

VSBA President
Scott M. Albrecht
(Manassas City School Board)

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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DATES TO REMEMBER

November 14-16, 2018
VSBA Annual Convention

December 12 & 13, 2018
Webinar: Budget & Finance
101

January 14-15, 2019
VSBA Capital Conference

January 15, 2019
VSBA Orientation for New School Board Members, Superintendents, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is truly hard to believe that my year as President of VSBA is ending, and it just proves the old adage that time flies when you're having fun. My year as President has been fun, and I want to thank you for accepting me as your president this year, for your hospitality as I toured the Commonwealth, and most importantly for your commitment to the children of Virginia.

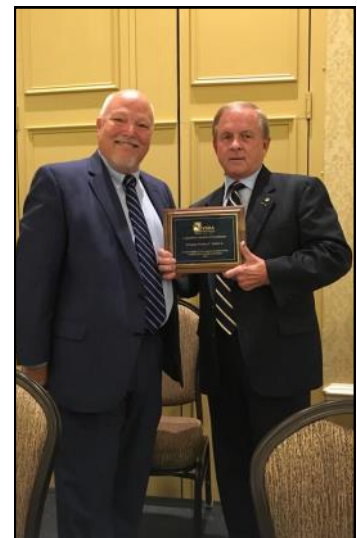
Hopefully everyone has registered for our Annual Convention in Williamsburg. We have some great speakers and many opportunities to learn that are detailed on the [VSBA website](#) and [convention app](#). Plus, there are some new and exciting events, including a STEM App arcade and [interactive game night](#). I encourage you to set aside time personally and with members of your board before the convention to plan how you can attend those sessions that will provide the greatest value to your division.

November is **TAKE YOUR LEGISLATOR TO SCHOOL MONTH** and I encourage each division to do something special to partner with your legislators. We talked about some of this at our September Legislative Advocacy Conference, and for those of you who could not attend, one takeaway was that it is easier to make your case for need when you tour your most challenged school. Advocacy is an ongoing process that demands our attention and energy throughout the year.

I want to personally thank Bob Hundley for the excellent leadership and transitional support he provided to me all year as our Past President. VSBA has a strong history of excellent leadership, and knowing that I had his expertise and guidance (as well as his willingness to represent me when schedule conflicts arose) made the role not quite so daunting. I also need to express my gratitude to our current

VSBA Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Each member of the Board has contributed greatly to our very successful year by taking their roles and responsibilities seriously and offering excellent advice and direction along the way. Finally, our VSBA Executive Director and Staff deserve much more thanks than I can offer. Gina and her staff are routinely cited by our regional partners and national neighbors as outstanding leaders throughout the NSBA organization. I truly did not know how well our Association was run until I began representing you across the nation. This has been a great team to lead!

As I conclude, I want to congratulate Tyrone Foster from Bristol, who will be your VSBA President for 2019. Tyrone is a fantastic gentleman, with a passion for our kids and an excellent knowledge of the workings of our association. He will be a very positive force in the continued outstanding work of VSBA. As always, it is an honor to serve as your President, and I look forward to being with you at the Annual Convention.



VSBA President Scott Albrecht presents the Legislative Award of Excellence to Delegate Gordon Helsel at the VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference



Gina G. Patterson
VSBA Executive Director

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The VSBA Annual Convention November 14-16 in Williamsburg is the largest educational gathering for school board members and superintendents in Virginia. This year's Convention will be jam-packed with learning opportunities for school board members. This means more breakout sessions, lunch and learn sessions, hot educational topics, and more like-minded people to discuss your issues and success with and to give new perspectives.

The staff has worked very hard to select an exciting lineup of breakout sessions to capture the interest of ALL attendees. There are lots of new sessions as well as highly rated breakout sessions from the past.

Prepare to be inspired by the three keynote speakers, who will expand your perspective and motivate new levels of leadership. The convention will kick off with Coach Ken Carter who will give advice about accountability, integrity, teamwork and leadership. Thursday's General Session features Sue Meyer who will discuss leveraging technology to transform learning. The Convention will wrap up with Dr. John Draper who will review a method for leaders to effectively change the way a community feels about their public schools.

This year's Early Bird Session will discuss creating a transition for students from school to high-skill, high-wage employment and will feature public school, city and university leaders.

Make sure your entire governance team attends the Annual Convention. You will have the rare opportunity to spend time learning together, discussing session content and building your team.

To view information on all of the workshops, general sessions and activities going on at the 2018 VSBA Annual Convention, visit: <https://2018vsbaannualconvention.sched.com/>

We look forward to seeing you in November.

Ask the Legal Expert

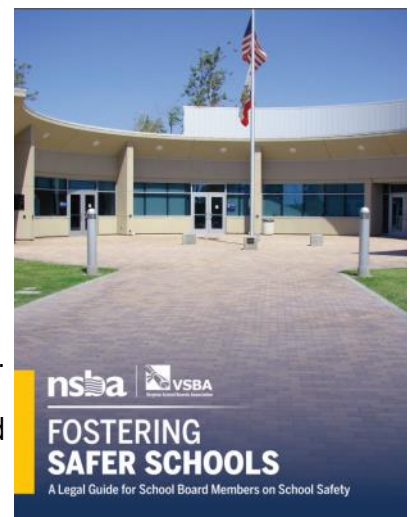
Q. May a school board member who is participating in a board meeting electronically from a remote location vote?

A. Yes. Whenever a school board member participates in a meeting from a remote location, the board must arrange for the voice of the member participating remotely to be heard by everyone assembled at the meeting. Thus, everyone at the meeting will be able to hear how the member who is participating electronically votes.

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

Fostering Safer Schools—A Legal Guide for School Board Members on School Safety

VSBA is pleased to provide to our members a [guide](#) on School Safety. Fostering Safer Schools offers school board members legal guidance to help school boards find best practices for their divisions. The guide covers policies and programs that promote safe learning environments and ideas on how to collaborate with local law enforcement officials to assess threats. [The guide](#) also provides divisions with direction on school safety planning and how to understand liability risks and insurance options.





Pay It Forward

Portsmouth City School Board Member Receives Mays Lifetime Achievement Award

Cardell Patillo Jr. grew up in the community where he now serves as a school board member and says he was fortunate to have many mentors in his schools and neighborhood. Because of their support, “I made a commitment that I would do the same for other children,” says Patillo, who has served on Virginia’s Portsmouth School Board since 2014.

Patillo’s determination to pay it forward has earned him the 2018 Benjamin Elijah Mays Lifetime Achievement Award. The Mays Award honors individual school board members for their commitment to the educational needs of urban schoolchildren. It is presented annually by NSBA’s Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE).

“The challenges that threaten student success in urban school districts continue to be significant, and Cardell Patillo Jr. has demonstrated his commitment to the educational achievement of children in Portsmouth,” says Thomas J. Gentzel, NSBA executive director and CEO. “Through his service to the Portsmouth Board of Education and to educational enrichment programs in the community, Cardell is working to fulfill the promise of a high-quality education for all children.”

The award is named after Benjamin Elijah Mays, a scholar, mentor, pastor, teacher, civil rights activist, and member of the Atlanta Board of Education who tirelessly worked to provide equal educational opportunities for children.

“Mr. Benjamin Mays was a transformative leader in both civil rights and education movements,” says CUBE steering committee Chair Micah Ali, who serves on California’s Compton Unified School Board. “One of the ways CUBE continues his legacy is to honor educational leaders of impact whose efforts make an undeniable difference in the lives of students. They too are civil rights activists, working to ensure urban school- children have access to a quality education and the life opportunities it affords. We are therefore honored to bestow this award to Cardell Patillo Jr., who exemplifies the legacy of Mr. Benjamin Mays.”

Patillo attended and graduated from Portsmouth Public Schools. The I.C. Norcom High School Class of 1996 graduate recalls that it was school and community mentors, baseball coaches, and his grandparents who inspired him and pushed him to envision his own road to success.

He was encouraged by community leaders and organizers to run for a seat on the board because of his longtime commitment and work on behalf of students as a mentor, counselor, and education

advocate, especially for the most vulnerable children and their families.

“Cardell has served the Hampton Roads community faithfully for the past two decades, and he is a major artery in the life of Portsmouth,” writes Joe Dillard Jr., president of the Norfolk NAACP, in his nomination letter. “Cardell has been an advocate for young people since his junior year in college and now at the age of 40 he is advocating stronger than ever before.”

Previously the youth pastor at a Portsmouth church, where he was responsible for counseling and leading a 700-plus youth congregation, Patillo is now the executive director of Mile High Kids and Community Development Inc. Among the services provided by the nonprofit are the Head Start programs for Virginia Beach.

In addition, Patillo directs a mentoring program for male students that operates in several district schools, emphasizing leadership development and good decision-making. He spearheads a summer reading program (Cardell’s Weekly Reads), stages a popular book giveaway, and is always an eager volunteer story reader at school events.

Like mentoring, efforts to build early reading skills are invaluable in the 14,300-student Portsmouth school district, which faces its share of challenges, including high poverty, low parental engagement, and accreditation woes. Add to that the city’s “stagnant economy” that “really puts a struggle on the school division,” says Patillo, who is the finance chair. As families move out of the district, “our enrollment declines, which means less funding.”

Despite these hurdles, hard-earned improvements are being made in the district. High on that list is a steady increase in the number of schools now holding full state accreditation. “When I first ran for the board four years ago, only six out of 19 were accredited,” Patillo says. That number has grown to 13 out of 19.



(continued on page 4)



PAY IT FORWARD *(continued from page 3)*

He also points to programs that allow students to graduate with a high school diploma, college credits, and even an associate degree via the First College and the Early College Academy programs with Tidewater Community College. Also of note is the addition of new career and technical education courses, including those in sports medicine and cybersecurity.

Portsmouth is paying greater attention to school safety and security. With additional funds from the city council, the district increased its security effort with new check-in systems and security cameras added in all schools. In addition, the district now has security officers in every school, including one at every elementary school. “We’ve been ahead of the curve on the school safety issue, and thankfully haven’t had any major breaches, but we are trying to stay proactive,” he explains.

On the school climate front, the district has implemented Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports and issued a new student code of conduct, which has resulted in a 10 percent decrease in student suspensions.

Patillo is committed to having the district’s voice heard in the state capital. He travels several days a week to Richmond when the general assembly is in session to advocate for school funding, student rights, and equity issues.

His insights are shared statewide in his role as the chair of the Tidewater region of the Virginia School Boards Association, and as an appointed member of the Virginia Public School Authority Board of Commissioners. The authority operates financing programs that enable school divisions across the state to fund

technology and building projects at the lowest possible rates.

The appointment “has allowed me to focus on equity issues throughout our state,” Patillo says. “We’re such a diverse commonwealth. You can go to Northern Virginia and find some of the richest counties in the nation and go out west and find some of the poorest.”

As he looks toward another four-year term on the Portsmouth School Board, Patillo is keenly aware of the importance of good board relations. “We have different means to get there, as all political bodies do, but at the end of day, we all want to do what is best for our kids. That’s what makes us successful.”

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(l to r) Leah Puryear, CUBE Steering Committee Member, school board member, Charlottesville City; Cardell Patillo, school board member, Portsmouth City; Micah Ali, Chair, CUBE, school board member, Compton Unified School District, California

Create a Personalized Convention Schedule with VSBA SCHED

VSBA has put together a mobile-friendly schedule that allows you to view details of the VSBA Annual Convention from your computer at home or from your mobile device. This program allows you to create a profile and select which sessions you are interested in attending at the convention. Through the program you can view the presentation description, biographies of the session presenters, sort the sessions by topic track and more.

To create a profile, and begin making your personalized convention schedule, visit <https://2018vsbaannualconvention.sched.com/>

In the upper right hand corner you will see “sign up”. Follow the instructions to create an account, and begin building your personalized schedule! You can also see which other attendees are interested in similar sessions, once they create a profile and add a session to their schedule. Once your profile is saved and your sessions are added to your schedule, you can access your schedule on your mobile device, or even print out the information to bring it with you to Williamsburg.

Don’t worry, you will not be held to attend any of the sessions that you select, so feel free to update your schedule as often as you would like.

VSBA hopes that the VSBA Annual Convention SCHED will assist you in making your Annual Convention experience as seamless as possible.

If you have any questions about VSBA SCHED, please contact Tina Loccisano, coordinator of board development at 1-800-446-8722 or tina@vsba.org.



Division Spotlight: Greene 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.

Greene County Schools Embracing the Power of Digital Portfolios

Submitted by Greene County Public Schools

Walk through the hallways of Greene County Public Schools this year, and one will spot students of all ages using iPads, iPods and Chromebooks to take pictures of their work. That is because students across the division are creating digital portfolios highlighting and celebrating their achievements. Using platforms like Google Classroom and SeeSaw, Greene County students are now creating digital records of their work and accomplishments that they can share with families and maintain as they progress through their school career.

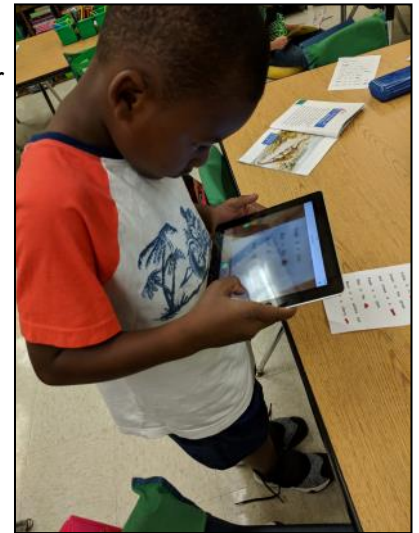
Greene County Schools' strategic plan *Innovate 2021* is based on four pillars: personalized learning, creativity and application of knowledge, communication and collaboration, and integration of technology. Digital portfolios build on all four pillars to engage and empower students. As they complete paintings, solve mathematical problems and build robotics, students



are no longer simply moving on. Instead, they are choosing and taking pictures of their accomplishments and uploading them to their digital portfolios. This process allows them to reflect on their achievements and add technology skills to their toolbox. Their teachers are then empowering the students to share their work not just with parents and guardians in the community, but with family members like grandparents, aunts, and uncles anywhere in the world. Sharing their digital portfolios provides students with the opportunity to celebrate their learning process while engaging families more closely in their children's education. It also allows teachers to embed lessons into the curriculum regarding digital citizenship. This ensures that Greene County students are learning each day how to purposefully and responsibly create a digital footprint.

Students are also able to upload videos and music files to their digital portfolios. For instance, students are now composing music, reciting reading passages and poems, creating documentaries, and recording technical "how-to" instructional videos for their portfolios. As Greene County schools move away from rote testing and mundane tasks, digital portfolios are allowing for opportunities to highlight student-centered creativity, collaboration, and application of knowledge that are the hallmarks of authentic engagement and learning.

Several Greene County teachers have become trained ambassadors for these digital platforms. During pre-service professional learning days and throughout the school year, these ambassadors and Instructional Coaches at each school are training colleagues in how to effectively apply these new digital tools in their classrooms. Teachers are finding that the digital portfolios are not adding to their workload, but instead helping to make their work more efficient by reducing paperwork and streamlining communication with families. Parents and guardians are finding that they have increased knowledge of and appreciation for the work that teachers and students are doing each day. Administrators are able to monitor the activity data for every portfolio and view the work happening in each classroom. And students are experiencing joy and taking pride in an ownership over their learning. In future years, these students can build on these portfolios and even use them when applying for college or jobs in the community. Greene County Schools is truly embracing the power of digital portfolios.





The Critical Value of a Board's Boundary Policy

By **Lindsey C. Brubaker & T. Joel Francis, BotkinRose PLC**

An estimated 1 in 10 students will experience educator sexual misconduct by the time they graduate from high school.ⁱ During the VSBA's School Law Conference this past June, we reviewed several compelling reasons why Virginia school boards should have—and enforce—a boundary policy in an effort to deter this misconduct, provide accountability, and better shield the board, its members and superintendents from legal claims. Several resources are available that provide standards or guidelines for boards and educators to use in the prevention of educator sexual misconduct. These include guidance from the Virginia Board of Education, which offers a framework for developing a policy that requires professional employee-student boundaries.ⁱⁱ One federal court recently relied upon the VBOE's guidance to establish a school board's threshold obligations and expectations to protect its students.ⁱⁱⁱ Let this court's opinion be a sign that smart boundary policies matter. Reliance on a sexual harassment policy alone may not be enough.

Boundary Policies Raise the Bar. While the ultimate goal of a sexual harassment policy and a boundary policy is the same—protecting students from sexual misconduct and abuse—the advantage of a boundary policy is that it prohibits the all-too-common “grooming” behavior observed in educator sexual misconduct cases that does not, by itself, rise to prohibited sexual harassment. A boundary policy raises the bar and heightens the level of protection, including legal risk management, by giving clear rules governing communication and interaction between students and school board employees.

Avoid the Appearance of Impropriety. A boundary policy prohibits and warns about behavior that creates the appearance of impropriety—such as being alone with a student in a location inaccessible to others or interacting with the student alone outside of school without the parents' knowledge. In this sense, a boundary policy protects students and employees from circumstances that may compromise both parties' safety. This boundary should extend not only to in-person communication and interaction, but electronic communication as well, by requiring transparent electronic communication that is unambiguous in meaning and includes a role for parents.

Reporting Violations. Reporting mechanisms and requirements make a boundary policy more valuable. Students should be strongly encouraged to notify administrators if they believe an employee has violated the policy. Employees also should be expected to report violations, in addition to their statutory responsibility to report suspected abuse and neglect. And, to again avoid the appearance of impropriety, employees should report occasions of student-initiated inappropriate behavior so that the appropriate individuals can intervene.

A Preventative Measure. A school board and its employees are charged with maintaining a safe environment for its students. A boundary policy allows a school board to better protect its students, employees, and itself from legal claims of abuse and misconduct by employing/utilizing a tool that ideally prevents the situations and circumstances that lead to abuse and misconduct. It also provides a prime opportunity to further train employees on the prevention of misconduct and abuse by defining certain boundaries, including those mentioned above. Moreover, it compels action when misconduct is reported or suspected. As Judge Dillon commented at our School Law Session, “do something”!

This article was prepared by Lindsay C. Brubaker and T. Joel Francis of the Virginia Education Law GroupSM of BotkinRose PLC.

ⁱ Charol Shakeshaft, U.S. Dep't of Educ., *Educator Sexual Misconduct: A Synthesis of Existing Literature* (2004), available at <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED483143.pdf>.

ⁱⁱ Va. Bd. of Educ., *Guidelines for the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct and Abuse in Virginia Public Schools* (2011), available at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/guidance/safety/prevent_sexual_misconductabuse.pdf.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Doe v. Russell Cty. Sch. Bd.*, Case No. 1:16CV00045 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 23392 (W.D. Va. February 13, 2018) *17-18, available at <http://www.vawd.uscourts.gov/OPINIONS/JONES/1-16cv00045-sj.pdf>.



November is “VSBA Take Your Legislator to School” Month

To promote a closer relationship between public education and the Virginia State Legislature, the Virginia School Boards Association urges each school division in the state to invite at least one of their state legislators to visit their schools during the month of November. There are many benefits from participating in VSBA Take Your Legislator to School Month, including developing closer relationships between school divisions, local communities and our elected officials, as well as creating opportunities for productive dialogue so that educational and political leaders can work together to ensure that we provide the best possible education for our students. In addition, when legislators visit your schools as part of VSBA Take Your Legislator to School Month, local students will have the opportunity to interact with elected officials and learn about the important roles and responsibilities of Virginia General Assembly members. Almost like a field trip that is coming to your school, a visit by your local legislator creates many different “teachable moments.”



[Click to view a VSBA Take Your Legislator to School Month PSA with VSBA President Scott Albrecht](#)

Every year, the legislators of the General Assembly meet to discuss issues of concern to their constituents and the Commonwealth. Hearing directly from community leaders like you helps inform and craft the legislative agenda during session. When meeting with your elected representatives, feel free to engage in frank and honest conversations on both your successes and the challenges you face in education today. Issues like workforce development, challenging school environments, student discipline, and teacher recruitment and retention are all likely to be addressed in one way or another this coming January. This is your opportunity to seize the initiative.

[RESOURCE GUIDE](#)
[SCHOOL DIVISION EXAMPLES](#)
[PROCLAMATION](#)

We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to strengthen the already solid bond between public education and the Virginia General Assembly. These activities cannot help but aid VSBA as it lobbies on your behalf on education issues. Thank you for all that you do as a leader, advocate, and supporter of public education.

Miss a webinar?

No problem!

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

For details, contact Alicia Trice, coordinator of special projects, at alicia@vsba.org or visit

http://www.vsba.org/meetings_conferences/webinars_on_demand/



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Did you know that about one in eight U.S. women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime? Ensure that you, or the women in your life get a breast cancer screening for better health and peace of mind this October.

Learn more at www.bpatpa.com



Specialty Drugs – A Financial Threat to All Self-Funded District Benefit Plans

by Gerry Blaum, Senior Account Executive, NSBA School Rx Cooperative

What are Specialty Drugs?

Specialty drugs are high-cost prescription medications used to treat complex, chronic conditions like cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, and multiple sclerosis.

Specialty drugs sometimes require special handling and administration (typically injection or infusion), and patients using a specialty drug may need careful oversight from a health care provider who can watch for side effects and ensure that the medication is working as intended.

Specialty drugs are very expensive – often \$1,000 or more per month – and spending on them is growing 15 to 20 percent a year. While many employer sponsored prescription drug plans cover specialty drugs under a separate “tier” that specifies how much an individual must pay for specialty drugs, many district benefit plans are still imposing basic fixed dollar copays, which shifts the major percentage of the cost to the district’s plan.

When self-funded districts offer prescription drug coverage through a Pharmacy Benefit Management company (PBM) like Express Scripts, CVS, or Optum, that PBM will have its own Specialty Pharmacy that dispense the drugs to the patient. These PBM’s will offer a management program called “Prior Authorization” which is intended to make sure that the requested drug is the appropriate therapy for the patient as opposed to other drugs or treatment regimens. This creates a potential conflict of interest since the PBM earns revenue from the pharmaceutical manufacturer when the drugs are dispensed, hence it is in their financial interest to approve and dispense the specialty medication.

The NSBA School Rx Cooperative offers a Prior Authorization program that is performed by an independent organization comprised of physicians and pharmacists, thus removing the potential conflict of interest. Here’s how it works:

When an initial Specialty Drug prescription is being presented by the patient or physician, the ESI system notifies the pharmacist that a prior authorization must be completed. The NSBA School Rx Cooperative program management team is notified of the new prescription and our independent doctors and pharmacists review the situation –consulting with the attending physician – to be sure that all appropriate steps have been taken before these expensive drugs are dispensed. Only after this process has been completed will the authorization be provided to the pharmacist to fill the prescription.

NSBA School Rx Cooperative clients can choose to use a this carve-out Prior Authorization program managed by independent doctors and pharmacists who have no financial interest in the cost of the drugs. This additional feature of the NSBA School Rx Cooperative is so important because there is no conflict of interest and the additional savings provided back to our clients are substantial. Our only interest is to control costs on behalf of the district. The anticipated savings average around 20% per year of this rapidly growing cost.

For more information and to request a no-charge Cost Comparison Report please contact Gerry Blaum, Senior Account Representative at gblaum@nsba.org or call him at 484-818-1006.



Current VSBA Superintendent Searches

Colonial Heights Public Schools

For additional information on the VSBA Superintendent Search Services, please visit: http://www.vsba.org/services/superintendent_search_assistance/

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/



TOP TEN Reasons

November 14-16, 2018
Williamsburg, VA

to attend VSBA's Annual Convention

- 1 Learn!** Choose from over 40 breakout sessions that cover many hot topics in public education today.
- 2 Get Inspired.** Three great general session speakers will motivate and inspire you throughout the convention. Speakers include: Coach Carter, Sue Meyer & Dr. John Draper.
- 3 Celebrate Successes.** Throughout the convention, awards are given to various school boards for their work throughout the year. Come see if your division has won an award and celebrate successes in the Commonwealth.
- 4 This is your Association.** The VSBA Delegate Assembly allows you to make your voice heard, your vote count, and your Association strong.
- 5 Networking Opportunities.** Who better to learn from and share with other than Virginia school board members?
- 6 Student Art Showcase.** View the original artwork of the regional student art contest winners from 2018 from around Virginia.
- 7 Lunch & Learn Sessions.** Choose from many lunch and learn sessions to continue your education during the lunch break on Thursday.
- 8 Signs of Success.** Browse through posters of successful projects and programs that school divisions have highlighted for conference attendees to enjoy.
- 9 70+ Exhibitors.** The convention exhibitors are ready and excited to tell you about their products and services that can help your board.
- 10 Refresh and recharge.** Review your current practices, consider new ones, and get a fresh perspective.

For more information on the VSBA Annual Convention, please visit:
http://www.vsba.org/meetings_conferences/vsba_annual_convention/



VSBA ANNUAL CONVENTION 2018

November 14-16, 2018, Williamsburg Lodge

General Session Speakers



Coach Carter

When famed high school basketball coach Ken Carter literally locked his undefeated, state play-off bound team out of the gym and forced them to hit the books and stop counting on athletic potential as the only ticket out of a tough, inner city life, he sent a powerful message. At the podium, Coach Carter scores with hard-hitting advice about accountability, integrity, teamwork and leadership to succeed both on and off the basketball court.



Sue Meyer

Sue Meyer is part of Apple's Education team, working with school leaders to leverage technology to transform learning. Prior to Apple, Sue served for 26 years as a teacher and district administrator in Minnesota. She holds an MS in Information Media.



Dr. John Draper

John Draper has enjoyed a wide variety of experiences in his lifetime. For the last 30+ years he has been middle and high school teacher, assistant principal, middle and high school principal, Executive Director of the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools, CEO of the Educational Research Service, and now serves as a National Consultant with the National School Public Relations Association.

Early Bird Session

Wednesday, November 14 • 9:30 am – Noon

A Seamless Transition from K-12 to High-Skill, High-Wage Employment

Dr. Jeffery Smith, Superintendent, Hampton City Public Schools

My Future, My Journey: College, Career and Life-Ready!

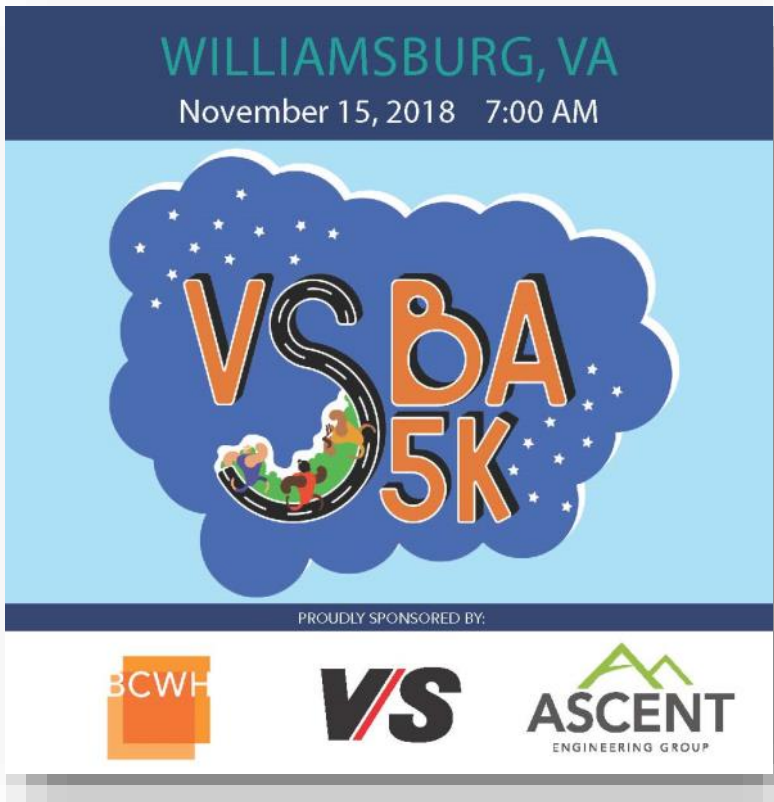
Join this session to explore the roadmap of a school division and business community working in partnership to transform the traditional high school experience to prepare young people to graduate college, career, and life-ready. Driven by the current and projected economic workforce data, Hampton City Schools has partnered with industry leaders to create a seamless transition from school to high-skill, high-wage employment. As a result of this meaningful collaboration, students will embody the Profile of a Virginia Graduate. Each participant will leave this session with the processes, structures, and lessons to transform teaching and learning, the secondary school experience, and business/civic engagement. This session will include a variety of voices that will highlight various perspectives of individuals who have come together in order to prepare young people for success.

Additional registration is required.



VSBA ANNUAL CONVENTION 2018

November 14-16, 2018, Williamsburg Lodge



Don't Miss Out!

- Early Bird Session
- Foundations Workshop
- Receptions
- 3 General Sessions
- 40+ Breakout Sessions
- Delegate Assembly
- 70+ Exhibitors
- Daily Session Tracks
- Exhibitors Scholarship
- Student Board Member Workshop
- Green Schools Challenge
- 15th Annual 5K Run/Walk
- Regional Meetings
- School Architecture Exhibition
- High School Video Contest
- Networking Opportunities

Annual Convention information is available online.

[CLICK HERE!](#)

****NEW** Interactive Game Night**

November 15 | 7-10pm

Join us for fun and a unique experience with the Promethean Escape Room at the VSBA 2018 Annual Convention. Promethean, a leader in Education Technology, provides an immersive and interactive experience for participants to think outside the box and be creative problem solvers! **Sign up for a time slot online to reserve your space. Hurry, as spots are limited!** To register, [Click Here!](#)

Don't let the fun stop there! By using a Promethean ActivPanel, a STEM App Arcade will be available to try your hand at interactive and exciting games and activities. No advanced registration necessary!

Thank you to the VSBA Annual Convention Event-Level Sponsors

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VSBA Affiliate Member Profiles

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



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UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

November 14—16, 2018

[VSBA Annual Convention](#)

LOCATION: Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, VA

DETAIL: The VSBA Annual Convention is the largest and most anticipated VSBA meeting of the year. This event brings together over one thousand school board members, superintendents, and school division staff from across Virginia. Attend general sessions, choose from over 40 hot topic breakout sessions, have the opportunity to meet with businesses dedicated to serving schools, and much more.

December 12 & 13, 2018

[WEBINAR: Budget Basics & Finance 101: Part 1 & 2](#)

LOCATION: Online

DETAIL: Virginia public school budgeting will be discussed, including roles of elected officials, fiduciary requirements, stakeholders, and budget reports. Revenue categories will be explained, including state formulas, federal funding, local funding, and tax rates. Session two will explain expenditures including enrollment, staffing, salaries, and employee benefits. Also discussed will be "odds and ends" of school division finance including audits, school activity funds, quarterly reports fund balances, and misinformation.

January 14-15, 2019

[VSBA Capital Conference](#)

LOCATION: Richmond Marriott

DETAIL: Advocacy by local school board members is a year-round job and even more important during the General Assembly. We will kick-off the two-day conference with an overview of the governor's budget, commentary on the new political scene both in Virginia and nationally, and VSBA's legislative priorities. Then join us in the evening for a reception that will provide you with an opportunity to mix and mingle with your legislators and top administration officials. The events on day one will help prepare you for your legislative meetings after breakfast on day two. The VSBA Capital Conference offers you an opportunity for your voice to be heard and continues VSBA's efforts for year-round advocacy.

January 30, 2019

[WEBINAR: Title IX- Best Practices in Training and Compliance](#)

LOCATION: Online

DETAIL: With claims of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct hitting newsstands everywhere, Title IX coordinators and other senior staff need to be confident in their knowledge and enforcement of their divisions' policies. Prevention and thorough investigations are the best ways to manage risk and foster a safe and healthy school environment. Participants will learn the basics of Title IX, best practices regarding Title IX policies, and recent case law relating to sexual harassment of students, gender discrimination, and employee training requirements.

Convention Overview

Wednesday, November 14

8:30 - 5:30	Registration
9:30 - Noon	Early Bird Session (<i>pre-registration required</i>)
10:00 - 1:30	Student Board Representative Workshop
12:00 - 6:00	Exhibit Hall Open
2:00	General Session
4:30	Regional Meetings
5:00 - 6:00	President's Reception
8:15 - 11:00	Evening of Comedy & Jazz

Thursday, November 15

7:00	15th Annual VSBA 5K Walk/Run
8:00 - 9:15	Continental Breakfast
8:00 - 12:00	Exhibit Hall Open
8:45 - 10:00	General Session
10:15 - 12:30	Breakout Sessions
12:30 - 2:00	Boxed Lunches
12:45 - 1:45	Lunch & Learn Sessions
1:00 - 6:00	Exhibit Hall Open
2:00 - 4:00	Delegate Assembly
2:00 - 4:30	VASS Workshop
2:30 - 4:45	Breakout Sessions
5:00 - 6:00	Reception
7:00 - 10:00	Interactive Game Night

Friday, November 16

8:30 - 11:00	Breakfast & General Session
11:00	Adjourn

Thursday, November 15 is Spirit Day

Wear your school division colors or your Virginia Public Education T-shirt!





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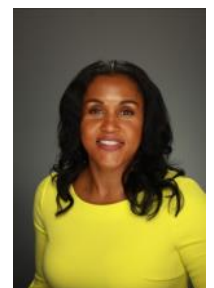
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VISION STATEMENT

VSBA is recognized and respected as an innovative leader in public education.