



# VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

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# AGENDA ITEM

**Agenda Item:** D

**Date:** December 12, 2023

**Title:** 2023 Prescriptions on the Standards of Quality

**Presenter:** Dr. Jeremy Raley, Virginia Department of Education Chief of Staff

### **Purpose of Presentation**

For information only: No action required.

### **Executive Summary**

[Article VIII, Section 2](#) of the Constitution of Virginia requires the Board of Education to prescribe standards of quality for the public schools of Virginia, subject to revision only by the General Assembly. Section [22.1-18.01](#)(A) of the Code of Virginia states the following:

To ensure the integrity of the standards of quality, the Board of Education shall, in odd-numbered years, exercise its constitutional authority to determine and prescribe the standards, subject to revision only by the General Assembly, by reviewing the standards and either (i) proposing amendments to the standards or (ii) making a determination that no changes are necessary.

Every two years, as required by § [22.1-18.01](#) of the Code of Virginia, the Board reviews the Standard of Quality for potential revisions.

### **Action Requested**

No action requested.

### **Superintendent's Recommendation**

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the 2023 Prescriptions on the Standards of Quality and delegate authority for any final edits to the Board President and the Superintendent.

### Previous Review or Action

The 2019 prescriptions were reviewed with the Board during the July retreat.

### Background Information and Statutory Authority

Subsection A of § [22.1-18.01](#) of the Code of Virginia states, in part, that “the Board of Education shall, in odd-numbered years, exercise its constitutional authority to determine and prescribe the standards, subject to revision only by the General Assembly, by reviewing the standards and either (i) proposing amendments to the standards or (ii) making a determination that no changes are necessary.”

#### **Authority:**

*Constitution of Virginia*

Article VIII. Education

Section 2. Standards of quality; State and local support of public schools

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.

The General Assembly shall determine the manner in which funds are to be provided for the cost of maintaining an educational program meeting the prescribed standards of quality, and shall provide for the apportionment of the cost of such program between the Commonwealth and the local units of government comprising such school divisions. Each unit of local government shall provide its portion of such cost by local taxes or from other available funds.

#### *Code of Virginia*

**§ 22.1-18.01. Biennial review of the standards of quality required; budget estimates.**

A. To ensure the integrity of the standards of quality, the Board of Education shall, in odd-numbered years, exercise its constitutional authority to determine and prescribe the standards, subject to revision only by the General Assembly, by reviewing the standards and either (i) proposing amendments to the standards or (ii) making a determination that no changes are necessary.

B. If the Board proposes changes to the standards of quality, the budget estimates that are required to be reported pursuant to § [2.2-1504](#) shall take into consideration the Board's proposed standards of quality.

### Implementation and Communication

The Board will need to decide whether it wants to prescribe amendments to the SOQ for 2024.

**Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources**

Some staff impact is expected.