# Agenda Item: K

## Date: March 23, 2023

## Title: Update on the Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Education and Identified Divisions

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## Presenter: Dr. Aurelia Ortiz, Director of School Quality

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## Purpose of Presentation:

For information only: No action required.

## Executive Summary:

The [Standards of Quality](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter13.2/section22.1-253.13:3/) (SOQ) require local school boards to maintain fully accredited schools and to take corrective actions for schools that are not fully accredited. The SOQ’s provide the Board of Education with the authority to seek school division compliance.  In an effort to provide a system of support to the school divisions, the Board enters into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the local school board to identify responsibilities of the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) staff, the local school board, and the school division staff.

During the 2022-2023 school year, five divisions remain under the guidance of an MOU with the Board: Danville City Public Schools, Greensville County Public Schools, Petersburg City Public Schools, Prince Edward County Public Schools, and Richmond City Public Schools.

Each of the five divisions are monitored by the Office of School Quality (OSQ). OSQ meets with the divisions at intervals identified in the MOU, and provides written updates annually to the board, or upon request. The MOU is subject to annual review and revisions by the Virginia Board of Education.  Additionally, the division school board and the division superintendent will appear before the Virginia Board of Education, as requested, to provide reports and answer questions about the implementation of the MOU and the corrective action plan.

The purpose of these reports is to provide updates regarding the implementation of memorandum of understanding (MOU) requirements, and each school divisions' progress.

* **Attachment 1** contains the update for Danville City Public Schools
* **Attachment 2** contains the update for Greensville County Public Schools
* **Attachment 3** contains the update for Petersburg City Public Schools
* **Attachment 4** contains the update for Prince Edward County Public Schools
* **Attachment 5** contains the update for Richmond City Public Schools
* **Attachment 6** contains the Appendix

## Action Requested:

No action requested.

## Superintendent’s Recommendation

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education receive this written update.

## Previous Review or Action:

**Date:** November 2022

**Action:** Previous Review, Update provided for divisions with a Memorandum of Understanding.

## Background Information and Statutory Authority:

The Virginia Board of Education’s statutory authority is derived from the following section of the *Code of Virginia*:

[§ 22.1-253.13:3.](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/22.1-253.13:3/) Standard 3. Accreditation, other standards, assessments, and releases from state regulations.

...Each local school board shall maintain schools that are fully accredited pursuant to the standards for accreditation as prescribed by the Board. Each local school board shall report the accreditation status of all schools in the local school division annually in public session.

...When the Board determines through its review process that the failure of schools within a division to meet the standards established by the Board is related to division-level failure to implement the Standards of Quality or other division-level action or inaction, the Board may require a division-level academic review. After the conduct of such review and within the time specified by the Board, each school board shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Board and shall subsequently submit to the Board for approval a corrective action plan, consistent with criteria established by the Board setting forth specific actions and a schedule designed to ensure that schools within its school division meet the standards established by the Board. If the Board determines that the proposed corrective action plan is not sufficient to enable all schools within the division to meet the standards established by the Board, the Board may return the plan to the local school board with directions to submit an amended plan pursuant to Board guidance. Such corrective action plans shall be part of the relevant school division's comprehensive plan pursuant to § 22.1-253.13:6.

## Timetable for Further Review/Action:

The Office of School Quality provided the last written update in November 2022 and will provide the next status update during the fall of 2023.

## Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

None.