

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____ R. _____

Date: September 21, 2005

Topic: First Review of a Proposal to Withhold School Accreditation for 2005-2006 for Nandua High School in Accomack County and Oak Grove Elementary in Richmond City

Presenter: Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Reporting

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Origin:

Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

Board review required by

State or federal law or regulation

Board of Education regulation

Other: Previous Board Resolution _____

Action requested at this meeting

Previous Review/Action:

No previous board review/action

Previous review/action

date:

action:

Background Information :

In spring 2005 serious irregularities in the administration of the Standards of Learning (SOL) tests were reported at Nandua High School in Accomack County and Oak Grove Elementary School in Richmond City. In both cases the irregularities impacted the integrity of SOL test scores. At Nandua High school copies of unreleased SOL test booklets from 1998 to 2001 were provided to teachers to use in preparing students for the tests. At Oak Grove Elementary School, school personnel modified students' answers for the spring 2005 test administration.

Summary of Major Elements: The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131-340 Section C) state "any school in violation of this chapter shall be subject to appropriate action by the Board including, but not limited to, the adjustment or withdrawal of a school's accreditation." Based on this provision, the Board of Education is asked to withhold the accreditation of Nandua High School in Accomack County and Oak Grove

Elementary in Richmond City for the 2005-2006 school year.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and adopt the proposal.

Impact on Resources: N/A

Timetable for Further Review/Action: N/A