

2006 VSBA Annual Convention November 14-17, 2006

Use this as a preliminary guide to the convention or visit the VSBA website at www.vsba.org.

Happy 100th Birthday VSBA

General Sessions Speakers Highlights

Tuesday, November 14

10:30 14th VSBA Golf Classic

Wednesday, November 15

8:00 - 5:30 Registration
11:00 - 2:00 Welcome Cider
9:30 - Noon Early Bird Sessions
Noon - 2:00 Lunch (On Your Own)
2:00 - 4:00 General Session
4:00 - 4:30 Break
4:30 - 5:00 Regional Meetings
5:00 - 5:30 Candidates' Forum
(Nominated & Floor)
5:30 - 6:30 Reception
Dinner (On Your Own)

Thursday, November 16

7:15 3rd Annual VSBA 5K Run/Walk
8:00 - 9:15 Continental Breakfast
9:15 - 10:15 General Session
10:30 - 12:45 Seminars
12:45 - 2:00 Lunch (On Your Own)
2:00 - 4:30 VASS Workshop
2:00 - 5:00 VSBA Delegate Assembly
2:00 - 4:45 Seminars
5:30 - 6:30 Reception
Dinner (On Your Own)

Friday, November 17

8:00 - 9:00 Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 11:00 General Session

Note: It may be necessary to adjust times slightly. Refer to the final program for the complete schedule.

Wednesday, November 15

As we reflect on our 100th birthday, it is appropriate to look back at the overall history and purpose of education in Virginia. How better to accomplish those goals than to hear from two unique colonial leaders who had much to say on the subject of education. We will open our convention with a debate on the role of education by Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry. It will be lively, entertaining and thought-provoking. It will be unique and not to be missed!

Thursday, November 16

To continue the 100th birthday celebration of the VSBA, there will be three other unique characters - NSBA Executive Director Anne Bryant, AASA (American Association of School Administrators) Executive Director Paul Houston and NSBA President Jane Gallucci. These three will offer their opinions on the future of superintendents, school boards and education in general. Hear what these visionaries think YOUR legacy will be 100 years from now.

Friday, November 17

Concluding the Convention will be Dr. James H. Johnson, Jr., Distinguished Professor of Management at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Johnson will present an eye-opening look at the changing demographic patterns and issues that school boards can expect to see over the next ten years.

Preconvention Workshops - Wednesday, Nov. 15, 9:30 - Noon. (These require separate registration.)

*These workshops, for an additional fee of \$100, offer the opportunity to study **one** topic of interest in greater detail. Each workshop is a non-repeating, 2-1/2 hour session.*

What's Happened to Gifted Education under NCLB?

Dr. Elissa Brown, Professor at William & Mary in the Center for Gifted Education, will present an in-depth, hands-on, interactive session on how schools can continue to offer a quality program for gifted learners despite the pressures from NCLB. (Staff can register to attend with a board member/superintendent.)

Control the Rising Costs of Special Education!

This two-part presentation will first examine the rising number of special education litigation cases related to work injuries such as those resulting from aides assisting students. The second segment will share how good risk management practices can prevent such lawsuits. (Staff can register to attend with a board member/superintendent.) Kathleen Mehfoud, Reed Smith & David Brooks, Loss Control Consultant, present.



Overview of Thursday's Seminars

10:30 - 11:30

General Assembly Update - What issues are hot? What's not? Find out what your board can do at this annual update led by VSBA Legislative Committee Chairman Laura Hall and VSBA Lobbyists Dick Pulley and Pat Lacy.

Front Burner Issues In Interscholastic Athletics & Activities— VHSL - Ken Tilley, VHSL Executive Director, will present his popular update on the activities of the Virginia High School League.

Excellent Schools are Everyone's Business... A School-to-School Partnership Best Practice - Take a look at the award-winning partnership between the Prince William Area Family Economic Success Partnership and Prince William County Public Schools Career and Technical Education Program. You'll understand the importance of school-to-business partnerships that impact student academic achievement and student work readiness skills. This was a 2006 NSBA Annual Convention presentation.

What's After Data? Using a Pyramid of Intervention for Improvement - This presentation will focus on the use of differentiated interventions as a tool for district and school improvement. The pyramid describes improvement strategies aligned to the degree of sustained success in a school.

Internet Safety - A District-wide Approach - Frederick County Public Schools will outline the process used to present information to its school board, parents, staff and students on internet safety.

Paint 'em Pink and Put 'em in the Front Yard (NOT FLAMINGOS) - Call them modulars, trailers, or mobile classrooms, they appear to have an insidious way of reproducing and multiplying. These substandard "temporary" classroom units soon become permanent fixtures on school property. Once established, the real challenge becomes how to get rid of them! Superintendents Charles Maranzano and Joseph Cox will share their perspectives on developing strategies to address this "growing" problem.

Wireless School Board Meetings! What a Way to Go! - VSBA BoardDocs is a paperless meeting solution developed exclusively for school boards. It provides a means of publishing board agenda books. **Explore this powerful tool that 14 school boards are finding to be invaluable.**

Healthy Bodies Through Educated Minds - Looking for a creative way to address the federal wellness issue? Using an interdisciplinary approach, learn how health services, food services, public information, school-based media production and the physical education departments in Spotsylvania County Public Schools worked together to teach healthy eating and the importance of regular exercise. The presenters will share various activities that have taken place throughout the school division and the steps to get this program in place.

Education - The Best Investment You'll Ever Make - How can public education prepare students to compete in a world we may never experience? How can public school systems move beyond the standards of quality to achieve things that haven't been done in public education? The answer is YOU. This interactive discussion will focus on how others have supported meaningful educational change and the many ways you can lay a foundation for future generations.

Counting Heads - Do We Really Have a Quorum? - In 2006, the Virginia Supreme Court provided guidance on establishing a quorum, especially when members have disqualified themselves based upon a personal interest in a transaction. Any action taken by a school board without a quorum is void. Revisit the basics to ensure that your decisions are effective.

Using the NSBA's Center for Public Education to Spread the Good News About Public Education - The complexity of issues confronting public schools frequently gets lost in headlines and rhetoric. The Center for Public Education helps you tell the real story by providing substantive content in easy-to-see context.

High Performance Buildings: It's Not the Building; It's the Learning Inside the Building - This workshop will explore benefits of the "High Performance Schools" approach to new construction and renovations from the perspective of both the business and the educational mission. Representatives from Virginia Beach and Pittsylvania school systems will address issues like LEED certification, life-cycle cost, and energy management.



11:45 - 12:45

Got the Sniffles? You Could Get Worse! Hear Where We Stand on Pandemic Influenza - This presentation will include an overview of avian influenza, concern of a pending pandemic, discussion of federal, state and local roles in pandemic planning, and planning efforts in Virginia to date.

Improving Division Leadership Through Executive Coaching - Learn from the Virginia Association of School Superintendents (VASS) about a year old executive coaching service designed to improve the leadership effectiveness of division superintendents. The service is based on a corporate coaching model.

What Can You Do About the High Cost of Energy? - LOTS! - Energy costs are on the rise. Energy costs to heat, cool and light buildings is typically the second highest operating cost for a school division. York County has aggressively used energy management systems to control heating, air conditioning, lighting, hot water and more to minimize this cost. Hear why this year York County was designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as an Energy Leader, and commended by both the General Assembly and MGT of America (the Governor's audit firm).

An Update on the Impact of USED Policy Changes under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 - This presentation will provide participants with an update regarding the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 in Virginia. Included in the presentation will be a discussion of the additional alternatives and flexibility granted to Virginia by the USED in Spring 2006.

Got \$100 Million? - A Virginia school system is approaching their building program by looking at their instructional program needs first and saving \$100 million by doing so! Hampton City Schools is undertaking a large building totaling \$400 Million. They retained the services of an educational facility planner/construction manager to guide them through the process. This presentation will explain the process and unveil a unique approach to neighborhood schools including instructional benefits and cost savings of building Pre-Kindergarten through 8th Grade Schools. This approach will work for any school system large or small and the presenters will explain key aspects of jointly working with the governing body to secure funding.

Architects' Design Review Commentary - Dr. Michael Rettig, Professor, JMU, led the redesigned review of school architecture process. Hear the design review team's analysis on school design in the Commonwealth for 2006.

Innovative Program for College Counseling - Isle of Wight Public Schools is using an experienced college counselor to serve as a consultant for college counseling. This counselor is aiding existing school guidance counselors and staff by working directly with students and parents, presenting workshops, and serving as a liaison with the community. Hear how this program has served students with a desire to pursue an education beyond high school.

Blogs: A New Tool for Engaging the Public, Your Students, and the Media - This session offers an opportunity to learn about blogging and how it is being used to engage the public, students, and the media. If you thought blogs were an Internet fad you could watch from the sidelines, these presenters, Goochland County Superintendent Frank Morgan and Albemarle County School Board Member Brian Wheeler, will make their case that blogs are an exceptional new tool for community engagement. You will learn how blogs are shaping public opinion, student learning, the local news, and putting a spotlight on public education.

Building a Road Map to Academic Success K-12 - This presentation will discuss how the City of Fairfax Schools is working with parents, students, administrators and faculty to raise expectations in selecting an academic path of challenging course work.

Strategic Reading for Ninth Graders - Attendees will be introduced to successful, research-based reading strategies gained from Chesterfield County Public Schools involvement in a Johns Hopkins' federally funded research initiative. The project provided training for teachers in best practices of reading strategies for adolescent students. This course can be offered in a traditional or alternating block schedule or a traditional seven-period day.

Superintendent Searches - Gina Patterson, Assistant Executive Director, explains the VSBA model used successfully in nine searches in 2005-2006. Board members from Albemarle and Prince Edward Counties, and Radford and Buena Vista Cities will review their successful experiences using this VSBA service.

Workers' Comp - How VSBA Insurance Services Can Reduce Your Claims and Save Your Division Money - VSBA Insurance Services and Acordia Employers Service are teaming up to teach participants how their school divisions can implement effective cost saving programs. Unique aspects of workers compensation claims related to public schools and how the VSBA program addresses those needs will also be addressed.

(Thursday Continued)

2:00 - 3:00

Eight-Step Process - Data Driven Instruction - This presentation will share an elementary school's implementation of the Eight-Step Process, how this process can be implemented in any school, and the significant increase in student achievement as a result of this process.

Teaching Jamestown History During the 2007 Commemoration - In 2007, America will commemorate the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, Virginia. The story of Jamestown is the story of how our nation began and the interaction of three cultures that came into contact. This session provides an overview of the commemoration and related educational opportunities for Virginia's students.

School Law Update - VSBA Special Counsels Pat Lacy and Kathy Mehfoud return again to conduct their popular session.

Strategic Planning: Bottom Up for the Future - During the 2003-2004 school year, the Albemarle County Superintendent and School Board accepted the staff recommendation to use a community engagement model to develop a 2005-2009 Strategic Plan. Come hear creative ways to involve community members and staff in understanding the current state of your school division as well as developing a vision for the future.

Who's the Boss on What—A School Board or A Governing Body? In this session, school board members will have the opportunity to be briefed about the legal and practical side of the seemingly perennial struggle faced by school boards when dealing with a governing body on some issues. Board members will learn more about the constitutional authority of Virginia school boards and the key decision areas where they get to call the shots—not the governing body. Also, some strategies will be offered for being able to deal more effectively with governing bodies.

The Welcome Center and English as a Second Language Services at Henrico County Public Schools - Henrico County Public Schools offers an English as a second language intake center that helps students and parents transition to new environment through a variety of services.

Student Board Member Roundtable - An informal session to offer an opportunity for student board members attending the Convention to get together to share experiences and future plans.

Kidsville News- Hear about a new opportunity to increase literacy and share the good news about your school system through Kidsville News. The first partnership effort in Virginia is with the Newport News Public Schools and the local newspaper publisher.

3:45 - 4:45

The 2004 IDEA and 2006 Federal Regulations—What Your School Division Needs to Know - Are you up-to-date on IDEA? Do you know what RTI is and whether it is mandated? What are parent rights under the new IDEA? Have the IDEA provisions regarding discipline and hearings changed? Obtain basic information about these questions and other special education issues during this presentation.

Business Approach to School Reform: Pay Performance and Innovative Scheduling - It is time to truly reform education and recognize teachers as professionals. Knowledge and skills-based pay can enhance teacher capacity and can focus better-skilled teachers on doing what it takes to improve student performance. Superintendent James Thornton will discuss the implementation of a business approach to education.

Performance Matters - (PM) provides customized data management systems for school districts. PM and the VSBA have established a partnership to ensure that Virginia school districts are provided with world class solutions and services that encourage data driven decision making. In this session presenters will discuss the real world use of PM by demonstrating how board members, administrators and teachers are using the system to improve student learning.

Freshman Transition: A Local Initiative - This focuses on the most critical point of intervention and preventing students from losing motivation, failing and dropping out of school. Learn how the staff used data collection, curriculum development, mentor programs, and parental involvement to decrease truancy/discipline referrals and increased student involvement in extra-curricular activities to decrease freshman failure rates and increase SOL performance.

Developing a Capital Improvements Plan for Both Major and Minor Projects That is Flexible and Provides for a Long-Term Funding Stream - Hear how Roanoke County developed an effective capital improvements plan. Highlights include how to conduct a thorough facilities analysis, assess rated capacity versus needed capacity, prioritize needs, and develop a funding stream to assure completion of projects. You'll also explore the benefits of developing the plan as a joint, cooperative venture with local government.

Bridging the Gap Between School and Community Through Journalism - In 2001, Carol Lowry attended a "Future Search" program, which brought stakeholders in the community together to uncover areas where the county's schools needed to improve. To increase awareness of students and what was happening inside school buildings, a journalism class was created. Hear how this one class increased community support for and involvement in King & Queen County Schools.

