

AGENDA: ALEXANDRIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 5, 2025

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***Agenda:Alexandria* Opens 2025-26 Season With Insightful Program on Politics in School Budgeting**

Agenda:Alexandria, the city's only organization dedicated to examining local issues from a variety of viewpoints, held its first program of the new 2025-2026 Season on Tuesday, September 30: "Behind the Budget Curtain: How Politics Shape Our Schools." The panel, moderated by Rod Kuckro, discussed impacts of politics in school budgeting.

Panelists were:

- **Dominic Turner** – Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS)
- **Catie Brownback** - Former President, Alexandria City Council Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- **Mark Eaton** - Former ACPS Teacher & School Board Member

Attendees gained insights into the school system's year-round budget cycle, the funding formulae for various Federal programs, the relationship between the elected School Board and City Council, the advocacy role of the PTA, the 2023 recommendations from the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) report on Virginia K-12 funding formula, and a variety of other related topics.

A video recording of the event will be posted to the Agenda:Alexandria YouTube channel <<https://www.youtube.com/@agendaalexandria>>, and available on the Agenda:Alexandria Web site <<https://agendaalexandria.org>>.

Agenda:Alexandria's next program will be on Monday, Oct. 27 on the topic: "Is Civil Discourse a Dying Art?" at a location to be announced. Mark your calendars!

Agenda:Alexandria is registered 501(c)(3) non-partisan organization which encourages informed debate and discussion on a wide variety of local issues without taking a position. We host in-person and digital programs on topics of interest to the residents of the City of Alexandria. Membership is open to the public for an annual membership fee. Donations in support of our work is very appreciated. www.AgendaAlexandria.org



(L-R: Dominic Turner, Catie Brownback, Mark Eaton, Rod Kuckro at the September 30 *Agenda:Alexandria* program on politics in school budgeting.)