

# College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee Meeting Draft Minutes

Thursday, April 11, 2024  
2:00 pm

The College Partnership Laboratory Schools Standing Committee (“Standing Committee”) of the Board of Education (“Board”) met virtually.

## Committee Members

Ms. Joan Wodiska, Chair	Dr. Pam Moran, Vice Chair
Mr. John Bailey	Mr. Bill Hansen
Mr. Andy Rotherham	

The Chair of the Standing Committee, Joan Wodiska, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Attending this meeting was Grace Turner Creasey, M. Ed., President of the Virginia Board of Education, Dr. Lisa Coons, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education, and Jeremy Raley, Chief of Staff, Virginia Department of Education. Mr. Rotherham arrived at 2:45 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Hansen made a motion to approve the amended Agenda. The motion was properly seconded with the votes as follows:

- Ms. Wodiska – nay
- Dr. Moran – nay
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mr. Bailey – aye

Dr. Armstrong provided additional information about the changes in the proposed amended agenda. Ms. Wodiska made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Hansen made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no sign-ups for public comment prior to the meeting.

## **PRESENTATIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS**

### **A. Pipeline Update**

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

### **B. Virginia Lab Schools and Innovation Network**

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

## **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **C. Memorandum of Eligibility of Private Schools**

Deborah Love, Chief of Staff, Virginia Office of the Attorney General, presented a legal overview of the eligibility of private institutes of higher education to participate in the College 4 Partnership Laboratory School Program under the Virginia State Statute. The statute definition lays out three eligible classes of institutions able to participate in the creation of a College Partnership Laboratory School (which is related to VA Code Statute 23.1) includes a public, nonsectarian, non-religious school established by: (1) Public institutions of higher education (2) A public institution of higher education center, institute, or authority (3) Or an eligible institution as defined elsewhere in the VA code (e.g., Statute 23.1) – This definition includes eligible institution a non-profit institution of higher education whose primary purpose is to provide collegiate, graduate, or professional education and not to provide religious training or theological education. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

### **D. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Process Revisions**

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

Dr. Andy Armstrong provided background for the recommended changes to the lab school process document. Since March 2023, the Standing Committee utilized a process to review lab school applications, that included required multiple stages of VDOE, Standing Committee and BOE review and public feedback. The applications on the agenda for First and Final review today (and moving forward) have been through multiple stages of subject matter expert review, at least two (2) stages of OAG review, and have had significant budget and sustainability feedback and revisions in response to the work of the VDOE partnership with the Governor's Transformation team. The goal of this enhanced effort is to assure the Standing Committee that any edits or changes required of an applicant subsequent to Standing Committee review can be resolved prior to consideration by the BOE. The BOE approved guidelines for Laboratory School Applications include the ability for the BOE to conduct multiple reviews of the Lab School Application. The recommended changes to the Standing Committee Lab School Application process removes the Second Review by the Standing Committee and aligns the Standing Committee Lab School Review Process to Board approved guidelines which require a meeting with the Standing Committee along with opportunity for public comment followed by a Standing Committee report and recommendation to the Board. Mr. Hansen made a first and final motion to approve the College Partnership Laboratory School Process Revisions. The motion was properly seconded. The Standing Committee approved the changes by a vote of 3-2. The votes are as follows:

- Ms. Wodiska – nay
- Mr. Rotherham – aye
- Dr. Moran – nay
- Mr. Hansen – aye
- Mr. Bailey – aye

### ***E. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from Emory and Henry College***

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

Responsive to Standing Committee feedback at the March 4, 2024, meeting, technical assistance calls were held with the Emory and Henry team on March 6 and March 25, 2024. A revised application, budget, and sustainability addendum were provided to the VDOE on March 26 for completion of this report to the College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee. Follow-up feedback has been provided to the Applicants. The Virginia Laboratory School Initiative is in alignment with Board of Education Goals from the 2018-2023 Comprehensive Plan.

The Standing Committee referred this application back to the VDOE for further support and guidance in ensuring accessibility for all students, including utilizing the current guidance on the lottery, developing a concrete plan on how to sustain this effort, further clarification on the summer program to ensure its accessibility, and clarification on the student code of conduct.

Dr. Moran made a first and final motion to approve Emory and Henry College's application and to post the application for a ten-day public comment period, Upon clarification and subject to demonstrable statutory compliance of the following areas in the Application prior to presentation to the Board:

- The recruitment processes/program will be open to all students; and
- Support will be provided to all students needed in the rigorous academic program.

The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

#### ***F. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from George Mason University***

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

VDOE staff provided technical assistance to the George Mason University ("GMU") team during the development stage prior to submission of their application and following submission in preparation for Standing Committee review. Following submission of the application, the first round of counseling from VDOE SME review was provided to the Applicants the week of March 13, 2024. A technical assistance call was held on March 21, 2024, to discuss the SME feedback with the GMU applicant team. A revised application was submitted to the VDOE on March 25, 2024, and an additional technical assistance call was held on March 26, 2024. A revised application, budget, and sustainability addendum were provided to the VDOE on March 27, 2024, for completion of this report to the College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee. The Virginia Laboratory School Initiative is in alignment with Board of Education Goals from the 2018-2023 Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Rotherham made a first and final motion to approve George Mason University's application and to post the application for a ten-day public comment period, contingent upon clarification and subject to demonstrable statutory compliance of the following areas in the Application prior to presentation to the Board:

- Additional information to achieve the sustainability plan to achieve the \$840,000 per year that must be raised and additional details on local contribution.

- Letters of financial support or commitments such as Google, Amazon, Microsoft and/or Northrup Gruman as partners.
- Additional details on the lab school's strategy to ensure enrollment is open to all students; and
- Additional information on school meals.

The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

### ***G. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from Roanoke College***

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

VDOE staff provided technical assistance to the Roanoke College team during the development stage prior to submission of their application and following submission in preparation for Standing Committee review. Following submission of the application, the first round of counseling from VDOE SME review was provided to the Applicants the week of February 19. A technical assistance call was held on February 26, 2024, to discuss the SME feedback with the Roanoke College applicant team. A revised application was submitted to the VDOE on March 8, 2024, and an additional round of SME feedback was provided on March 18, 2024. An additional technical assistance call was held on March 21, 2024. A revised application was provided to the VDOE on March 25, 2024, and responsive to additional feedback a final application and budget/sustainability addendum were provided by Roanoke College on March 27, 2024, for completion of this report to the College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee ("Standing Committee"). Follow-up feedback has been provided to the Applicants. The Virginia Laboratory School Initiative is in alignment with Board of Education Goals from the 2018-2023 Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Rotherham made a first and final motion to approve Roanoke College's application and to post the application for a ten-day public comment period, contingent upon clarification and subject to demonstrable statutory compliance of the following areas in the Application prior to presentation to the Board:

- Additional information to achieve the sustainability plan to achieve the \$1.2 million per year that must be raised and additional details on local contribution.
- Additional letters of financial support or commitments either from foundations or federal opportunities and/or a letter of support from in the institution for ongoing and enduring support.

The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

#### ***H. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from Paul D. Camp Community College***

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

VDOE staff provided technical assistance to the Paul D. Camp team during the development stage prior to submission of their application and following submission in preparation for Standing Committee review. Following submission of the application, the first round of counseling from VDOE SME review was provided to the Applicants the week of March 18. A technical assistance call was held on March 22, 2024, to discuss the SME feedback with the Paul D. Camp applicant team. A revised application was submitted to the VDOE on March 25, 2024, and an additional round of SME feedback was provided on March 27, 2024. A revised application, budget, and sustainability addendum were provided to the VDOE on March 29, 2024, for completion of this report to the College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee ("Standing Committee"). Follow-up feedback has been provided to the Applicants. The Virginia Laboratory School Initiative is in alignment with Board of Education Goals from the 2018-2023 Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Rotherham made a first and final motion to approve Paul D. Camp's application and to post the application for a ten-day public comment period, contingent upon clarification and subject to demonstrable statutory compliance of the following areas in the Application prior to presentation to the Board:

- Including either an updated or final draft Memorandum of Understanding with Isle of Wright County Public Schools to address items such as meals, transportation, special education, extracurricular activities and academic advising.
- A more detailed plan on the use of Virtual Virginia; and
- Updated financials.

The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

#### ***I. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from Old Dominion University (Newport News)***

Dr. Andy Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Innovation, presented this item to the Standing Committee. The material for this item can be found on [the College Partnership Laboratory School's page on the VDOE website](#).

VDOE staff provided technical assistance to the ODU MEESA team during the development stage prior to submission of their application and following submission in preparation for Standing Committee review. Prior to application submission, technical assistance calls were held between VDOE and the ODU MEESA team on October 11, 2023; November 8, 2023; December 4, 2023, and January 8, 2024. Following submission of the application, additional technical assistance calls were held on February 12, 2024, and March 14, 2024. The first round of counseling from VDOE SME review was provided to the Applicants the week of March 19. A technical assistance call was held on March 21, 2024, to discuss budget and sustainability. A revised application was submitted to the VDOE on March 21, 2024, and an additional round of SME feedback was provided on March 28, 2024. A revised application, budget, and sustainability addendum were provided to the VDOE on March 28, 2024, and a final application responsive to suggested revisions was received on Monday, April 1, 2024, for completion of this report to the College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee. The Virginia Laboratory School Initiative is in alignment with Board of Education Goals from the 2018-2023 Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Hansen made a first and final motion to approve Old Dominion University (Newport News)'s application and to post the application for a ten-day public comment period, contingent upon clarification and subject to demonstrable statutory compliance of the following areas in the Application prior to presentation to the Board:

- Updated financials to reflect sustainability plans, including local contribution.

The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

#### ***J. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from Old Dominion University (Chesapeake)***

VDOE staff provided technical assistance to the ODU CSLS team during the development stage prior to submission of their application and following submission in preparation for Standing Committee review. Prior to application submission, technical assistance calls were held between VDOE and the ODU CSLS team on October 11, 2023; November 8, 2023; December 4, 2023, and January 8, 2024. Following submission of the application, additional technical assistance calls were held on February 12, 2024, and March 14, 2024. The first round of counseling from VDOE SME review was provided to the Applicants the week of March 19. A technical assistance call was held on March 21, 2024, to discuss budget and sustainability. A revised application was submitted to the VDOE on March 25, 2024. A revised application, budget, and sustainability addendum were provided to the VDOE on March 31, 2024, and a final application responsive to suggested revisions was received on Wednesday April 3, 2024, for completion of this report to the College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee.

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

Mr. Hansen made a first and final motion to approve Old Dominion University (Chesapeake)'s application and to post the application for a ten-day public comment period, contingent upon clarification and subject to demonstrable statutory compliance of the following areas in the Application prior to presentation to the Board:

- Letter of commitment and updated financial plan.

The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION OF CURRENT ISSUES**

There was no discussion of current issues.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no sign ups for public comment prior to the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be on May 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.