

# Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



**Agenda Item:** P

**Date:** September 27, 2012

<b>Title</b>	First Review of Revisions to Criteria for the <i>Virginia Index of Performance</i>		
<b>Presenter</b>	Dr. Kathleen M. Smith, Director, Office of School Improvement, Division of Student Assessment and School Improvement		
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**Purpose of Presentation:**

Action required by Board of Education regulation.

**Previous Review or Action:**

Previous review and action. Specify date and action taken below:

Date: February 17, 2011

Action: Final Review of Revisions to Criteria for the *Virginia Index of Performance*

**Action Requested:**

Action will be requested at a future meeting. Specify anticipated date below:

October 25, 2012

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

	Goal 1: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
X	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 2: Revisions to the criteria for the Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) will support accountability for all public schools by establishing policies that help schools and school divisions to increase the academic success of all students, especially those who are at-risk or in underperforming school systems.

*Virginia's Application for U.S. Department of Education Flexibility from Certain Requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) requires the identification of reward schools as part of the accountability system.*

[§ 22.1-253.13:9](#) of the Standards of Quality (SOQ) effective July 2012, requires the identification of schools meeting the criteria for the Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) incentive program as part of the state’s accountability system. The VIP incentive program was designed to measure the extent to which students are progressing towards advanced proficiency levels in reading, mathematics, science, and history and social science, recognize achievement and student progress based on other key indicators, and encourage schools’ and divisions’ efforts to provide Virginia’s students with excellent educational opportunities.

After establishing the VIP program for award year 2008, the Board has modified the criteria previously. For award year 2010, the Board strengthened the award criteria by including Virginia’s On-Time Graduation Rate and cohort dropout rate, and strengthening the focus on each of the four academic content areas included in Virginia’s state accreditation system (English, mathematics, science, and history and social science). This change resulted in fewer schools earning awards in 2010 than had been the case previously. Specifically, the change resulted in less than 40 percent of schools earning awards in each of the subsequent years, compared to 43 and 53 percent of schools prior to this change.

On February 17, 2011, additional revisions were approved by the Virginia Board of Education to retain the previously established program objectives while adding components that provide additional incentives for school divisions and schools to promote student achievement in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) areas and college and career readiness in general. As well, the revisions provide an opportunity for schools with no tested grades to earn VIP awards.

### **Summary of Important Issues:**

The VIP program uses a weighted methodology to calculate a VIP achievement index based on assessment results in each content area (English, mathematics, science, and history/social science), and provides opportunities for schools and school divisions to apply additional or “bonus” points to the content area indices by meeting additional VIP indicators.

*Virginia’s Application for U.S. Department of Education Flexibility from Certain Requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)* requires the identification of reward schools as part of the accountability system. As indicated in the waiver application:

Highest-performing and high-progress schools will be recognized as reward schools through the *Virginia Index of Performance* (VIP) incentives program, the Blue Ribbon Schools program, and the state Title I Distinguished Schools program. Both Title I and non-Title I schools with a *Fully Accredited* rating and meeting federal annual measurable objectives (AMOs) are eligible for the range of VIP awards, which recognize highest-performing schools based on a blend of performance and progress criteria.

[§ 22.1-253.13:9](#) of the Standards of Quality (SOQ) effective July, 2012, requires one additional criteria for the VIP incentive program for high schools.

[§ 22.1-253.13:9](#). Virginia Index of Performance incentive program.

...In its guidelines for calculating an award under the Virginia Index of Performance incentive program pursuant to this section, the Department of Education shall take into account the number of high school students who earn the one-year Uniform Certificate of General Studies or an associate’s degree from a community college in the Commonwealth concurrent with a high school diploma.

The purpose of this item is to modify certain provisions of VIP guidelines approved by the Board of Education in February 2011 to meet *Virginia's Application for U.S. Department of Education Flexibility from Certain Requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) and the July 2012 requirements of the SOQ revisions. Attachment A provides the revised guidelines including the eligibility criteria, the base points needed to earn an award, and the potential bonus points that may be added to the base index points to enable schools to earn a VIP award.

**Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:**

None

**Timetable for Further Review/Action:**

Final review at the October 25, 2012, meeting.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:**

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Virginia Board of Education accept for first review the modifications to the Virginia Index of Performance to be effective for the 2012-2013 academic year.

**Proposed Modifications to the Language of the Virginia Index of Performance  
Approved by the Board of Education in February 2011**

Overview

VIP awards presented to schools and school divisions are based on criteria and guidelines adopted by the Board of Education. Schools and school divisions must meet or exceed all applicable state and federal accountability requirements for at least two consecutive years.

- **Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award** – 75 VIP points (including bonus points) in each content area
- **Board of Education Excellence Award** – 80 VIP points (including bonus points) in each content area
- **Governor’s Award for Educational Excellence** – 80 VIP base points in each content area and meet all state objectives for increased achievement and expanded opportunity

In addition, high schools and divisions *must* graduate at least 85 percent of students with a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma within six years – or achieve an annual increase in their graduation rate for the Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award – and have a dropout rate of 10 percent or less. Schools and school divisions that experience significant irregularities in the administration of Standards of Learning (SOL) and other state assessments are ineligible.

Weighted Index and Calculation

VIP points reflect a weighted average of proficiency levels on statewide assessments and progress toward educational goals established by the Board of Education and the governor. Schools and school divisions earn points on an index calculated on all statewide assessments with the following weights:

- Advanced proficient: 100
- Proficient: 75
- Basic: 25
- Fail: 0

The weighted index is applied to all assessments taken in the school or division. Separate base scores are calculated for each content area – English, mathematics, science, and history/social science – using the following formula: (Following the calculation of the weighted index, additional index points are awarded as indicated in the next section.)

$$\frac{(\text{Advanced Proficient tests} \times 100) + (\text{Proficient tests} \times 75) + (\text{Basic tests} \times 25)}{\text{Total Tests Administered}}$$

Virginia Index of Performance: Criteria, Indicators, and Award Requirements

Criteria	Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award	Board of Education Excellence Award	Governor's Award for Educational Excellence
A. Eligibility – Schools must have made accreditation and federal benchmarks for two consecutive years; school divisions must have made federal benchmarks for two consecutive years	All schools and school divisions	All schools and school divisions	All schools and school divisions
<p>B. Number of index points on the weighted VIP index, using the established weightings in each of the following content areas: (a) English/reading (combined reading and writing); (b) mathematics*; (c) science*; and (d) history and social science.</p> <p>Schools with no grades in which tests are administered earn index points based on test data used to make federal and state accountability determinations. All non-test criteria, such as bonus points for foreign language instructional services and the Governor's Nutrition and Physical Activity Scorecard Program, will be determined based on the individual school's data.</p>	At least 75 in each content area, including additional index points where applicable	At least 80 in each content area, including additional index points where applicable	At least 80 in each content area
C. No significant testing irregularities were verified during the applicable school year.	All schools and school divisions	All schools and school divisions	All schools and school divisions
<b>Additional Index Points available, and award threshold, if applicable</b>			
<b>Elementary Schools</b>			
D. Students passing the Grade 3 state reading assessment (percent passing increases annually, state goal 95%)	3 VIP bonus points	3 VIP bonus points	State goal met
E. Students passing the Grade 5 state reading and writing assessments (percent passing increases annually, state goal 95%)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase or state goal met

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award</b>	<b>Board of Education Excellence Award</b>	<b>Governor's Award for Educational Excellence</b>
F. School offers foreign language instruction in the elementary grades	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Required
<b>For Middle Schools</b>			
G. Students enrolled in Algebra I by Grade 8* (percent participating increases annually, state goal 50%)	2 VIP bonus points	2 VIP bonus points	State goal met
H. Students passing the Grade 8 state reading and writing assessments (percent passing increases annually, state goal 95%)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase or state goal met
<b>For High Schools</b>			
I. High school students enrolled in one or more AP, IB, or dual enrollment courses (increases annually, state goal 30%)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	State goal met
J. High school students earning career and technical industry certifications, state licenses, or successful national occupational assessment credentials (number or percent increases annually) OR Students who participate in advanced coursework in the STEM areas, including Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses, and dual enrollment courses (Percent increases annually).	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase in number of percent of students earning CTE credentials or increase in percentage of students in advanced STEM courses
K. Students who graduate high school in four, five, or six years with a standard or advanced studies diploma (based on the federal graduation indicator; percent increases annually, state goal 85%)	Annual increase or state goal met	State goal met	State goal met
L. High school graduates earning an Advanced Studies Diploma out of the total number of Board of Education-approved diplomas awarded (increases annually, state goal 60%)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	State goal met
M. Students in each subgroup who graduate from high school with a	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase or state goal met

Criteria	Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award	Board of Education Excellence Award	Governor's Award for Educational Excellence
Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma (increases annually, state goal 85%)			
N. Students who graduate from high school having taken Calculus, Chemistry, and Physics* (increases annually)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase
O. Students who graduate from high school having earned advanced proficient scores on each of the state end-of-course assessments in English reading, English writing, and Algebra II* (increases annually)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase
P. Students who drop out of high school (10% or less, based on the four-year dropout rate)	10% or less	10% or less	10% or less
Q. <u>Increase the number of high school students who earn the one-year Uniform Certificate of General Studies or an associate's degree from a community college in the Commonwealth concurrent with a high school diploma.</u>	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase
<b>For all Schools and Divisions</b>			
R. Increase participation in the Governor's Nutrition and Physical Activity Scorecard Awards program (schools must earn an award; divisions increase program participation)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point
S. Increase the percentage of students in each subgroup earning higher levels of proficiency on state assessments (increase required for <u>subgroups the three proficiency gap groups</u> used to make federal accountability determinations in mathematics and reading)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point
<b>For School Divisions Only</b>			
T. Eligible schools participate in the Virginia Preschool Initiative for at-risk four-year-olds.	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	All eligible schools participate

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award</b>	<b>Board of Education Excellence Award</b>	<b>Governor's Award for Educational Excellence</b>
U. Students in the division enroll in Board of Education-approved Governor's STEM Academies or a Regional Academic Year Governor's School with a focus on STEM*	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Students enrolled
V. Schools offer foreign language instruction in the elementary grades (number increases annually, state goal 100%)	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	Annual increase or state goal met
W. Increase the percentage of schools that are <i>Fully Accredited</i> and <del>making Adequate Yearly Progress</del> <u>meeting all federal annual measurable objectives (AMOs)</u>	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point	1 VIP bonus point