



COVID-19 Weekly Update



The VSBA COVID-19 Resources website and weekly newsletter are sponsored by BPA

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Week of May 18- 22, 2020

VSBA Announces Annual Convention Call for Proposals

While we may not know exactly what our annual conference will look like this November, we are excited to announce that the call for proposals for the 2020 annual convention is open. Whether learning takes place in schools or via distance, connections are key for students to learn, school staff to create positive conditions for learning, and school boards to support school divisions.

How have connections been helping your school divisions? We are looking for school divisions to share their experiences at this year's Annual Convention. Potential session topics include Building Partnerships, Distance Delivery, Bi-lingual Education, Equity, Conducting Board Meetings, and Subsistence Food in Schools.

If your division would like more information or have suggestions on potential speakers, please contact [Mikaela Coffey](#). To view presentations from last years Annual Convention, or to submit your proposal for 2020 visit the links below.

[Submit Your 2020 Presentation Proposal](#)

[View Presentations from the 2019 Convention](#)

2020- 2021 VSBA Conference Dates

We've received lots of inquiries about VSBA's schedule of upcoming conferences and events.

Here's the latest information.

[2020-2021 VSBA Events Schedule](#)



2020 VSBA Conference Dates

School Law Conference	June 5, 2020	Virtual
Orientation for New School Board Members and Superintendents	July 20, 2020	Virtual
Conference on Education	CANCELLED	CANCELLED
Title IX Workshop	September 17, 2020	VSBA Offices
Legislative Advocacy Conference	September 24, 2020	Virtual
Superintendent Evaluation Session	October 7, 2020	VSBA Offices
Annual Convention	November 18-20, 2020	Williamsburg Lodge

2021 VSBA Conference Dates

Capital Conference	January 25, 2021	Richmond
Winter Orientations	January 26, 2021	Richmond
Southwest Hot Topic Conference	March 17, 2021	Wytheville
Hot Topic Conference	April 13, 2021	Charlottesville
School Law Conference	June 4, 2021	Richmond
Summer Orientations	July 19, 2021	Richmond
Conference on Education	July 20, 2021	Richmond
Legislative Advocacy Conference	September 23, 2021	Charlottesville
Annual Convention	November 17-19, 2021	Williamsburg Lodge

Registration for Upcoming Events

School Law Conference

Friday, June 5, 2020

Virtual Event

**REGISTER
HERE**



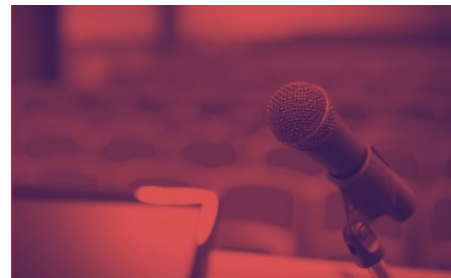
Your school division needs you, your superintendent, and your attorney to participate in the 2020 VSBA School Law Conference webinar! Why? Because many of the decisions you make have legal implications that will impact your school division for years to come. Hear school law updates from the state and local perspective as well as learn about the legal authority and your role as a school board. Attend this online session to be informed and be prepared!

Orientation for New School Board Members and Superintendents

Monday, July 20, 2020

Virtual Event

**REGISTER
HERE**



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 the roles and responsibilities of board/ superintendents, how to work with your local appropriating body, school law, parliamentary procedure and school board budget basics. Don't miss this important virtual orientation which is a "must" for all new board members and superintendents!

Resources, News & Updates

We have compiled a multitude of resources for school board members, and school divisions to consult. For the entire collection please visit the VSBA COVID-19 resource page available at the link below.

In addition we have compiled a list of at-home learning resources that are available online for students who are home due to COVID-19. This list will be updated as additional resources become available. This is not an exclusive list, nor does this constitute an endorsement by VSBA for any of the included programs.

**Visit the VSBA COVID-19
Resource Page**

**Visit the At Home Learning
Resources Page**





Schools must keep serving English learners during...

Schools that have switched to remote learning can't give up on language services for their students learning English, the federal education department reminded school districts this week. New guidance, published Monday by the U.S. Department of...

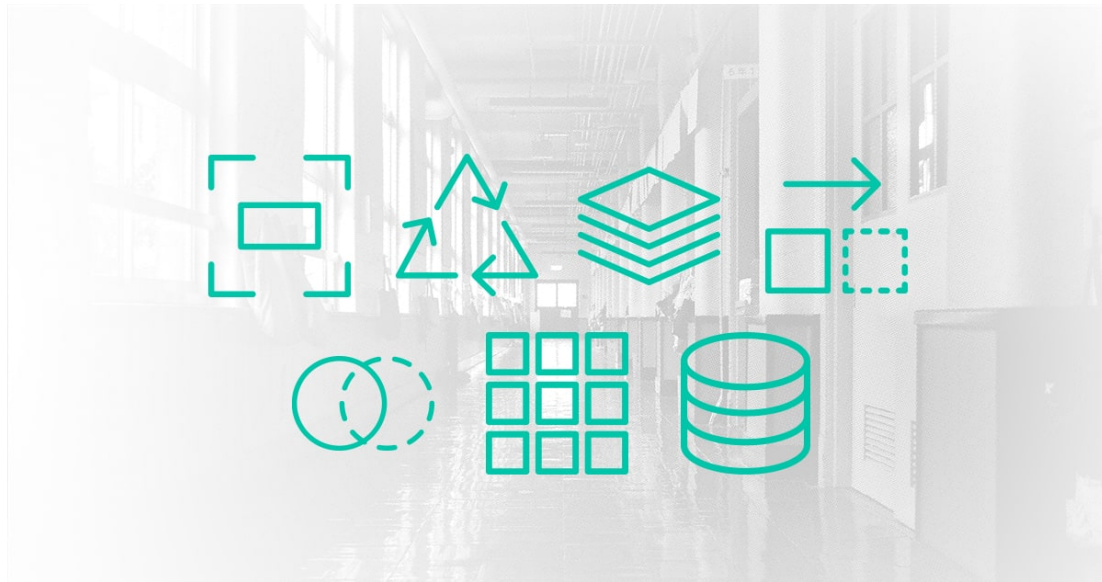
[Read more](#)
www.chalkbeat.org



The New Normal (Part V): Return, Re-entry, Recovery?

As Nobel Laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez once wrote, "It is easier to start a war than to end it." The same can be said about education's battle with covid-19 - starting with the abrupt closing of over 90% of the schools around the country in...

[Read more](#)



Return to School Roadmap | Where Public Education and...

A roadmap of essential actions to help district and school leaders plan and implement a safe, efficient, and equitable return to school.

[Read more](#)

returntoschoolroadmap.org

Schools Decision Tool

Public Health Considerations for Reopening Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The purpose of this tool is to assist administrators in making (re)opening decisions regarding K-12 schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to check with state and local health officials and other partners to determine the most appropriate actions while adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community. Click the image below to download the tool.



The purpose of this tool is to assist administrators in making (re)opening decisions regarding K-12 schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to check with state and local health officials and other partners to determine the most appropriate actions while adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community.

Should you consider opening?

- ✓ Will reopening be consistent with applicable state and local orders?
- ✓ Is the school ready to protect children and employees at higher risk for severe illness?
- ✓ Are you able to screen students and employees upon arrival for symptoms and history of exposure?

ANY NO



Are recommended health and safety actions in place?

- ✓ Promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing and employees wearing a cloth face covering, as feasible
- ✓ Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation
- ✓ Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups and limited mixing between groups, if feasible
- ✓ Train all employees on health and safety protocols

ANY NO



Is ongoing monitoring in place?

- ✓ Develop and implement procedures to check for signs and symptoms of students and employees daily upon arrival, as feasible
- ✓ Encourage anyone who is sick to stay home
- ✓ Plan for if students or employees get sick
- ✓ Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures
- ✓ Monitor student and employee absences and have flexible leave policies and practices
- ✓ Be ready to consult with the local health authorities if there are cases in the facility or an increase in cases in the local area

ANY NO



OPEN AND MONITOR



cdc.gov/coronavirus

VSBA Events, Education & Updates

Here are the latest updates to the VSBA Schedule, and planned development.

- May 27, 2020, Advocacy Continues in a Time of Emergency, **Free Webinar**, [register here!](#)
- May 28, 2020, What is Construction Management At-Risk (CMAR) and When Should School Boards Consider Using it?, **Free Webinar**, [register here!](#)
- June 5, 2020, VSBA School Law Conference, **Now Virtual-** [register here!](#)
- July 20, 2020, VSBA Orientation for New School Board Members and Superintendents, **Now Virtual-** [register here!](#)
- July 21, 2020, VSBA Conference on Education, **Cancelled**

Please keep an eye on our upcoming events. As we continue to consult the VDH, CDC, and WHO for guidelines on gatherings we will continue to release updates. See below for opportunities for development you can take advantage of now.

Register for an Upcoming Live Webinar

Listen to the VSBA: School Board News

Read the Latest VSBA Newsletter

[View the List of Available Webinars on Demand](#)

[Read the Latest Federal Advocacy Report](#)

May 18, 2020: VSBA Showcases for Success 2020

Did you miss the live Showcases for Success webinar? View the recording below!



Webinars Available On Demand

**FREE SPEECH FOR ME
BUT NOT FOR THEE:
ISSUES PRESENTED
WHEN SCHOOL
BOARD MEMBERS
COMMUNICATE ON
SOCIAL MEDIA**

**SCHOOL BOARDS &
THE FIRST
AMENDMENT: 5
THINGS EVERY
SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBER MUST KNOW**

**BUILDING A HIGH
IMPACT BOARD-
SUPERINTENDENT
RELATIONSHIP**

**BASIC
PARLIAMENTARY
PROCEDURE: RULES
TO GOVERN**

[Click here for more information
and to view all available.](#)



www.bpatpa.com/vsba



YOUR EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH BPA

Provided by your VSBA employer, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a FREE and CONFIDENTIAL benefit designed to help you and your family members successfully manage major life events and stressors.

Your EAP helps you identify options and make informed choices for dealing with issues like grief, addiction, job stress, relocation, child/elder care, divorce, domestic abuse and much more. We can also provide support to meet health and wellness goals like weight loss and smoking cessation.

Your Employee Assistance benefit includes:

- **Personal Counseling Services**
- **Legal Guidance**
- **Financial Planning/Counseling**
- **Work/Life & Wellness Resources**

This program is available not only to you, the employee, but also your immediate, eligible family members. We are here to help with expertise, compassion and confidentiality.

Call toll-free 800.324.4327 or log-on to www.4eap.com to submit a service request. Our experienced care coordinators will guide you through the process and help connect you with the services that will best fit your needs.

Thank you for following our updates.

Stay tuned for more information, and for any questions please contact
Jim Blevins at 434.258.7220, Sam Irby at 434.774.4001 or
Paul LaPradd at 540.520.7686.

www.bpatpa.com

