



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

Robert F. McDonnell
Attorney General

900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-786-2071
FAX 804-786-1991
Virginia Relay Services
800-828-1120
7-1-1

April 11, 2008

Dr. Billy Cannaday, Jr.
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Department of Education
Monroe Building
101 North 14th Street
Richmond, VA 23219

**Re: Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia
(8 VAC 20-131-10 *et seq.*)**

Dear Dr. Cannaday:

You ask whether the Board of Education possesses the requisite authority to amend the above-referenced regulations.

Section 22.1-16 vests the Board of Education with the authority to promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out its powers and duties and the provisions of Title 22.1. In addition, § 22.1-253.13:3 requires the Board to promulgate regulations establishing standards for accreditation of Virginia's K-12 public schools. Lastly, § 22.1-253.13:4 requires the Board to establish course and credit requirements for diplomas, including (as the result of 2007 legislative action) a technical diploma. Accordingly, it is my view that the Board possesses the requisite authority to adopt and amend the above-referenced regulations.

The foregoing represents my personal view and is not an official opinion of the Attorney General. If you require additional assistance on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Deborah A. Love
Senior Assistant Attorney General