

MINUTES:
Virginia Board of Education
School and Division Accountability Committee
January 9, 2008
3:30 p.m.
Jefferson Conference Room, James Monroe Building

Welcome and Opening Comments

Mr. David L. Johnson, Chairman

Panel Presentation on the SACS CASI Division Accreditation Program in Virginia

Introductory Comments by Ms. Kathleen Smith, Director of School Improvement, Department of Education

Panel members:

Dr. Stewart Roberson, Division Superintendent Hanover County Public Schools

Dr. Steve Staples, Division Superintendent, York County Public Schools

Dr. Deran Whitney, Deputy Superintendent, Suffolk County Public Schools

Presentation Highlights:

- Ongoing communication among Department of Education and SACS CASI Staff
- Steering Committee conference call in May 2007
- Steering Committee Meetings in July 2006 and June 2007
- January 9, 2007, Memorandum of Agreement updated and signed by Dr. Billy Cannaday and Dr. Mark Elgart
- Hanover and Roanoke County School Districts recognized by the Virginia Board of Education on January 10, 2007, for full Accreditation of all Schools by the Virginia Board of Education and SACS CASI District Accreditation
- Goochland, Russell, Wise, and York County School Districts recognized by the Virginia Board of Education on July 25, 2007, for full Accreditation of all Schools by the Virginia Board of Education and SACS CASI District Accreditation
- Bland, Prince William, Washington, Pulaski, Suffolk, and Tazewell County School Districts hosted Quality Assurance Review Teams for District Accreditation in 2006-2007
- Carroll, Dickenson, Hopewell, Spotsylvania, Montgomery, King and Queen, Manassas Park and Smyth will host Quality Assurance Review Teams for District Accreditation in 2008
- Arlington, Floyd, Colonial Heights, Williamsburg/James City, Westmoreland, Galax City, King William, Rockbridge, Wythe, Northampton, and Lancaster hosted Readiness Visits for District Accreditation and made commitments
- Department of Education staff served on Quality Assurance Review Teams for District Accreditation
- SACS CASI staff served on Academic Reviews
- Department of Education staff presented at SACS CASI Conferences

- Department of Education staff participated in SACS CASI Training and Workshops
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- Virginia Council on Accreditation and School Improvement listed on Department of Education Web site (under educational organizations in VA)

Presentation by Representatives of Petersburg City Public Schools

Representatives from Petersburg Public Schools:

Dr. James Victory, Division Superintendent

Mr. Kenneth Pritchett, School Board Chair

Highlights of Presentation:

- Provide assistance to school principals in developing observation & conferencing skills
- Conduct collaborative observations with principals to provide effective feedback and correctives to teachers, focused on improving instruction
- Provide additional staff development opportunities which address differentiation of instruction and higher level thinking skills
- Conduct observations which focus specifically on teachers' use of research-based instructional strategies
- Laser focus on Middle and High Schools to ensure consistent monitoring of instructional delivery of SOL content
- Continue to use the data to drive instructional decisions to improve student achievement and determine areas of instructional focus

Adjournment