# Agenda Item: I-Report

## Date: March 23, 2023

## Title: Report from the College Partnership Laboratory School Standing Committee

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## Presenter: Jim Chapman, Regulatory and Legal Coordinator

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## Purpose of Presentation:

For information only: No action required.

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## Executive Summary:

The College Partnership Laboratory Schools Standing Committee (Standing Committee) of the Board of Education (Board) met on March 8, 2023.

The Standing Committee unanimously elected Ms. Joan Wodiska as Chair and Dr. Pam Moran as Vice-Chair. The Standing Committee extends its thanks to Ms. Wodiska and Dr. Moran for their willingness to serve the Board, as well as their leadership and commitment to ensuring high-quality college partnership laboratory schools (lab schools) in Virginia.

The Standing Committee accepted an initial schedule for its meetings (Attachment A), which is organized around when lab school applications can be discussed and referred to the Board for consideration. In addition to the schedule, the Standing Committee considered a flowchart of a lab school application life cycle (Attachment B). The Standing Committee is optimistic that the visualization of the application process will help applicants to locate easily where their application is in the process and what to expect from reviews by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), the Standing Committee, and the Board. Together, these documents emphasize a collaborative vision for the development of a lab schools.

The Standing Committee requests that the Board consider an expedited review process—where the Board waives first review—when an application is so recommended by the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee also requests that the Board consider, in conjunction with the Governor and the Secretary of Education, the creation of three professional learning communities (PLCs). The first PLC would help with planning grants. The second PLC would provide internal and external technical assistance for lab school applications. The third would support lab schools that are approved by the Board as they operate in the Commonwealth.

The Standing Committee also recommended that VDOE begin an internal review of the application, the application rubric, and the website. VDOE staff will update the Standing Committee on progress and suggestions at the next meeting on April 12, 2023. Staff also shared a draft template of the report that will be submitted to the Board along with a completed lab school application.

The Standing Committee expresses its gratitude to the Board for the opportunity to collaborate on this important and exciting initiative in Virginia education.

## Action Requested:

No action requested.

## Superintendent’s Recommendation

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

## Previous Review or Action:

No previous review or action.

**Background Information and Statutory Authority:**

Subsection A of § [22.1-349.6](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter19.1/section22.1-349.6/) of the Code of Virginia states, in part, that “[t]he Board shall establish procedures for receiving, reviewing, and ruling upon applications and shall make a copy of any such procedures available to all interested parties upon request. . . . The Board’s review procedures shall establish a review committee that may include experts with the operation of similar schools located in other states.”