



VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM

Agenda Item: D

Date: March 28, 2024

Title: First Review of Virginia Student Reading Plan Template

Presenter: Michelle Wallace, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Purpose of Presentation

Action required by state law.

Executive Summary

The Virginia Literacy Act (“VLA”), passed by the Virginia legislature in 2022 and expanded in 2023, focuses on improving literacy outcomes for all students in the Commonwealth.

The VLA requires that “each local school board shall provide reading intervention services to students in kindergarten through grade eight who demonstrate substantial deficiencies based on their performance on the Standards of Learning reading assessment or a literacy screener provided or approved by the Department. Such reading intervention services shall consist of evidence-based literacy instruction, align with science-based reading research, and be documented for each student in a written student reading plan...” (§ [22.1-253.13:1](#) G)

The VLA requires that “In order to assist local school boards to implement the provisions of subsection the Board shall provide guidance on the content of student reading plans” and “the Department shall develop a template for student reading plans that aligns with the requirements of subsection G.” (§ [22.1-253.13:1](#) H)

Action Requested

First review. Action requested at the April 25, 2024, meeting of the Board.

Superintendent’s Recommendation

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education receive for first review the content of the student reading plan to comply with the VLA.

Previous Review or Action

None.

Background Information and Statutory Authority

The VLA requires that “each local school board shall provide reading intervention services to students in kindergarten through grade eight who demonstrate substantial deficiencies based on their performance on the Standards of Learning reading assessment or a literacy screener provided or approved by the Virginia Department of Education (“VDOE”). Such reading intervention services shall consist of evidence-based literacy instruction, align with science-based reading research, and be documented for each student in a written student reading plan...” (§ [22.1-253.13:1](#) G)

The VLA requires that “In order to assist local school boards to implement the provisions of subsection the Board shall provide guidance on the content of student reading plans” and “the Department shall develop a template for student reading plans that aligns with the requirements of subsection G.” (§ [22.1-253.13:1](#) H)

Stakeholder Engagement

After first review, VDOE staff will post material on the VDOE website for inspection by the public. Public feedback will go to vla@doe.virginia.gov.

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources

The VDOE is providing additional funding for reading specialists and statewide training for reading specialists, teachers and principals that will support educators to implement the requirements of the VLA.