

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: G

Date: September 10, 2015

Title	First Review of Nomination to Fill Vacancy on the State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC)		
Presenter	Mr. John Eisenberg, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Student Services		
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Purpose of Presentation:

Review/action required by Board of Education bylaws.

Previous Review or Action:

No previous review or action.

Action Requested:

Final review: Action requested at this meeting.

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

	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
	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
	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
x	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify: Board of Education Advisory Committee

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Article Nine, Section 2 of the Board of Education’s bylaws states the following:

Section 2. Advisory Committees. Advisory committees may be created by the Board for special purposes to include, but not be limited to, federal and state-mandated committees. An advisory committee shall be composed of persons who represent the views and interests of the general public and who are known to be qualified to perform their duties. Personnel of the Department of Education may be appointed to the committee, as members or as consultants. Unless otherwise prescribed by state or federal law or regulations, all appointments to an advisory committee shall be made by the Board upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. . . .

The Board of Education’s bylaws also specify the membership and term of service in Article Sixteen, Section 3 and 4, as follows:

Section 3. Membership. The Board shall determine the number of members to serve on an advisory committee, and shall appoint the members of the committee, as specified in Board bylaws under Article Nine, Section 2, except as provided by state or federal law or regulation. Nominations for all vacant positions will be solicited as widely as practicable and on forms provided by the Department of Education. . . .

Section 4. Term of Service. Appointments to an advisory committee shall be for a term of three years. Members of an advisory committee may be appointed to a second consecutive three-year term, but shall not be eligible to serve for more than six consecutive years. . . . A member filling the unexpired term of a member who resigned from the committee may be appointed to another consecutive three-year term. . . .

The Board's advisory committees have vacancies for three-year terms. Some of the Board's advisory committees, including the State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC), require specific categories of expertise or geographic representation pursuant to state or federal law or regulation. For all committees, the Board of Education seeks to have geographic representation among the appointees.

A call for nominations to fill vacancies for the 2015-2018 terms was issued April 3, 2015 and closed June 5, 2015. Following the close of the nomination period, the nominations were reviewed by Virginia Department of Education staff. The Board approved recommended appointments to fill vacancies at its June 25, 2015, meeting. Due to a recent retirement of an existing member of the State Special Education Advisory Committee an opening for a state agency representative must now be filled. A nomination was received from the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and this nomination is in line with many of the transition initiatives currently underway by the Department of Education.

The nominee recommended for appointment is:
Mr. Matt Luther, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
Representing a State Agency

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

The operating expenses and other costs associated with the meetings and functions of the Board of Education's advisory committees are provided through the Department of Education's operating funds. Federal funds are provided to support the expenses and the work of the SSEAC.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Upon the Board's action, the nominee will be notified.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and approve the recommended nominee to fill the vacancy on the State Special Education Advisory Committee.

Rationale for Action:

This appointment will be providing the SSEAC with a required member so that it can conduct its core functions. Mr. Luther represents a key state agency responsible for supporting students with disabilities in Virginia Public Schools.