

VSBA President
Robert L. Hundley, Jr.
Hanover County School Board

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July 17, 2017
VSBA Orientations

July 18, 2017
VSBA Conference on Education

September 14, 2017
Superintendent Evaluation Workshop

September 28, 2017
VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that summer is in full swing, I'm hopeful many of you will have the opportunity to spend more time with family and friends and perhaps to travel. VSBA is fresh off a very successful School Law Conference conducted earlier this month in Richmond. If you attended that conference, you received excellent training from various legal speakers dealing with teacher grievance issues, national spotlight school law cases, and website accessibility issues (which will likely create significant issues for most of us). I'm hopeful the conference provided you with knowledge to prepare you for better questions of your Superintendent as those issues arise within your divisions.

We also received a General Assembly update from VSBA Lobbyist, Stacy Haney, and as always, there is a significant amount of legislative follow-up work that VSBA will undertake in the coming months to prepare for the 2018 General Assembly Session. The array of discipline bills filed during the 2017 legislative session suggests we should be prepared to see that issue return in 2018. We received excellent information from Stacy regarding how best to individually assess our divisions' discipline policies to ensure we are effectively balancing classroom safety and security with the instructional needs of all students. VSBA has already engaged a core group of legislators with interest in this area to begin sharing more data and information with them in the hopes that by providing them a greater understanding of the issue, they may be in a better position to consider any unintended consequences to our divisions during their drafting of bills for the 2018 Session.

Following the Law Conference, our Task Force on Schools in Challenging Environments met to refocus and refine our previous work toward establishing a new set of goals aimed at greater student success within these areas. We were excited to be at the table with task force partners from the Virginia Chamber of Commerce and VDOE. Partnering with these organizations will provide an increased level of visibility and perhaps garner more state-wide attention as we enter the initial budget preparation cycle for the next biennium. As we define our specific goals for the task force over the next month or so, I'll be sure and share them with you in more detail.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, this summer is the period during which VDOE will be hosting five public hearings across the state seeking public comment on the draft amendments to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia, Parts I-VIII (8VAC20-131)*. The first hearing is in Fairfax later this month. The link that follows will take you to the VDOE webpage with all the public hearing dates, times and venues as well as a copy of the draft amendments: <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/index.shtml>. VSBA will have representatives from each region attending and speaking at the public hearings, but we encourage each of you to find the hearing closest to you and invite a friend to attend with you. The proposed changes are a welcome move by the State Board of Education and place Virginia among the most innovative educational leaders in the development of a more relevant high school experience for students.

Finally, the summer provides excellent opportunities for each of you to visit with your local legislators while they are in their home offices. Perhaps consider inviting them to a board meeting for recognition. As always, I encourage you to continue looking for ways you can improve the opportunities for students through collaborative partnerships with businesses and other organizations within your communities. It's an honor and pleasure to serve you. See you at the VSBA Conference on Education July 18th in Richmond.



Members of the VSBA Task Force on Schools in Challenging Environments meet at the VSBA School Law Conference



Gina G. Patterson
VSBA Executive Director

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

10 Tips for New School Board Members

The VSBA would like to take this time to welcome all new school board members, and welcome back those incumbents who won their elections. The following 10 tips for New School Board Members is based on the advice of seasoned board members who've learned through experience the pitfalls of being new on the board. Don't forget, your association, VSBA, is here for you, so please don't hesitate to call us at 1-800-446-8722. We look forward to meeting you at the New Board Member Orientation on July 17th at the Richmond Marriott.

- 1) Go slow in the beginning, especially if you have some to the board to “reform” it. Chances are you will feel differently about a lot of things in six months.
- 2) Remember that the only authority you have lies in the corporate action of the school board. You have no legal authority to act alone unless the board as a whole specifically delegates a task to you.
- 3) Do not let your differences of opinion degenerate into personality conflicts. Nothing is more devastating to good board procedures than to have one member vote for an action just because another member voted against it.
- 4) Give the superintendent and staff your public support. Use one on one meetings with the superintendent to iron out differences of opinion or to ask clarifying questions ahead of the school board vote.
- 5) Keep out of teacher/personnel problems. The board hired a superintendent to take that responsibility.
- 6) Make an effort to be informed. School business is always important business, and big business. To be informed requires time and effort. Ask questions of your superintendent as you feel the need.
- 7) Welcome people who come to see you about problems. Listen carefully, then refer them to the appropriate person according to board norms and protocols. Remember that you may be hearing only one side of the story. Do not make any promises or say you will “fix” anything.
- 8) Accept your job on the board as one of responsible leadership in the community. You will be expected to attend and participate intelligently in many public meetings on school issues. This is more than an opportunity, it is an obligation to interpret school affairs to an interested public. Use your position on the board to help form public opinion and create active, intelligent support for education in your community.
- 9) Commit to your own learning. Take time to listen, learn, and build your understanding as you begin to share your own ideas. Attend trainings, VSBA meetings, read books and periodicals to learn about the complex legal and educational issues facing your school division.
- 10) Stay focused on students and their achievement. Ensure that every decision you make as a member of the board is made through the filter “What’s best for all students in the division.”

CALL FOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

The VSBA is accepting proposals to present at the VSBA Annual Convention November 15-17, 2017 at the Williamsburg Lodge.

To submit a proposal, please click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z8HT8DT>

The deadline to submit a proposal is July 14, 2017.

We look forward to reviewing the great programs going on in your school divisions!

CALL FOR MODERATORS

There are openings for breakout session moderators at the 2017 VSBA Annual Convention, November 15-17, at the Williamsburg Lodge.

Moderators introduce workshop presenters and serve as liaisons between the audience and speakers. Board members serving as moderators will earn VSBA Academy points. For more information or to volunteer, contact Amanda Leonard at (800) 446-8722 or aleonard@vsba.org.



VSBA Website Update

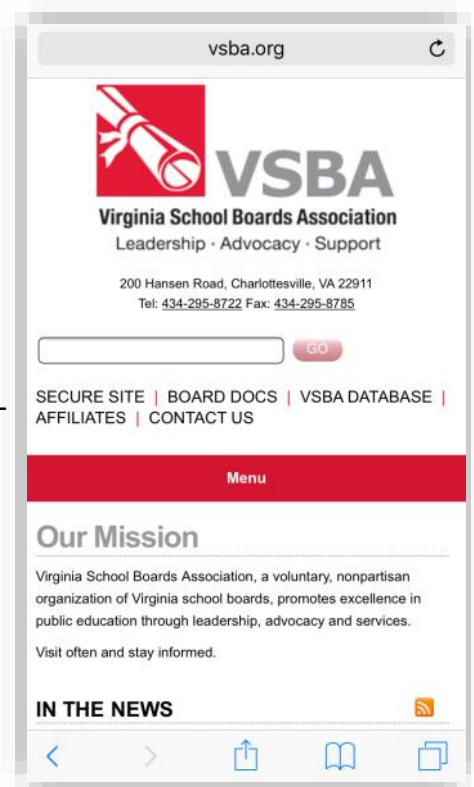
The VSBA website (www.vsba.org) was recently updated to be more accessible to members while “on the go”. The web updates allow members to access the VSBA website easily from any device including smart phones, tablets, and laptop or desktop computers.

There are a few features to point out:

- When viewing via your desktop or laptop, you will need to click on the menu options rather than hover over the selection.
- As your screen size changes, the menu bar will change size. This is specifically noticeable when viewing the website on a tablet or smart phone.
- When viewing from a mobile device, you will need to tap on the “menu” bar to view the drop down options (example shown to the right).

For even quicker access to VSBA information, download the VSBA App which is available for iPhone (in the App Store) and Android (in Google Play) by doing a search for “VSBA”.

If you have any questions or problems using the VSBA website, please contact Samantha Bosserman, director of communications and board development at samantha@vsba.org or 434-295-8722 x3.



School Board Recognition Programs

VSBA Board of Distinction

Each year, the VSBA identifies school boards that will be designated as a VSBA Board of Distinction. Boards must apply for the designation and must meet specific requirements in four key areas: planning, policy, promotion, and board development. If eligible, the board will receive a plaque to hang on the wall of their boardroom designating the board as a VSBA Board of Distinction.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

VSBA School Board of the Year

Each year, one outstanding local school board is named the VSBA School Board of the Year to recognize its efforts. Nominated school boards must be members of VSBA at the time of nomination and selection.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

VSBA Regional School Board Member of the Year

Each year, the VSBA recognizes one outstanding school board member from each of the nine VSBA regions who exemplifies local involvement in promoting student achievement.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

The deadline to submit for an award is Friday, July 21st. Submit your nominations today!



2016 Regional School Board Member of the Year recipients with VSBA Past-President Bill Kidd and Sponsor SSC.



Elizabeth Ewing
VSBA Director of Legal & Policy Services

All in the Family: Nepotism in Virginia

By Elizabeth Ewing, VSBA director of legal and policy services

Hiring can be a tricky business. Weeding through resumes, trying to judge unknown candidates from brief interviews and background checks and selecting the right person can be daunting even when there are many attractive applicants for a job. Wouldn't it be easier for a decision-maker to pick a known quantity? Like, for example, a relative?

When watching movies and TV shows, we've all laughed when public officials appoint family members, usually incompetent, to official positions. The mayor's wife is his secretary. A city council member's son is the dogcatcher. The county commissioner appoints his bumbling brother-in-law to serve as sheriff.

In the real world, however, nepotism isn't funny. In Virginia, a school board member who knowingly violates the anti-nepotism law can be personally responsible for refunding any amounts paid in violation of the law to the local treasury.

Why is nepotism such a persistent problem and why does it give rise to such stringent penalties? More importantly, what can school board members do to make sure allegations of nepotism don't arise in their division?

It's a family affair

Nepotism is the practice of showing special favor or preference to a relative when awarding a position, job or privilege. Although the word "nepotism" doesn't appear in the Virginia State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act, the Act prohibits exactly this kind of favor or preference. One section of the Act specifically addresses hiring relatives of school board members or the superintendent. Va. Code § 2.2-3119 establishes the general rule that it is illegal for a school board to employ a family member of a school board member or superintendent. For these purposes, "family member" includes a father, mother, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, sister-in-law or brother-in-law.

The ties that bind

There are some exceptions to this general rule. One set of exceptions applies to certain employees based on their prior school employment. Another set of exceptions applies in Planning Districts 3, 11, 12 and 13 (and will also apply in divisions in Planning Districts 4 and 17 effective July 1, 2017) If you don't know which Planning District your division is in, you can look it up [here](#). The exceptions are spelled out in detail in Va. Code § 2.2-3119.

Any school board member or superintendent who believes that one of the exceptions applies to a particular situation should consult the division's attorney or obtain an advisory opinion from the local attorney for the Commonwealth, the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council or the local county, city or town attorney.

Let it be

The problem that nepotism laws try to address is a lack of objectivity. It's human nature to want to help a relative who is seeking a job. Even the most well-intentioned public servant will find it difficult to be clear-eyed and impartial when a matter affecting a family member's employment is before the school board. And even if the school board member can be objective, very few members of the public will believe that the board member can be objective. In other words, it is virtually impossible to avoid the appearance of impropriety, even if no actual impropriety exists. School boards have enough problems without having to address public perceptions that nepotism is present in school board hiring decisions. And, if the family member is hired, he or she will probably have to work extra hard to convince coworkers, supervisors, parents, students and community members that the job was awarded based on merit rather than family connections. Those perceptions can have serious consequences not just for the employee, but for the entire school division.

Rather than assess any individual school board member's intentions, the solution in the law is to prevent the problem from arising. The practical effect of nepotism restrictions is that the school board member doesn't have to attempt objectivity. When the general rule applies, the option of hiring the family member is simply not available. When one of the exceptions applies, safeguards are present which establish that the hiring decision is made without the influence of the related school board member, thus ensuring the best and most qualified candidates are hired. This outcome benefits everyone—the school board member, the school division, applicants, students and citizens.

This article is based on one of the same title which first appeared in the April 2017 issue of the Ohio School Boards Association Journal. Copyright 2017 Ohio School Boards Association. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



Congratulations 2017 VSBA Student Art Contest Winners!

BLUE RIDGE

First Place Elementary Winner
Abigael Riley- Alleghany County Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Emma Schlosses- Roanoke County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Jack Flora- Radford City Public Schools

EASTERN

First Place Elementary Winner
Cedric Rothove- Middlesex County Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Taylor Rice- Northumberland County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Zack Moses- King George County Public Schools

VALLEY

First Place Elementary Winner
Benjamin Kratz- Rockingham County Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Sarah Eaton- Bath County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Emma Worth- Rockbridge County Public Schools

SOUTHSIDE

First Place Elementary Winner
Kamayah Johnson- Colonial Heights City Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Ria Bakshi- Henrico County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Logan Enoch- Chesterfield County Public Schools

CENTRAL

First Place Elementary Winner
Autumn Morris- Orange County Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Fletcher Barnes- Albemarle County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Andrew Sheets- Fluvanna County Public Schools

NORTHEASTERN

First Place Elementary Winner
Taylor Coffey- Manassas Park City Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Joy Lee- Fairfax County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Chris Pleasant- Spotsylvania County Public Schools

SOUTHERN

First Place Elementary Winner
Julian Mason- Lynchburg City Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Alyssa Colling- Bedford County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
James Bouie- Charlotte County Public Schools

SOUTHWEST

First Place Elementary Winner
Autumn Hibbitts- Buchanan County Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Samantha Duchesne- Buchanan County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Karrison Marcum- Wise County Public Schools

TIDEWATER

First Place Elementary Winner
Lilyjo Mullaly- Northampton County Public Schools

First Place Middle School Winner
Anthony Le- Isle of Wight County Public Schools

First Place High School Winner
Jada Epps- Surry County Public Schools

Nominations are Open for the VSBA Advocate for Education Award

The importance of advocacy and grassroots advocacy is a central component of VSBA. This award was created to recognize board members who have demonstrated significant and outstanding leadership, commitment, and contribution to public education in their region and the Commonwealth, and who have shown active involvement in local, state, and federal advocacy on behalf of their division, VSBA, and public education.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).



2016 Advocate for Education Award recipient Steve Koleszar, Albemarle County, with VSBA Past President Bill Kidd



VSBA School Law Conference

The VSBA School Law Conference was held on Friday, June 2nd at the Short Pump Hilton. Over 260 school board members, superintendents, and school division attorneys across the Commonwealth attended the conference. Attendees heard from experts on several topics, including new grievance regulations, federal issues for school boards, website accessibility, and an update on how the 2017 General Assembly session will impact local school divisions.



VSBA Affiliate Member Profiles

In each issue of the VSBA newsletter, we will feature three VSBA Affiliate Members. Thank you for your support of VSBA and Virginia's public education system.



Branch & Associates

Construction and construction management.

John Gardner
Phone: (540) 989-5217
Email: john.gardner@branch-associates.com

Website: <http://www.branch-associates.com/>



Benefit Plan Administrators

Third Party Administrator, headquartered in Roanoke, VA that specializes in the administration of partially self insured group health plans that are integrated with robust wellness, disease management, and cost containment programs.

Morris Masinter
Phone: (540) 345-2721 x321
Email: morris@bpatpa.com
Website: <http://www.bpatpa.com/>



Moseley Architects

Architecture/Engineering Services.

Lisa Demmell
Phone: (804) 794-7555
Email: ldemmel@moseleyarchitects.com
Website: <http://www.moseleyarchitects.com/>

Visit http://www.vsba.org/resources/affiliates/affiliate_member_program/ for a complete list of VSBA's Affiliate Members.



Looking for a new superintendent? Look no further.

Finding and hiring the right superintendent for your division will be one of the most important decisions you make as a board. The long-term impact and importance of this process and decision cannot be underestimated.

For more than 40 years, the VSBA search process has proven successful in Virginia. VSBA is affiliated with the National Affiliation of Superintendent Searchers (NASS) providing access to executive search staff all over the country.

For information on VSBA's superintendent search service, call Gina Patterson at 1-800-446-8722

Miss a webinar? No problem!

All VSBA webinars are available "on demand" to fit your schedule.

For details, contact Amanda Leonard coordinator of board development, at aleonard@vsba.org or visit http://www.vsba.org/meetings_conferences/webinars_on_demand/

FREE WEBINAR ON-DEMAND: The Research On School Choice

School choice advocates claim that competition among schools will force all of them to improve in order to attract "customers." Yet three decades of various choice experiments have not lived up to their supporters' promises. In this webinar, Patte Barth, director of NSBA's Center for Public Education, will review the evidence to date on the impact of school choice in its various forms – public (charter and magnet schools, inter-/intra-district transfers); private (private schools, vouchers, homeschooling); and virtual schools both private and public. Participants will also hear what lessons they can apply to help assure every public school is a good choice for students. Visit http://www.vsba.org/meetings_conferences/webinars_on_demand/ for the link to the free webinar.

Ask the Legal Expert

Q. Must the superintendent file a Statement of Economic Interests?

A. This is a local decision; each school board decides which staff members must file the Statement. The completed forms are public records and must be maintained in the office of the school board clerk for five years.

See previous "Ask the Legal Experts" online at http://www.vsba.org/services/legal_services/ask_the_experts/

In the past year, Virginia Lottery has...

Contributed more than a half billion to K-12 public education in Virginia...



Honored 8 Super Teachers across the state, awarding each with \$4,000 in prizes in partnership with the Supply Room Companies and the Virginia PTA...



Helped Virginians deliver more than 30,000 thank-you notes to educators during Teacher Appreciation Week...



Celebrated one lucky teacher by awarding them with a special Virginia vacation courtesy of the Virginia Tourism Corporation!





Thank You to the 2017 VSBA Business Affiliates

The Virginia School Boards Association appreciates the support for public education shown by its business affiliate members.

[Age of Learning](#)

[Air Mechanical Sales, Inc.](#)

[American Fidelity Assurance Company](#)

[Ameresco](#)

[Aramark K-12 Education](#)

[Ballou, Justice, Upton Architects](#)

[BCWH Architects](#)

[BetterLesson](#)

[Benefit Plan Administrators, Inc.](#)

[Branch & Associates, Inc.](#)

[Cambridge Strategic Services](#)

[Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates](#)

[Education Solutions Services](#)

[English Construction Company, Inc.](#)

[Fusfoo, LLC](#)

[Gay and Neel, Inc.](#)

[GCA Services Group](#)

[Grimm + Parker Architects](#)

[HBA Architecture & Interior Design, Inc.](#)

[Honeywell, International](#)

[Hord Coplan Macht, Inc.](#)

[Howard Shockey & Sons, Inc.](#)

[Hughes Group Architects](#)

[Johnson Controls, Inc.](#)

[K12 Insight](#)

[M.B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc.](#)

[MBP](#)

[Mark III Employee Benefits](#)

[Metz Culinary Management](#)

[Moseley Architects](#)

[Mountain Valley Transportation, Inc.](#)

[Networking Technologies & Support](#)

[OWPR, Inc.](#)

[Perkins Eastman Architects, P.C.](#)

[Pierce Group Benefits](#)

[PowerSchool](#)

[Ricoh USA, Inc.](#)

[Roof Consulting Services, Inc.](#)

[RRMM Architects, P.C.](#)

[SB Ballard Construction Company](#)

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[Stantec](#)

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[Skanska USA Building, Inc.](#)

[Source4Teachers & MissionOne](#)

[Spectrum Design, P.C.](#)

[Therapeutic Interventions, Inc.](#)

[Thompson & Litton, Inc.](#)

[Trane](#)

[VACORP](#)

[VIRCO Inc.](#)

[VMDO Architects, P.C.](#)

[Waller, Todd & Sadler Architects](#)

[Wendel Energy Services](#)

[WHRO](#)

[Virginia Lottery](#)

School Board Candidates Webinar

Do you have a candidate running for school board in your city or county? VSBA has put together a free webinar that is available on-demand for school board candidates.

To access the webinar, visit: http://www.vsba.org/meetings_conferences/webinars_on_demand/



Division Spotlight: Buckingham County Public Schools

In each newsletter VSBA will spotlight a recent initiative or best practice taking place in a school division in Virginia. If you have a story you would like to submit for inclusion in the spotlight section of the VSBA Newsletter, please contact Samantha Bosserman, director of communications and board development, for more information. We look forward to hearing about the great things going on in your divisions.

Decision Day 2017

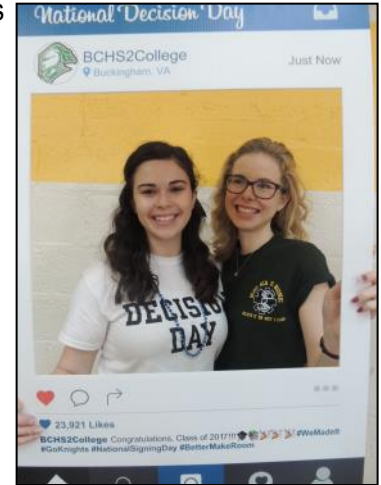
Submitted by Buckingham County Public Schools

Buckingham County High School is pleased to announce another successful Decision Day event that was held on April 28th for the Class of 2017. Decision Day (normally held on May 1) is a national event where students who have committed to a plan after high school graduation can celebrate their next step in life. The event is nationally recognized as Decision Day or College Signing Day, in which the Department of Education wants schools to recognize students "signing" onto a school in a similar weight as when athletes sign onto a college for sports.

This is the third year that Buckingham County High School has held Decision Day. Our AmeriCorps Virginia College Advisor Corps (VCAC), Kiana Williams, organized the event with the assistance of the Counseling Department and student and staff volunteers. The event was a great success with over three quarters of the senior class attending. Only seniors who provided definitive proof of acceptance into a



four-year college, two-year college, career/tech school, and/or military enlistment were allowed to attend. The event was one filled with celebration, fun, and a time to reflect on their four years at Buckingham County High School. With music playing in the background, students had the option of celebrating with outdoor activities or decorating t-shirts to represent the school/military enlistment. Additionally, students wrote thank you letters to faculty members of their choice to show appreciation and gratitude. No celebration would be complete without food or prizes, so the students were doubly pleased to fellowship with their comrades while enjoying pizza provided by Dominion Power/Bear Garden and listening for their raffle ticket to be selected. With approximately \$800 provided by the VCAC budget, students walked away with assortment of prizes from bedside storage caddies to an Amazon Fire tablet and will have a jump start on preparing for life on their own.



Along with simply recognizing the successes of our young people, this event and the buildup to it, encourages students to stay focused on the goal of being "ready" for Decision Day. The path to applying to college, financial aid, etc. is such a process - having Decision Day in the foreground helps seniors stay focused so they are ready for the big event.



FOLLOW VSBA ON SOCIAL MEDIA





How School Boards Affect Student Achievement

Conference Recording Available On-Demand

Were you unable to attend the April 20, 2017 Hot Topic Conference in Charlottesville? The recording of the conference is available on-demand through a video recorded by WHRO. Please contact Amanda Leonard, VSBA coordinator of board development at aleonard@vsba.org for information on how to receive access to the recording. The cost to view the recording is \$135 per connection.

Feedback From Conference Attendees

“This conference addressed specific tools to assist board members and superintendents to have productive a productive conversation discussing student achievement gaps.”

“This is definitely one of the best Hot Topic conferences I have attended in all my years on the School Board. Extremely helpful and engaging!”

“This was truly the best ever. Practical info and research on Board effectiveness. Good reminder to us all on what our business is all about!”

Research demonstrates that beliefs and actions of school boards affect student outcomes. Consider how the mindsets and dispositions of board members affect student achievement. You will learn how boards in high achieving districts govern differently than those in lower achieving divisions. Participants will also practice board governance skills related to improving student outcomes and develop action plans your board can implement to improve student outcomes in your division.



VSBA

Virginia School Boards Association

Leadership • Advocacy • Support



UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

July 17, 2017

[VSBA Orientation for New School Board Members and Superintendents](#)

LOCATION: Richmond Marriott

DETAIL: Becoming a new school board member or superintendent is an honor and a privilege. Enjoy a successful and less stressful transition by attending the VSBA Orientation for New Board Members & Superintendents. Many important topics will be covered, including school law, parliamentary procedure, budgets, board/superintendent roles, teamwork, and more. Don't miss this popular event, now with extended sessions, which is a "must" for all new board members and superintendents!

Sponsored by:



July 17, 2017

[VSBA Orientation Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen](#)

LOCATION: Richmond Marriott

DETAIL: Have you recently been selected as your school board's new chairman or vice-chairman? If so, don't miss the VSBA Orientation for New Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen, which has been especially designed to help you become more comfortable with your new role and responsibilities. Experts in a variety of areas will address many important topics, such as the legal authority of the chairman, handling media inquiries, parliamentary procedure, optimizing the chair/superintendent relationship, and ethical considerations as a board chair. You will also have the opportunity to network with other new chairmen and vice-chairmen from across Virginia.

Sponsored by:



July 18, 2017

[VSBA Conference on Education](#)

LOCATION: Richmond Marriott

DETAIL: Join hundreds of school division leaders from across Virginia at the 32nd annual VSBA Conference on Education. We are pleased to have Toney McNair, the 2017 Virginia Teacher of the Year for Chesapeake City Schools as the opening speaker this year! Attendees will have the opportunity to choose from over thirty mini-workshops highlighting successful practices in Virginia's school divisions. Participants will leave with many great insights and practical ideas. After the roundtable presentations, attendees will break into regional meetings to discuss pertinent issues coming up for their particular regions. This year the speaker is the Mayor of the City of Richmond.

Sponsored by:



August 7, 2017

[WEBINAR: How to Foster a Positive Relationship Between the School Board and the Board of Supervisors](#)

LOCATION: Online

DETAIL: The school board and the board of supervisors/city council must work closely together to advance the needs of our students. Learn best practices for how to enhance the communication lines between you and your counterparts in local government. Good relations rely on shared expectations and proper communication to determine who makes what decisions. When we understand and agree with each other then we can play our roles properly.

September 14, 2017

[VSBA Superintendent Evaluation Workshop](#)

LOCATION: VSBA Offices, Charlottesville

DETAIL: The Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Superintendents developed by the Virginia Department of Education provide a wealth of information regarding the requirements. Filtering through this document to determine what is required and what is optional requires focused attention. For some, the changes to their current evaluation model may be minor, while others face major revisions in order to be in compliance with the regulations. This workshop is designed to provide small group support to superintendents and board members responsible for updating their evaluation model. Participants will have the opportunity to review the guidelines in detail and then use them as they draft their own models. Individual consultation and support will be provided throughout the session as participants work on their revisions.

September 28, 2017

[VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference](#)

LOCATION: Charlottesville Doubletree

DETAIL: This conference will focus on legislative and advocacy topics to better prepare you for the 2018 General Assembly session. You'll hear directly from legislators on the latest from Richmond and hear the always-popular legislators' panel on state education issues. There will be an update on student discipline bills, a panel discussing teacher preparation in higher education and the teacher shortage, and comments from the Virginia gubernatorial candidates (invited). The conference will also include a presentation of the 2017 VSBA Legislative Award of Excellence. Don't miss your chance to network with your school board colleagues and state policy makers and learn how to make your voice more effective in Richmond.

Sponsored by:





2016-2017 VSBA Board of Directors

Not pictured: Scott Albrecht, Camilla Washington

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Robert L. Hundley, Jr.
Hanover County

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Scott M. Albrecht
Manassas City

PAST PRESIDENT

William S. Kidd
Wythe County

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Jarvis E. Bailey
Fredericksburg City

LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS/ FEDERAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Beth A. Hardy
Goochland County

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

R. Tyrone Foster
Bristol City

Camilla D. Washington
Fluvanna County

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Janet Turner-Giles
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Eastern

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Spotsylvania County

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Bedford County

Southside

Kenneth L. Pritchett
Petersburg City

Southwest

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Tazewell County

Tidewater

Rodney A. Jordan
Norfolk City

Valley

Teresa R. Ellison
Buena Vista City

Gina G. Patterson,
executive director



VSBA

Virginia School Boards Association

Rivanna Ridge Professional Building | 200 Hansen Road, Suite 2 | Charlottesville, VA 22911

MISSION STATEMENT

Virginia School Boards Association, a voluntary, nonpartisan organization of Virginia school boards, promotes excellence in public education through leadership, advocacy and services.

VISION STATEMENT

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