

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PLANNING SESSION  
Wednesday, April 23, 2014**

**C. BOARD OF EDUCATION’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

§ [22.1-253.13:6](#). Standard 6. Planning and public involvement.

A. The Board of Education shall adopt a statewide comprehensive, unified, long-range plan based on data collection, analysis, and evaluation. Such plan shall be developed with statewide participation. The Board shall review the plan biennially and adopt any necessary revisions. The Board shall post the plan on the Department of Education's website if practicable, and, in any case, shall make a hard copy of such plan available for public inspection and copying.

This plan shall include the objectives of public education in Virginia, including strategies for improving student achievement then maintaining high levels of student achievement; an assessment of the extent to which these objectives are being achieved; a forecast of enrollment changes; and an assessment of the needs of public education in the Commonwealth. 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. The Board shall also develop, consistent with, or as a part of, its comprehensive plan, a detailed comprehensive, long-range plan to integrate educational technology into the Standards of Learning and the curricula of the public schools in Virginia, including career and technical education programs. The Board shall review and approve the comprehensive plan for educational technology and may require the revision of such plan as it deems necessary...

The Board of Education’s Comprehensive Plan was last updated October 2012. The 2012-2017 plan outlined the following priorities, goals, and metrics for measuring progress.

**Priorities and Goals for Public Education: 2012-2017**

The Board of Education's goals are a roadmap for providing exceptional educational opportunities for all public school students in Virginia. In pursuing these, the Board has designated the following overarching priorities:

**Priority 1: Accountability in Student Achievement**

Ensuring that Virginia's accountability system sets benchmarks to gauge the academic achievement of Virginia's students and schools compared to their peers across the state, the nation, and internationally, is a top priority of the Board. It is important to expand the method used for school accreditation to a multi-dimensional and multi-tiered system that recognizes the differences in student achievement. Achieving a minimum level of proficiency for all students will remain a top indicator for accountability, but accountability should also incorporate student academic progress and decreases in achievement gaps.

**Priority 2: Educator Professionalism**

The Board of Education places a high priority on strengthening the level of professionalism of our educators, including highly effective teachers, principals, superintendents, and other school division personnel. The Board recognizes the importance of recruiting and retaining the best and brightest educators and the need for more professional development opportunities. The Commonwealth must find better ways to encourage, reward, and support our educators. The Board will set policies with this in mind and provide leadership to achieve this critical goal.

### **Priority 3: Community Engagement**

Engaging the public and all major stakeholders in the actions of the Board is another top priority. Community engagement helps to ensure transparency, improve decision making, and ensure proper understanding and implementation of Board policies. Parents, teachers, superintendents, school boards, education advocacy organizations, business leaders, the General Assembly, and the public must be engaged early in the process with clear and understandable communications from the Board. The Board will use a variety of media sources to reach out to the public regarding its goals and activities.

In addition to these priorities, the Board developed the following seven goals to help achieve its mission of improving student achievement and college and career readiness:

#### **Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning**

The Board of Education will support accountability for all public schools by establishing policies that help schools increase the academic success of all students, especially those who are at-risk or in underperforming school systems. Incorporating student academic progress and narrowing of achievement gaps into the accountability system will provide for a more comprehensive identification of student achievement at each school.

#### **Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness**

The Board of Education will continue to raise the bar on academic performance standards to ensure global competitiveness. Our schools will lead the nation in rigor and quality, and our students will excel in postsecondary education and/or in the global workplace. Building on the success of the Standards of Learning (SOL) program, more rigorous and relevant expectations will continue to be implemented that meet or exceed national and international benchmarks for college and career readiness. Particular emphasis will be placed on supporting the attainment of literacy and mathematics skills for all students, pre-K through grade 12.

#### **Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn**

The Board of Education will put in place policies and initiatives that expand learning opportunities for all children. These policies and initiatives will include high-quality charter schools, college partnership laboratory schools, online learning programs, and Governor's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) academies. Such learning opportunities provide options for parents and students while allowing communities and educators to create innovative instructional programs that can be replicated elsewhere in the public school system.

#### **Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners**

The Board of Education will work cooperatively with partners to promote new and innovative partnerships that help to ensure that all children enter kindergarten with the skills they need for success in school.

**Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators**

The Board of Education will establish policies and standards that strengthen the preparation, recruitment, and retention of the best and brightest educators, including meaningful and ongoing professional development, especially in teacher shortage areas and in hard-to-staff schools.

**Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success**

The Board of Education will provide leadership to implement the provisions of state and federal laws and regulations in effective and efficient ways that expand opportunities for all of Virginia's school children to excel academically.

**Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools**

The Board of Education will provide leadership to create safe and secure school environments.

**Assessment of the Extent to Which the Goals are Being Met**

The Board believes that accountability in Virginia's public schools begins at the top. Accordingly, the Board will publish and regularly update a report card on the extent to which its goals are being met, as evidenced by certain performance measures.

## A Report Card on the Board's Performance Measures

Performance Measures to Gauge Progress in Meeting Goals	Results	1 Year Trend	3 Year Trend
Percent of third-grade students reading on grade level			
Percent of 8 <sup>th</sup> -grade students taking Algebra I or higher in middle school			
Virginia on-time graduation rate			
High school dropout rate			
Federal graduation indicator (students earning Advanced Studies or Standard Diplomas in at least four years)			
Percent of graduates earning advanced studies diplomas			
Percent of students scoring advanced proficient on statewide assessments			
English (Reading and Writing)			
Mathematics			
History and Social Science			
Science			
Number of at-risk four-year-olds served by Virginia Preschool Initiative			
Percentage of teachers Nationally Board Certified			
Number of CTE students who earned one or more Board-approved credential(s)			
Percent of schools rated fully accredited			
Number of innovative options reviewed by the Board			
Charter School Applications			
College Lab School Applications			
Governor's STEM or Health Science Academies			
Percent of schools that maintain a passing rate on Virginia assessment tests of 95% or above in each of the four core academic areas			
Number of schools earning recognition under Virginia Index of Performance			
Number of schools that are chronically low performing by state and federal standards <sup>1</sup>			
Percent of schools and divisions meeting or exceeding federal accountability measures			

---

<sup>1</sup> Schools accredited with warning, denied accreditation, or conditional accreditation (not new) for 3 or more years