

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: H

Date: November 21, 2013

Title	Final Review of the Board of Education’s 2013 <i>Annual Report on the Condition and Needs of Public Schools in Virginia</i>		
Presenter	Mrs. Melissa L. Luchau, Director for Board Relations		
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Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by state or federal law or regulation.

Previous Review or Action:

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

October 24, 2013: First Review

Action Requested:

Final review: Action requested at this meeting.

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

X	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
X	Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness
X	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
X	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
X	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
X	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
X	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Goals 1-7: The *2013 Annual Report on the Condition and Needs of Public Schools in Virginia* contains information on Virginia’s public schools, including an analysis of student academic performance and a report on the school divisions’ compliance with the requirements of the Standards of Quality and the Standards of Accreditation. The Report also provides an overview of the Board’s goals for public education, actions taken to address those goals over the past year, and an assessment of the extent to which the goals are being met.

The *Code of Virginia* states the following:

§ 22.1-18. Report on education and standards of quality for school divisions; when submitted and effective.

By November 15 of each year, the Board of Education shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a report on the condition and needs of public education in the Commonwealth

and shall identify any school divisions and the specific schools therein which have failed to establish and maintain schools meeting the existing prescribed standards of quality. Such standards of quality shall be subject to revision only by the General Assembly, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of Virginia. Such report shall include a complete listing of the current standards of quality for the Commonwealth's public schools, together with a justification for each particular standard, how long each such standard has been in its current form, and whether the Board recommends any change or addition to the standards of quality. Such report shall also include information regarding parent and student choice within each school division and any plans of such school divisions to increase school choice.

§ 22.1-212.15. Report of public charter schools.

The Board shall report the number of public charter schools established in the Commonwealth, as well as the number of charters denied, in its annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly pursuant to § 22.1-18.

§ 22.1-212.25. Information regarding online courses and virtual programs; report.

C. Beginning November 1, 2011, and annually thereafter, the Board of Education shall include in its annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly information regarding multidivision online learning during the previous school year. The information shall include but not be limited to student demographics, course enrollment data, parental satisfaction, aggregated student course completion and passing rates, and activities and outcomes of course and provider approval reviews.

§ 22.1-253.13:3. Standard 3. Accreditation, other standards, assessments, and releases from state regulations.

A. ...The superintendent and the school board chairman shall certify to the Board of Education, as a part of certifying compliance with the Standards of Quality, that there is a justification in the Individual Education Program for every student who takes the Virginia Grade Level Alternative. Compliance with this requirement shall be monitored as a part of the special education monitoring process conducted by the Department of Education. The Board shall report to the Governor and General Assembly in its annual reports pursuant to § 22.1-18 any school division that is not in compliance with this requirement.

§ 22.1-253.13:6. Standard 6. Planning and public involvement.

A. ...In the annual report required by § 22.1-18, the Board shall include an analysis of the extent to which these Standards of Quality have been achieved and the objectives of the statewide comprehensive plan have been met....

§ 22.1-253.13:8. Compliance.

Noncompliance with the Standards of Quality shall be included in the Board of Education's annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly as required by § 22.1-18.

Summary of Important Issues:

The Report contains the following major components:

- Executive summary with highlights of academic achievements of students in the Commonwealth
- Discussion of the Board of Education's goals for public education and the actions taken by the Board in 2012-2013 to address the goals
- An assessment of the extent to which the Board's goals are being met

- Discussion of the critical needs of public schools in the Commonwealth
- Summary of the President’s listening tour and concerns raised by educators
- Overview of the Standards of Learning program
- Statutory requirements:
 - Compliance with the requirements of the Standards of Quality
 - Compliance with the Standards of Accreditation
 - Report on multidivision online providers
 - Annual charter school report and information regarding parent choice

Based on feedback from the Board of Education at the October 24, 2013, meeting, the following contextual revisions were made to the Annual Report. Editorial and clarifying edits were also made throughout the document. All changes are highlighted in the document.

- Revised the Executive Summary (pages 6-8) to highlight revisions to the Standards of Learning and SOL assessments, consolidate achievement indicators, and focus on the critical needs of school divisions. The needs were aligned with actions taken by the Board/Department over the past year, and a section was added to highlight fiscal concerns.
- Revised the critical needs section (pages 20-22):
 - Added focus on fiscal concerns
 - Noted concerns regarding lack of appropriate data with regards to A-F policy
 - Added transition issues for students with disabilities
 - Added concern related to the length of time substitute teachers can fill a teacher vacancy
 - Emphasized childhood hunger and obesity concerns
 - Expanded on VDOE resource concerns

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

Any costs associated with the development and dissemination of the report will be provided by Department of Education funds according to state procurement policies and procedures.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Upon Board approval, and any technical or editorial edits by Department staff, the report will be submitted to the Governor and Virginia General Assembly.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the *2013 Annual Report on the Condition and Needs of Public Schools in Virginia*.