



# VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

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# AGENDA ITEM

**Agenda Item:** D

**Date:** April 11, 2024

**Title:** Proposed Revisions to Lab School Process Document

**Presenter:** Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation

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## **Purpose of Presentation**

Present revisions to the lab school process document, originally approved by the College Partnership Lab School Standing Committee on April 12, 2023, responsive to recommendations by the President of the Board of Education to align Standing Committee review with Board of Education-approved Laboratory School Application Guidelines.

## **Executive Summary**

At their February 2, 2023 business meeting, the Virginia Board of Education approved updates to the lab school process document on first and final review. Per direction of the Board, the [Virginia College Laboratory School Application Guidelines document](#) was posted to the VDOE Laboratory School webpage on February 13, 2023. The BOE-approved Lab School Application Guidelines Document states, under heading, **Meeting with the College Partnership Laboratory Schools Standing Committee:**

“Representatives of the eligible entity submitting the Lab School Application must attend a meeting with the Standing Committee. At the meeting with the Standing Committee, these representatives will be asked to discuss the contents of the Lab School Application and address the Standing Committee’s questions.

Following the public comment or public hearing conducted by the Standing Committee and the meeting with the Applicant, the Standing Committee will prepare a report to the full Board with the Standing Committee’s recommendation. A copy of the report will be provided to the Applicant upon provision of the report to the Board.

The Standing Committee’s report will normally be considered for first review at the next regularly scheduled full Board meeting. The Board may review the Lab School Application multiple times before receiving the Lab School Application for final review. The Applicant should attend each meeting at which the Board considers the Application to answer questions or make comments regarding the Application (p. 6).”

At its April 12, 2023 meeting, the College Partnership Laboratory Schools Standing Committee approved on final review the [College Partnership Laboratory School Application Process](#) document. This document included a second standing committee review of lab school applications in the application process.

In its preparation for standing committee review of between 12-14 lab school applications prior to June 30, 2024, the VDOE has collaborated with the Governor’s Transformation Office and the Office of the Attorney General, and has secured added internal resources to conduct thorough lab school application reviews in order to provide the Standing Committee with complete and compliant applications for consideration, with accompanying sign-off documents from both the Office of Attorney General and VDOE to supplement existing Subject Matter Expert review.

The Virginia Laboratory School Initiative is in alignment with [Board of Education Goals from the 2018-2023 Comprehensive Plan](#).

**Action Requested**

Approve on first and final review the amended College Partnership Laboratory School Application process document in consideration of alignment with the Virginia Board of Education-approved Virginia College Laboratory School Application Guidelines and enhanced internal review processes on behalf of lab school applications prior to Standing Committee review.

**Previous Review or Action**

No previous review or action by the Standing Committee.

**Background Information and Statutory Authority:**

Subsection A of § [22.1-349.6](#) of the Code of Virginia states, in part, that “[t]he Board shall establish procedures for receiving, reviewing, and ruling upon applications and shall make a copy of any such procedures available to all interested parties upon request. . . . The Board’s review procedures shall establish a review committee that may include experts with the operation of similar schools located in other states.”