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State Board of Education Elects Cannaday President

The Virginia Board of Education Thursday unanimously elected Billy K. Cannaday Jr. of Midlothian as president and Joan E. Wodiska of Falls Church as vice president.

Cannaday was appointed to the Board of Education in December 2009 by Governor Timothy M. Kaine to fill an unexpired term, and was reappointed by Governor Robert F. McDonnell in July 2011 to a full four-year term. Governor Terry McAuliffe appointed Cannaday to a second full term in 2015.

After thanking his colleagues for their confidence in his leadership, Cannaday pledged that the state board would continue to work in partnership with the governor, the General Assembly, school divisions, teachers, principals and parents to strengthen public education in the commonwealth. "Collectively, we have the responsibility to lead and prepare young people so they can do great things," Cannaday said.

Cannaday served as Virginia's superintendent of public instruction from 2006-2008 and was a division superintendent in Chesterfield County and Hampton.

Wodiska was appointed to the state board in January 2013. She was a member of the Falls Church School Board from 2004-2013, and served as chairman and vice chairman during her tenure. She also served as president of the Virginia School Boards Association.

Wodiska served as vice chairman of the Governor's Task Force on Local Mandates. In December 2014, Governor McAuliffe appointed Wodiska to the Commonwealth Council on Bridging the Nutritional Divide.

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