

VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Committee to Review the Standards of Accreditation
Thursday, June 18, 2020 – 1:15 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Pursuant to Chapter 1283 of the 2020 Acts of Assembly, the Virginia Board of Education convened in a virtual meeting on June 17, 2020 at 2p.m. The meeting was open to the public via livestream on the VDOE YouTube webpage.

The following Board of Education (Board) members were present for the June 18, 2020 meeting of the Special Committee to Review the Standards of Accreditation: Ms. Pamela Davis-Vaught, Dr. Francisco Durán, Mr. Daniel Gecker, Dr. Keisha Pexton, and Dr. Jamelle Wilson. Dr. James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction and VDOE staff, Shelley Loving-Ryder, Dr. Jennifer Piver-Renna, Ms. Julie Molique, Dr. Leslie Sale and Ms. Emily Webb were also present.

Dr. Pexton, chair, convened the meeting at 1:15 p.m. and welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting.

The objective of the committee is to: 1) conduct a review of newly implemented accreditation system to assess anticipated positive, negative, and unintended outcomes of performance indicators; 2) consider data available since implementation as well as current state affairs; and 3) validate efficient progress towards original intended outcomes and provide system change recommendations, if warranted.

Dr. Pexton stated that the end date of the committee's review will be determined later based on the scope of work.

Dr. Pexton reviewed the draft action plan with committee members and staff and asked for feedback as she reviewed.

The committee will review facts and statements that are verifiably known about the situation/environment. For example:

- Positive outcomes have been...
- Negative outcomes have been...
- Unintended outcomes have been...
- Point values determined by looking at means, standard deviations, running different models, etc.

Two indicators that were not included in the 2017 revisions due to lack of valid and reliable data were student discipline (disproportional to black students) and school climate (DOE has criteria). The data and implications for these two indicators should be revisited.

The committee will review assumptions that are believed to be true and if proven to be untrue could affect the revision plan.

- One assumption - accreditation will be waived for the 2019-2020 school year and may need to be waived next year.

Dr. Pexton and the committee discussed considerations that could have an impact on the review and recommendations from the committee. The committee and Board members discussed several considerations during the June 17, 2020, committee meeting.

Dr. Pexton and the committee discussed initial key tasks such as potential advisors, presentation topics and stakeholder groups to engage, and timeline and meeting cadence.

Initial Key Tasks:

- Confirm action plan approach
- Confirm consensus on scope of work
- Identify committee advisors
 - UVA – Luke Miller, Jim Wycoff (traditional perspective)
 - Reps from VASCD (Laurie McCullough), VEA, VASSP, VAESP, VASS and VSBA
 - DOE to provide names
 - Education Commission of the States as a data reference
 - Equity – IBRA, CCSSO, Leah Colvin, Education Trust
 - ELL – TBD
- Determine additional data/presentation to request of DOE staff
 - Obtain more detailed information about matrix-based system
 - Overview of all indicators that were considered; Two indicators did not make the cut: student discipline (disproportional to black students) and school climate (DOE has criteria)
 - COVID Accreditation Task Force - Rosa Atkins, Alan Seibert, Scott Brabrand
 - What resources DOE has put into support for schools around SOA?
- Determine high-level timeline and meeting cadence
 - Approx. 1 year
 - Meet monthly for 2 hours

Other key tasks for the committee to review at future meetings include:

- Completing inputs to action plan outline
- Considering implications of SOQ's and equity work to date. What's missing in this system?
- Re-evaluating how growth measures were determined
- Looking at chronic absenteeism in light of what might occur in the future
- Looking at college, career, and civic readiness index and schools ability to meet this criteria in the current environment
- Understanding implications to our ELL? What are the outcome indicators telling us?

Dr. Duran asked if there was a specific timeline in which to determine the end state. Dr. Lane stated that the process can be lengthy due to the steps of the regulatory process. Ms. Webb outlined the regulatory process and a potential timeline to report to the full Board.

Dr. Pexton stated that the July committee meeting will focus on members continuing to develop and discuss the work plan.

Dr. Pexton thanked the committee and staff for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 2:13 p.m.

DRAFT