



VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM

Agenda Item: P

Date: November 17, 2022

Title: **Presentation & Written Report: Update on the Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Education and Identified Divisions**

Presenter: Dr. Quentin Ballard, Associate Director of School Quality
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Purpose of Presentation:

For information only: No action required.

Executive Summary:

The [Standards of Quality](#) (SOQ) require local school boards to maintain fully accredited schools and to take corrective actions for schools that are not fully accredited. Furthermore, the SOQ states that the Virginia Board of Education (Board) may require a division-level review when evidence exists that the failure of schools to achieve full accreditation is due to action or inaction by the school division.

In October 2012, the Board revised its [criteria](#) for identifying low-performing school divisions required to undergo a division-level academic review for the purpose of determining system-wide contributing factors impacting student achievement. The findings, known as essential actions, are presented to the division superintendent who collaborates with internal and external stakeholders to integrate the information into a corrective action plan (CAP). In an effort to provide a system of support to the school division, the Board enters into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the local school board to identify the responsibilities of the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) staff, the local school board, and the school division staff. During the 2022-2023 school year, five divisions remain under the guidance of an MOU with the Board: Danville City Public Schools, Greensville County Public Schools, Petersburg City Public Schools, Prince Edward County Public Schools, and Richmond City Public Schools.

The purpose of this report is to provide updates regarding the implementation of MOU requirements and the CAP for the reporting period of January 2022 – September 2022. The five attachments included with this report detail each school division’s progress as noted in their respective MOU and CAP.

- **Attachment A** contains the update for Danville City Public Schools
- **Attachment B** contains the update for Greensville County Public Schools
- **Attachment C** contains the update for Petersburg City Public Schools
- **Attachment D** contains the update for Prince Edward County Public Schools
- **Attachment E** contains the update for Richmond City Public Schools
- **Attachment F** contains the Appendix

Action Requested:

No action requested

Superintendent’s Recommendation

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education receive this written report and presentation.

Previous Review or Action:

An update is provided to the Board annually. The last update to the Board was in March 2022.

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

The Board of Education’s statutory authority is derived from the following section of the *Code of Virginia*:

[§ 22.1-253.13:3](#). Standard 3. Accreditation, other standards, assessments, and releases from state regulations.

...Each local school board shall maintain schools that are fully accredited pursuant to the standards for accreditation as prescribed by the Board. Each local school board shall report the accreditation status of all schools in the local school division annually in public session.

...When the Board determines through its review process that the failure of schools within a division to meet the standards established by the Board is related to division-level failure to implement the Standards of Quality or other division-level action or inaction, the Board may require a division-level academic review. After the conduct of such review and within the time specified by the

Board, each school board shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Board and shall subsequently submit to the Board for approval a corrective action plan, consistent with criteria established by the Board setting forth specific actions and a schedule designed to ensure that schools within its school division meet the standards established by the Board. If the Board determines that the proposed corrective action plan is not sufficient to enable all schools within the division to meet the standards established by the Board, the Board may return the plan to the local school board with directions to submit an amended plan pursuant to Board guidance. Such corrective action plans shall be part of the relevant school division's comprehensive plan pursuant to § 22.1-253.13:6.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

The Office of School Quality provided the last update in March 2022, and will provide the next status update during the Spring of 2023.

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

None