



COVID-19 Weekly Update



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

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Week of June 8-12, 2020

2020 VSBA Annual Convention Update

A few weeks ago in our update to you we wrote about not knowing exactly what our annual convention would look like this November. This week we have new information to share about the format of the 2020 VSBA Annual Convention.

The board concluded at it's meeting last week that conducting an in person Annual Convention for this year would be inadvisable and impracticable because of the health threat to VSBA members, their families and all individuals traveling to and from the convention. To ensure that the 2020 VSBA Annual Convention is the best conference yet, we have made the difficult decision to move forward with a Virtual Event.

The VSBA staff is hard at work analyzing every element of the Convention to transition the same great content and speakers to a completely virtual event. We are excited to bring you pertinent and timely programming in a new streamlined way. We hope that you will be patient with us as we work through the logistics and release details to you all. Should you have specific questions or concerns, we encourage you to reach out and we will do our best to answer and address your inquiries.

Thank you for all that you do, for your patience, and your flexibility.

-G.P.

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.

Resources added this week:

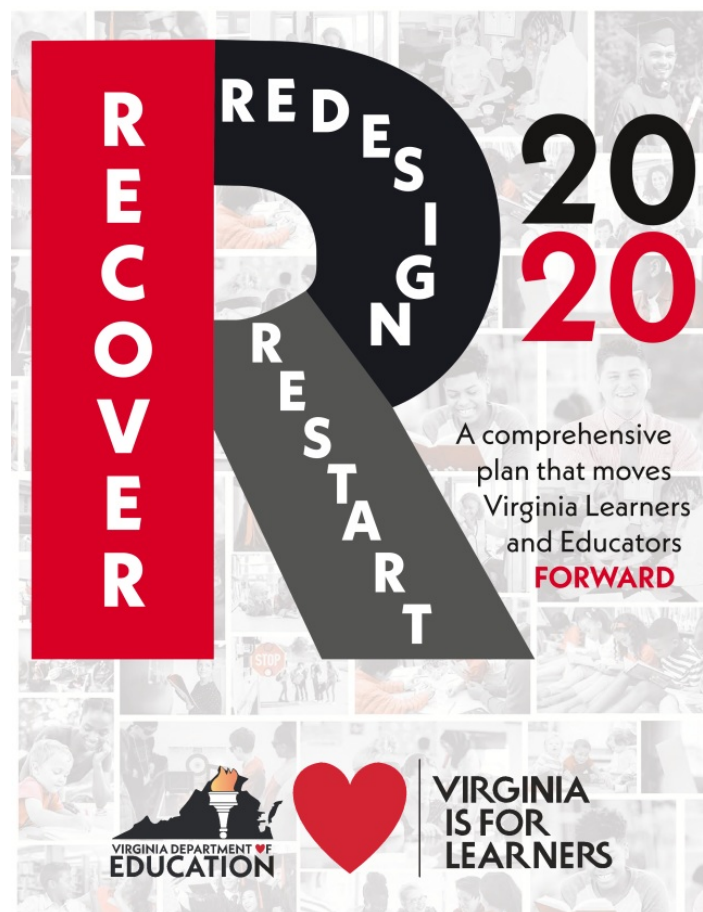
- [VSBA: Guidance for Boards Regarding Reopening of Schools](#)

- [Virginia Department of Education: Recover-Redesign-Restart: A comprehensive plan that moves Virginia Learners and Educators FORWARD](#)
- [Phase Guidance for Virginia's Schools](#)
- [Order of the State Health Commissioner Regarding School Reopening Mitigation Plans](#)
- [Governor Northam Announces \\$66.8 Million in Emergency Education Relief Funding](#)

Visit the [VSBA COVID-19 Resource Page](#)

Visit the [At Home Learning Resources Page](#)

VDOE Resource: Recover, Redesign, Restart: A comprehensive plan that moves Virginia Learners and Educators FORWARD



EdWeek Webinar: Substitute Teachers, Diversity, Recruitment & Retention During Covid-19, Thursday, June 18, 2020

New data from the EdWeek Research Center tells us that 1 in 5 teachers say they are unlikely to return to the classroom in the fall and others may face absences if infected by the disease. And social distancing measures may create additional needs by reducing the number of students per classroom, which in turn increases the demand for teachers.

In this environment, how can schools keep their classrooms staffed while continuing to strive to increase the level of educator diversity? Our webinar combines data with real

world experiences and practical advice and recruitment, retention, and diversity initiatives.

[Register Now](#)



Report: No Way to Reopen Schools Safely Without Federal...

In order to adhere to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention safety recommendations for reopening, school districts will be forced to spend nearly \$2 million per district that they hadn't budgeted for - a cost so prohibitive that some are ...

[Read more](#)

www.usnews.com

WHAT WILL IT COST TO REOPEN SCHOOLS?

This document estimates some of the expenses school districts may incur in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and as they plan to reopen for the 2020–2021 school year. These calculations assume the statistics of an average* school district with 3,659 students, 8 school buildings, 183 classrooms, 329 staff members, and 40 school buses (transporting at 25% capacity, or 915 students, to comply with recommended social distancing guidelines).



ADHERING TO HEALTH MONITORING & CLEANING/DISINFECTING PROTOCOLS

- Hand sanitizers for students in classrooms
\$39,517
- Disinfectant wipes for classrooms
(four/day per classroom)
\$16,833
- No-touch thermometer
(one per school)
\$640
- Oximeter
(one per school)
\$360
- Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers
\$33,600
- Deep cleaning of school after a confirmed case
\$26,000



HIRING STAFF TO IMPLEMENT HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- Additional custodial staff for increased cleaning/disinfecting of schools and buses to prevent spread
\$448,000
- Ensuring at least one FT/PT nurse in every public school
\$400,000
- Ensuring one aide per bus to screen student temperatures before boarding
\$384,000



PROVIDING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Gloves for custodial staff
(five pairs/day for two custodians per school)
\$1,440
- Daily disposable masks for in-school staff
\$44,415
- Disposable masks for students who do not bring masks from home
(est. 30% of students)
\$148,190



PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION & CHILD CARE

- Resume before/after school childcare programs
(with social distancing and cleaning protocols)
\$168,750
- Fog machines and cleaner for buses
(7 machines)
\$55,860
- Hand sanitizer for buses
\$10,534

TOTAL ADDITIONAL EXPENSES AN AVERAGE* DISTRICT MAY INCUR TO REOPEN: \$1,778,139

*Costs will vary by district depending on many factors, including regional/market price as economy of scale (i.e., larger districts may have access to lower unit costs because they can buy in higher volumes), and the availability of labor and goods necessary to comply with recommended social distancing and cleaning protocols. Model assumes 25% transportation capacity to adhere to social distancing guidelines. (Bus fleets would need to quadruple in size to safely transport 100% of students under COVID-19 circumstances, which is financially unfeasible for districts.)

This list of costs is not intended to be exhaustive but illustrates how the overall cost of school operations will substantially increase to safely reopen as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on K–12 education, please contact [ASBO International](#) & [AASA](#).



External References:

- "Now What? Navigating K-12 Reopening, A Collaborative Planning Process?" National Council on School Facilities, Working Document, May 2020.
- "School Bus Driver Pay Rises as Shortage Worsens," Thomas McMahon, *School Bus Fleet Magazine*, November 2018.
- "Total School Districts, Student Enrollment by State and Metro Area," *Governing The Future of States and Localities*, eRepublic. Accessed June 2020.



www.bpatpa.com/vsba



YOU GET A+ HEALTH AND RISK COVERAGE WITH YOUR VSBA SPONSORED PLAN

How Captive Plans Work

In a group stop-loss captive, each employer establishes a unique, separate self-funded benefit plan and purchases an individual medical stop-loss policy. Plans share assets to help ensure stable premiums, but can keep separate benefit structures and be customized to your needs.

VSBA Sponsored Medical Plans

BPA group captive plans allow employers including school systems and local municipalities to come together to share risk for expanded self-funded stability and scale. Group captives increase leverage with carriers and expands access to provider networks to generate volume-related discounting that typically would not be within reach of individual self-insurers. By retaining an additional participation layer through the captive, the pricing instability associated with stop-loss coverage is mitigated.

Metlife Supplemental Program

Our full suite of guaranteed-issue ancillary products underwritten by MetLife deliver robust plan designs based on market trends and industry benchmarks. These include:

- Lifetime Value Term
- Critical Illness
- Cancer
- Accident
- Dental & Vision
- Hospital Indemnity

BPA “Build Your Own Backpack” Plans Plus Supplementary Benefits from Metlife Deliver:

- Self-Funding Stability
- Network & Stop-Loss Accessibility
- Meaningful Support for Members
- Comprehensive Program Options
- Long-Term Satisfaction
- Year-Over-Year Success

Wellness Tip – Workplace Safety

Employers have a responsibility to keep workers safe, and BPA wants to help you do your part. In observance of National Safety Month in June, here are some resources from the National Safety Council to help manage risks in your workplace. You can even take the Safe at Work Pledge! Visit [NSC.org](https://www.nsc.org).



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

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

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!

**Reopening Public Schools:
Personnel and Special
Education Issues in a Changed
World**

Tuesday, July 21, 2020
Paid Webinar



**REGISTER
HERE**

**REGISTER
HERE**

The webinar will focus on the many personnel and special education issues confronting school divisions around the Commonwealth as they try to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and extended school closures. There will be discussion of new legislation, state and federal guidance, and practical considerations as schools prepare for the 2020-21 school year facing new challenges. We hope you can join us for this conversation!

Cost: \$150 per connection (unlimited number of participants per connection). REGISTRATION FOR THE WEBINAR IS FINAL. If you are unable to attend the live webinar, the webinar recording will be available for purchase.

Date and Time: July 21, 2020, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Presenters: Wade T. Anderson, Attorney, Sands Anderson PC, and Nicole Cheuk, Attorney, Sands Anderson PC

VSBA Events, Education & Updates

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

- June 16, 2020, Growing Meal Participation in Schools, Free Webinar- [register here!](#)
- June 17, 2020, A Conversation with Teacher of the Year, Andrea Johnson, Free Webinar- [register here!](#)
- NEW! June 25, 2020, The Future of Learning, Today, Apple Education, Free Webinar-[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**



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.](#)

