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Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education

“Profile of a Graduate”—Open Discussion April 21, 2016

During the April 21, 2016, meeting of the Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education, Dr. John “Billy” Haun, Chief Academic Officer/Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, led the full advisory committee in an open discussion about the *Profile of a Graduate*. As a result, the committee developed this overview of their impressions.

What dispositions are you looking for in high school graduates?

- Must be accountable and accept responsibility for one’s decisions and actions (ethical; accountability)
- Must be willing to take risks, make mistakes, and then try again; must be willing to take on new responsibilities
- Must demonstrate the freedom to think critically and use creative problem-solving
- Must demonstrate excellent communication skills (reading, writing, speaking—including phone skills)
- Must be able to multitask and maintain high-quality products and services

What dispositions make an individual successful?

- Individual success comes through team collaboration
- Seeks help from co-workers
- Demonstrates self-confidence
- Shows financial responsibility
- Shows patience and flexibility
- Exhibits professionalism at work and in the community (protects/maintains the company’s brand)
- Possesses positive social skills, integrity, initiative
- Uses networking skills (important for job interview, but also at other events)
- Dresses appropriately in the workplace
- Able to talk about the value one can bring to a company/employer

What are best practices in aligning the high school experience with life readiness?

- Creating an environment to build confidence
- Putting educators in the workplace to better prepare students for the real world
- Providing students with work-based learning opportunities to apply skills
- Understanding that the workforce and the economy is the customer
- Engaging business partners in the learning process in a quality and meaningful way