



# VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

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# AGENDA ITEM

**Agenda Item:** F

**Date:** April 25, 2024

**Title:** Final Review of Virginia Student Reading Plan Template

**Presenter:** Dr. 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 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)

## **Action Requested**

Final review: Action requested at this meeting

## **Superintendent’s Recommendation**

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the content of the student reading plan to comply with the VLA.

### **Previous Review or Action**

Previous review or action.

Date: March 25, 2024

Action: Board accepted the Student Reading Plan for First Review

### **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 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**

As a part of the Student Reading Plan template revision process, numerous opportunities for stakeholder input and feedback were provided. Stakeholder input and feedback received via email and engagement sessions were considered for necessary updates to the template. VDOE sought feedback from division leadership, reading specialists, and educators and through the VLA email inbox.

As a result of this feedback, the following revisions were applied:

- Addition of student ID to student information section
- Combination of Area(s) of Identified Needs and Assessment section
- Changes to area of need and areas of targeted goal check boxes
- Targeted Intervention Details section updated to include
  - Dosage/frequency and person responsible for each
  - Date intervention services begin

### **Implementation and Communication**

Following the Board of Education’s acceptance of the proposed Student Reading Plan template on April 25, 2024, VDOE will share the content of the templates and accompanying guidance with all school divisions. Additionally, VDOE will share opportunities for educators to attend

training on the implementation of Student Reading Plans in partnership with the Virginia Literacy Partnerships (“VLP”) at the University of Virginia. Literacy coaches in all eight superintendent’s regions and the VLP hotline will provide reading specialists with ongoing support in the implementation of Student Reading Plans. There will also be a family invitation letter template and family explanation letter template for use.

**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 Virginia Literacy Act.