

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**MINUTES**

January 12, 2005

The Board of Education and the Board of Career and Technical Education met in Conference Rooms D & E at the James Monroe State Office Building, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present:

Mr. Thomas M. Jackson, Jr., President  
Mr. Mark E. Emblidge  
Mrs. Isis M. Castro  
Mr. M. Scott Goodman  
Mr. David L. Johnson

Mr. Thomas G. Johnson, Jr.  
Dr. Gary L. Jones  
Mrs. Eleanor B. Saslaw  
Dr. Ella P. Ward

Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary  
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Jackson, president, presided, and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

***MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

Mr. Jackson asked for a moment of silence and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

The following agenda items were moved to the consent agenda: Item G, *First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel (8 VAC 20-21-10 et seq.)*; Item H, *First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education (8 VAC 20-541-10 et seq.)*; and Item I, *First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia (8 VAC 20-131-10 et seq.)*. The following item was added to the agenda: Item S, *Teacher Handbook Initiative Regarding Student Health and Mental Health*.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

Dr. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2004, meeting of the Board. Dr. Ward seconded the motion that carried unanimously. Copies of the minutes had been distributed to all members of the Board of Education.

***PUBLIC COMMENT***

The following persons spoke during public comment: Lila Wise, Debbie Abadie, and Tim Moore

***CONSENT AGENDA***

Mr. Goodman made a motion to accept the following consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ward and carried unanimously.

- Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Fund
- Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Applications for Literary Fund Loans
- Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List
- First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel (8 VAC 20-21-10 et seq.)
- First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education (8 VAC 20-541-10 et seq.)
- First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia (8 VAC 20-131-10 et seq.)

***Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Fund***

The Department of Education's recommendation to approve the financial report (including all statements) on the status of the Literary Fund as of September 30, 2004, was approved with the Board's vote on the consent agenda.

***Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Applications for Literary Fund Loans***

The Department of Education's recommendation to approve six applications in the amount of \$38,500,000 subject to review and approval by the Office of the Attorney General pursuant to Section 22.1-156, Code of Virginia, was approved with the Board's vote on the consent agenda.

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Accomack County	Arcadia Middle	\$7,500,000.00
Accomack County	Nandua Middle	4,500,000.00
Portsmouth City	Park View Elementary	7,500,000.00
Campbell County	Yellow Branch Elementary	7,500,000.00
Russell County	Lebanon Primary	4,000,000.00
Brunswick County	Brunswick High	7,500,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$38,500,000.00</b>

**Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List**

The Department of Education's recommendation to approve the actions described in the following five elements, was approved with the Board's vote on the consent agenda:

1. Six new projects totaling \$38,500,000 are eligible to be assigned to the First Priority Waiting. These six projects should be approved for placement on the Waiting List subject to review and approval by the Office of the Attorney General pursuant to §22.1-156, Code of Virginia.

DIVISION	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Accomack County	Arcadia Middle	\$7,500,000.00
Accomack County	Nandua Middle	4,500,000.00
Portsmouth City	Park View Elementary	7,500,000.00
Campbell County	Yellow Branch Elementary	7,500,000.00
Russell County	Lebanon Primary	4,000,000.00
Brunswick County	Brunswick High	7,500,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$38,500,000.00</b>

2. Hanover County submitted a letter dated October 13, 2004, requesting that one project (New Hanover High School) be removed from the First Priority Waiting List. The school board has acquired funding from sources other than the Literary Fund for this project.
3. Two projects for Greene County (William Monroe High and William Monroe Middle) were inadvertently left off of the First Priority Waiting List in April 2004. Based on the date of the approval of plans, these two projects should be placed as Numbers 33 and 34 on the First Priority Waiting List.
4. When Patrick County received the bids on their projects, the bids were higher than the projected amounts. Patrick County has submitted revised applications for the projects and has requested the project amounts be revised as follows:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Original</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Difference</u>
35	Woolwine Elementary	\$ 367,000	\$ 575,000	\$ 208,000
36	Patrick High School	1,205,467	1,714,000	508,533

5. When New Kent County received the bids on their project, the bid was higher than the projected amount. New Kent County has submitted a revised application for the project and has requested the project amount be revised as follows:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Original</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Difference</u>
37	New Kent Primary	\$ 2,487,946	\$ 2,596,515	\$ 108,569

The Department of Education's recommendation for projects on the First Priority Waiting List to be deferred because no funds are available was approved with the Board's vote on the consent agenda.

**First Priority Waiting List**

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Orange County	Locust Grove Middle	\$7,500,000.00
Hopewell City	Carter G. Woodson Middle	7,500,000.00
King William County	King William High	7,500,000.00
Buckingham County	Buckingham Middle	7,500,000.00
Fluvanna County	Fluvanna High	7,500,000.00
Orange County	Orange County High	7,500,000.00
Amelia County	Amelia High	2,500,000.00
Amelia County	Amelia Middle	5,000,000.00
Prince George County	South Elementary	5,911,575.00
Prince George County	Harrison Elementary	7,044,000.00
Newport News City	General Stanford Elementary	7,500,000.00
Salem City	Andrew Lewis Middle	7,500,000.00
Franklin County	Windy Gap Elementary	7,500,000.00
Lynchburg City	E. C. Glass High	7,500,000.00
Lunenburg County	Lunenburg Middle	7,500,000.00
King George County	King George Elementary	7,500,000.00
Galax City	Galax Elementary	2,000,000.00
Sussex County	Sussex Central Middle	7,500,000.00
Floyd County	Check Elementary	2,160,800.00
Floyd County	Floyd Elementary	1,123,737.00
Floyd County	Indian Valley Elementary	2,030,933.00
Floyd County	Willis Elementary	1,820,531.00
Floyd County	Floyd High	4,863,998.00
Alleghany County	Falling Springs Elementary	2,000,000.00
Alleghany County	Callaghan Elementary	1,000,000.00
Alleghany County	Sharon Elementary	1,000,000.00
Stafford County	New Elementary 2004	7,500,000.00
Mecklenburg County	South Hill Elementary	7,500,000.00
Manassas Park City	Manassas Park High	7,000,000.00
Rockingham County	Montevideo Middle	6,600,000.00
Rockingham County	Elkton Middle	7,000,000.00
Green County	William Monroe High	4,000,000.00
Greene County	William Monroe Middle	5,000,000.00
Patrick County	Woolwine Elementary	575,000.00
Patrick County	Patrick County High	1,714,000.00
New Kent County	New Kent Primary	2,596,515.00
New Kent County	G. W. Watkins Elementary	6,912,054.00
Page County	Page County High	7,500,000.00
Page County	Luray High	7,500,000.00
Roanoke City	Patrick Henry High	7,500,000.00
Roanoke City	Fallon Park Elementary	1,600,000.00
Roanoke City	Westside Elementary	3,100,000.00
Hanover County	Stonewall Jackson Middle	2,025,000.00

**First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel (8 VAC 20-21-10 et seq.)**

The Department of Education's recommendation to waive first review and authorize Department of Education personnel to proceed with the requirements of the Administrative Process Act regarding the NOIRA for promulgating regulations was approved with the Board's vote on the consent agenda.

**First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education (8 VAC 20-541-10 et seq.)**

The Department of Education's recommendation to waive first review and authorize the Department of Education staff to proceed with the requirements of the Administrative Process Act regarding the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action was approved with the Board's vote on the consent agenda.

**First Review of Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to Amend the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia (8 VAC 20-131-10 et seq.)**

The Department of Education's recommendation to waive first review and authorize the Department of Education staff to proceed with the requirements of the Administrative Process Act regarding the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action for promulgating regulations was approved with the Board's vote on the consent agenda.

***ACTION/DISCUSSION ON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULATIONS***

**First Review of Revisions to the Emergency Regulations Governing Reduction of State Aid When Length of School Term Below 180 Teaching Days or 990 Teaching Hours (8 VAC 20-520-10 et seq.)**

Mrs. Anne Wescott, assistant superintendent of policy and communications presented this item. Mrs. Wescott said that the Board of Education promulgated the *Regulation Governing Reduction of State Aid When the Length of the School Term Is Below 180 School Days*, 8 VAC 20-520, in response to § 22.1-98 of the Code of Virginia. The most recent amendments to the regulation were effective in 1980. The 2004 Virginia General Assembly passed three bills that amended this section of the Code and made the changes effective from passage of the bills.

Mrs. Wescott said that the proposed regulation requires local school divisions to include in requests for waivers evidence of efforts that have been made by the school division to reschedule as many days as possible and to certify that every effort has been made to make up lost teaching days or hours exhausted before requesting a waiver of this requirement.

The proposed emergency regulation was approved by the Board of Education at its June 23, 2004, meeting for final review. Following the approval of the emergency regulation, the Office of the Secretary of Education has made recommendations for additional revisions as follows:

- The language at 8 VAC 20-520-30 has been changed to clarify that a school division may make up missed teaching days by providing students with additional teaching hours equivalent to such missed teaching days. This language coincides with the language in § 22.1-98 of the Code of Virginia. Additionally, language was removed that required that extensions to teaching days be of sufficient length to permit the provision of meaningful instructional services.
- The language at 8 VAC 20-520-40 has been changed to state that the Board authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction to approve reductions in the school term for a school or the schools in a school division.
- A section regarding administration was added at 8 VAC 20-520-60. It requires the Virginia Department of Education to notify local school divisions annually of the provisions of the regulation and the Virginia Code regarding reductions in the length of the school term. It requires local school division superintendents to certify by April 15 of each school year whether their school term is expected to be less than 180 teaching days or 990 teaching hours and, if so, that the school division has read and complied with the provisions of the regulation and is implementing a plan for making up any missed time that has not been waived in accordance with the regulation.

Dr. Ward made a motion to waive first review and approve the additional revision to the *Emergency Regulations Governing Reduction of State Aid When the Length of the School Term is Below 180 Teaching Days or 990 Teaching Hours* for final review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goodman and carried unanimously.

**Final Review of the Regulations Governing Adult High School Programs (8 VAC 20-30-10 et seq.)**

Dr. Yvonne Thayer, director of adult education, presented this item. Dr. Thayer said that the adult high school program enables an adult to complete the required courses to earn an adult high school diploma, excluding health and physical education, by completing graduation requirements in effect when the individual entered the ninth grade. An adult student who completes all requirements of a board approved diploma in effect at the time he will graduate shall be awarded the respective diploma. Adult high school programs employ licensed teachers and follow standard high school course requirements.

Dr. Thayer said that the External Diploma Program (EDP) is a national program that allows adults who acquired their academic skills through life and work experience to demonstrate competence in an applied performance assessment process. The *Regulations Governing Adult High School Programs* were last revised in 1985 and are not aligned with the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*

(SOA). Although it requires adults to meet high standards, the EDP does not comport with diploma requirements as described in the accreditation standards.

The proposed *Regulations Governing Adult High School Programs* have the following additions or changes, aside from editorial corrections:

1. Educational alternatives must be considered before enrolling a student in grades 9-12 in adult education classes.
2. "Other objective evidence" may be used in addition to testing to constitute sufficient evidence for one unit of credit in courses leading to high school credit.
3. The principal or superintendent may award credit in accordance with school board policies.
4. An adult student who completes all requirements for a board-approved diploma in effect at the time he will graduate shall be awarded the respective diploma.
5. The requirement for specific assessments may be waived if assessments are no longer administered to high school students.
6. An adult high school diploma is established and awarded in either of two circumstances: (a) the adult has completed the requirements for a diploma that were in effect at the time he first entered the ninth grade; or (b) the adult has completed the requirements of the External Diploma Program.
7. Adult high school programs shall have access to computer technology as well as library media and science laboratory facilities.

Mr. Emblidge made a motion to adopt the proposed *Regulations Governing Adult High School Programs*. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jones and carried unanimously.

**First Review of Proposed Technical Revisions to the Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel (8 VAC 20-21-10 et seq.)**

Dr. Thomas Elliott, assistant superintendent of teacher education and licensure, presented this item. Dr. Elliott said that the 2004 General Assembly approved House Bill 573 (HB 573) that requires the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) for initial licensure of principals and assistant principals.

As a result of the action of the General Assembly, on November 17, 2004, the Board of Education approved a cut score of 165 for the SLLA as a requirement for all individuals who are seeking an initial endorsement authorizing them to serve as principals and assistant principals in the public schools.

Dr. Elliott said that revisions are needed in the *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* to align the regulations with the change in the Code of Virginia. Section 22.1-298 (Item D) of the Code of Virginia was amended requiring the following: "In addition, the Board's licensure regulations shall also require that, on and

after July 1, 2005 initial licensure for principals and other school leaders, as may be determined by the Board, be contingent upon passage of the School Leader's Licensure Assessment.”

Mrs. Castro made a motion to waive first review and approve the technical revisions to the *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel*, and authorize staff of the Department of Education to proceed with the requirements of the Administrative Process Act. Dr. Ward seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**First Review of a Progress Report in Response to House Joint Resolution 123 of the 2004 Virginia General Assembly**

Dr. Elliott also presented this item. Dr. Elliott said that the 2002 Session of the General Assembly, through House Joint Resolution 20 and Senate Joint Resolution 58, established the Commission to Review, Study, and Reform Educational Leadership. The Commission then established the Task Force to Evaluate and Redesign Preparation Programs and Professional Development for School Leaders. The Task Force presented 12 recommendations addressing the creation of leadership academies, general leadership studies, assessment requirements for school administrators, linking professional development to school improvement, and allowing institutions of higher education to be entrepreneurial in crafting services to meet the needs of the various school divisions. On November 17, 2003, the Commission approved its final report and submitted its written findings, the 12 initial recommendations, and two additional recommendations to the 2004 Session of the General Assembly.

Dr. Elliott said that as a result of the recommendations of the Commission, the 2004 Session of the General Assembly approved House Joint Resolution 123 (HJR 123) that required the Board of Education to study alternative licensure for principals and assistant principals.

Dr. Elliott reported that accomplishments in response to HJR 123 include the following:

- Convened the institute on school leadership at the University of Mary Washington, on October 21 and 22, 2004, Fredericksburg, Virginia;
- Held a follow-up task force meeting on December 2, 2004;
- Submitted a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to the Board of Education to revise licensure regulations for school personnel, for approval at its January 12, 2005, regular meeting;
- Reviewed literature on alternative licensure programs developed and implemented by other states; and
- Awarded five competitive grants of \$100,000 each to school division that demonstrated a partnership agreement with an institution of higher education or other entity for a defined leadership development-training program.

Mr. Goodman made a motion to waive first review and grant approval of the progress report so it can be transmitted to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems no later than the first day of the 2005 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ward and carried unanimously.

**First Review of Accreditation of Continuing Approved Teacher Preparation Programs Reviewed in 2004**

Dr. JoAnne Carver, director of teacher education and teacher quality enhancement, presented this item. Dr. Carver said that the *Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education* require colleges and universities that offer programs for the preparation of professional educators to obtain continuing program approval from the Board of Education.

Dr. Carver said that during the 1998 Session of the Virginia General Assembly, an amendment to current legislation mandated that “persons seeking initial licensure who graduate from Virginia institutions of higher education shall, on or after July 1, 2002, only be licensed as instructional personnel by the Board of Education if the endorsement areas offered at such institution have been assessed by a national accrediting agency or by a state approval process, with final accreditation by the Board of Education.”

Dr. Carver said that the regulations governing approved programs define the standards that must be met and the review procedures that must be followed to obtain and maintain Board approval. The regulations currently provide two options for the review of teacher education programs: 1) the state review process for which the college or university must meet the standards established by Board of Education regulations; and 2) the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) process for which the college or university must meet the NCATE standards and the Board’s teaching area requirements. In both, the institution hosts an on-site visit by a team of trained reviewers who develop a report of findings in which a recommendation is made with regard to the status of the program (approval for continued full accreditation, approval with stipulations, or program denial).

Dr. Carver said that in either the state review process or the NCATE process, all teacher preparation programs in Virginia must meet the following requirements:

- The professional education unit shall ensure that candidates meet Praxis I and Praxis II requirements prior to the completion of the approved program; and
- The professional education unit shall ensure that at least 70 percent of candidates as documented in the institution’s Declaration of Admission to the Teacher Education Programs shall annually pass Praxis II subject area assessments.

Dr. Carver presented to the Board a summary report for five of the program reviews completed during the spring 2004: Old Dominion University, Bluefield College, Virginia Wesleyan College, James Madison University, and Averett University. Dr.

Carver said that a summary report for Ferrum College will be presented to the Board for approval at a later meeting.

Mrs. Saslaw made a motion to waive first review and approve continuing program approval for Old Dominion University, Bluefield College, Virginia Wesleyan College, James Madison University, and Averett University. Mrs. Castro seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**Final Review of a Proposal Regarding Establishing Standards of Learning Testing Windows**

Mrs. Shelley Loving-Ryder, assistant superintendent of assessment and reporting, presented this item. Mrs. Loving-Ryder said that in the early years of the Standards of Learning (SOL) assessment program, the Virginia Department of Education set a testing window for each school division based on the last day of school in that division.

Mrs. Loving-Ryder said that in November 2000, the Board adopted a resolution allowing school divisions to administer the SOL tests as late as the last day of school. This policy was adopted in response to school divisions' requests for increased instructional time before the administration of the tests. However, the current policy increases the exposure of test forms, interferes with the ability of the testing contractor to deliver materials on time and to complete the statistical work necessary to report scores, and makes it difficult for Department staff to calculate Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) by the deadlines required by the *No Child Left Behind Act* as well as to calculate accreditation ratings in a timely fashion.

Dr. Jones made a motion to adopt a policy establishing three testing windows for the spring administration for the Standards of Learning tests in grades 3-8 beginning with the 2005-2006 school year. Mrs. Saslaw seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. The policy would require that school divisions choose one of three established testing windows for the administration of the SOL tests in grades 3-8. School divisions would continue to have the flexibility to set their own testing windows for the end-of-course tests.

**First Review of Proposed Amendments to Virginia's Consolidated State Application Accountability Plan Under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001**

Dr. Patricia Wright, deputy superintendent, presented this item. Dr. Wright said that the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB), which is a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), requires all state educational agencies (SEA) to submit for approval to the United States Department of Education (USED) individual program applications or a consolidated state application.

In May 2002, the Virginia Board of Education submitted and received USED approval for its initial Consolidated State Application under the NCLB law. The NCLB

application process involves multiple submissions of information, data, and policies. A major component of the consolidated application is Virginia's Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook that describes a single statewide accountability system for the commonwealth. Virginia received USED approval for its accountability workbook in June 2003. USED required additional amendments to Virginia's workbook in September 2003.

Dr. Wright discussed the following proposed amendments to Virginia Consolidated State Application Accountability Plan required in NCLB:

1. AYP: Targeting choice and supplemental services (Critical Elements 1.6 and 4.1.)
2. AYP: Consecutive years same subject and same subgroup (Critical Element 1.6)
3. Reversing order of school improvement sanctions (Critical elements 1.6 and 4.1)
4. AYP: Division accountability (Critical Element 4.1)
5. Use of other academic indicator for safe harbor only (critical elements 3.2 and 6.1)
6. Minimum "n" and division accountability (Critical Elements 5.5 and 10.2)
7. First Score Requirement (Critical Element 3.2)
8. Assessing students with disabilities (Critical Element 5.3)
9. Inclusion of Limited English Proficient students in state assessments (Critical Element 5.4)
10. Graduation rate and other academic indicator (Critical Element 7.1)

Additional requests for NCLB that were discussed:

1. English language proficiency assessment: Exclusion of kindergarten and first grade Limited English Proficient (LEP) students from reading and writing English language proficiency assessment requirement (definition of LEP Cohort, in September 1, 2003, submission, as amended on November 24, 2003, and May 26, 2004, p. 14.
2. Immigrant children and youth funding formula under Title III: revision of formula to reduce state reservation from 15 percent to 5 percent (Virginia Consolidated State Application, p. 82, d.)

Dr. Ward made a motion to accept for first review the proposed amendments to the Virginia Consolidated State Application Accountability Plan as permitted in Section 9401 of the federal law. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Castro and carried unanimously.

**First Review of the Annual Performance Report on Adult Education and Family Literacy**

Dr. Yvonne Thayer presented this report. Dr. Thayer said that Section 22.1-226 of the Code of Virginia requires school divisions to evaluate adult education programs offered by the school division by synthesizing data collected for other state and federal reports. Dr. Thayer presented a report to the Board that summarizes the progress made by learners in adult education programs funded by Title II of the Workforce Investment Act during the 2002-2003 school year.

Mr. Goodman made a motion to waive first review and approve the Adult Education Annual Performance Report pursuant to Section 22.1-226 in the Code of Virginia. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jones and carried unanimously.

**Final Review of Textbooks and Instructional Materials for State Adoption in Mathematics, English and Literature, and Foreign Language**

Mr. Jim Firebaugh, director of middle and high school instruction, presented this item. Mr. Firebaugh said that the Board of Education's authority for approving textbooks and other instructional materials is prescribed in the Virginia Constitution and in the Code of Virginia. The Board of Education's *Regulations Governing Textbook Adoption*, 8 VAC 20-220-30, specifies the types of materials that may be adopted.

Mr. Firebaugh said that at its March 27, 2002, meeting, the Board of Education adopted a resolution to allow the Department of Education to proceed with the review of textbooks and instructional materials according to the established process. On March 29, 2002, the department posted Superintendents' Memorandum No. 15, which provided a textbook adoption schedule for statewide adoptions through 2004-2005.

In June 2004, committees of Virginia educators received K-12 mathematics, English and literature, and foreign language textbooks and Standards of Learning textbook correlations from publishers. Members of these committees conducted individual analyses of the materials prior to meeting with the full committee.

In July 2004, the committees convened in Richmond to reach consensus on their reviews of the submitted materials. The consensus evaluations were shared with publishers, and publishers were given an opportunity to respond to the committees' reviews and recommendations. Requests by publishers for reconsideration were examined carefully prior to the list being submitted to the Board of Education for first review at the October 2004 meeting.

Mrs. Saslaw made a motion to approve the list of textbooks and instructional materials recommended for state adoption. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jones and carried unanimously.

**First Review of a Template and Report on a Statewide Articulation Agreement for Career and Technical Education, in Compliance with HJR 125**

Dr. Linda Wallinger, assistant superintendent of instruction, presented this item. Dr. Wallinger said that upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council on Career and Technical Education, the 2004 General Assembly passed House Joint Resolution No.125, which requested the Board of Education, the State Board for Community Colleges, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to develop a template for a statewide articulation agreement for career and technical education.

Dr. Wallinger said that several committees and a task force consisting of stakeholders and staff members from the VDOE, VCCS, and SCHEV were convened to identify issues relating to credentialing of teachers and how credits in career and technical education courses can be transferred from one high school to another, from any high school to any community college, and from any community college to the public four-year institutions of higher education. The task force drafted a statewide articulation template that provides for flexibility for school divisions, community colleges, and four-year institutions of higher education, taking into account the various curricula that are offered in the many schools, colleges, and universities, and the local economic and other conditions. The draft template:

- Includes some standardization of credit transfers
- Provides options for customization to allow various stakeholders to match the interests of programs and localities; and
- Offers opportunities for improvement in cooperation and collaboration between and among the various levels of education

Mr. Goodman made a motion to waive first review and approve the template for statewide articulation agreement for career and technical education. Mrs. Castro seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. The template, report and executive summary will be forwarded to the Governor and the General Assembly as required in HJR 125.

***REPORTS***

**Report on Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Standards for Literacy and Mathematics (Preschool Standards)**

Mrs. Linda Poorbaugh, director of elementary instruction, presented this item. Mrs. Poorbaugh said that in 2001, the Department of Education developed the document, entitled *Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Guidelines for Literacy and Mathematics*. The purpose of the document was to provide early childhood educators a set of guidelines for literacy and mathematics with indicators of success for entering kindergarten students.

Mrs. Poorbaugh said that in the fall of 2003, these guidelines, along with those from all other states' that had preschool guidelines or standards, were reviewed by the Center for the Improvement of Early Reading Achievement (CIERA). Its report, *The State of State Prekindergarten Standards in 2003*, gave Virginia's guidelines in both literacy and mathematics outstanding ratings in all categories.

During the 2004 session of the Virginia General Assembly, language was added to the Appropriation Act for the At-Risk Four-Year-Old Program (The Virginia Preschool Initiative) requiring the Department of Education, in cooperation with the Council on Child Day Care and Early Childhood Programs to establish academic standards that are in accordance with appropriate preparation for students to be ready to successfully enter kindergarten. Additional language required that these standards be established in such a manner as to be measurable for student achievement and success.

In order to comply with these requirements, the Department of Education convened a committee of Department of Education specialists and preschool teachers and administrators to review and revise the *Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Guidelines for Literacy and Mathematics*.

*Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Standards for Literacy and Mathematics* describes specific indicators for prekindergarten children in the content areas of reading and mathematics. Oral expression, vocabulary, phonological awareness, letter knowledge, and early word recognition, print and book awareness, and written expression are emphasized in literacy.

The Board accepted the report on *Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Standards for Literacy and Mathematics* (Preschool Standards).

**Report on the Requirements in the Code of Virginia Regarding the Board of Education's Six-Year Plan**

Mrs. Anne Wescott, assistant superintendent for policy and communications presented this item. Mrs. Wescott said that the Virginia Code ' 22.1-253.13:6 states that the Board of Education shall revise, extend and adopt biennially a statewide six-year plan that shall be developed with statewide participation. The Board shall post such 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.

Mr. Jackson requested that he and Mr. Thomas Johnson be included in the preparation regarding revising and updating the Board of Education's six-year plan. Mr. Jackson said that a report of its findings and recommendations will be presented at the Board's annual planning session on April 20-21, 2005.

**Teacher Handbook Initiative**

Miss Mariah Rice, Miss Virginia 2004, presented this item. Miss Rice resides in Mechanicsville, Virginia (Hanover County). Miss Rice came before the Board to request that a handbook be developed that will include vital information regarding recognizing the symptoms of low self-esteem, depression, eating disorders, suicide, and other mental illnesses in young people in students ages 10-18.

Miss Rice said that the information gathered in the handbook will shed light onto the prevention of these problems and inform teachers of what role they can have in assisting in the recognition of the symptoms these disorders carry. Miss Rice said that it will also inform teachers of the services in the guidance departments at schools as well as discuss any limitations they may have when it comes to confronting a child's problem.

Miss Rice said that the book will involve the resources and knowledge of a host of professionals whom she has shared this idea with, and who fully support the handbook's creation. The information will also come from the following: The national Eating Disorders Association, The Self-Esteem Institute, The Nation's Voice on Mental Illness, and The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

Miss Rice asked the Board to approve the distribution of the handbook to every school in the state by the 2005-2006 school year.

Mr. Jackson thanked Miss Rice for her presentation and referred this request to the staff at Department of Education. The Board greeted Miss Rice.

***DISCUSSION OF CURRENT ISSUES***

Mrs. Castro announced that she attended The American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages Conference in November 2004. She said Virginia is celebrating the year of languages by doing a video showcasing foreign language throughout the Commonwealth.

Dr. Jones said this meeting ends his four-year term on the Board. Dr. Jones said serving on the Board has been one the most pleasant and meaningful experiences of his life. He said that anywhere you serve the interest of children in education you find good people. You find people that are well grounded, insightful, resourceful, and genuine. Dr. Jones said this speaks well of everyone he has served with on the Board and in particular those here today. Dr. Jones complimented the career professionals at the Department of Education saying on a scale of 1-10, they are a 12. Dr. Jones complimented Mr. Jackson's leadership of the Board and said he has been an outstanding President. Dr. Jones said Dr. DeMary is one of the leading Chief State School Officers in the nation and Virginia has been fortunate to have her leadership.

This meeting also ends Mr. Goodman's term on the Board. Mr. Goodman said it has been a special pleasure to get to know the staff at the Department of Education and recommended members of the Board to get to know the staff at the Department of Education and learn what they do.

The Board met for dinner at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on January 11, 2005. Present were Mr. Jackson, Mrs. Castro, Mr. Emblidge, Mr. Goodman, Mr. David Johnson, Mr. Thomas Johnson, Dr. Jones, Mrs. Saslaw, and Dr. Ward. A brief discussion took place about general Board business. No votes were taken, and the dinner meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.

### ***EXECUTIVE SESSION***

Mr. Goodman made a motion to go into executive session under Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711.A.1, specifically to discuss personnel matters related to licensure. The motion was seconded by carried unanimously. The Board adjourned for the Executive Session at 11:14 a.m. The Motion was seconded.

Mr. Goodman made a motion that the Board reconvene in open session. The motion was seconded by and carried unanimously. The Board reconvened at 11:25 a.m.

Mr. Goodman made a motion that the Board certify by roll-call vote that to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive session to which this certification motion applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive session were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board. The motion was seconded by and carried unanimously.

Board Roll call:

Mrs. Saslaw – Aye	Dr. Jones - Aye
Mrs. Castro – Aye	Mr. Emblidge - Aye
Mr. Tommie Johnson – Aye	Dr. Ward - Aye
Mr. Goodman – Aye	Mr. David Johnson - Aye
Mr. Jackson – Aye	

Mr. Goodman made the following motions:

- Case #1: That the Board of Education issue the license. Dr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Case #2: That the Board of Education issue the license. Dr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Case #3: That the Board of Education issue the license. Dr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- Case #4: That the Board of Education issue the license. Dr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Case #5: That the Board of Education issue the license. Dr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Case #6: That the Board of Education issue the license. Dr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Case #7: That the Board of Education issue the license. Dr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

***ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business of the Board of Education and the Board of Career and Technical Education, Mr. Jackson adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

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President

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Secretary