

MINUTES
Virginia Board of Education
Standing Committee on the Standards of Quality (SOQ)
March 16, 2016
4:00 p.m.
Jefferson Conference Room, James Monroe Building

Welcome and Opening Comments

Dr. Billy K. Cannaday, Jr., Committee Chair, called the meeting to order. The following Board members were present: Ms. Diane T. Atkinson, Mr. James H. Dillard, II, Mr. Daniel A. Gecker, and Mr. Sal Romero, Jr.

Ms. Joan Wodiska observed the full meeting through online streaming.

Dr. Stephen R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction, was also present.

Approval of Minutes of the February 27, 2016, Committee Meeting

Ms. Atkinson made a motion to approve the committee minutes of the February 27, 2016 meeting as drafted. Mr. Dillard seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Discussion of Standards of Quality, Standards Three, Eight, and Nine.

Dr. Cynthia A. Cave, Assistant Superintendent for Policy and Communications, presented an overview of Standard Three, Eight, and Nine of the Standards of Quality (SOQ). Her presentation is available on the committee's [webpage](#).

She explained that Standard Three is focused on accreditation and assessments, Standard Eight requires school divisions to certify compliance with the SOQ, and that Standard Nine establishes the Virginia Index of Performance Program.

She explained that Standard Eight permits the Board to petition the circuit court to enforce school division compliance with the SOQ, and described pending legislative changes that would require At-risk funding to be withheld from school divisions that fail to implement actions required by their corrective action plans.

In response to a question from Ms. Atkinson, Dr. Cave responded that funds would be withheld for inaction related to both division-level and school-level corrective action plans.

Dr. Cannaday and Ms. Atkinson noted that due to this new authority to withhold funds, the Board should be mindful to prioritize the most essential corrective actions.

Mr. Dillard suggested that the school divisions that would be impacted by withheld funds are the ones that are most in need of At-risk funds. Dr. Staples stated that the Constitution would prevent withholding of Standards of Quality funds, and that the Board would release the At-risk funds once a division complies with the specified corrective action.

Dr. Cannaday inquired when information about the Every Student Succeeds Act would be disseminated for the Board to consider necessary corresponding changes in the Standards of

Accreditation and Standards of Quality. Dr. Staples responded that he anticipates the federal rulemaking to be completed around the beginning of 2017.

Public Comment

Dr. Cannaday opened the floor to public comment. No individuals requested to address the Committee.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.