

Summary of the Board of Education Meeting July 28, 2011

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
Welcome of the newest board member Christian Braunlich
Approval of Minutes

Recognitions

The board presented a resolution of appreciation to Deborah Love for outstanding service in her duties as board counsel as assistant attorney general for Virginia.

Public Comment

- Tokoia Lewis of Henrico County discussed opportunities for students prior to the third grade.
- Jim Batterson of Suffolk discussed the need for engineering standards.
- Crystal Shin of JustChildren discussed student discipline.
- William White of Henrico County discussed SOL flexibility.
- Cindy Jones of Chesterfield County discussed children’s engineering and STEM instruction
- Adrian Houston of Alexandria via fax

Consent, Action and Discussion Items

Item	Action
Final review of financial report on Literary Fund	The board approved the financial report (including all statements) on the status of the Literary Fund as of March 31, 2011.
Final review of recommendations concerning applications for Literary Fund loans	The board approved the seven applications.
Final review of recommendations concerning Literary Fund applications approved for release of funds or placement on a waiting list	The board approved the actions described in the three elements listed under “Summary of Major Elements.”
Final review of proposed revised Guidelines and Standards of Learning for Family Life Education as required by the 2011 General Assembly	The board adopted the revised curriculum guidelines and standards. Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) staff will make them available to school divisions and post the guidelines on the VDOE website.
Final review of the proposed amendments to the Guidelines for Considering and Approving Requests for Pre-Labor Day Openings to comport with HB 1483 and HB 1885 passed by the 2011 General Assembly	The board approved the proposed guidelines. VDOE staff will disseminate the guidelines to all local school divisions and will post them on VDOE’s website.
Final review of a proposal to establish a Governor’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Academy: Blue Ridge Crossroads Governor’s Academy for Technical Education	The board approved the proposal to establish the Blue Ridge Crossroads Governor’s Academy for Technical Education beginning in the fall of 2011.
Final review of proposed state-approved textbooks for K-12 mathematics	The board approved the list of proposed recommended textbooks for K-12 mathematics. VDOE staff will post the list of approved textbooks on its website.
Final review of a modified academic review process for high schools	The board approved the proposed modifications to the school-level academic review process guidelines for high schools accredited with warning (in specific academic areas and/or in achievement of the minimum threshold for the graduation and completion index) or provisionally accredited–graduation rate. The guidelines for the school-level academic review process will be implemented for the 2011-2012 school year.

First review of a request for approval of an alternative accreditation plan from Chesterfield County Public Schools for Chesterfield Community High School	The board accepted for first review the request for an alternative accreditation plan for Chesterfield Community High School in Chesterfield County. The board is expected to consider this for final action on September 22, 2011.
First review of requests for approval of alternative accreditation plans from Bland County Public Schools, Colonial Beach Public Schools, Craig County Public Schools, Danville Public Schools, Dickenson County Public Schools, Highland County Public Schools, Richmond Public Schools, Scott County Public Schools and York County Public Schools for high schools with a graduation cohort of 50 students or less	The board accepted for first review the alternative accreditation plans for high schools with a graduation cohort of 50 students or fewer for the following school divisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bland County Public Schools • Colonial Beach Public Schools • Craig County Public Schools • Danville Public Schools • Dickenson County Public Schools • Highland County Public Schools • Richmond Public Schools • Scott County Public Schools • York County Public Schools The board is expected to consider this for final action on September 22, 2011.
First review of a request for approval of a modification of graduation requirements, pursuant to 8 VAC 20-131-50 of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia, from Montgomery County Public Schools	The board accepted Montgomery County's request for first review. The board is expected to consider this for final action on September 22, 2011.
First review of history and social science textbooks published by Five Ponds Press	The board accepted for first review the 2011 edition of Five Ponds Press' "Our Virginia: Past and Present" and "Our America to 1865." VDOE staff will conduct a 30-day public comment period and to make the textbooks available for review at the following sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College of William and Mary • George Mason University • James Madison University • Radford University • University of Virginia's College at Wise • Longwood University • Old Dominion University • J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
First review of the proposed Elementary School Gun Safety Guidelines and Curriculum	The board accepted the guidelines and curriculum for first review. The board is expected to consider this for final action on September 22, 2011.
First review of proposed Board of Education meeting dates for the 2012 calendar year	The board accepted the proposed calendar for first review. The board is expected to consider this for final action on September 22, 2011.

Reports

The board heard the following:

- Report on rebenchmarking of the direct aid to public education budget for the 2012-2014 biennium
- Report on Virginia's early childhood education programs

Executive Session

After returning from Executive Session, the board voted to:

- Issue a license in Case 1.
- Issue a license in Case 3.
- Revoke the license of Whitney O. Gray

Adjournment

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