

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –  
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

*... schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.*

The *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

*In accordance with the provisions of 8VAC20-131-420(B) of the standards, waivers may be granted by the board based on submission of a request from the division superintendent and chairman of the local school board. The request shall include documentation of the justification and need for the waiver.*

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

9.12.19

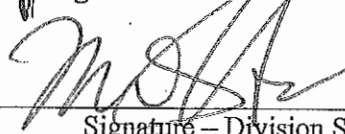
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved by the Local School Board

9.12.19

\_\_\_\_\_  
Submission Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Chairman of the School Board



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Division Superintendent

**ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE**  
**GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

**School Name:** Murray High School

**Division Name:** Albemarle County Public Schools

**School Address:** 1200 Forest Street

**Contact Person:** Chad Ratliff

**Phone Number:** 434-296-3090

**Email:** cratliff@k12albemarle.org

**Proposed Duration of Plan:** 3 years

**Grade Levels Served:** 9-12

**Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:**

9<sup>th</sup> – 31

10<sup>th</sup> – 19

11<sup>th</sup> – 14

12<sup>th</sup> - 21

**Rationale:**

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 88% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school is applying for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

**List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. This will be different for each school.**

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
GCI bonus points for when 75% or more graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain a full-time job.	+1
GCI bonus for increased percentage of students scoring advanced Proficient on EOC reading, writing and/or math SOL assessments.	+1
GCI bonus for increased percentage of students enrolled in college credit bearing or IB courses.	+1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

**List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.**

Chad Ratliff, Principal

Stephanie Passman, Head Teacher

Chris Gilman, Coordinator of Research and Program Evaluation

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –  
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

*. . . schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.*

The *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8VAC20-131-420(B) of the standards, *waivers may be granted by the board based on submission of a request from the division superintendent and chairman of the local school board. The request shall include documentation of the justification and need for the waiver.*

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

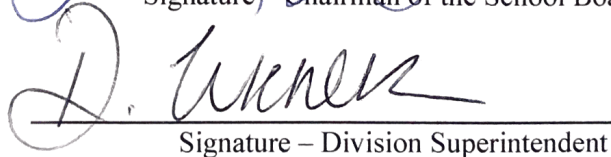
July 17th, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved by the Local School Board

8-1-2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Submission Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Chairman of the School Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Division Superintendent

**ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE**  
**GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

**School Name: Colonial Beach High School**

**Division Name: Colonial Beach Public Schools**

**School Address: 100 1st Street Colonial Beach, Virginia 22443**

**Contact Person: Dashan Turner, Superintendent**

**Phone Number: 804-224-0906**

**Email: dtturner@cbschools.net**

**Proposed Duration of Plan: 3 years (19-20, 20-21, 21-22)**

**Grade Levels Served: 8-12**

**Number of Students Enrolled by Grade: Effective August 1, 2019**

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>
8th	53
9th	39
10th	56
11th	41
12th	38

**Rationale:**

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 88% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school is applying for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

**List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. This will be different for each school.**

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
GCI bonus when 25% or more of graduating students have enrolled in one or more AP or dual enrollment courses during high school	1
GCI bonus when 70% or more of graduating students have earned a career and technical industry certificate, state license, or successful national occupational assessment credential	1
GCI bonus when 50% or more of graduation students are CTE completers	1
GCI bonus when 30% or more of graduating students have taken chemistry, physics, and or calculus.	1
GCI bonus for an increased percentage of students scoring advanced proficient on the EOC Reading, EOC Writing, or EOC Algebra II exams.	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

**List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.**

Mr. Dashan Turner, CBPS Superintendent  
Mrs. Tricia Williams, CBHS High School Principal

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –  
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

*... schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.*

The *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8VAC20-131-420(B) of the standards, *waivers may be granted by the board based on submission of a request from the division superintendent and chairman of the local school board. The request shall include documentation of the justification and need for the waiver.*

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

July 2 2019

Date Approved by the Local School Board

September 6 2019

Submission Date

*Peter A. Meyer*

Signature – Chairman of the School Board

*Samuel C. Holt - Designee*

Signature – Division Superintendent

**ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE  
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

**School Name: Craig County High School**

**Division Name: Craig County Public Schools**

**School Address: 25239 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle, VA 24127**

**Contact Person: Melissa Whiting**

**Phone Number: 540-864-5185**

**Email: mwhiting@craig.k12.va.us**

**Proposed Duration of Plan: Three years 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022**

**Grade Levels Served: 6th - 12th**

**Number of Students Enrolled by Grade: 12<sup>th</sup> - 52, 11<sup>th</sup> - 44, 10<sup>th</sup> - 50, 9<sup>th</sup> - 40, 8<sup>th</sup> - 43, 7<sup>th</sup> - 55, 6<sup>th</sup> - 51**

**Rationale:**

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 88% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school is applying for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

**List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. This will be different for each school.**

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
Percentage of graduates earning an Advanced Studies Diploma out of the total number of diplomas awarded meets or exceeds 50 percent.	1
25% of students enrolled in dual enrollment classes	1
25% of CTE students have earned 2 or more certifications	1



The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

**List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.**

Jeanette Warwick - Superintendent

Samuel C. Foster, II - Director of Instruction and Educational Technology

Melissa Whiting - Principal



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –  
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

*... schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.*

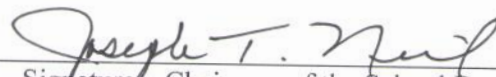
The *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

*In accordance with the provisions of 8VAC20-131-420(B) of the standards, waivers may be granted by the board based on submission of a request from the division superintendent and chairman of the local school board. The request shall include documentation of the justification and need for the waiver.*

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

08-07-2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved by the Local School Board



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Chairman of the School Board

08/08/2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Submission Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Division Superintendent

**ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE**  
**GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

**School Name:** Highland High School

**Division Name:** Highland County Public Schools

**School Address:** P O Box 430, Monterey, VA 24465

**Contact Person:** Mr. Timothy R. Good

**Phone Number:** (540) 468-6320

**Email:** tgood@highland.k12.va.us

**Proposed Duration of Plan:** Three years including 19-20 accreditation cycle

**Grade Levels Served:** Grades 6 - 12

**Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:** Grade 6: 13, Grade 7: 13, Grade 8: 12, Grade 9: 14, Grade 10: 19, Grade 11: 19, Grade 12: 15

**Rationale:**

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 88% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school is applying for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

**List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. This will be different for each school.**

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
GCI bonus when 50 % or more of graduating students will have taken chemistry, anatomy/physiology, calculus, and/or physics	1
GCI bonus when 50% or more of graduating students have scored advanced proficient on EOC Reading, Writing, and/or Math SOL assessments	1
GCI bonus when 25% or more of the graduating students have enrolled in Advanced Placement and/or Dual Enrollment courses	1
GCI bonus for increased percentage of graduating students receiving CTE certifications/credentials	1
GCI bonus when 75% or more of the graduating students enroll in post-secondary education, join the military, or obtain full-time employment	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

**List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.**

**Dr. Thomas Schott – HCPS Superintendent**

**Ms. Teresa Blum – Highland Elementary Principal**

**Mr. Timothy R. Good – Highland High School Principal**

**Mrs. Megan Obaugh – Highland High School Career and Academic Advisor**

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –  
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

*... schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.*

The *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

*In accordance with the provisions of 8VAC20-131-420(B) of the standards, waivers may be granted by the board based on submission of a request from the division superintendent and chairman of the local school board. The request shall include documentation of the justification and need for the waiver.*

We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

10-1-19

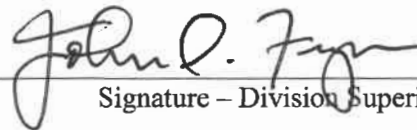
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved by the Local School Board



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Chairman of the School Board

10-2-19

\_\_\_\_\_  
Submission Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Division Superintendent

**ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE**  
**GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

**School Name:** Twin Springs High School

**Division Name:** Scott County Schools

**School Address:** 273 Titan Lane

**Contact Person:** Jordan Mullins

**Phone Number:** 276.479.2185

**Email:** Jordan.mullins@scottschools.com

**Proposed Duration of Plan:** Five years, including the 2019-2020 accreditation cycle

**Grade Levels Served:** 8-12

**Number of Students Enrolled by Grade:** 8<sup>th</sup>—47; 9<sup>th</sup>—48; 10<sup>th</sup>—48; 11<sup>th</sup>—41; 12<sup>th</sup>—48

**Rationale:**

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 88% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school is applying for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

**List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. This will be different for each school.**

Description of Additional Criteria	Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria
CGI bonus for 30% of students enrolled in Dual Enrollment classes	1
CGI bonus for 50% of graduates enrolling in post-secondary education, joining the military, or obtaining full time employment	1
CGI bonus for 25% of students receiving CTE certification	1
CGI bonus 80% of students graduating with an Advanced or Standard diploma	1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students

according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

**List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.**

**Jordan Parrish Mullins**

**Bridgett Rose-Barnette**



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN –  
GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-131-10 et. seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et. seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30. This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to August 1 of the school year in which the plan is to be implemented.

8 VAC 20-131-420.D of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* states (in part):

*... schools with a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students as defined by the graduation rate formula adopted by the board may request that the board approve an alternative accreditation plan to meet the graduation and completion index benchmark.*

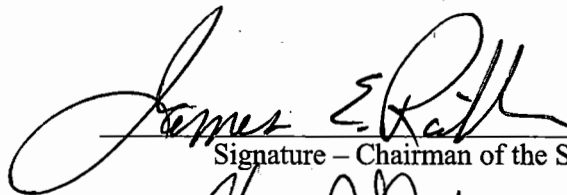
The *Guidelines Governing the Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, states:

In accordance with the provisions of 8VAC20-131-420(B) of the standards, *waivers may be granted by the board based on submission of a request from the division superintendent and chairman of the local school board. The request shall include documentation of the justification and need for the waiver.*

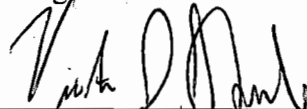
We, the undersigned, submit this request for review and approval by the Board of Education and understand that we are expected to appear before the Board to discuss the program and respond to questions raised.

8-26-19

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved by the Local School Board



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Chairman of the School Board



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Division Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Submission Date

**ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION PLAN TEMPLATE**  
**GRADUATION COHORT OF FIFTY OR FEWER STUDENTS**

**School Name:** York River Academy

**Division Name:** York County School Division

**School Address:** 11201 George Washington Memorial Highway

**Contact Person:** Angela Seiders, Director of Secondary Instruction; Walter Cross, Principal, York River Academy

**Phone Number:** Mrs. Seiders (757) 898-0409, Mr. Cross (757) 898-0516

**Email:** [aseiders@ycsd.york.va.us](mailto:aseiders@ycsd.york.va.us); [wcross@ycsd.york.va.us](mailto:wcross@ycsd.york.va.us)

**Proposed Duration of Plan:** 5 years, including 2018-2019 accreditation cycle

**Grade Levels Served:** Grades 9-12

**Number of Students Enrolled by Grade: 2018-2019**

9<sup>th</sup> grade – 17

10<sup>th</sup> grade – 24

11<sup>th</sup> grade – 15

12<sup>th</sup> grade - 16

**Rationale:**

If this school has a graduation cohort of 50 or fewer students and the school does not meet the 88% Graduation Completion Index (GCI) benchmark, the school is applying for an alternative accreditation plan as indicated in 8 VAC 20-131-420.D. of the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Due to the small cohort size, one student can make a significant difference in the index. For this reason, the GCI alone is not an appropriate measure for the school; additional criteria are needed to determine accreditation.

**List the additional performance criteria on which you propose to base the school's accreditation and provide a proposed points award for meeting each criteria. The GCI cannot be changed. Additional criteria proposed must be objective, measurable, and directly address the school's graduation rate. This will be different for each school.**

<b>Description of Additional Criteria</b>	<b>Points Added to GCI for Meeting Criteria</b>
GCI bonus when 100% of graduates obtain Career and Technical Education industry certification.	+1
GCI bonus when 70% or more of graduates enroll in post-secondary education, join the military (includes students placed on waiting list), or obtain full-time employment.	+1
GCI bonus when 70% or more of graduates complete	+1

internships/mentorships or New Horizons Regional Education Center course of study.	
GCI bonus when 50% or more graduates complete 40 hours of service learning.	+1
GCI bonus when 80% of graduates are CTE completers.	+1

The criteria listed above will be applied to the GCI only if: a) the school fails to meet the GCI benchmark for full accreditation, and b) the cohort size for the graduating class is 50 or fewer students according to the On-Time Graduation Rate cohort formula. If the criteria are applied, the maximum number of GCI points allowable according to cohort size will be:

- No bonus points assigned for 0-14 students. A written appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be submitted.
- Maximum of five (5) points for cohorts of 15-20 students.
- Maximum of four (4) points for cohorts of 21-40 students.
- Maximum of three (3) points for cohorts of 41-50 students.

The division will submit a written appeal of the accreditation rating to the State Superintendent of Instruction for cohort sizes of less than 15 students or in cases where special circumstances warrant explanation and consideration in addition to the maximum point values outlined above.

**List those individuals who were involved in the development of the proposed plan.**

**Dr. Tony Vladu, Chief Human Resources Officer**  
**Mrs. Angela Seiders, Director of Secondary Instruction**  
**Mr. Walter Cross, Principal, York River Academy**