

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**  
**August 31, 2023**

The Board of Education (“Board”) convened in a special meeting on August 31, 2023, in the Board Room, 22nd Floor, James Monroe Building, 101 North 14th Street, Richmond, VA 23219, with the following members present:

Mrs. Grace Creasey, President	Mr. Bill Hansen, Vice President
Mrs. Mashea Ashton	Ms. Anne Holton
Mrs. Debbie Kilgore (participated remotely)	Dr. Amber Northern
Mr. Andy Rotherham	Dr. Alan Seibert
Mr. Dale Sturdifen	Dr. Lisa Coons, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

President Creasey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Board members, staff, and visitors to the meeting. President Creasey also noted that she approved Mrs. Kilgore and Mr. Sturdifen’s remote participation because their principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location under the Board’s Bylaws and § [2.2-3708.3\(B\)\(3\)](#) of the Code of Virginia.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

President Creasey asked for a moment of silence.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

President Creasey asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Rotherham motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 25-27, 2023, meetings. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

**ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### ***A. Final Review of the Proposed Revised 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning***

Mrs. Tina Mazzacane, Mathematics Coordinator K-12, and Dr. Marcy Sorenson, Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Ms. Holton expressed support for the content standards and questioned whether there is a willingness among Board members to consider severing the front matter, pursuant to the request from the VASCD, because the public has not had a chance to review it. After discussion, the Board opted to move forward, keeping the front content matter as presented. Ms. Holton noted her willingness to vote affirmatively on the full math standards document notwithstanding concerns regarding specified language in the front matter based on assurances that the language in question is aspirational, non-specific and non-binding on the Board.

Mrs. Ashton made a motion to approve the Final Review of the Proposed Revised 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning and authorize the Virginia Department of Education to make any clarifying technical edits. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

### ***B. Overview of Discussion on Accountability***

Mr. Chad Aldeman, founder of Read Not Guess, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Mr. Aldeman and Dr. Coons gave an overview on the history of the accountability system as well as trends and opportunities for growth, achievement, and career readiness.

### ***C. Presentation on Accountability-Part I: Growth***

Ms. Katrina Miller, Director of Education Partnerships at the SAS Institute, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Ms. Miller gave an overview of SAS and EVASS and how they use data analytics to improve student outcomes and provide actionable data. Ms. Miller also explained the differences between achievement and growth and how the combination of the two give a more complete picture of student learning. Ms. Miller gave the Board examples of several different layers of reporting: public reports, growth reports, diagnostic reports, and students' projected reports

and how these reports can help educators make decisions about the support they need in the classroom to help their students achieve.

Ms. Creasey stated that growth measures may not inform parents effectively and would like a measure that allows direct conversations about achievement between administrators, teachers, and parents.

Ms. Holton asked whether the measures can identify growth in high achieving students. Ms. Miller confirmed that they can identify growth in high achieving students.

#### ***D. Presentation on Accountability-Part II: Achievement***

Ms. Anne Hyslop, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Ms. Hyslop gave an overview of the achievement component of an accountability system in Virginia compared to other states, as well as alternatives for measuring achievement. Ms. Hyslop stated the role of achievement in accountability is measuring and improving student academic outcomes and that Virginia's current accreditation indicators use a combined rate that does not measure achievement. A combined rate lacks the transparency of alternatives and not a valid measure of achievement.

#### ***E. Presentation on Accountability-Part III: Non-Academic Measure-Career Readiness***

Ms. Alissa Peltzman presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board's page on the VDOE website](#).

Ms. Peltzman gave an overview on Virginia's measure of career readiness compared to other states, as well as how attendance correlates to outcomes. The Board discussed which additional metrics should be considered when measuring career readiness.

#### ***F. Summary Discussion on Accountability Presentations***

The Board showed support for a simpler performance index-type model. The Board agreed that the goal is to make accountability and growth more transparent and easily explainable for parents.

Ms. Holton asked for data modeling to show how the performance index model helps differentiate schools in Virginia, as well as additional information on the approaches and weights in the accountability systems of other states.

Dr. Seibert noted that the goal should be to ensure that all students—ranging from underachieving to advanced—are measured by the accountability system. He supported using weights for the achievement measure.

Mr. Rotherham motioned for a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (“NOIRA”) in order for the Board to begin revisions of the accountability system, which the Board had requested during its July meetings, and for the Board to withdraw Action 5633 in order to streamline revisions to 8VAC20-131. The motion was properly seconded.

During discussion, Mr. Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, provided the Board with a draft NOIRA. During discussion, the Board made edits to the NOIRA. Ms. Holton expressed concerns with proceeding to final vote on a NOIRA that had not yet been shared with the public for feedback pursuant to regular order. She also noted several other instances in recent meetings of the Board proceeding to final action without, in her opinion, giving the public full opportunity to comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### ***G. Revisions to the Board’s Comprehensive Plan***

Mr. Chapman presented this item for consideration by the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](#).

Mr. Chapman presented the statutory requirements and elements of the Board’s Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Chapman also reviewed the three objectives in the current plan as well as the current plan’s priorities and goals. The current plan expires at the end of the year.

#### ***H. Presentation on Learning Loss***

Mr. Rotherham made a motion to move Item H to the September meeting agenda. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Creasey adjourned the special meeting at 4:40 p.m.



Mrs. Grace Turner Creasey, M.Ed.  
President, Virginia Board of Education