Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item

Agenda Item: L **Date:** May 24, 2012

Title	First Review of a Proposal from New Kent County to Establish the Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center		
Presenter	Dr. Robert F. Richardson, Superintendent, New Kent County Public Schools Lolita B. Hall, Director, Office of Career and Technical Education Services		
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Purpose of Presentation:
Other initiative or requirement. Specify below:
First review and acceptance of the Proposal from New Kent County to Establish the Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center

Previous Review or Action:
No previous review or action.

Action Requested:
Action will be requested at a future meeting. Specify anticipated date below:
Date: June 28, 2012
Action: Final review and approval

Alignment with Board of Education Goals: Please indicate (X) all that apply:

X	Goal 1: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 2: Accountability of Student Learning
	Goal 3: Nurturing Young Learners
	Goal 4: Strong Literacy and Mathematics Skills
	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Teachers and Administrators
	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Goal 1: The Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center will offer innovative career preparation programs for students that will respond to the economics and labor market needs of the region. The Center will also be the location for students participating in the Governor's STEM Academy. The Academy is designed to expand opportunities for the general student population to acquire STEM literacy and other critical skills, knowledge, and credentials that will prepare them for high-demand, high-wage and high-skill careers in *Engineering and Technology* with a focus on Modeling and Simulation and *Therapeutic Services* with a focus on nursing programs.

The *Code of Virginia*, in § 22.1-26 A., states that:

> "Two or more school boards may, with the consent of the State Board, establish joint or regional schools, including regional public charter schools as defined in § 22.1-212.5, comprehensive schools offering all-day academic programs and career and technical education, and regional residential charter schools for at-risk pupils, for the use of their respective school divisions and may jointly purchase, take, hold, lease, convey and condemn both real and personal property for such joint, regional, or regional public charter schools."

The *Regulations Governing Jointly Owned and Operated Schools and Jointly Operated Programs*, in 8VAC 20-281-10 Definitions, states that:

> "Joint school" means a joint or regional school or program established by two or more local school boards, pursuant to § 22.1-26 of the *Code of Virginia*, which may include but is not limited to a regional public charter school, a regional residential charter school, a regional academic year Governor's school, a regional career and technical center, a regional special education program, or a regional alternative education program as defined in § 22.1-209.1:2 of the *Code of Virginia*."

The proposed Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center will open fall 2012, in New Kent, Virginia. This new Regional Career and Technical Center will serve Charles City, King William, King and Queen, Middlesex, and New Kent counties. Rappahannock Community College and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College are active postsecondary partners. The Center will be owned, funded, and operated by the five school division partners. Regional center planning is directed by a Joint Board of Control. The Joint Board membership includes one school board member from each of the five partner school divisions, a superintendent, and the regional center director. The Center will open with approximately 100 students and offer programs in Health Science, Criminal Justice, Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning, Diesel Technology, Pre-Engineering, and Modeling and Simulation. The facility will be used by Rappahannock Community College for evening educational programs.

The Bridging Communities school divisions represent rural school divisions with limited resources and enrollment. Individually, the school divisions cannot fund and support a variety of Career and Technical Education programs. The five counties' economic base is small business and agriculture. The Richmond and the Williamsburg areas are common work commuting sites for citizens. Program selection for the Center will provide opportunities for students to work in the local area or find productive employment within daily driving distance from home.

Summary of Important Issues:
Limited resources will be maximized among the five school divisions by offering innovative rigorous and relevant CTE programs for students at the Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center. The coordination with community partners and postsecondary education institutions will expand opportunities for students' access to dual enrollment classes at the community college and successful transition into the work force. The newly established CTE Center will operate in accordance

with the Board of Education's *Regulations Governing Jointly Owned and Operated Schools and Jointly Operated Programs* (8VAC 20-281 et seq.)

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:
State Standards of Quality (SOQ) funding generated for the Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center will be unknown until staffing data for the program are incorporated into the SOQ funding formula. The program would also generate a prorated share of state CTE Categorical, Industry Certification, and Educational Technology Equipment grant funding.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:
September 2012 is the proposed opening date for instruction at the Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center, New Kent County Public Schools.

Superintendent's Recommendation:
The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education accept for first review the proposal to establish the Bridging Communities Regional Career and Technical Center, New Kent County Public Schools with the understanding that state funding is subject to approval by the General Assembly.

Attachment A

Virginia Administrative Code

Database updated through May 7, 2012

8VAC20-281-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms apply only to these regulations and do not supersede those definitions used for federal reporting purposes or for the calculation of costs related to the Standards of Quality (§ 22.1-253.13:1 et seq. of the Code of Virginia). When used in these regulations, these words shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Fiscal agent" means the treasurer of a county or city in which a joint school is physically located or the treasurer from one of the participating localities as selected by agreement of the participating local school boards with approval of the participating local governing bodies. (See "treasurer.")

"Joint board" means the governing board of the joint school. The joint board is composed of at least one member from each participating local school board.

"Joint school" means a joint or regional school or program established by two or more local school boards, pursuant to § 22.1-26 of the Code of Virginia, which may include but is not limited to a regional public charter school, a regional residential charter school, a regional academic year Governor's school, a regional career and technical center, a regional special education program, or a regional alternative education program as defined in § 22.1-209.1:2 of the Code of Virginia.

"Operation and maintenance" means budget preparation, contracts for services, personnel matters, use of or construction of a school building and grounds and the operation and maintenance thereof, and the provision of any services, activity, or undertaking that the joint school is required to perform in order to carry out its educational program.

"Regional public charter school" means a public charter school operated by two or more school boards and chartered directly by the participating school boards, as defined in § 22.1-212.5 of the Code of Virginia.

"Treasurer" means the fiscal agent of the joint school, in accordance with § 58.1-3123 of the Code of Virginia.

Statutory Authority

§ 22.1-16 of the Code of Virginia.

Historical Notes

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 26, eff. October 19, 2009.

8VAC20-281-20. Organization and operating procedures.

Two or more school boards, by individual resolution, may establish a joint board to manage and control schools or programs jointly owned and operated in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Membership. The membership of the joint board shall be composed of at least one member of each of the local school boards participating in the joint program. Each school board shall fill any vacancies in its membership on the joint board. If a member of the joint board ceases to be a member of the school board that elected him, the local school board shall appoint his successor to the joint board. If at any time the number of members of the joint board shall fall below a quorum, the local board shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy or vacancies within 30 calendar days.

Members of the joint board may receive compensation fixed by each of the participating school boards. This compensation shall be paid by the local boards and shall not exceed the amount paid for service on the local school boards.

The joint board shall adopt bylaws or rules of operation and shall establish the length and beginning dates or terms of its members and establish committees that might be needed to carry out its responsibilities. Such bylaws shall address the receipt, custody, and disbursement of funds and the payment of all claims related to the operation and maintenance of the joint facility, consistent with the state statutes and regulations of the Board of Education.

2. Organization. The joint board shall elect from its membership a chairman who shall preside at its meetings and a vice-chairman who shall preside in the absence of the chairman.

The joint board shall elect a clerk and, if desired, a deputy clerk. Neither the clerk nor the deputy

clerk shall be a member of the joint board but shall keep record of the proceedings. The compensation of the clerk and the deputy clerk shall be fixed by the joint board. The clerk and the deputy clerk shall execute bond of at least $10,000, as provided by § 22.1-76 of the Code of Virginia.

3. Authority. The joint board shall be authorized to employ the staff required to operate the joint school and programs; purchase supplies; purchase, sell, or dispose of equipment or appliances; determine policies concerning instruction; approve the curriculum in keeping with the general laws, and with the regulations and requirements of the Virginia Board of Education; maintain jointly owned school buildings; and, in general, manage, operate, and conduct joint schools and programs.

The title to all property acquired for joint schools shall vest jointly in the participating school boards in such respective proportions as the participating school boards may determine, and the schools or programs shall be managed and controlled by the participating school boards jointly. With the approval of the participating school boards and the respective local governing bodies, title to property acquired for a joint school shall be vested in the governing body of such school.

Except as otherwise provided, all meetings and procedures of the joint board shall be in accordance with provisions of §§ 22.1-72 through 22.1-75 of the Code of Virginia. Any action by the joint board shall be deemed an action by the school boards jointly owning such school.

4. Authority of the division superintendent. The division superintendents representing the counties or cities of the school boards that form the joint board shall constitute a Committee of Superintendents and shall jointly exercise the same authority they have in the counties or cities for which they are appointed. With the approval of their respective school boards, the division superintendents may elect one of their members as executive officer in whom may be vested such authority as the superintendents may from time to time find advisable.

The Committee of Superintendents shall prepare, with the advice and approval of the joint board, an annual program plan, budget, and plan for financing the operation of the joint school that would

include appropriate state and local funding from each participating school division. The financing plan shall include an estimate of the amount of money that will be needed from each participating school system during the next scholastic year for operation and maintenance of the joint school facility. The estimate shall clearly show all necessary details and be provided in a timely manner so that the participating school boards may be well-informed about every item included in the estimate.

In case of disagreement, all matters shall be referred to the joint board for resolution.

5. Budget and expenditures. Each participating school board shall review and approve the annual budget presented by the joint board and provide funds to cover its share of the cost of operating and maintaining the joint school facility. The amount provided by each participating school board shall be made available for expenditures by the joint board as follows:

a. Funds to be provided by participating school boards shall be made available to the joint board upon its requests.

b. Funds to be provided on a fee for service basis shall be paid to the joint board upon receipt of an appropriate invoice.

On a regular monthly basis, the clerk of the joint board shall transmit to the Committee of Superintendents of the participating school boards an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements during the preceding months, with a cumulative statement of all receipts and disbursements since the beginning of the current fiscal year.

Statutory Authority

§ 22.1-16 of the Code of Virginia.

Historical Notes

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 26, eff. October 19, 2009.

8VAC20-281-30. Waiver of regulations' requirements.

Effective July 1, 2008, a joint school or program in operation prior to October 19, 2009, may request a waiver of the new requirements of the regulations. This waiver request shall be submitted to the Board of

Education in a manner prescribed by the board. If the Board of Education grants the waiver request, the approved school shall continue to operate under the previous version of the regulations.

Statutory Authority

§ 22.1-16 of the Code of Virginia.

Historical Notes

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 26, eff. October 19, 2009.