| **Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item** | **Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia** |
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# Agenda Item: J

## Date: June 20, 2019

### Title: First Review of an Amendment to Virginia’s Consolidated State Plan under the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA) – Amendment Three

#### Presenter: Dr. Lynn Sodat, Director, Office of ESEA Programs

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## Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by state or federal law or regulation.

## **Executive Summary:**

An amendment to Virginia’s consolidated state plan under the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA) is recommended to make four changes to the plan.

Graduation Rate

The Federal Graduation Indicator (FGI) is currently calculated using the previous year’s cohort data. Under ESSA, states are no longer required to identify schools for support and improvement prior to the beginning of the school year. This more flexible timeline permits Virginia to use the current year’s cohort data to calculate the FGI. The amendment proposes to use current year data for this calculation; no changes to the targets are proposed.

Mathematics Targets

In accordance with Virginia’s standards and assessment review schedule, new Standards of Learning mathematics tests are being administered this year. Revised federal mathematics targets will be established this summer once statewide data are available. The new targets must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) for review and approval. No changes to the methodology for establishing the targets are proposed.

Chronic Absenteeism Targets

The chronic absenteeism targets were calculated using the average rate of chronic absenteeism in each student group as the baseline and ten percent or less of students chronically absent as the long term goal. The amendment proposes to use the chronic absenteeism rate of the school at the 20th percentile of enrollment as the baseline and to update the baseline data by using the 2017-2018 school year as the baseline year. This methodology is aligned with the methodology used to determine the other federal targets. The proposed targets are provided in the table below.

|  | **Baseline** | **Year 2 Targets** | **Year 3 Targets** | **Year 4 Targets** | **Year 5 Targets** | **Year 6 Targets** | **Long Term Goal** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assessment Year** | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 |
| **Accountability Year** |  | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 | 2024-2025 |
| **All Students** | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| **Asian Students** | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| **Black Students** | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| **Economically Disadvantaged Students** | 21 | 19 | 17 | 15 | 13 | 11 | 10 |
| **English Learners** | 14 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| **Hispanic Students** | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| **Students with Disabilities** | 22 | 20 | 18 | 16 | 14 | 12 | 10 |
| **White Students** | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 |

Title II, Part A, Use of State Set-Aside Funds

In the coming months, the Board of Education will consider revisions to the teacher performance standards and evaluation criteria. The amendment proposes to use Title II, Part A, state level set-aside funds to support training and technical assistance to school divisions on upcoming revisions to the teacher evaluation system. This use of funds is proposed as an addition to initiatives that are currently supported with Title II, Part A, state level set-aside funds.

If approved, accountability changes will be implemented beginning with the accountability ratings for the 2019-2020 school year.

## Action Requested:

Action will be requested at a future meeting. Specify anticipated date below:

July 25, 2019

## Superintendent’s Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends the Board of Education receive for first review the amendment to Virginia’s consolidated state plan.

## Previous Review or Action:

No previous review or action.

## **Background Information and Statutory Authority:**

Section 1111 of ESSA requires states to submit significant changes to their consolidated state plans to USED for review and approval.

Virginia’s consolidated state plan was approved by USED in May 2018. Since that time, two amendments have been submitted. The first amendment to the plan, which was approved by USED in October 2018, reflected a minor change to the process for identifying schools for comprehensive support and improvement. The second amendment to the plan was submitted in March 2019 to provide the definition of ineffective teacher that the state will use for required federal reporting. Approval for this amendment is pending.

If approved by the Board, amendment three will be submitted to make the four plan changes described above and summarized below:

* Use the current year’s cohort data to calculate the FGI;
* Revise the federal mathematics targets to reflect statewide data from new SOL mathematics tests administered during the 2018-2019 school year;
* Revise the federal chronic absenteeism targets to calculate the targets using the same methodology used on other federal indicators; and
* Use Title II, Part A, state level set-aside funds to support training and technical assistance to school divisions on upcoming revisions to the teacher evaluation system.

Following approval by USED, accountability changes will be implemented beginning with the accountability ratings for the 2019-2020 school year.

## **Timetable for Further Review/Action:**

Final review is anticipated at the Board’s July 25, 2019 meeting.

## Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

Costs associated with the implementation of the consolidated state plan amendment will be provided by federal funds awarded under ESSA.