

Moving to this New System

Virginia's previous accreditation system failed to provide parents, educators, and communities with timely, accurate, and actionable insights into how their students are actually performing academically. The revision to the accountability framework now clarifies academic performance and distinguishes accountability for academic performance more clearly. Prior to the pandemic, 93% of Virginia's schools were accredited and after the pandemic, 90% of schools were accredited. Yet, while 90% of schools were receiving the system's highest rating, our students were struggling academically, and students were not able to master grade level content after missing so much school.

The accountability system should clearly show when students are struggling and tell us what supports they need. Virginia's system did not do that. This sharp disconnect in accreditation ranking versus academic performance is why the Virginia Board of Education has moved to the new School Performance & Support Framework for the 2024-25 school year

Stakeholder Engagement & Feedback

The School Performance and Support Framework was developed with the input of Virginians throughout the Commonwealth. The development process began in 2022 and has continued over the past two years. In order to provide parents, educators, and communities the opportunity to shape the new system, the Board and the Department held Listening Sessions and stakeholder conversations throughout the state, with 10 engagements last winter and 20 this spring, bringing together more than 1,000 participants to discuss the proposed Framework, as well as multiple rounds of public review of the Framework and additional public comment periods.

The School Performance and Support Framework is designed to give parents, school leaders, and communities greater awareness of their schools' academic performance, as well as ensure VDOE works closely with school divisions and school principals on focused, intensive support designed to address individual school's specific improvement needs.

Throughout the regulatory process, Virginians were strongly in favor of the reforms being made by the Board:

- Nearly two-thirds of the comments supported the new proposed regulations.
- 85% of the comments supported a continued focus on chronic absenteeism.
- Nearly 70% of the comments on weighting in the Framework were supportive of a higher weighting for mastery.
 - 60% of the comments were supportive of including English Learners in the Framework results by reducing the number of semesters English Learners are excluded from the current five and a half years to including them after three semesters.

Timeline

Summer 2022

Board receives an overview on Virginia's school Accreditation model.

Fall 2022

Board discusses and listens to presentations on Accountability from national leading experts, discusses a timeline for revising Virginia's Accreditation and Accountability systems, and overviews Virginia's National Assessment of Educational Progress results.

February 2023

Board receives a presentation on Accountability options and directs the Department to proceed with the work necessary to plan for and create a new Accountability system.

March 2023

Board receives an overview on the current Accreditation system for 2023-24 school year.

July 2023

Board continues conversations and receives presentations on Accountability and Accreditation.

August 2023

Board holds Special Meeting to continue Accountability conversations, reviews components of Accountability, and initiates regulatory action to revise the Standards of Accreditation.

September 2023

Board provides direction to the Department on designing the new Accountability system.

Nov-Dec 2023

Eight listening sessions in each of the Superintendent's Regions are held to engage public and facilitate conversations.

January 2024

Board receives presentation on the Fall 2023 regional listening sessions.

March 2024

Board approves proposed regulations for the Virginia Standards of Accreditation.

April 2024

Eight regional listening sessions are conducted throughout Virginia to receive feedback on performance metrics. Public comment period on proposed Virginia Standards of Accreditation begins.

June 2024

Public hearing is held on the proposed Virginia Standards of Accreditation. Board holds key discussions and decisions for the ESSA State Plan & School Performance and Support Framework. Board reviews and approves School Performance and Support Framework Categories.

July 2024

Board approves School Performance and Support Framework. Board approves final Virginia Standards of Accreditation.

August 2024

Board reviews and approves revised ESSA State Plan. First year of data collection begins (through July 2025) for the new School Performance and Support Framework.

October 2024

Schools receive preliminary modeling of what their school performance looks like under the new Framework using 2023-24 data.

November 2024

2023-24 school data calculations in School Performance and Support Framework released.

Fall 2025

Formal results of 2024-25 school year Accountability and Accreditation reported.

Board Activity and Voting History on Accreditation and Accountability

Board Activity on Accreditation and Accountability

September 2022

- Work Session – [An Overview of Virginia’s School Accreditation Model](#)

October 2022

- Work Session - [Inspiring Action in Virginia to Improve Student Outcomes: A National Perspective](#)
- Work Session - [HB 938 Workgroup Update](#)

November 2022

- Work Session - [Considerations for Updating Virginia’s School Accountability System](#)
- Work Session - [A Timeline for the Revision of Virginia’s Accreditation and Accountability Systems](#)
- Work Session - [Overview of Virginia’s National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\) Results](#)

February 2023

- Work Session - [Proposed Accountability Revisions \(Presentation\)](#)

March 2023

- Work Session - [Proposed Revisions to the Current Accreditation System for 2023-2024 \(Presentation\)](#)

July 2023

- Work Session - [Presentation and Conversation on Accountability and Accreditation](#)

August 2023

- Special Meeting - [Overview of Discussions on Accountability](#)
- Special Meeting - [Presentation on Accountability, Part 1: Growth](#)
- Special Meeting - [Presentation on Accountability, Part 2: Achievement](#)
- Special Meeting - [Presentation on Accountability, Part 3: Non-Academic Measure - Career Readiness](#)
- Special Meeting - [Summary Discussion on Accountability Presentations](#)
- Special Meeting - [Notice of Intended Regulatory Action as Adopted by the Board](#)

September 2023

- Business Meeting - [First and Final Review of Accountability Achievement Indicator \(Presentation\)](#)
- Business Meeting - [First and Final Review of Career Readiness Indicator \(Presentation\)](#)
- Business Meeting - [First and Final Review of Accountability Rating System \(Presentation\)](#)

November-December 2023 Public Hearings on Accountability

- November 20, 2023 - Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center (Abingdon, Virginia)
- November 27, 2023 - William Fleming High School (Roanoke, Virginia)

- December 1, 2023 - Brooke Point High School (Stafford, Virginia)
- December 5, 2023 - GMU Science and Technology Campus (Prince William County, Virginia)
- December 7, 2023 - Liberty Middle School (Bedford, Virginia)
- December 11, 2023 - Chesterfield County Public Schools Technical Education Center (Midlothian, Virginia)
- December 13, 2023 - Indian River High School (Chesapeake, Virginia)
- December 14, 2023 - Greensville County High School (Emporia, Virginia)

January 2024

- Work Session - [Presentation and Discussion on the Accountability Redesign](#)

March 2024

- Work Session - [Presentation on Revisions to the Standards of Accreditation](#)
- Business Meeting - [First Review and Approval to Move the Regulations into the Public Comment Process](#)

April 2024 School Performance and Student Support Listening Sessions

- April 2, 2024 - Wilson Memorial High School (Fishersville, Virginia)
- April 3, 2024 - Robert Russa Morton Museum (Farmville, Virginia)
- April 4, 2024 - Innovation Elementary School (Manassas, Virginia)
- April 8, 2024 - Chesterfield Technical Center (Midlothian, Virginia)
- April 9, 2024 - Torggler Fine Arts Center (Newport News, Virginia)
- April 11, 2024 - James Monroe High School (Fredericksburg, Virginia)
- April 17, 2024 - Salem Museum (Salem, Virginia)
- April 18, 2024 - Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center (Abingdon, Virginia)

April 2024

- Board Retreat - [Presentation and Discussion on Accountability-Accreditation](#)

June 2024

- June 4, 2024 - Public Hearing on Revisions to the Standards of Accreditation (8VAC20-131/132)
- Work Session - [Key Discussion and Decisions for the ESSA State Plan & Performance and Support Framework](#)
- Business Meeting – [First Review and Approval of the School Performance and Support Framework Categories \(Presentation\)](#)

July 2024

- Work Session – [Presentation and Discussion on Decision Points for the ESSA State Plan, Regulatory Feedback, & School Performance Framework](#)

- Business Meeting – [First and Final Review of Standards of Accreditation \(SOA\) Regulations at Final Stage](#)
- Business Meeting – [First Review of Revised ESSA State Plan](#)

August 2024

- Business Meeting – [Final Review of School Performance and Support Framework and Revised ESSA State Plan](#)

September 2024

- Business Meeting – [First and Final Review of Regulatory Actions Related to the Virginia Standards of Accreditation \(8VAC20-132\)](#)

Board Voting on Accreditation and Accountability

August 2023

- Special Meeting - [Notice of Intended Regulatory Action as Adopted by the Board](#)
 - Motion carried unanimously (Creasey, Hansen, Ashton, Holton, Kilgore, Northern, Rotherham, Seibert, Sturdifen)

September 2023

- Business Meeting - [First and Final Review of Accountability Achievement Indicator \(Presentation\)](#)
 - Motion carried unanimously (Creasey, Hansen, Ashton, Holton, Northern, Rotherham, Seibert, Sturdifen)
- Business Meeting - [First and Final Review of Career Readiness Indicator \(Presentation\)](#)
 - Motion carried unanimously (Creasey, Hansen, Ashton, Holton, Northern, Rotherham, Seibert, Sturdifen)
- Business Meeting - [First and Final Review of Accountability Rating System \(Presentation\)](#)
 - Motion carried 7-1 (Holton against)

March 2024

- Business Meeting - [First Review and Approval to Move the Regulations into the Public Comment Process](#)
 - To approve the revisions to the SOA as present in the item—and as amended by the text amendments distributed to the Board by staff and replacing the term “school performance report card” with “school performance report”—for public comment at the proposed stage. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Rotherham, Northern, Kilgore, Sturdifen, Ashton in favor; Holton against).
 - To prefer the weighting for the elementary school performance framework at 65% mastery, 25% growth, and 10% readiness. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Rotherham, Northern, Kilgore, Sturdifen, Ashton in favor; Holton against).
 - To prefer the weighting for the middle school performance framework at 60% mastery, 20% growth, and 20% readiness. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Rotherham, Northern, Kilgore, Sturdifen, Ashton in favor; Holton against).

- To prefer the weighting for the high school performance framework at 50% mastery, 35% readiness, and 15% graduation. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Rotherham, Northern, Kilgore, Sturdifen, Ashton in favor; Holton against).

June 2024

- Business Meeting – [First Review and Approval of the School Performance and Support Framework Categories \(Presentation\)](#)
 - Motion carried 8-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Kilgore, Rotherham, Seibert, Ashton, Northern, Sturdifen in favor; Holton against)

July 2024

- Business Meeting – [First and Final Review of Standards of Accreditation \(SOA\) Regulations at Final Stage](#)
 - Motion carried 5-1 (Creasey, Northern, Kilgore, Bryce, Ashton in favor; Holton against).

August 2024

- Business Meeting – [Final Review of School Performance and Support Framework and Revised ESSA State Plan](#)
 - To approve the elementary school readiness component weighting for the school performance and support framework. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Kilgore, Bryce, Rotherham, Ashton, McPherson in favor; Holton against)
 - To approve the middle school readiness component weighting for the school performance and support framework. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Kilgore, Bryce, Rotherham, Ashton, McPherson in favor; Holton against).
 - To approve the high school readiness component weighting for the school performance and support framework. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Kilgore, Bryce, Rotherham, Ashton, McPherson in favor; Holton against).
 - To approve the overall school performance and support framework proposal. Motion carried 7-1 (Creasey, Hansen, Kilgore, Bryce, Rotherham, Ashton, McPherson in favor; Holton against).

September 2024

- Business Meeting – [First and Final Review of Regulatory Actions Related to the Virginia Standards of Accreditation \(8VAC20-132\)](#)
 - Motion carried unanimously (Hansen, Bryce, Ashton, Kilgore, Northern, McPherson, Holton)