

Summary of the Board of Education Meeting May 27, 2010

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance Approval of Minutes

Public Comment

- Nora Jones, president of the Foreign Language Association of Virginia, discussed foreign language studies.
- Dr. James Batterson of Suffolk discussed engineering and STEM studies.
- Frank Beylott of Voices for Virginia's Children discussed reading performance.
- Arthur Almore of Chesterfield NAACP discussed gifted education.

Action and Discussion Items

Item	Action
Final review of proposed revisions to the Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students (8 VAC 20-40-10 et. seq.) following an extended 30-day comment period	The board approved the revised regulations as amended and authorized Virginia Department Education (VDOE) staff to proceed with the remaining steps required by the Administrative Process Act (APA). Once the changes become final pursuant to the requirements of the APA, VDOE will notify school divisions.
Second review of revisions to Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation	The board accepted for second review the latest proposed revisions and authorized posting revised regulations on the Town Hall and VDOE websites for a 30-day public comment period. Following the 30-day comment period, it is anticipated that a final version of the regulations will be presented to the board at its July meeting for final review and adoption.
Final review of a request for approval of an innovative program opening prior to Labor Day from Harrisonburg City Public Schools	The board approved Harrisonburg's request pursuant to the provisions of §.22.1-79.1 of the Code of Virginia and directed VDOE staff to notify the division superintendent that Keister Elementary, Smithland Elementary and Stone Spring Elementary are authorized to open prior to Labor Day, beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.
Final review of a request for approval of an innovative program opening prior to Labor Day (year-round school) from Richmond City Public Schools	The board approved Richmond's request, pursuant to the provisions of §.22.1-79.1 of the Code of Virginia and directed VDOE staff to notify the division superintendent that Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts is authorized to open prior to Labor Day for the 2010-2011 school year.
Final review of a recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to accredit with stipulations the professional education program at Washington & Lee University through a process approved by the Board of Education and approve the education (endorsement) programs	The board approved the recommendation that the professional education program at Washington and Lee (W&L) University be "accredited with stipulations," and approved the education (endorsement) programs including partnerships. Within a two-year period, W&L's professional education program must fully meet standards stipulated in the Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia and provide documentation to VDOE. In addition, an on-site review of professional education programs will be conducted on a seven-year cycle.

(more)

First review of a recommendation of ABTEL to accredit the professional education program at Virginia Wesleyan College through the Board of Education-approved process	The board accepted for first review the recommendation that the professional education program at Virginia Wesleyan College be “accredited.” Final review and action is expected at the June 24, 2010, meeting.
Final review of a recommendation of ABTEL to approve a passing score for the Praxis II business and information technology assessment	The board approved the recommendation on the passing score for the revised assessment, as well as the recommendation that pass rates for the assessment be reviewed when sufficient test scores are received for Virginia test takers. The board instructed VDOE staff to notify school divisions and institutions of higher education of the decision.
Final review of proposed Economics and Personal Finance Standards of Learning Curriculum Framework	The board approved the proposed curriculum framework for the 2010 Economics and Personal Finance Standards of Learning, and instructed staff to post the information on the VDOE website.
First review of a proposal to allow Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus BC to verify two mathematics credits	The board accepted for first review the proposal to allow AP Calculus BC to count as two verified mathematics credits. Final review and action is expected at the June 24, 2010, board meeting.
First review of proposed amendments to Virginia’s Consolidated State Application Accountability Plan under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001	The board accepted the proposed amendments for first review. Final review and action is expected at the June 24, 2010, board meeting.

Reports

- Report on technical assistance to Norfolk Public Schools
- Report on the memorandum of understanding with Petersburg Public Schools to include compliance with the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (SOA) 8 VAC 20-131-315

Discussion of Current Issues by Board of Education Members and Superintendent of Public Instruction

- Board President Eleanor Saslaw recognized board member Isis Castro for recently receiving a Hispanic leadership award.

Adjournment

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