

Joint

**City Council/School Board
Work Session
December 6, 2004**

The State of

Alexandria City Public Schools



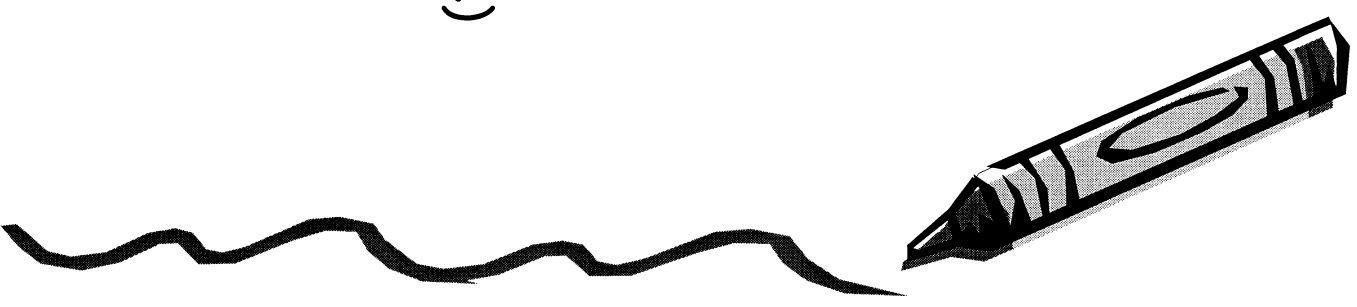
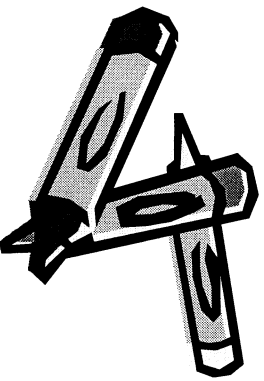
Snapshot of the Division

- Enrollment: 10,677

- Ethnic breakdown:

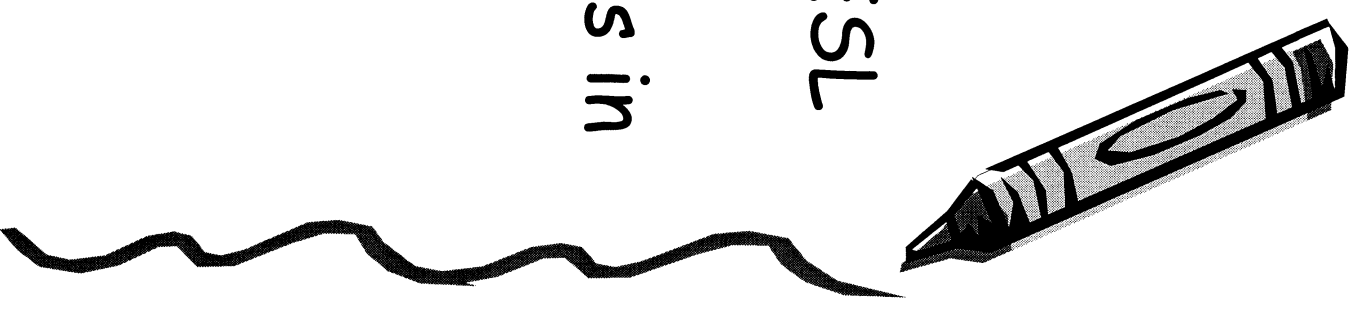
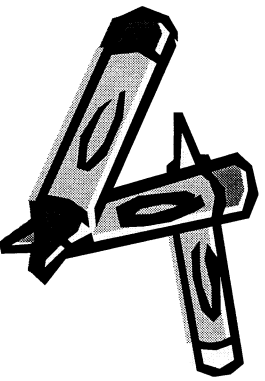
Black	43%
Hispanic	27%
White	23%
Asian Pacific	6.7%
Native American	0.3%

- 22.3% receive ESL services (third largest in the state)
- Students from 88 countries speak 55 languages
- Special Programs enrollment:
 - Free and reduced price meals: 56.3%
 - Talented and gifted: 14%
 - Special Education: 16%



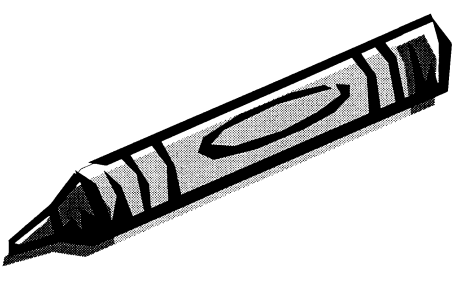
Diversity: a Strength and a Challenge

- The third largest percentage of ESL students in the state
- 1 to 2 years needed for basic skills in English
- 5 to 7 years needed for cognitive academic language proficiency

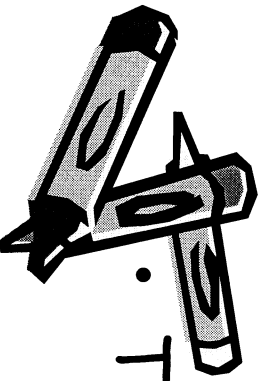


The State of Our Schools

By All Measures: Excellent

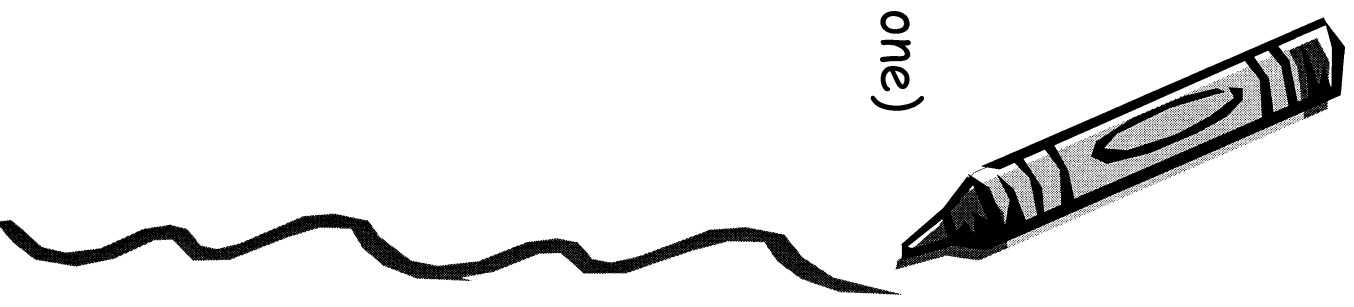
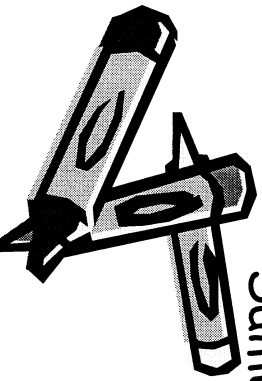


- The ACPS Division Plan provides a roadmap to excellence: clear mission, shared leadership, high expectations, effective instruction, more time on task
- School Improvement Plans in place at every school
- Three additional days of instruction



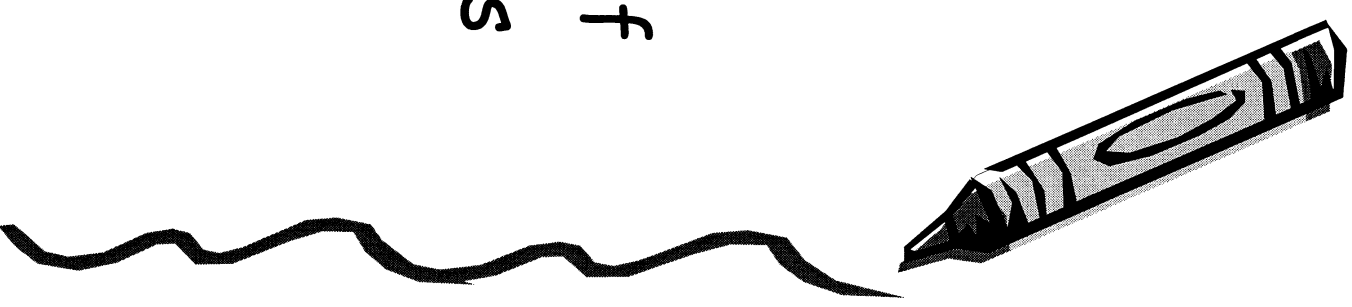
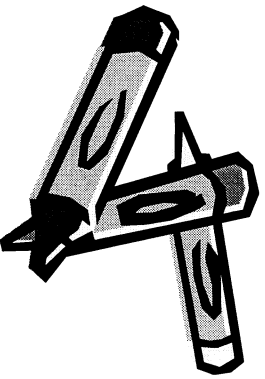
12 of 16 Schools Fully Accredited

- T. C. Williams, S.T.E.P., and Minnie Howard (count as one)
- George Washington Middle School
- Francis Hammond Middle School
- John Adams Elementary
- Charles Barrett Elementary
- Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy
- Douglas MacArthur Elementary
- George Mason Elementary
- Mt. Vernon Community School
- James K. Polk Elementary
- William Ramsay Elementary
- Samuel W. Tucker Elementary



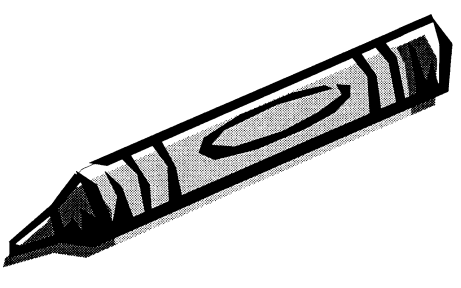
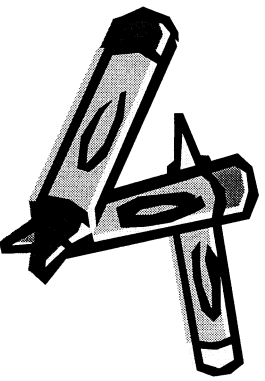
Jefferson-Houston Reconstituted

- Family fun events attract parent participation
- Highly trained and motivated staff
- Flowering of potential - Academics first!
- Whatever it takes attitude



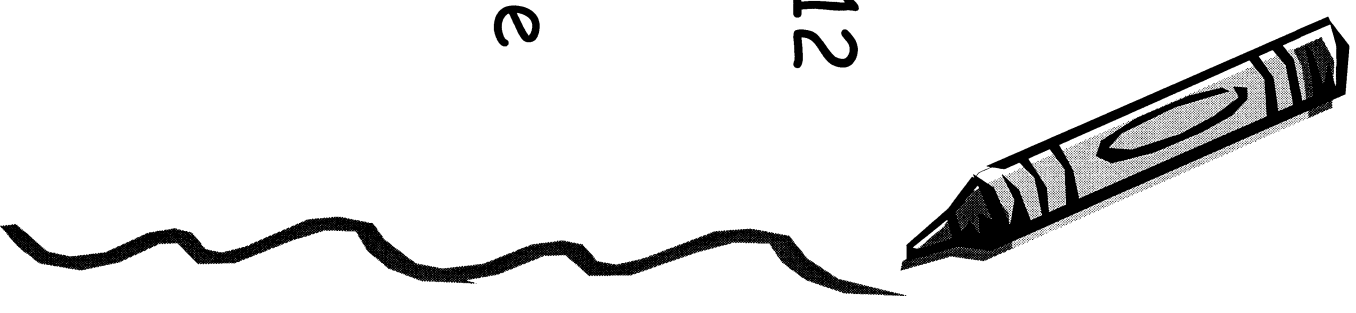
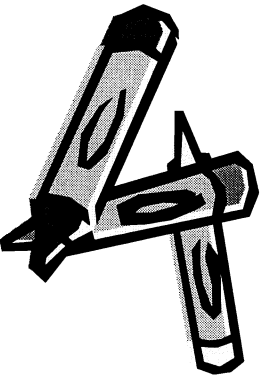
Modified School Calendar

- Samuel Tucker Elementary holds successful first intersession - high enrollment
- Overwhelming approval from staff and community
- Plan forthcoming from Mt. Vernon Community School



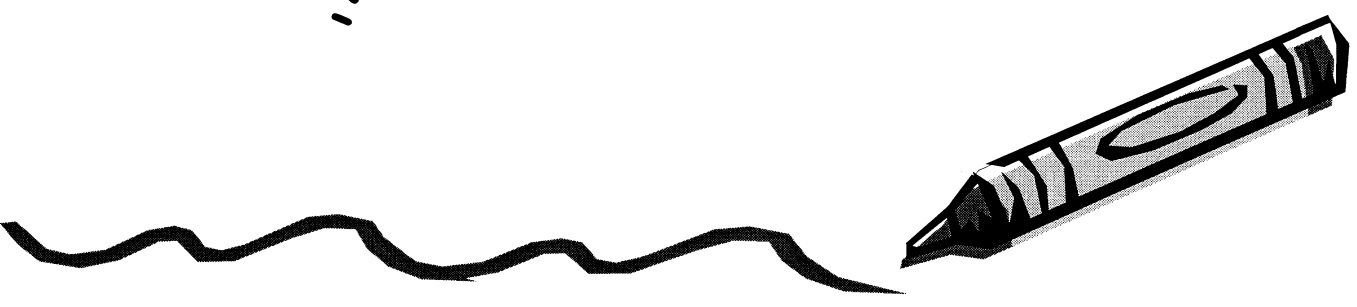
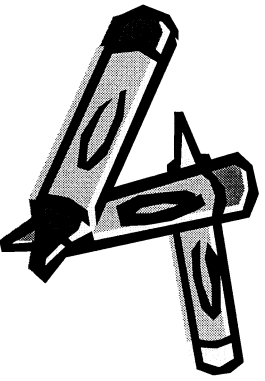
Laptop Initiative

- Second year of laptops for ninth graders
- Expanded initiative to grades 10-12
- Cited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) as a commendable effort to reduce the digital divide among the diverse socio-economic groups at TCW
- On-line testing requirement



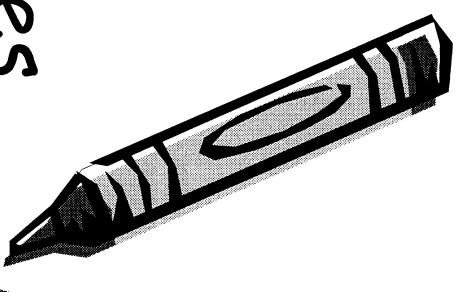
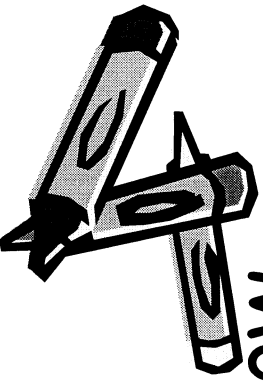
Kindergarten Prep Expansion

- Now in 12 elementary schools
- Provides free, two-week, full-day introduction and orientation
- Results in increased academic achievement, improved attendance, lower retention rates



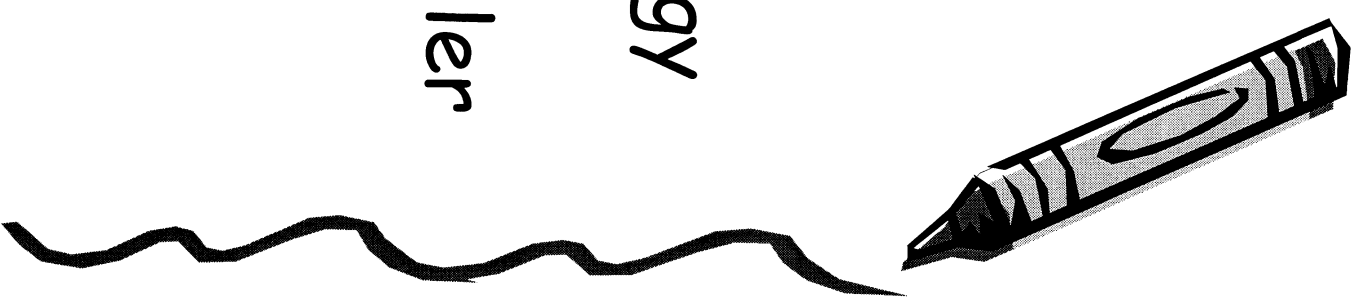
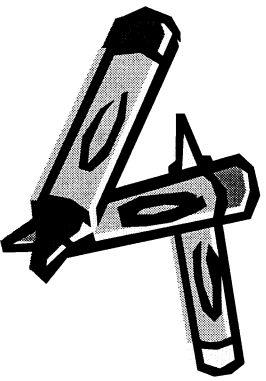
Increased Enrollment in Honors and AP Classes

- Enrollment in honors and AP classes up nearly 15% in two years
- Minority enrollment up 42% in two years
- All AP students will take AP exam: 879 students compared to 483 last year
- More good news to be posted soon on the ACPs website



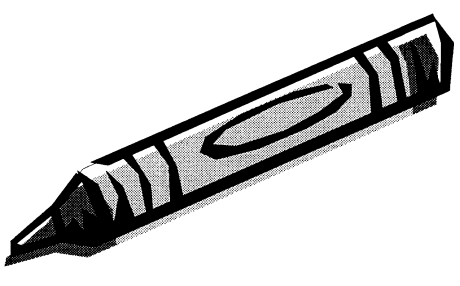
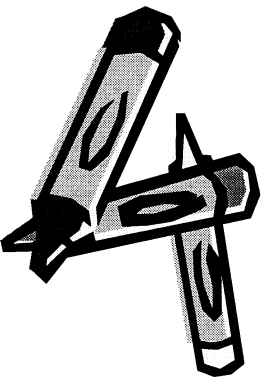
A "New" T. C. Williams

- Construction underway for new, state-of-the-art high school
- New TCW will be a model for energy efficiency
- New TCW will be a model for Smaller Learning Communities



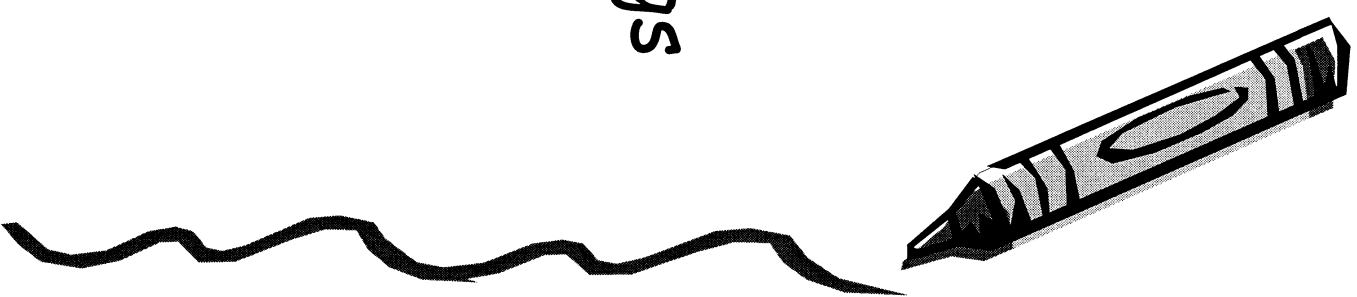
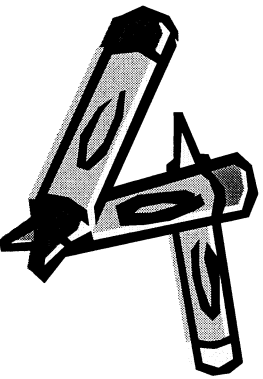
Increased Parent and Community Participation

- Parent information resource centers
- Parental involvement in committees and advisory boards
- Home visits
- Tutoring Consortium



Improved Outreach

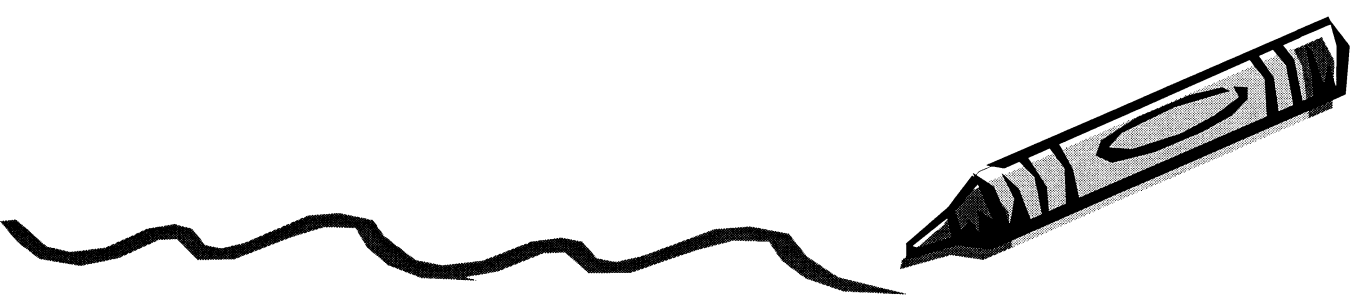
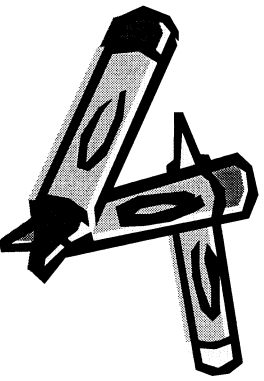
- Roundtable discussions
- Improved website:
 - Minutes of committee meetings
 - School Board "mini minutes"
 - Construction updates
 - E-mail directory



Outstanding Teachers - 70% with Master's Degrees

Nineteen National Board Certified Teachers:

- Francis Hammond - 6
- George Mason - 2
- Cora Kelly - 2
- Jefferson-Houston - 2
- Samuel Tucker - 1
- Maury - 1
- T. C. Williams - 1
- PEP - 3
- Educational Media Center - 1

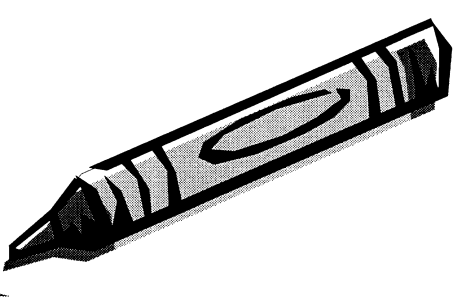
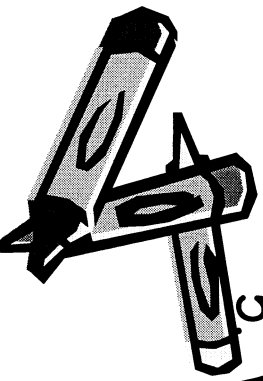


SACS Accreditation for T. C. Williams and S.T.E.P.

- SACS issued Certificate of Achievement for TCW and STEP

- "The peer review team found T. C. Williams High School to be an excellent school with a dedicated administration, faculty, and staff that holds instructional improvement as a high priority." --SACS report summary

- Ten specific commendations include:
 1. Principals with accessibility, dedication, and passion
 2. Focus on student success
 3. Laptop Initiative closing digital divide
 4. Increased access to AP classes
 5. Warm environment



Significant Accomplishments

- 12 of 16 schools fully accredited
- TCW and STEP accredited and commended by SACS
- Division Plan with clear mission statement
- Individual school improvement plans
- Three days added to school year
- Dramatic increases over time in some SOL content area scores
- Five TCW seniors were finalists for 2004 National Merit Scholarship Awards
- 2004 TCW graduates accepted at more than 100 colleges
- Nineteen National Board Certified teachers
- Differentiated resources put \$1.1 million in schools with greatest needs
- Three parent resource centers opened
- Expanded summer school now serves 25 percent of student population
- Kindergarten-preparation (K-Prep) expanded to 12 elementary schools
- Samuel W. Tucker successfully transitioned to modified school calendar.
- Focus and specialty programs provide expanding choice for parents
- Strong community support, evidenced by nearly 250 partnerships and 2500 volunteers
- Laptop initiative expanded to T. C. Williams and STEP
- Construction beginning on new high school
- Expansion of Maury Elementary and renovation of Minnie Howard
- Successmaker software now in four elementary schools

• Significant facility improvements to all schools

• TOO NUMEROUS TO LIST

