



Albemarle County Public Schools
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Board-to-Board Report

In the coming weeks Albemarle County Public Schools will be receiving numerous pieces of information that will inform future strategic decision making, such as recommendations for a new high school and potential redistricting solutions. Once the School Board receives that information we hope to engage the Board of Supervisors in a substantive, fully-informed discussion about the future of the school division. Additionally, on September 30 we will receive enrollment numbers from the state.

Digital Education Recognition

The Center for Digital Education, a national organization whose mission is to “nurture a community of thought leaders who are rethinking education with technology as the catalyst,” has named Ira Socol as one of its 30 top technologists, transformers and trailblazers. Socol was appointed as the Interim Executive Director of Technologies and Innovation for Albemarle County Public Schools in July.

Socol has been a leader of the Learning Space Innovation program, which is re-making the design of buildings and classrooms across the school division to facilitate contemporary learning. Such improvements include multiage program space development; cross-curricular team spaces; and the repurposing of school libraries into learning commons, including digital music studios, 3D printers, maker spaces, computer simulation and design stations, and creative writing centers.

A 2017 class listing is available at: www.centerdigitaled.com/top30

Legislative Luncheon

Last month ACPS hosted our state legislators at a luncheon and presented them with the school division’s legislative agenda. The discussion focused on two ACPS programs that the School Board believes can be state models. High School 2022 is a new high school model that will launch in the 2018-19 school year and will see students engaging in community-based learning in 11th and 12th grade. In addition, the Social, Emotional, and Academic Development (SEAD) Team will circulate through the four urban-ring elementary schools, helping teachers and principals learn to remove obstacles and barriers to success that often hinder our youngest students’ academic content acquisition.

