hours, allowing students to advance at their own pace, participate in innovative learning experiences, and access tailored support—all while maintaining alignment with Virginia's Standards of Learning (SOL) for grades K-12.

MoHS Submission – My student missed school due to flu, Strep, and Covid all in the same stretch. Excused, has all A's and B's and all his teachers are aware and aren't worried about him making up missed work. Today I got a notice saying he had to go to after school sessions or Saturday school or get no credit for those classes. Is this for 10 missed days regardless of whether or not they are excused? Is this a new policy, or why haven't we heard of this before?

Office of Community Engagement

- **Q5 – Identity-Related Harassment** [Officers] – Does ACPS track the number of incidents by school? We note that ACPS used to report “Incidents of Discrimination” in the annual [discipline/safety report](#), including “gender”, “ethnicity” and “other” with both total numbers of incidents and schools. Students are reporting increase in incidents (e.g., [school board statement](#)), but the state SBAR codes only require “racial slurs” and potential Title IX incidents which doesn't capture all “protected classes” (ACPS school board policy [JB: Equal Educational Opportunities](#) and [AC: Nondiscrimination](#)) including discrimination based on race, religion & sexual orientation (reported by Office of Civil Rights) and other characteristics.

Strategic Planning

- **Q6 – Free and Reduced Lunch** [Officers] – According to the Fall 2024 enrollment data on VDOE website, ACPS has multiple schools whose population of “economically

disadvantaged" students has fallen below 40% as of Fall 2024. They include: Mountain View, Red Hill, Scottsville, Agnor. Will these schools no longer qualify for Title I funding next year? Will families at these schools no longer qualify for the "Community Eligibility Provision" allowing all students to receive free breakfast & lunch?

Human Resources

- **Q7 – Climate Survey** [Crozet; submitted Nov 2024] – When was the last time the county conducted an independent climate survey for their staff to get a read on teacher morale and potential issues that aren't being addressed?

Officer Note – We agree with this family member's concern about teachers! We are aware of two annual staff-focused climate surveys: [Virginia School Survey of Climate and Working Conditions](#), and HR-led [Employee Gallup Survey](#) plus stay interviews & exit interviews.