



For Immediate Release: February 25, 2016

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State Board of Education Approves Reconstituted Status for Four Schools

RICHMOND, Va. — The Virginia Board of Education today granted “Partially Accredited: Reconstituted School” status to four schools that are making progress toward meeting state standards for student achievement.

The state board’s accreditation regulations — which were revised last fall to better recognize schools that are making progress — define reconstitution as a process to improve instruction by restructuring a school’s governance, faculty, instructional program and/or student population.

The four schools, by division, are as follows:

- Hampton -- Jane H. Bryan Elementary
- Lynchburg -- Sandusky Middle
- Richmond -- Thomas C. Boushall Middle
- Virginia Beach -- Bayside Middle

“The best practices adopted by these schools are producing improved student outcomes,” Board of Education President Billy K. Cannaday Jr. said. “Our action today sends a message to these schools that they are on the right track and that the state board believes that full accreditation is within their reach.”

The state board awarded Conditionally Accredited ratings to the schools for 2014-2015 under its old accountability regulations based on evidence of progress and the strength of each school’s improvement plan.

The four schools were last Fully Accredited in 2010-2011, the year before the Board of Education increased the rigor of the Standards of Learning by introducing more challenging expectations and assessments.

Under the board’s regulations, the four schools may request one more year of reconstituted school status and, if approved, would have until 2017-2018 to meet all state benchmarks for achievement in English, mathematics, science and history or risk being denied state accreditation.

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