

DRAFT MINUTES
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
March 28, 2024

The Board of Education (“Board”) convened in a special meeting on March 28, 2024, at the Library of Virginia, 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219, with the following members present:

Mrs. Grace Creasey, President
Mrs. Mashea Ashton
Mr. Andy Rotherham
Mr. Dale Sturdifen
Mrs. Debbie Kilgore

Mr. Bill Hansen, Vice President
Ms. Anne Holton
Dr. Amber Northern
Dr. Lisa Coons, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

President Creasey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Board members, staff, and visitors to the meeting.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Creasey asked for a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Rotherham motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Sturdifen motioned to approve the meeting minutes of January meetings of the Board as presented. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

RECOGNITIONS

The Board recognized March as Music and Theater in Our Schools Month as well as Youth Art Month.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Amy Griffin of the Virginia Association of School Superintendents spoke regarding accountability.

- Michael Karabinos spoke regarding the Transgender Model Policies.
- Olivia Melin spoke regarding autism and the family assessment planning team.
- Dr. James Fedderman spoke on behalf of the Virginia Education Association regarding accountability.
- Sidney McGee expressed excitement and support for the new Lab Schools in Virginia.
- Lou Fincher expressed excitement and support for the new Lab Schools in Virginia.
- JT Kessler of the VSBA, expressed thanks to Dr Coons for attending the screening of the Right to Read documentary and expressed concerns regarding Item L on the agenda.
- Todd Truit spoke regarding using the percentage of students who passed an end of course exam at the end of eighth grade as a readiness factor.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Final Review to Certify a List of Qualified Persons for the Office of Division Superintendent of Schools

The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Ms. Ashton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

B. Final Review of Proposal to Stagger Terms for the Early Childhood Advisory Committee

Jenna Conway, Deputy Superintendent Division of Early Childhood Care and Education, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the recommendation in the item:

- Revise ECAC term limits to a staggered term limit policy to address the current challenges of the policy.
- Under the proposed policy, the advertisement of ECAC positions will be staggered into three phases over the next three years:
 - Phase 1: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027
 - Phase 2: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028
 - Phase 3: July 1, 2026 – June 20, 2029
- Advertise seven to eight positions in each phase.

Ms. Ashton made a motion to approve the Proposal to Stagger Terms for the Early Childhood Advisory Committee. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

C. First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action for Virginia’s Early Childhood Unified Measurement and Improvement System (VQB5)

Jenna Conway, Deputy Superintendent Division of Early Childhood Care and Education, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](#).

This NOIRA action will formally establish the requirements for the VQB5 unified measurement and improvement system in regulation. The proposed VQB5 regulations will specify which sites are legislatively required to participate, explain the key activities that participating sites must complete, and outline the consequences for refusal to participate. The Virginia Department of Education (“VDOE”) received a full endorsement from the Early Childhood Advisory Committee (“ECAC”) for the proposed VQB5 NOIRA. The 22-member committee convened for an in-depth discussion and review of the NOIRA on February 15, 2024.

The Board accepted this item for first review.

D. First Review of Virginia Student Reading Plan Template

Michelle Wallace, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](#).

The Board accepted the item for first review.

E. First Review of Virginia Literacy Act Intervention Instructional Program Guide and Supplemental Instructional Program Guide

Michelle Wallace, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](#).

The Board accepted this item for first review.

F. First and Final of the University of Virginia Laboratory School Application

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](#).

Mr. Rotherham made a motion to waive first review and approve the UVA Innovation Hub at Charlottesville Middle School for four years with annual reviews and to delegate to the President and the Superintendent final negotiation of the lab school contract, including awarding start-up funds and up to \$7 million in per-pupil funding from the College Partnership Laboratory School Fund in accordance with the Board's *Guidelines*. The motion was properly seconded and carried by majority with the following votes:

- Mr. Rotherham - aye
- Dr. Northern - aye
- Ms. Kilgore - aye
- Mr. Sturdifan - aye
- Ms. Ashton – aye
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mrs. Creasey - aye
- Ms. Holton - nay

G. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from Mountain Gateway Community College

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Mr. Rotherham made a motion to waive first review and approve the Mountain Gateway Community College Technology Education Center lab school application for four years with annual reviews and to delegate to the President and the Superintendent final negotiation of the lab school contract, including awarding start-up funds and up to \$3 million in per-pupil funding from the College Partnership Laboratory School Fund in accordance with the Board's *Guidelines*. The motion was properly seconded and carried by majority with the following votes:

- Mr. Rotherham - aye
- Dr. Northern - aye
- Ms. Kilgore - aye
- Mr. Sturdifan - aye
- Ms. Ashton – aye
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mrs. Creasey - aye
- Ms. Holton - nay

H. First Review of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's Recommendation to Approve New Education (Endorsement) Programs

Mr. Rob Gilstrap, Assistant Superintendent for Educator Preparation, presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

The Board accepted this item for first review.

I. First Review of Applications for Alternative Accreditation Plans from Special Purpose Schools

Katie Carroll, Deputy Superintendent, Division of School Performance and Support, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

The Board accepted this item for first review.

J. First and Final Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action to Align with Item 130.H of Chapter 2 of the Acts of the Assembly 2022 Special Session I

Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Mr. Hansen made a motion to waive first review and approve the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action to Align with Item 130.H of Chapter 2 of the Acts of the Assembly 2022 Special Session I. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

K. First and Final Review of Regulatory Changes to Align with 2024 Differentiated Monitoring and Support Report

Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Ms. Ashton made a motion to waive first review, approve the exempt action as presented, and delegate to VDOE staff authority to make any additional changes necessary to comply with the Differentiated Monitoring and Support Report or the Administrative Process Act. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

L. First Review and Approval to Move the Regulations into the Public Comment Process

Katie Carroll, Deputy Superintendent of Student Performance and Support, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Ms. Ashton moved to approve the revisions to the Standards of Accreditation regulations as presented in the item—and as amended by the text amendments distributed to the Board by staff and replacing the term “school performance report card” with “school performance report”—for public comment at the proposed stage. The motion was properly seconded and carried with the following vote:

- Mr. Rotherham - aye
- Dr. Northern - aye
- Ms. Kilgore - aye
- Mr. Sturdifan - aye
- Ms. Ashton – aye
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mrs. Creasey - aye
- Ms. Holton – nay

Mr. Hansen moved to prefer the weighting for the elementary school performance framework at 65% mastery, 25% growth, and 10% readiness.

- Mr. Rotherham - aye
- Dr. Northern - aye
- Ms. Kilgore - aye
- Mr. Sturdifan - aye
- Ms. Ashton – aye
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mrs. Creasey - aye
- Ms. Holton – nay

Dr. Northern moved to prefer the weighting for the middle school performance framework at 60% mastery, 20% growth, and 20% readiness. The motion was properly seconded and carried on the following vote:

- Mr. Rotherham - aye
- Dr. Northern - aye
- Ms. Kilgore - aye
- Mr. Sturdifan - aye
- Ms. Ashton – aye
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mrs. Creasey - aye

- Ms. Holton - nay

Mrs. Kilgore moved to prefer the weighting for the high school performance framework at 50% mastery, 35% readiness, and 15% graduation. The motion was properly seconded and carried with the following vote:

- Mr. Rotherham - aye
- Dr. Northern - aye
- Ms. Kilgore - aye
- Mr. Sturdifen - aye
- Ms. Ashton – aye
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mrs. Creasey - aye
- Ms. Holton - nay

M. Final Review of the Proposed 2024 English Standards of Learning

Michelle Wallace, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Mr. Sturdifen made a motion to approve the proposed 2024 English Standards of Learning for implementation in 2024-2025 and authorize the VDOE to make final clarifying and/or technical edits. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS

N. Presentations on Charter Schools

The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

O. Written Update on Lab School and Charter School Applications

The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

P. Presentation on the Virginia Arts Education Data Project

The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Q. Report on the Biennial Approval of Education Endorsement Programs as Required by the Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia

The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

DISCUSSION OF CURRENT ISSUES

Ms. Holton referenced a letter to the Board from a Prince William student who participates with Prince William Special Olympics and Unified Sports about approving the unified PE course as an option to meet the health/PE graduation requirements. Ms. Holton requested that Dr. Coons do some research and let the Board know what it would take to move this course forward as an option to satisfy the graduation requirements.

Dr. Northern suggested that a handout be created with facts about the education system in Virginia that could be handed out to the General Assembly.

Ms. Creasey stated that next month the Board will be visited by the Student Advisory Committee and expressed excitement about engaging with this Committee. Ms. Creasey also suggested that a charter school committee be created, and further information will be forthcoming.

Ms. Holton requested that if any changes to the Board schedule is to occur to please let Board members know as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Creasey adjourned the meeting.

Mrs. Grace Turner Creasey, M.Ed.
President, Virginia Board of Education