



Section 8 VAC 20-131-5 of the standards states that the definition of “reconstitution means a process that may be used to initiate a range of accountability actions to improve pupil performance, curriculum, and instruction to address deficiencies that caused a school to be rated Accreditation Denied that may include, but not be limited to, restructuring a school’s governance, instructional program, staff or student population.”

Annie B. Jackson and Ellen Chambliss elementary schools are rated Accreditation Denied for the 2006-2007 school year. Sussex County Public Schools has reconstituted Annie B. Jackson and Ellen Chambliss elementary schools and is applying to the Board to accept the terms of the reconstitution and change the rating of Accreditation Denied to Conditionally Accredited.

### **Summary of Major Elements**

Sussex County Public Schools and the superintendent have made substantial changes at Annie B. Jackson and Ellen Chambliss elementary schools for the 2006-2007 school year. These efforts will continue until the schools reach full accreditation. The school division also seeks to close those schools in two more years by consolidating its elementary schools into one school serving all elementary students in the division.

A major restructuring change included moving the third grade from Annie B. Jackson Elementary School to Ellen Chambliss Elementary School. Previously, both school’s accreditation was based on the students’ performance at Annie B. Jackson Elementary School which housed third through fifth grade. Two-thirds of the teachers (4 out of 6) at Annie B. Jackson Elementary School have been replaced for the 2006-2007 year.

Other efforts at both schools include adopting Saxon mathematics, hiring a mathematics coach with a teaching license and background in mathematics to observe, model and train teachers on the delivery of mathematics instruction.

The principal at Annie B. Jackson Elementary School was replaced. The principal of Ellen Chambliss Elementary School will serve both schools. An assistant principal was hired at Annie B. Jackson Elementary to support the leadership needed to focus on improvement.

The request to consider the reconstitution efforts from Sussex County Public Schools for Annie B. Jackson and Ellen Chambliss elementary schools is included as Attachment A.

### **Superintendent's Recommendation:**

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and approve the reconstitution application and grant a rating of Conditionally Accredited to Annie B. Jackson and Ellen Chambliss Elementary Schools for the 2006-2007 school year. The local school board must reapply for this status annually in accordance with 8 VAC 20-131-315.C and provide annual progress reports to the Board of Education while the schools maintain Conditionally Accredited status.

**Impact on Resources:** N/A

### **Timetable for Further Review/Action:**

Staff of the Department of Education will advise the Sussex County Public Schools of the Board’s action.

# Sussex County Public Schools

October 12, 2006

received  
Oct. 16

Dr. Mark E. Emblidge  
President  
Virginia Board of Education  
P. O. Box 2120  
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120

Dear Dr. Emblidge:

The Sussex County School Board is requesting that the Virginia Board of Education grant Jackson Elementary School and Chambliss Elementary School an accreditation rating of Conditional Accreditation based on its efforts to reconstitute the schools. The schools currently have an accreditation denied status because of students' performance in reading, mathematics and science. Substantial changes and efforts have been made by the school division to have the schools reach fully accredited status. Those efforts will continue until the school achieves full accreditation. The school division also seeks to close those schools in two more years by consolidating its elementary schools into one modern school.

### *Changes for Chambliss Elementary School*

1. Third grade added to Chambliss Elementary School in order for the school to be able to be accredited based on the performance of students at the school. Previously, Chambliss Elementary School's accreditation was based on the student's performance at Jackson Elementary School.
2. Saxon math has been adopted as the new math program within the school and aligns better with the Virginia Standards of Learning. Previously, the school used the Direct Instruction model.
3. A math coach with a teaching licensure and background in mathematics has been hired to observe, model and in-service/train teachers at the school in the delivery of math instruction.
4. The school continues to receive services, coaching, observation of teachers, and training, from Longwood University for its reading program in Direct Instruction. Chambliss Elementary students have shown significant gains from kindergarten through the second grade.
5. An assistant principal has been hired to assist the principal at Chambliss Elementary School.

6. Architectural drawings have been completed for a new elementary school to be completed with a projected opening date of September 2009. The county Board of Supervisors needs to approve funding for the project to go forward. This will allow for the closing of the school.
7. A coach continues to be hired for observation of the school's performance and consultation with the principal through the Virginia Department of Education's School Improvement Program.

#### *Changes for Jackson Elementary School*

1. A new principal was appointed to supervise the programs and operations of the school.
2. A new assistant principal has been appointed to assist the principal at Jackson Elementary School.
3. Sixty-six percent of the teachers at Jackson Elementary School have been replaced for the 2006-2007 school year (4 of 6 academic teachers).
4. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade has been moved from Jackson Elementary School to Chambliss Elementary School leaving the school with only 107 students.
5. Saxon math has been adopted as the new math program within the school and aligns better with the Virginia Standards of Learning. Previously, the school used the Direct Instruction model.
6. A math coach with a teaching licensure and background in mathematics has been hired to observe, model and in-service/train teachers at the school in the delivery of math instruction.
7. The school continues to receive services, coaching, observation of teachers, and training, from Longwood University for its reading program in Direct Instruction.
8. Progress is being made at Jackson Elementary School as shown by the Adequate Yearly Progress results of NCLB under Safe Harbor.
9. Architectural drawings have been completed for a new elementary school to be completed with a projected opening date of September 2009. The county Board of Supervisors needs to approve funding for the project to go forward. This will allow for the closing of the school.
10. A coach continues to be hired for observation of the school's performance and consultation with the principal through the Virginia Department of Education's School Improvement Program.

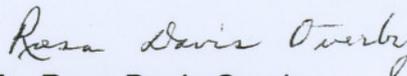
In addition, regular monitoring of student performance continues through the Direct Instruction model. Assessments will be done in mathematics through the Saxon model of instruction. Our efforts will continue to focus on improvement in instruction and student performance until our schools reach the benchmarks for full accreditation.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (434) 246-1099.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles H. Harris" followed by a stylized flourish.

Charles H. Harris, III, Ed.D.  
Division Superintendent

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosa Davis Overby" in a cursive style.

Ms. Rosa Davis Overby  
Chair  
Sussex County School Board

mbs

Enclosure 2

Cc: Mrs. Kathleen Smith Director, School Improvement Office, Virginia  
Department of Education

# CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

## Office of School Improvement

Corrective Action Plan for 2006-07

Targeted Academic Areas(s):

English, Math, Science

**School Name:**

Jackson Elementary School

**School Number:**

0020

**Division:**

Sussex

**Grade Level Served:**

4, 5

*Charles H. Harris II*

Division Superintendent's Signature

*10-12-2006*

Date

**Corrective Action Plan – Jackson Elementary School**

<b>Strategies Developed to Meet Goal</b>	<b>Status/Progress</b>	<b>Evidence of Progress</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
A new principal was appointed	2006 School Year July 1, 2006	Contract Personnel Directory School Handbook	Diane Brown was appointed to serve as principal to supervise the programs and operations of the school so that there would be a seamless program for students feeding in from Chambliss.
Hire an assistant principal	September 2006	Contract Personnel Directory School Handbook	Diane Brown has been assigned to serve as principal for both Chambliss and Jackson Elementary School. An assistant principal was needed to provide some additional support for the schools.
Sixty six percent of the teachers at Jackson Elementary School have been replaced.	Beginning 2006-07 school year	Personnel Directory	Four of the six academic teachers are new to Jackson Elementary School
The third grade moved from Jackson to Chambliss Elementary.	School year 2006-07	Personnel Directory School Handbook	Third grade was moved to Chambliss Elementary School so that the school would be able to be accredited based on the performance of students at the school.
Adopted Saxon Math as the new math program	2006 School year	Lesson Plan Data Reports Elementary Textbook Listing Purchase Orders	Previously, the school used Connecting Math Concepts which was a part of the Direct Instruction Model. Saxon was better aligned with Virginia's SOLs.
Hired a math coach who has a teaching license and background in mathematics	2006 School Year September 2006	Schedules	The coach is to observe, model and in-service/train teachers at the school in the delivery of math instruction.
Continue to receive services from Longwood University and Ronnis Systems	Continuing 2006-07	RFIT Meeting Schedule RFIT monthly reports	Longwood University and Ronnis Systems coaches, observes teachers and trains teachers for the implementation of the Direct Instruction Reading. Chambliss Elementary students have shown significant gains from Kindergarten through the second grade.
Progress is being made at Jackson Elementary School .	2006-07	AYP results	AYP results of NCLB have shown improvement under Safe Harbor
Architectural drawing have been completed for a new elementary school with projected completion September 2009.	Budget Discussions	Architectural drawings	The county Board of Supervisors needs to approve funding for the project to go forward. This will allow for the closing of the school.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Status/Progress	Evidence Of Progress	Explanation
PASS Coach	Continuing 2006	PASS Schedule – Meets every Wednesday	PASS Coach is provided by VDOE
Offer non credit math course for all teachers	August 2006 – December 2006	Syllabus which includes, course description and course objectives.	A non Credit course is being offered through the University of Virginia entitled “Student Centered Elementary Mathematics.” 45 Recertification points will be awarded. This course provided teachers with strategies that can be used to teach math.

# CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

## Office of School Improvement

Corrective Action Plan for 2006-07

Targeted Academic Areas(s):

English, Math, Science

School Name:

Chambliss Elementary School

School Number:

0050

Division:

Sussex

Grade Level Served:

K, 1, 2, 3

*Charles A. Harris* @

Division Superintendent's Signature

*10-12-2006*

Date

**Corrective Action Plan – Chambliss Elementary School**

<b>Strategies Developed to Meet Goal</b>	<b>Status/Progress</b>	<b>Evidence of Progress</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Upcoming third graders remained at Chambliss	2006 School Year	Personnel Directory School Teacher's Roster Class Rosters School Handbook	Previously, Chambliss Elementary School's accreditation was based on the student's performance at Jackson Elementary School. Having the third grade at Chambliss will allow the school to be able to be accredited based on the performance of students at the school
Appointed a new principal	2006 School Year July 1, 2006	Contract Personnel Directory School Handbook	Diane Brown was appointed to serve as principal to supervise the programs and operations of the school so that there would be a seamless program for students feeding in from Chambliss.
Hired an assistant principal	September 2006	Contract Personnel Directory School Handbook	Diane Brown has been assigned to serve as principal for both Chambliss and Jackson Elementary School. An assistant principal was needed to provide some additional support for the schools.
Adopted Saxon Math as the new math program	2006 School year	Lesson Plan Data Reports Elementary Textbook Listing Purchase Orders	Previously, the school used Connecting Math Concepts which was a part of the Direct Instruction Model. Saxon was better aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning.
Hired a math coach who has a teaching license and background in mathematics	2006 School Year September 2006 Tuesdays and Thursdays	Schedules	The coach is to observe, model and in-service/train teachers at the school in the delivery of math instruction.
Continue to receive services from Longwood University and Ronnis Systems	Continuing 2006-07	RFIT Meeting Schedule RFIT monthly reports	Longwood University and Ronnis Systems coaches, observes teachers and trains teachers for the implementation of the Direct Instruction Reading. Chambliss Elementary students have shown significant gains from Kindergarten through the second grade.
Architectural drawing have been completed for a new elementary school with projected completion September 2009.	Budget Discussions	Architectural drawings	The county Board of Supervisors needs to approve funding for the project to go forward. This will allow for the closing of the school.

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