

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: H

Date: January 26, 2017

Title	Report of the Standards of Learning Innovation Committee		
Presenter	Dr. Stewart Roberson, Chair, Standards of Learning Innovation Committee Mrs. Holly Coy, Deputy Secretary of Education		
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Purpose of Presentation:

For information only. No action required.

Previous Review or Action:

No previous review or action.

Action Requested:

No action requested.

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
	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
X	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

The Standards of Learning Innovation Committee was created by HB 930 in the 2014 legislative session and further amended by HB 894 in the 2016 legislative session. Section 22.1-253.13:10 establishes the Standards of Learning Innovation Committee and outlines the membership, role, and purpose of the Committee. The relevant section on the *Code* reads as follows:

§ 22.1-253.13:10. Standards of Learning Innovation Committee The Secretary of Education, upon receiving recommendations for appointments from the Virginia Parent Teacher Association, Virginia Education Association, Virginia School Boards Association, Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals, Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals, Virginia Association of School Superintendents, Virginia State Reading Association, Virginia School Counselor Association, and Virginia Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, shall establish

and appoint nonlegislative citizen members to the Standards of Learning Innovation Committee (Committee). The Committee shall consist of (i) four members of the Virginia House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; (ii) three members of the Virginia Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules on the recommendation of the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education and Health; and (iii) at least one parent of a currently enrolled public school student, public elementary school teacher, public secondary school teacher, public secondary school guidance counselor, school board member, public school principal, division superintendent, curriculum and instruction specialist, higher education faculty member, representative of a four-year public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth, representative of a two-year public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth, and representative of the business community in the Commonwealth and such other stakeholders as the Secretary deems appropriate, appointed by the Secretary. Members of the Committee should reflect geographic diversity and rural and urban school systems as far as practicable. The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the President of the Board of Education or his designee, and the Secretary of Education or his designee shall serve ex officio. All other members shall be appointed for terms of two years. The Committee, under the direction of the Secretary, shall periodically make recommendations to the Board of Education on (a) the Standards of Learning assessments, (b) authentic individual student growth measures, (c) alignment between the Standards of Learning and assessments and the School Performance Report Card, and (d) ideas on innovative teaching in the classroom. An affirmative vote by a majority of the legislative members in attendance and a majority of nonlegislative members in attendance shall be required for the Committee to adopt any recommendations. The Board of Education shall review the recommendations of the Committee and submit to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health, in advance of the next regular session of the General Assembly, any comments on such recommendations that the Board of Education deems appropriate.

Summary of Important Issues:

Since the establishment of the Committee through HB 930 (2014) and HB894 (2016), and the announcement of appointments by Governor McAuliffe on June 30, 2014 and July 6, 2016, respectively, the Committee has met on a consistent basis to gather information, hold thoughtful discussion, and provide recommendations to the Virginia General Assembly and Board of Education. The Committee's 2014 Interim Report can be found at <http://education.virginia.gov/media/3475/final-full-reportmrk.pdf>. The Committee's 2015 Full Report can be found at <http://education.virginia.gov/media/4963/2015-standards-of-learning-innovation-committee-full-report.pdf>.

At the September 27, 2016 meeting, the Committee agreed to create two subcommittees to develop further recommendations. The two subcommittees are *Implications of High School Redesign*, chaired by Dr. Pat Murphy and *Refining Assessments*, chaired by Dr. Jamelle Wilson.

Recommendations from the subcommittees are pending vote by the full committee.

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

None

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

None

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education receive the report from the Standards of Learning Innovation Committee.

UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE STANDARDS OF LEARNING INNOVATION COMMITTEE

A presentation to the Virginia Board of Education

January 26, 2017

Dr. Stewart D. Roberson, Chair, SOL Innovation Committee

The SOL Innovation Committee

- Created by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor McAuliffe in 2014.

(HB 930, Delegate Greason)

- Inaugural Appointments made in July 2014, new appointments made July 2016 with staggered terms.

Governance and Composition

- The Secretary of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the President of the Board of Education serve in an ex officio role.
- 4 Delegates and 3 Senators
- The Secretary appoints, upon receiving recommendations, at least one:
 - parent of a currently enrolled public school student
 - public elementary school teacher
 - public secondary school teacher
 - public secondary school guidance counselor
 - school board member
 - public school principal
 - division superintendent
 - curriculum and instruction specialist
 - higher education faculty member
 - *representative of a four-year public institution of higher education*
 - *representative of a two-year public institution of higher education*
 - *representative of the business community*

Charge of the Committee

“The Committee, under the direction of the Secretary, shall periodically make recommendations to the Board of Education and on (a) the Standards of Learning assessments, (b) authentic individual student growth measures, (c) alignment between the Standards of Learning and assessments and the School Performance Report Card, and (d) ideas on innovative teaching in the classroom.” (HB 934, HB 894)

Vision of the Committee



The Standards of Learning Innovation Committee is guided by a commitment to inspire, engage, and personalize learning for every student in the Commonwealth. The Committee's focus is to ensure Virginia has an accountability system that is fair, balanced, and supportive of this vision as the Commonwealth prepares our students for success beyond their high school years.

Work of the Committee

2014: SOL Innovation Committee created by legislation, inaugural members appointed

Fall 2014, Fall 2015: Formal recommendations made by the full Committee result in various legislative, agency, and Board of Ed actions

2016 General Assembly: Biennial budget with significant K-12 investments, major education policy actions taken by legislature

July 2016: New members appointed and staggered terms begin

2016: Committee required by statute to make recommendations related to high school testing (HB 525, LeMunyon)

2014 Statement of Principles

- I. The state accountability system should acknowledge the progress of schools toward meeting the accreditation benchmarks and should recognize individual student growth.
- II. Alternative opportunities for students to demonstrate college and career readiness in order to meet graduation requirements should be provided.
- III. As the Standards of Learning are revised, they should reflect the nature and complexity of the knowledge and skills needed for students to participate in the global community.
- IV. The state accountability system should allow for a balance between alternative assessments and the existing assessments that comprise the state assessment system, allowing for flexibility within school districts.

2014 Recommendations

- BOE should **revise the Standards of Accreditation**, including recognition of improved pass rates and student growth; new appeals processes; and flexibility in frequency of accreditation
- The state should provide opportunities for **expedited retakes**
- The state should fund transition to **on demand and growth assessments**, including computer adaptive testing
- Expand availability of **locally verified credits** and ways to **accrue credit outside of seat time requirement**
- BOE should **revise the SOL's to align with college and career readiness**, provide appropriate time for divisions to implement, and permit interdisciplinary assessments
- The state accountability system should allow for a **balance of alternative assessments and the existing assessments**, and resources should be provided for implementation

Full Report and Executive Summary online at:

<http://education.virginia.gov/initiatives/sol-innovation-committee/>

2015 Statement of Principles

- I. Virginia's education system should prepare our students for success in post-secondary education, the workforce, and participation as productive citizens.

- II. Appropriate changes to Virginia's existing accountability system can occur by increasing the state's emphasis on measures of individual student growth while rebalancing the emphasis on students passing standardized tests.

2015 Recommendations

- BOE should develop a **Profile of a Virginia Graduate** and **high school graduation requirements should be adjusted** to conform to the new expectations of the profile.
- BOE should adopt an **assessment framework** that emphasizes growth and options for demonstrating learning
- **Resources** should be identified to support the new assessment model
- **Collaboration** between higher education, employers and VDOE should be encouraged (including reps on SOL Cmte)
- BOE should **revise the accountability system** to include a variety of school quality indicators; and includes a threshold below which schools receive **ongoing, meaningful support**
- BOE should continue development of comprehensive **School Quality Profiles**

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Vision for the Work Ahead

- Monitor the progress of recommendations which have been formed by the SOL Innovation Committee previously as they move through the respective agencies, the Board of Education, and legislature;
- Form further recommendations as that progress is monitored and determined necessary; and
- Focus upon long-range recommendations for the next 2-5 years.

Subcommittee Structure

➤ *Subcommittee on Refining Assessments*

- Chaired by Dr. Jamelle Wilson (Univ. of Richmond)
- Immediate focus on HB 525 (Del. LeMunyon) re: the number and subjects of high school tests required of students
- Longer term goal of looking to build on previous recommendations/ implementation related to assessments

➤ *Subcommittee on Long Term Implications of Redesign*

- Chaired by Dr. Pat Murphy (Superintendent of Arlington)
- Given work underway to implement 2014 and 2015 SOL Committee Recommendations, this subcommittee will examine additional steps need to build on high school redesign and ensure its long term success

Pending Recommendations

- *Per HB 525 (2016, LeMunyon) the Committee is considering recommendations related to high school assessments, including:*
 - *Number and subject of required end of course SOL tests required to earn verified credits in both standard and advanced diplomas*
 - *Appropriate use of performance assessments to earn verified credits*
 - *Appropriate use of substitute tests to earn verified credits*

Additional Information

Website:

<http://education.virginia.gov/initiatives/sol-innovation-committee/>

Staff Contact:

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