# Superintendent’s Memo #215-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: August 18, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: 2020 Special Session I of the General Assembly

Governor Northam convened Special Session I of the 2020 General Assembly on August 18, 2020. The Governor introduced an amended 2020-2022 biennial budget, including an updated revenue forecast, which affects public education in Virginia.

The amended budget revises the projected 1.125 percent of state sales tax dedicated for public education for fiscal years (FYs) 2021 and 2022, reducing the projected sales tax revenue in both years. The updated estimates of sales tax also affects the calculation of the Basic Aid entitlement that is distributed to school divisions on a semi-monthly basis. The Governor proposes several other amendments for Special Session I impacting funding for public education, primarily allotting several new spending items that were unallotted or frozen at the Reconvened Session in April.

The Governor’s amended 2020-2022 biennial budget for Special Session I impacts state funding for public education, as outlined below:

* Reallots funding in FY 2021 only for the following Supplemental Education programs in the Direct Aid to Public Education budget: Early Childhood Educator Incentive ($3,000,000); Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia ($1,300,000); American Civil War Museum ($1,000,000); and Jobs for Virginia Graduates ($1,670,000).
* Updates the projected 1.125 percent sales tax dedicated to public education to $1,326,400,000 in FY 2021 and $1,354,600,000 in FY 2022.
* $16.6 million in general funds for Virginia Preschool Initiative per pupil payments supplanted with $16.6 million in federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds transferred from the Virginia Department of Social Services VDSS. The $16.6 million in general funds would be transferred to VDSS to support child care for school-age children.

Please note that all other amounts unallotted in the Direct Aid to Public Education budget at the Reconvened Session in April and contained in the Chapter 1289 budget remain unallotted in the Governor’s proposed amendments to Special Session I. These unallotted items are described in Attachment A of [Superintendent’s Memo #106-20](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2020/106-20.docx).

[Attachment A](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2020/215-20a.xlsx) shows the impact to school divisions of the updated estimates of the 1.125 percent sales tax in FY 2021 and FY 2022.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Virginia Department of Education’s budget office at (804) 225-2025 or by email at DOEBUDGETOFFICE@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/KCD/eml

Attachment

A. [Sales Tax Impacts to State Distributions to School Divisions](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2020/215-20a.xlsx) (XLSX)