**Resolution 2020-1**

**Resolution Prescribing the Standards of Quality for Public Schools in Virginia**

WHEREAS, Section 2, of Article VIII of the Constitution of Virginia provides that standards of quality for the several school divisions shall be determined and prescribed from time to time by the Board of Education, subject to revision only by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education’s 2018-2023 Comprehensive Plan, establishes three priorities for public education in Virginia:

Priority 1: Provide high-quality, effective learning environments for all students;

Priority 2: Advance policies that increase the number of candidates entering the teaching profession and encourage and support the recruitment, development, and retention of well-prepared and skilled teachers and school leaders; and

Priority 3: Ensure successful implementation of the Profile of a Virginia Graduate and the accountability system for school quality as embodied in the revisions to the Standards of Accreditation.

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, the Board of Education undertook a two-year process, reviewing and researching evidence-based best practices and engaging in significant public engagement to make data-driven policy decisions to revise the Standards of Quality to provide support for Virginia educators and better ensure equity of opportunity and outcome for Virginia’s students; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia, unanimously prescribed new Standards of Quality at its October 17, 2019 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 General Assembly did not provide adequate funding for the prescribed Standards of Quality; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that these Standards of Quality are essential to fulfill the provision of a system of free public elementary and secondary schools for all children of school age throughout the Commonwealth, as required in Article VIII of the Constitution of Virginia;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education determines and prescribes the attached Standards of Quality by motion unanimously adopted at its regular business meeting on September 17, 2020.