# Superintendent’s Memo #148-19

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: June 28, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: Virginia Public School Bus Specifications Effective July 1, 2019

The Board of Education is authorized in Sections 22.1-176 and 22.1-177, *Code of Virginia*, to promulgate regulations regarding pupil transportation, including regulations relating to the construction, design, operation, equipment, and color of public school buses. The Board of Education approved the proposed changes to the *Virginia Public School Bus Specifications* at the March 21, 2019 Board Meeting. The approved *Virginia Public School Bus Specifications* will become effective July 1, 2019.

The approved changes to the *Virginia Public School Bus Specifications* were developed in consultation with the Virginia Department of Education’s (VDOE) Public School Bus Specifications Committee comprised of pupil transportation representatives from school divisions across the state, the Virginia State Police, school bus manufacturers, and Virginia school bus dealers.

None of the approved changes represent significant deviations from standard industry practices, and some changes are made for consistency with requirements in the *Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation* and the *Code of Virginia*. All of the latest specifications changes comply with the safety requirements of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The *Virginia Public School Bus Specifications* can be found on the VDOE’s [School Buses](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/transportation/school_buses/index.shtml) webpage.

If you have questions concerning the *Virginia Public School Bus Specifications*, please contact Vijay Ramnarain, Director, Office of Support Services, at (804) 225-2037 or [Vijay.Ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov](file:///\\WCS02021\cestep$\MEMOS\ESTEP\Budget\Work%20for%20Others\Vijay%20Ramnarain\Vijay.Ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov) or Kerry Miller, Associate Director, Pupil Transportation Services, at (804) 225-2772 or [Kerry.Miller@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Kerry.Miller@doe.virginia.gov).

JFL/aam