**Virtual Learning Advisory Committee (VLAC) Minutes April 27, 2022 Meeting**

The Virtual Learning Advisory Committee (VLAC) held a general committee meeting remotely through electronic means (Zoom platform) on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 from 1:00-2:30PM. Dr. Meg Foley, Virtual Learning Coordinator and Mr. Reginald Fox, Virtual Learning Specialist presided the meeting starting with the welcome and virtual protocols. The disclaimer was provided on the screen that the meeting was held pursuant to the *2021 Appropriation Act language –*[SB7001](https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?213+ful+SB7001) and *meeting by electronic means set forth in subsection C of*[*§ 2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title2.2/chapter37/section2.2-3708.2/)*.*

Participants in attendance represent the following agencies, boards, and community:

Division Superintendents, Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA), Virginia Association of School Superintendents (VASS), WHRO Public Media, and Virtual Virginia (VVA).

Place check mark beside members attending and given reason for absent members.

Members in attendance are as follows:

* Ms. Jillian Balow, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
* Dr. Brendon Albon, Director of STEM & Innovation
* Dr. Meg Foley, Coordinator of Virtual Learning
* Mr. Reggie Fox, Virtual Learning Specialist
* Dr. Mervin B. Daughtery, Region I, Chesterfield County Schools
* (Mr. Ernest Longworth)
* Dr. Jeffrey Smith, Region II, Hampton City Schools
* Dr. James G. Smith, Region III, Richmond County Public Schools
* Dr. Kevin Newman, Region IV, Manassas City Public Schools
* Dr. Garett Smith, Region V, Staunton Public Schools
* (Mr. Tom Lundquist)
* Ms. Jeanette Day Warwick, Region VI, Craig County Schools
* Dr. Kevin Siers, Region VII, Pulaski County Public Schools (Mr. Lincoln Whitaker)
* Mr. Robbie W. Mason, Region VIII, Charlotte County Public Schools
* Mr. Rodney Jordan, Virginia School Boards Association
* Dr. Ben Kiser, Executive Director, Virginia Association of School Superintendents
* Dr. Mitzi Fehl-Seward, Vice President of Digital Learning, WHRO
* Dr. Brian Mott, Executive Director of Virtual VA

Other VDOE participants:

* Dr. Leslie Sale, Director of Policy
* Mr. James Chapman, Regulatory & Legal Coordinator
* Mr. Mark Saunders, Instructional Technology Coordinator
* Ms. Jean Weller, Educational Technology Specialist
* Dr. Susan Clair, K-12 Information Technology Coordinator
* Ms. Cynthia Evans, Support Staff

Ms. Jillian Balow, State Superintendent of Public Education was not able to attend.

The agenda was presented followed by introductions of participants in attendance. Selected participants made presentations on relative topics, and discussion was held from the group.

Committee Purpose, Role, Term – Dr. Brendon Albon

* Advisory group: online courses, in-service training and digital instructional resources necessary for school divisions to meet graduation requirements.
* Strategic planning to expand blended and online learning opportunities in Virginia public schools, training, content and digital resources.
* Important role sharing experience, expertise & resources
* Commitment to meet twice annually

Virtual VA Updates – Dr. Brian Mott

* Dr. Mott provided information and updates on the program components: K-12 Instruction, Outreach Program, Professional Learning, and Summer School.
* He provided statistics on participation rates, average AP scores, and expansion of the K-12 program.
* 100% of school divisions have some instance of Canvas, state-wide LMS in the Outreach Program.
* Professional Learning for staff - Internal Opportunities
* Annual "EdCamp" training to start the school year
* Weekly "Lunch & Learn" workshops
* Monthly PL activities aligned with National Standards for  
  Quality (NSQ) Online Teaching
* Participation in Professional Learning Communities (PLN Network)
* Summer Session - **Grades K–12**
* Enrichment Camps (K–5), World Languages: Chinese, Spanish & French, STEM & Core Academics
* 90 Courses (Grades 6–12), **Cohort 1 -**Early June to Mid-July, Courses & Enrichment, Credit Recovery
* **Cohort 2 -**Mid-June to Late July, Courses & Enrichment, Credit Recovery

Virtual Learning Updates – Dr. Meg Foley & Mr. Reggie Fox

* Discussed Professional Learning at the state level with the Virtual Learning HUB
* Partnership with ODU Virtual Learning Toolkit
* State-level webinars and training for MOP and school divisions across the Commonwealth

Virtual Education Regulations – Dr. Brendon Albon, Dr. Meg Foley & Mr. Reggie Fox

Overview of work

* Impact of COVID-19 & Expansion of Virtual Learning
* Expansion of virtual education programs and continuing evolution
* Proposed 2013 Amendments to the [*Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*](http://lis.virginia.gov/000/reg/TOC08020.HTM%23C0131), 8 VAC 20-131, Standards of Accreditation
* June 17, 2021 – NOIRA on Virtual Education
* Posted on Virginia Regulatory Town Hall for public comments
* Formed Virtual Education Regulations Workgroup
* Reviewed various state regulations and policies related to virtual education
* Provided virtual learning research and resources to the Board of Education
* Participated in Virtual Learning presentations to the Board of Education (Apr. 20)

Technology Update – Dr. Susan Clair

* Dr. Clair provided information about state-level grant funding available to school divisions. Contact her for more information.

Digital Learning Integration Standards Updates – Mr. Mark Saunders

* Replace Computer Technology SOL
* Seven strands that define digital roles in which students function
* Includes learning priorities, 5 C’s connections, and grade band performance indicators
* Alignments/connections and instructional strategies in 10 content area SOL; accompanying online SOL search tool
* Instructional resources for each strand
* Release by end of spring 2022; perpetual development
* Instructional resources

Discussion Activity – Dr. Meg Foley & Mr. Reggie Fox

* What are some new and innovative ways you are integrating digital learning?
* What challenges are you facing while addressing digital learning and other innovative ways to integrate technology?

Reporting from the Committee:

* There were no reports from the committee.

Recognition of Jean Weller who is retiring in June 2022.

Next meeting (September 2022), and more information will be emailed during the summer.

Public viewing on the VDOE YouTube channel may email questions/comments to the mailbox until May 4, 2022: virtualprograms@doe.virginia.gov.

The participants were given an opportunity to ask final questions prior to the close of the meeting. Next steps will include scheduling the fall meeting of the VLAC. Dr. Brendon Albon, Dr. Meg Foley, and Mr. Reginald Fox all thanked the committee and guest participants for their participation in this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:38PM.