

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: A

Date: May 25, 2017

Title	Final Review of Requests for Renewal of Alternative Accreditation Plans from Albemarle County Public Schools, Town of Colonial Beach Public Schools, Craig County Public Schools, Highland County Public Schools, Richmond City Public Schools, Scott County Public Schools and York County Public Schools for High Schools with a Graduation Cohort of Fifty (50) or Fewer Students		
Presenter	Beverly Rabil, Director, Office of School Improvement, Division of Student Assessment and School Improvement		
E-mail	Beverly.Rabil@doe.virginia.gov	Phone	(804) 225-2865

Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by Board of Education regulation.

Previous Review or Action:

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

Date: April 27, 2017: Action: First Review

Date: October 25, 2012: Action: Approval of Alternative Accreditation Plan for Albemarle County Public Schools: Murray High

Date: March 27, 2014: Action: Approval of Alternative Accreditation Plan for Town of Colonial Beach: Colonial Beach High

Date: March 27, 2014: Action: Approval of Alternative Accreditation Plan for Craig County: Craig County High

Date: March 27, 2014: Action: Approval of Alternative Accreditation Plan for Highland County: Highland High

Date: March 27, 2014: Action: Approval of Alternative Accreditation Plans for Richmond City: Franklin Military Academy, Open High, Richmond Community High

Date: March 27, 2014: Action: Approval of Alternative Accreditation Plan for Scott County: Twin Springs High

Date: March 27, 2014: Action: Approval of Alternative Accreditation Plan for York County: York River Academy

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
	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
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Goal 1: Approving the alternative accreditation plan supports accountability for all public schools through state policies that help schools increase the academic success of all students.

Section 8 VAC 20-131.280.C. of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (SOA) states:

Section 8 VAC 20-131.280.C. of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states:

Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350, the governing school board of special purpose schools such as those provided for in § 22.1-26 of the Code of Virginia, Governor’s schools, special education schools, alternative schools, or career and technical schools that serve as the student's school of principal enrollment may seek approval of an alternative accreditation plan from the Board of Education. Schools offering alternative education programs and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark. Special purpose schools with alternative accreditation plans shall be evaluated on standards appropriate to the programs offered in the school and approved by the board prior to August 1 of the school year for which approval is requested. Any student graduating from a special purpose school with a Standard, Advanced Studies, or Modified Standard Diploma must meet the requirements prescribed in 8 VAC 20-131-50.

Summary of Major Elements:

The following school divisions request approval of an alternative accreditation plan for the high schools indicated below to meet the Graduation and Completion Index (GCI) benchmark for schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students. Below are the GCI benchmarks for these schools:

Name of School Division	Name of School(s) Submitting Alternative Accreditation Plan	GCI Index 2016	Attachment Reference
Albemarle County	Murray High	87	Attachment A
Town of Colonial Beach	Colonial Beach High	95	Attachment B
Craig County	Craig County High	96	Attachment C
Highland County	Highland High	94	Attachment D

Name of School Division	Name of School(s) Submitting Alternative Accreditation Plan	GCI Index 2016	Attachment Reference
Richmond City	Franklin Military Academy	98	Attachment E
Richmond City	Open High	100	Attachment F
Richmond City	Richmond Community High	100	Attachment G
Scott County	Twin Springs High	97	Attachment H
York County	York River Academy	100	Attachment I

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the GCI. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for these schools; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation. Each school division is requesting a waiver to 8VAC 20-131-280 (as provided in the background information) of the SOA so that adjustments may be made to the accreditation calculations for accountability purposes. The following are being requested by each school division for the accreditation cycles for three years beginning in 2017:

1. The proposed alternative accreditation plan will be used only if the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation AND the cohort size for the graduating class is less than 50.
2. The maximum number of GCI bonus points allowable for alternative accreditation will be based upon the size of the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort as follows:
 - 0-14 students, no bonus points assigned: the school division will submit a written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
 - Maximum of 5 points for cohorts of 15-20 students
 - Maximum of 4 points for cohorts of 21-40 students
 - Maximum of 3 points for cohorts of 41-50 students
3. The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for cohort sizes of less than fifteen students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction will make the final determination if the school division appeals the GCI due to cohort sizes of less than fifteen students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration.

Each school division has determined additional criteria and measurable thresholds for achieving bonus points based upon individual school data. Each school has submitted between three and six additional criteria, each of which is worth one bonus point if the benchmark is met. Descriptions of the additional criteria fall into the following categories:

- Advanced Diplomas earned by graduating cohort
- Advanced Placement course enrollment and/or Advanced Placement examination scores
- Completion of internships/mentorships
- Completion of service learning programs
- Career and Technical Education program completion, certification, and/or credential awards

- Dual Enrollment course enrollment
- Enrollment in higher level courses such as chemistry, calculus, and physics
- Post-High School status – postsecondary education, joining the military, full-time employment
- School earns Virginia Index of Performance points that qualify for an award
- SOL pass rates and/or SOL pass advanced pass rates

The proposed school plans are included as Attachments A-I.

Impact on Resources:

None

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

None

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the requests for renewal of alternative accreditation plans from Albemarle County Public Schools, Town of Colonial Beach Public Schools, Craig County Public Schools, Highland County Public Schools, Richmond City Public Schools, Scott County Public Schools and York County Public Schools for High Schools with a Graduation Cohort of Fifty (50) or Fewer Students.

Rationale for Action:

The alternative accreditation plans meet the criteria that are considered for approval of alternative accreditation plans for high schools with a graduation cohort of fifty (50) or fewer students. The plans support improvement in the academic success of students in schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and align with the requirements for requesting a waiver as specified in the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (☐ §§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350, the governing school board of special purpose schools such as those provided for in § 22.1-26 of the Code, Governor's schools, special education schools, alternative schools, or career and technical schools that serve as the student's school of principal enrollment may seek approval of an alternative accreditation plan from the Board of Education. Schools offering alternative education programs and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark. Special purpose schools with alternative accreditation plans shall be evaluated on standards appropriate to the programs offered in the school and approved by the board prior to August 1 of the school year for which approval is requested. Any student graduating from a special purpose school with a Standard, Standard Technical, Advanced Studies, Advanced Technical, or Modified Standard Diploma must meet the requirements prescribed in 8 VAC 20-131-50.

In addition, pursuant to § 22.1-253.13:3 of the *Code of Virginia*, any school board, on behalf of one or more of its schools, may request the Board of Education for releases from state regulations and for approval of an Individual School Accreditation Plan for the evaluation of the performance of one or more of its schools as authorized for certain other schools by the Standards of Accreditation pursuant to 8 VAC 20-131-280 C of the *Virginia Administrative Code*.

The Board of Education, in its *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 of the standards, local school boards may seek waivers of provisions of the standards to address the unique needs of schools. Such requests must include documentation of the need for the waiver. Waiver requests for schools and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer student will be considered based upon specified criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year. Requests for consideration must be accompanied by information that documents the need for approval of the request. The chair of the local school board and the division superintendent are requested to be in attendance at the Board of Education meeting when the proposal is considered.

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

February 9, 2017
Date Approved by the Local School Board

[Signature]
Signature - Chairman of the School Board

February 14, 2017
Submission Date

[Signature]
Signature - Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Murray High School

Division Name: Albemarle County Public Schools

School Address: 1200 Forest St.

Charlottesville, VA 22903

Contact Person: Ashby Kindler

Phone Number: (434) 296-3090

Email: akindler@k12albemarle.org

Proposed Duration of Plan: 3 years

Grade Levels Served: 9-12

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:

9th – 29

10th – 39

11th – 18

12th - 23

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
GCI bonus points for when 75% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain a full-time job.	+1
GCI bonus for increased percentage of students scoring advanced Proficient on EOC reading, writing and/or math SOL assessments.	+1

GCI bonus for earning at least 80 VIP Achievement Index Points in English.	+1
GCI bonus for earning at least 80 VIP Achievement Index Points in math.	+1
GCI bonus for increased percentage of students enrolled in college credit bearing courses.	+1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Ashby Kindler, Principal

Chris Gilman

Revised 8-7-12

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 . . . schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.

The Board of Education, in its *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 of the standards, local school boards may seek waivers of provisions of the standards to address the unique needs of special purpose schools. Such requests must include documentation of the need for the waiver. Waiver requests for special purpose schools and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer student will be considered based upon specified criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year. Requests for consideration must be accompanied by information that documents the need for approval of the request. The chair of the local school board and the division superintendent are requested to be in attendance at the Board of Education meeting when the proposal is considered.

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

January 18, 2017

Date Approved by the Local School Board



Signature – Chairman of the School Board

January 23, 2017

Submission Date



Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Colonial Beach High School
Division Name: Colonial Beach Public Schools
School Address: 100 1st Street Colonial Beach, VA 22443
Contact Person: Dr. Kevin Newman, Superintendent
Phone Number: 804-224-0906
Email: knewman@cbschools.net
Proposed Duration of Plan: 3 years ('17-'18, '18-'19, '19-'20 Accreditation Cycles)
Grade Levels Served: 8-12
Number of Students Enrolled by Grade: Effective January 2, 2017
Grade 8 – 40 students
Grade 9 – 33 students
Grade 10 – 50 students
Grade 11 – 49 students
Grade 12 – 48 students

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
GCI bonus when 25% or more of graduating students have enrolled in one or more AP or dual enrollment course during high school	1
GCI bonus when 70% or more of graduating students have earned a career and technical industry certification, state license, or successful national occupational assessment credential	1

GCI bonus when 50% or more of graduating students are CTE completers	1
GCI bonus when 30% or more of graduating students have taken chemistry, physics, and/or calculus	1
GCI bonus for an increased percentage of students scoring advanced proficient on the EOC Reading, EOC Writing, or EOC Algebra II exams	1

A

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Dr. Kevin Newman, CBPS superintendent
Mrs. Jennifer Grigsby, CBHS principal

Revised 8-7-12

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 . . . schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.

The Board of Education, in its *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of [8 VAC 20-131-350](#) of the standards, local school boards may seek waivers of provisions of the standards to address the unique needs of special purpose schools. Such requests must include documentation of the need for the waiver. Waiver requests for special purpose schools and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer student will be considered based upon specified criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year. Requests for consideration must be accompanied by information that documents the need for approval of the request. The chair of the local school board and the division superintendent are requested to be in attendance at the Board of Education meeting when the proposal is considered.

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

3/7/17

Date Approved by the Local School Board



Signature – Chairman of the School Board

3/8/17

Submission Date



Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Craig County High School

Division Name: Craig County Public Schools

School Address: 25239 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle, VA 24127

Contact Person: Robert Stump

Phone Number: 540-864-5185

Email: rstump@craig.k12.va.us

Proposed Duration of Plan: Three years, including 2019-2020 school year.

Grade Levels Served: 6-12

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade: 12th – 42, 11th – 67, 10th – 59, 9th – 60, 8th – 42, 7th – 48, 6th - 38

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
Percentage of graduates earning an Advanced Studies diploma out of the total number of diplomas awarded meets or exceeds 50 percent.	1
25% of students enrolled in Dual Enrollment classes	1
25% of CTE students have earned 2 or more certifications	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Jeanette Warwick – Superintendent

Samuel C. Foster, II – Director of Instruction and Educational Technology

Robert Stump - Principal

Revised 8-7-12
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

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We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

3/6/2017

Date Approved by the Local School Board

3/6/2017

Submission Date



Signature – Chairman of the School Board



Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Highland High School

Division Name: Highland County Public Schools

School Address: P O Box 430, Monterey, VA 24465

Contact Person: Mr. Timothy R. Good

Phone Number: 540-468-6320

Email: tgood@highland.k12.va.us

Proposed Duration of Plan: Three Years including 17-18 accreditation cycle

Grade Levels Served: Grades 6 - 12

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade: Grade 6 – 14, Grade 7 – 18, Grade 8 – 21, Grade 9 – 9, Grade 10 – 17, Grade 11 – 10, Grade 12 - 14

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

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Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
GCI bonus when 50 % or more of graduating students will have taken chemistry, anatomy/physiology, calculus, and/or physics	1
GCI bonus when 50% or more of graduating students have scored advanced proficient on EOC Reading, Writing, and/or Math SOL assessments	1
GCI bonus when 25% or more of the graduating students have enrolled in Advanced Placement and/or Dual Enrollment courses	1
GCI bonus for increased percentage of graduating students receiving CTE certifications	1
GCI bonus when Highland High School earns points for a VIP award	1
GCI bonus when 75% or more of the graduating students enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain full-time employment	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

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- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
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- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Dr. Thomas Schott – HCPS Superintendent

Mr. Tim Good – Highland High School Principal

Ms. Teresa Blum – Highland Elementary Principal

Mrs. Caroline Sponaugle – Highland High School Counselor

Revised 8-7-12
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 . . . schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.

The Board of Education, in its *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 of the standards, local school boards may seek waivers of provisions of the standards to address the unique needs of special purpose schools. Such requests must include documentation of the need for the waiver. Waiver requests for special purpose schools and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer student will be considered based upon specified criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year. Requests for consideration must be accompanied by information that documents the need for approval of the request. The chair of the local school board and the division superintendent are requested to be in attendance at the Board of Education meeting when the proposal is considered.

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

2/21/17

Date Approved by the Local School Board



Signature – Chairman of the School Board

2/17/17

Submission Date



Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Franklin Military Academy

Division Name: Richmond Public Schools

School Address: 701 North 37th Street, Richmond, VA 23223

Contact Person: Andrea M. Kane, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent for Academic Services

Phone Number: 804.780.7727

Email: akane@rvaschools.net

Proposed Duration of Plan: 2017-2020

Grade Levels Served: 6th-12th

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:

Grade	Number of Students
6	90
7	65
8	52
9	70
10	53
11	37
12	25

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
85% of graduating students will enter postsecondary studies in a two or four – year college, vocational school, enter the military, or obtain a full-time job as reported on Franklin Military Academy Survey.	1
85% of Franklin Military Academy students will earn a Career and Technical Education (CTE) completer certificate upon graduation.	1
Increase yearly the percent of graduates scoring pass advanced on English SOL assessment	1
Increase yearly the percent of graduates earning advanced studies diploma.	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Revised 8-7-12

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 . . . schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.

The Board of Education, in its *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 of the standards, local school boards may seek waivers of provisions of the standards to address the unique needs of special purpose schools. Such requests must include documentation of the need for the waiver. Waiver requests for special purpose schools and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer student will be considered based upon specified criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year. Requests for consideration must be accompanied by information that documents the need for approval of the request. The chair of the local school board and the division superintendent are requested to be in attendance at the Board of Education meeting when the proposal is considered.

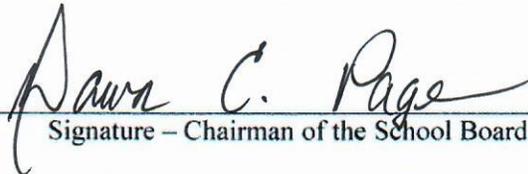
We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

2/21/17

Date Approved by the Local School Board

2/17/17

Submission Date


Signature – Chairman of the School Board


Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Open High

Division Name: Richmond Public Schools

School Address: 600 South Pine, Richmond, VA 23220

Contact Person: Andrea M. Kane, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent for Academic Services

Phone Number: 804.780.7727

Email: akane@rvaschools.net

Proposed Duration of Plan: 2017-2020

Grade Levels Served: 9th-12th

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:

Grade	Number of Students
9	44
10	53
11	36
12	52

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
85% of graduating students will enter postsecondary studies in a two or four – year college, vocational school, enter the military, or obtain a full-time job as reported on the Open High School Survey.	1
85% of Open High School students will earn Advance Placement (AP) credit/s upon graduation.	1

85% or more graduates will earn Advance Studies Diploma.	1
Increase yearly the percent of graduates scoring pass advanced on English SOL assessment	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Revised 8-7-12
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 . . . schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.

The Board of Education, in its *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 of the standards, local school boards may seek waivers of provisions of the standards to address the unique needs of special purpose schools. Such requests must include documentation of the need for the waiver. Waiver requests for special purpose schools and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer student will be considered based upon specified criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year. Requests for consideration must be accompanied by information that documents the need for approval of the request. The chair of the local school board and the division superintendent are requested to be in attendance at the Board of Education meeting when the proposal is considered.

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

2/27/17

Date Approved by the Local School Board

Dawn C. Page

Signature – Chairman of the School Board

2/17/17

Submission Date

Don Ded

Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Richmond Community High

Division Name: Richmond Public Schools

School Address: 201 East Brookland Park Blvd, Richmond, VA 23222

Contact Person: Andrea M. Kane, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent for Academic Services

Phone Number: 804.780.7727

Email: akane@rvaschools.net

Proposed Duration of Plan: 2017-2020

Grade Levels Served: 9th-12th

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:

Grade	Number of Students
9	64
10	62
11	54
12	53

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
85% of graduating students will enter postsecondary studies in a two or four – year college, vocational school, enter the military, or obtain a full-time job as reported on the Richmond Community High School Survey.	1
85% of Richmond Community High School students will earn Advance Placement (AP) credit/s upon graduation.	1

85% or more graduates will earn Advance Studies Diploma.	1
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The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Revised 8-7-12

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

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We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

2/7/17

Date Approved by the Local School Board

Bill Guillen

Signature – Chairman of the School Board

2-8-17

Submission Date

John L. Fyfe

Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: Twin Springs High School

Division Name: Scott

School Address: 273 Titan Lane Nickelsville, VA 24271

Contact Person: Jordan Mullins

Phone Number: 276.479.2185

Email: jordan.mullins@scottsschools.com

Proposed Duration of Plan: Five Years, including 2016-2017 accreditation cycle

Grade Levels Served: 8-12

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade: 8th – 49; 9th – 47; 10th – 41; 11th – 54; 12th 49

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
GCI bonus for 30% of students enrolled in Dual Enrollment classes	1
GCI bonus for 50% of graduates enrolling in post-secondary education, joining the military, or obtaining full time employment	1
GCI bonus for 25% of students receiving CTE certification	1
GCI bonus for 80% of students graduating with an Advanced or Standard diploma	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Jordan Mullins

Bridgett Rose-Barnette

Twin Springs High School

Grade Level	Standard Diploma	Advanced Diploma
Seniors	43%	45%
Juniors	30%	59%
Sophomores	37%	59%
Freshman	32%	64%

Grade Level	Percent enrolling in post-secondary education	Percent obtaining a full time job
Seniors	76%	24%

Grade Level	Percentage of students that have taken dual enrollment courses
Seniors	37%
Juniors	31%

Grade Level	Percentage of students receiving Career and Technical Certification
Seniors	88%
Juniors	63%

**Twin Springs High School
8th Grade**

Student Status	Point Value	Number of Students	Point Value	GCI Rating
Board Recognized Diploma in SOA	100	45	4500	
Still Enrolled	70	0	0	
GED	75	0	0	
Certificate of Completion	25	4	100	
Drop Out	0	0	0	
TOTAL		49	4600	93.8
GCI bonus when 50% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain a full time job	+1		1	
GCI bonus for 50% of students earning an advanced or standard diploma	+1		1	
GCI bonus when 25% of students receive CTE certification	+1			
CGI BONUS POINT TOTAL			2	
FINAL CGI TOTAL				95.8

**Twin Springs High School
9th Grade**

Student Status	Point Value	Number of Students	Point Value	GCI Rating
Board Recognized Diploma in SOA	100	45	4500	
Still Enrolled	70	0	0	
GED	75	0	0	
Certificate of Completion	25	2	50	
Drop Out	0	1	0	
TOTAL		48	4550	94.7
GCI bonus when 50% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain a full time job	+1		1	
GCI bonus for 50% of students earning an advanced or standard diploma	+1		1	
GCI bonus when 25% of students receive CTE certification	+1			
CGI BONUS POINT TOTAL			2	
FINAL CGI TOTAL				96.7

**Twin Springs High School
10th Grade**

Student Status	Point Value	Number of Students	Point Value	GCI Rating
Board Recognized Diploma in SOA	100	39	3900	
Still Enrolled	70	0	0	
GED	75	0	0	
Certificate of Completion	25	2	50	
Drop Out	0	0	0	
TOTAL		41	3950	96.3
GCI bonus when 50% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain a full time job	+1		1	
GCI bonus for 50% of students earning an advanced or standard diploma	+1		1	
GCI bonus when 25% of students receive CTE certification	+1			
CGI BONUS POINT TOTAL			2	
FINAL CGI TOTAL				98.3

**Twin Springs High School
11th Grade**

Student Status	Point Value	Number of Students	Point Value	GCI Rating
Board Recognized Diploma in SOA	100	48	4800	
Still Enrolled	70	0	0	
GED	75	0	0	
Certificate of Completion	25	6	150	
Drop Out	0	0	0	
TOTAL		54	4950	91.6
GCI bonus when 50% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain a full time job	+1		1	
GCI bonus for 50% of students earning an advanced or standard diploma	+1		1	
GCI bonus when 30% of students are enrolled in dual enrollment courses	+1		1	
CGI BONUS POINT TOTAL				
FINAL CGI TOTAL			3	94.6

**Twin Springs High School
12th Grade**

Student Status	Point Value	Number of Students	Point Value	GCI Rating
Board Recognized Diploma in SOA	100	43	4300	
Still Enrolled	70	0	0	
GED	75	0	0	
Certificate of Completion	25	6	150	
Drop Out	0	0	0	
TOTAL		49	4450	90.8
GCI bonus when 50% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain a full time job	+1		1	
GCI bonus for 50% of students earning an advanced or standard diploma	+1		1	
GCI bonus when 30% of students are enrolled in dual enrollment courses	+1		1	
CGI BONUS POINT TOTAL			3	
FINAL CGI TOTAL				93.8

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

Subject to the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 . . . schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.

The Board of Education, in its *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8 VAC 20-131-350 of the standards, local school boards may seek waivers of provisions of the standards to address the unique needs of special purpose schools. Such requests must include documentation of the need for the waiver. Waiver requests for special purpose schools and schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer student will be considered based upon specified criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year. Requests for consideration must be accompanied by information that documents the need for approval of the request. The chair of the local school board and the division superintendent are requested to be in attendance at the Board of Education meeting when the proposal is considered.

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

2-13-17

Date Approved by the Local School Board

Barbara S. Haywood

Signature – Chairman of the School Board

2/14/17

Submission Date

Vester D. [Signature]

Signature – Division Superintendent

ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS

School Name: York River Academy

Division Name: York County School Division

School Address: 11201 George Washington Highway, Yorktown, VA 23692

Contact Person: Dr. Anthony Vladu, Director of Secondary Instruction, Walter Cross, Principal YRA

Phone Number: Dr. Vladu, (757) 898-0409, Mr. Cross (757) 898-0516

Email: avladu@ycsd.york.va.us; wcross@ycsd.york.va.us

Proposed Duration of Plan: Five years, including 2020-2021 cycle

Grade Levels Served: Grades 9-12

Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:

9th – 26

10th – 12

11th – 16

12th - 19

Rationale:

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 85% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school would like to apply for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-280 of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. (This will be different for each school. The Virginia Index of Performance may provide useful indicators that may be considered. This information can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics/reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml)

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
<i>GCI bonus when 70% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military (includes students placed on waiting lists), or obtain a full-time job</i>	+1
<i>GCI bonus when 70% or more graduates complete internships/mentorships during their senior year</i>	+1

<i>GCI bonus when 50% or more graduates complete 40 hours of service learning</i>	+1
<i>GCI bonus when 80% of graduates are CTE completers</i>	+1
<i>GCI bonus when 100% of graduates obtain Career and Technical industry certifications, and 80% earn an additional certification</i>	+1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.

Mr. Walter Cross, York River Academy Principal
 Dr. Anthony Vladu, Director of Secondary Instruction
 Dr. Stephanie Guy, Chief Academic Officer
 Dr. Victor Shandor, Division Superintendent