

Virginia Board of Education
Committee on the Standards of Quality
Wednesday, October 20, 2021
1:00p.m to 1:30p.m
Board Room, 22nd Floor, James Monroe Building

Welcome and Opening Comments

The following Committee members were present for the meeting: Mr. Dan Gecker, Ms. Anne Holton, Dr. Jamelle Wilson, Dr. Tammy Mann, Dr. Francisco Durán, Dr. Stewart Roberson, Ms. Pamela Davis-Vaught, and Dr. James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Other guests in attendance included: Dr. Leslie Sale, Director of Policy (VDOE) and Holly Coy, Assistant Superintendent of the Department of Policy and Communications (VDOE).

Opening and Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Dan Gecker, chair of the committee, convened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. Dr. Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes with minor unspecified edits.

Discussion of the Committee Presentation

Finalizing the 2021 Prescriptions to Amend the Standards of Quality (VDOE Staff)

Dr. Leslie Sale, Director of Policy, and Holly Coy, Assistant Superintendent of the Department of Policy and Communications, provided the Board with an overview of the proposed prescriptions.

- Ms. Holton commented on the different models for work-based learning coordinators and stated that it might be a better solution for the Board to continue to prescribe more school counselors to support WBL opportunities in schools.
 - o Dr. Roberson asked if the department received input from the field regarding the work-based learning coordinators proposal.
 - o Dr. Mann expressed concern with whether a regional model approach would support the intention behind the Virginia Profile of a Graduate.
 - o Mr. Gecker commented that the regional-model was vetted when this proposal was originally developed and his preference was to maintain the regional-level model in the standards rather than the division-level model.
 - o Dr. Lane asked if the Board wants to retain this model in the SOQ, considering the Perkins funding. Also, this would be the first time that Standard Two would include personnel at the Department rather than the division level.
 - o Ms. Holton agreed with Dr. Lane and stated that if the Board is going to start prescribing positions, other than at the division-level, the Board should be

thoughtful in how it sets this precedent. Also, if the regional model is the preference, it could be distracting in the SOQs.

- Dr. Durán expressed support for the regional model and agreed with Ms. Holton.
- Mr. Gecker inquired how the Board can ensure that the framework implemented with Perkins funding is executed by the Department.
 - Dr. Lane stated the Board can mandate completion in the Board's supervisory role via approval of the Perkins Plan in which the Board identified a new reserve fund as the source of this funding. The Department could not change the use of the funds without consent from the Board.
 - Mr. Gecker requested input from the Attorney General regarding clarification on restrictions for use of the Perkins funds and full assurance that the funds will be used as intended.
- Ms. Holton questioned the prescribed size of the increase of the Enhanced At-Risk Add-on and whether that number was sufficient.
 - Ms. Webb shared that the straight average for the proposal is 39.44% statewide, per clarification from Mr. Ed Lanza.
 - Ms. Holton recommended that the Board move forward with the proposal and devote time next year to obtaining a weighted average.
 - Dr. Roberson expressed agreement with moving forward and asked for more information next year on the percentage selected and what the goal should be.
 - Dr. Durán stated that he would like to move forward with the proposal and also look at how schools are identified by their populations rather than the division aggregate and the related inequity.
 - Dr. Wilson agreed to move forward and asked how many school divisions would lose funding under the proposed model.
 - Dr. Sale clarified that no school division would lose funding.
 - Dr. Gecker expressed support for refining the model to the school-level at some point. The Board agreed to move forward with this proposal.
- Dr. Durán asked to include the English Learner proposal but also tell the story and clearly explain the why to legislators for continuing this prescription.
 - Dr. Roberson asked if the number was kept at 58 would the staffing be at a lower level in subsequent years.
- Dr. Durán suggested using a tier format for ranking the prescriptions.
 - Ms. Holton stated that it would take a lot of time for the Board to agree on policy. There might be other opportunities to engage with legislators without ranking the recommendations.
 - Mr. Gecker expressed support for Dr. Durán's recommendation of using tiers for the prescriptions.

- Dr. Roberson shared that he would like to select tiers, but questioned if the selected priorities would require legislators only act on the few selected items.
- Dr. Mann suggested presenting a holistic framing of the recommendations.
- Ms. Holton stated that the Board can present a holistic framing of the recommendations without prioritization.
- Mr. Gecker shared that providing more experienced teachers in poorer jurisdictions would be a priority.
- Ms. Holton and Dr. Durán agreed.
- Mr. Gecker recommended that the Board move forward with this one priority.
- Dr. Lane clarified that the support cap is still in the prescriptions and this would be the priority from the superintendents. For the Perkins plan, it is not certain that the Perkins plan is specific enough to stipulate how the funds will be used. There are two options to either make the Perkins more specific or keep it in the SOQ.
 - Dr. Durán recommended leaving the work based learning coordinators in the SOQ and also act on prioritization by tiers prior to the General Assembly Session.
 - Mr. Gecker asked for consensus on the recommendation to leave the work based learning coordinators in the SOQ. The Board agreed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30p.m.