# ***DRAFT MINUTES***

# ***COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA***

# ***BOARD OF EDUCATION***

# ***RICHMOND, VIRGINIA***

# ***July 27, 2023***

The Board of Education (Board) convened on July 27, 2023, in the Board Room, 22nd Floor, James Monroe Building, 101 North 14th Street, Richmond, VA 23219, with the following members present:

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| --- | --- |
| Mrs. Grace Creasey, President | Mr. Bill Hansen, Vice President |
| Ms. Anne Holton  Dr. Amber Northern | Mrs. Debbie Kilgore  Mr. Andy Rotherham |
| Dr. Alan Seibert | Mr. Dale Sturdifen |
| Dr. Lisa Coons, State Superintendent of Public Instruction |  |
| Mrs. Mashea Ashton was absent. |  |

President Creasey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Board members, staff, and visitors to the meeting. President Creasey also noted that she approved Mr. Bill Hansen’s participation via electronic means because his principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location.

# ***MOMENT OF SILENCE***

President Creasey asked for a moment of silence.

***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

The recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

## ***APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA***

President Creasey asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Holton requested that Item C to be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Action/Discussion Items, in accordance with the right afforded to all members under the Board’s Bylaws. Mr. Rotherham motioned to approve the amended agenda with Item C as an Action/Discussion item. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

**Mrs. Kilgore – aye**

**Ms. Holton – aye**

**Dr. Seibert – aye**

**Mr. Hansen – aye**

**Mrs. Creasey – aye**

**Dr. Northern – aye**

**Mr. Sturdifen – object**

**Mr. Rotherham – aye**

**Ms. Holton – aye**

## ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

President Creasey asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 14-15, 2023. Ms. Holton requested before the meeting that an amendment be made to the iTeach item to specify that the Board’s approval was for three years in accordance with the Board’s Guidelines. Ms. Holton moved to approve the amended minutes. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

## ***INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERS***

Dr. Coons welcomed Mrs. Grace Creasey as President of the Board of Education and Mr. Bill Hansen as Vice-President of the Board of Education. She also introduced new members Mrs. Debbie Kilgore and Dr. Amber Northern.

## ***RECOGNITION OF 2023 PRINCIAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS***

The 2023 Principal Leadership Awards was presented to the following principals:

* Benjamin Diggs, 2023 Outstanding Secondary School Assistant Principal of Virginia
* Shampriest Bevel, 2023 Outstanding Middle School Principal of Virginia
* Howard E. Townsend, IV, 2023 Outstanding High School Principal of Virginia

***PUBLIC COMMENTS***

* Wendy Little expressed concerns regarding special education.
* Kandise Lucas expressed concerns regarding special education.
* Kathy Halvorsen expressed concerns regarding special education.
* Melissa Siddiqui expressed concerns regarding special education.
* Cheryl Simms expressed concerns regarding special education.
* Scott Brabrand spoke about the proposed revisions to the Mathematics Standards of Learning, accreditation, and encourages the board to continue searching for alternative routes to licensure to address the teacher shortages in Virginia.
* Jeremy Bennett expressed concerns regarding the Standards of Quality.
* Cardell Patillo, of the VSBA, offered the Board assistance and support from the VSBA.
* Sharon Supp spoke regarding model policies for ensuring privacy, dignity and respect of all students and parents in Virginia public schools.
* Zach Ritz expressed concerns regarding Governor Youngkin’s new model policies.
* Tyson Langhofer spoke regarding model policies for ensuring privacy, dignity and respect of all students and parents in Virginia public schools.
* Virginia Gentles spoke regarding model policies for ensuring privacy, dignity and respect of all students and parents in Virginia public schools.
* Susan Muskett spoke regarding 2023 Model Policies.
* Dr. Todd Gathje spoke about parental rights in education.
* Tom Intorcio spoke regarding model policies for ensuring privacy, dignity and respect of all students and parents in Virginia public schools.
* James Corr Anderson spoke regarding the need for parental involvement if their child shows signs of gender dysmorphia.
* Laura Hanford spoke regarding 2023 Model Policies.
* Joseph Kohm spoke regarding model policies for ensuring privacy, dignity and respect of all students and parents in Virginia public schools.
* Michael Karabinos spoke regarding transgender model policies.
* Sheila Furey spoke regarding 2023 Model Policies.
* Dr. Michelle Aronhime spoke regarding model policies for ensuring privacy, dignity and respect of all students and parents in Virginia public schools.
* Cheryl Binkley spoke regarding transgender model policies.
* Charles Waddell spoke in support of transgender model policies.
* Stephanie Wirt spoke regarding 2023 Model Policies.
* Erin St. Germain spoke regarding 2023 Model Policies.
* Dr. Scott Armistead expressed his medical perspective on gender issues in education.

***CONSENT AGENDA***

## ***A. Final Review to Certify a List of Qualified Persons for the Office of Division Superintendent of Schools***

***B. Final Review of Financial Report on Literacy Fund and Updates to the First Priority Waiting List***

The material for the Consent Agenda can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Mr. Rotherham motioned to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

***ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS***

## ***C. First and Final Review of Divisions Partnering with iteach to Provide an Alternate Route to Licensure***

Mr. Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Ms. Holton requested that the item be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as an Action/Discussion item because she did not find necessary information with respect to special education. She noted that other endorsement areas included a matrix showing the iteach program corresponded to the Board’s regulatory requirements. Ms. Holton requested accepting the item for first review in order to collect additional information.

Mr. Sturdifen moved that the Board waive first review and approve the petitions for alternate route with the following conditions:

1. That iteach maintain its accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation;
2. That the petitioning divisions comply with the provisions with the Virginia Literacy Act;
3. That the petitioning divisions, prior to the beginning of the school year, submit plans for approval by VDOE to support the alternate route with a mentorship program; and
4. That partnering divisions and iteach submit data on quality and effectiveness to the VDOE on an annual basis; and
5. That VDOE approve substantially similar petitions for an alternate route to licensure with iTeach with the same conditions imposed by the Board on the petitions from this item.

The motion was properly seconded and carried 6-2.

**Mrs. Kilgore – aye**

**Ms. Holton – nay**

**Dr. Seibert – aye**

**Mr. Hansen – aye**

**Mrs. Creasey – aye**

**Dr. Northern – aye**

**Mr. Sturdifen – aye**

**Mr. Rotherham – nay**

***D. Final Review of Recommendation Regarding Literary Fund Loan Applications Approval for Release of Loan Funds***

Mr. Kent C. Dickey, Deputy Superintendent of Budget, Finance, and Operations presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Mr. Sturdifen moved that the Board waive first review and approve the Final Review of Recommendation Regarding Literary Fund Loan Applications Approval for Release of Loan Funds. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

***E. First and Final Review of Request for Guidance on School Construction Assistance Program and Consideration of Program Changes***

Mr. Kent C. Dickey, Deputy Superintendent of Budget, Finance, and Operations presented this item to the Board.The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Mr. Sturdifen moved that the Board waive first review and proceed with another open application process for divisions with no change to the program guidelines or scoring criteria. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

### ***F. Final Review of Proposed Changes to Certain Testing Requirements for Writing***

Mrs. Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent of Student Assessment, Accountability & ESEA Programs, and Dr. Sarah Susbury, Director of Student Assessment, presented this item to the Board.The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Ms. Holton moved that the Board of Education approve (1) the elimination of the Grade 8 Writing SOL test in spring 2024, to coincide with implementation of the Grade 8 Integrated Reading and Writing test component as a required part of the Grade 8 Reading SOL test; and (2) the adoption of the proposed *Guidelines* to recommend that the Grade 5 Integrated Reading and Writing test component serve as a measure of student writing and to allow school divisions to provide an additional local Grade 5 Writing alternative assessment.

The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

***G. First and Final Review of Regulatory Actions Following the 2023 Session of the General Assembly***

Mr. Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Mr. Sturdifen moved that the Board waive first review and approve the regulatory changes included with this item. The motion was properly seconded by and carried unanimously.

***H*. *First and Final Review of Amendments to Include Statutory Requirements for the Possession and Administration of Epinephrine in Regulated Child Day Programs***

Mr. Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Mr. Sturdifen moved that the Board waive first review and approve amendments as proposed in the item. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

## ***I. First and Final Review of College Partnership Laboratory School Application from Virginia Commonwealth University***

Mr. Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Mr. Rotherham moved (1) that the Board waive first review and approve the VCU lab school application for a three-year period with annual reviews and (2) that the Board delegate to the President of the Board and the Superintendent final negotiation of the college partnership laboratory school contract with VCU, including awarding start-up funds and up to $6 million in per-pupil funding from the College Partnership Laboratory School Fund in accordance with the Board’s [*Guidelines and Criteria for the Award and Distribution of Lab School Start-Up and Per-Pupil Operating Funding Grants for Approved Lab Schools*](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/39712/638067155633670000). The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

***PRESENTATIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS***

***J. Update on College Partnership Laboratory Schools***

***K. Update on Teacher & School Staffing Vacancy Dashboards***

***L. Written Update on the Commonwealth of Virginia's Critical Shortage Teacher Endorsement Areas for 2023-2024 School Year***

***M. Update on ESSER Funds***

Item M was added from the Work Session on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. The materials for the Presentations and Written Reports can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

# ***DISCUSSION OF CURRENT ISSUES – by Board of Education Members and Superintendent of Public Instruction***

Dr. Seibert and Ms. Holton reflected on the retreat that occurred earlier in the week and all the great work and conversations that took place. Dr. Seibert requested that staff look at [House Bill 2027 (2021)](https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?211+sum+HB2027) surrounding accountability and growth.

Mr. Sturdifen thanked the Virginia Association of School Superintendents and the Virginia School Board Association for their offers to assist this Board during the public comment session.

***ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS SESSION***

There being no further business of the Board, Mrs. Creasey adjourned the business meeting at 3:11 p.m.

# ***CLOSED SESSION***

The Board convened on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of considering disciplinary cases related to teacher licensure. Mr. Hansen made a motion to enter into a Closed Session in accordance with § 2.2-3711 and/or 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, under the following enumerated subsection:

Subsection 40: Discussion or consideration by the Board of Education of information relating to the denial, suspension, or revocation of teacher licenses subject to the exclusion in subdivision 11 of § 2.2-3705.3.

And that legal counsel to the Virginia Board of Education and staff, whose presence would aid in this matter, participate in the closed meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Seibert and carried unanimously. The Board went into closed session at 9:00 am. Mr. Sturdifen made a motion, seconded by Dr. Seibert, that the Board reconvene in open session at 4:30 p.m.

President Creasey made a motion that the Board certify by roll-call vote that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements under Chapter 37 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered.

Board roll call:

* **Mrs. Kilgore – aye**
* **Ms. Holton – aye**
* **Dr. Seibert – aye**
* **Mr. Hansen – aye**
* **Mrs. Creasey –aye**
* **Dr. Northern – aye**
* **Mr. Sturdifen – aye**
* **Mr. Rotherham –aye**

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to issuea license in case number 1.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to revoke the license of Marcus LaRoy Salley.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to revoke the license of Kristen Claire McAllister.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to issuea license in case number 4.

The Virginia Board of Education voted 7-1-0 to issuea license in case number 5.

The Virginia Board of Education voted 6-2-0 (6 yeas, 2 nays, 0 abstentions) to issuea license in case number 6.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to revoke the license of Robert Joseph Andrade.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to issue a license in case number 8.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to deny a license to Marilyn Diaz.

The Virginia Board of Education voted 4-3-1 (4 yeas, 3 nays, 1 abstention) to deny a license to Diane Cecile Gough.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to suspend the license of Eselyn Dannielle Maheia for a term of three years.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to deny a reinstated Virginia teaching license to Oluwole Oluwale Adesina.

The Virginia Board of Education voted unanimously (8-0-0) to revoke the license of Tammy Jo Dowling.

***WORK SESSION***

The Board convened in a work session on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Due to the time constraints, the Board struck the following items from the agenda:

* Item A: Discussion on Standards of Accreditation
* Item B: Overview of Revisions to the Board of Education’s Comprehensive Plan
* Item C: Update on ESSER Funds
* Item E: Board Member Training

***D. Special Education Workshop, Part II***

Dr. Lisa Coons, Superintendent of Public Instruction, presented to the Board the Special Education Workshop, which included data of complaints from school divisions. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

# ***DINNER MEETING***

The Board met for a public dinner on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, 6:30 p.m., at Native Plate, 1203 E. Main St., Richmond, VA 23219, with the following members present: Mrs. Grace Creasey, Mr. Bill Hansen, Ms. Anne Holton, Dr. Amber Northern, Mrs. Debbie Kilgore, Mr. Andy Rotherham, Dr. Alan Seibert and Mr. Dale Sturdifen. Mrs. Mashea Ashton was absent. Members conversed informally without discussion of the whole, and no votes were taken. The dinner event ended at 8:30 p.m.

# ***BOARD OF EDUCATION RETREAT***

The Board convened in a Retreat session on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 9 am in the Board Room, 22nd Floor, James Monroe Building, 101 North 14th Street, Richmond, VA 23219, with the following members present: Mrs. Grace Creasey, Mr. Bill Hansen, Ms. Anne Holton, Dr. Amber Northern, Mrs. Debbie Kilgore, Mr. Andy Rotherham, Dr. Alan Seibert and Mr. Dale Sturdifen.

The session was open to the public. No public comment was accepted. No votes were taken.

The agenda and retreat materials can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

## ***Presentation on Board Bylaws, Board Meetings, and Robert's Rules***

Ms. Abby Gump, Assistant Attorney General, and Mr. Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, provided an overview of the Board’s Bylaws, Board Meetings, and Robert’s Rules of Order. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

## ***Election of Officers***

Mr. Rotherham moved that Mrs. Gracey Creasey be elected as President and Mr. Bill Hansen as Vice President. The motion was seconded by Dr. Seibert and 7-0 with one abstention.

**Mrs. Creasey – aye**

**Mr. Hansen – aye**

**Ms. Holton – aye**

**Dr. Northern – aye**

**Mrs. Kilgore – aye**

**Mr. Rotherham – aye**

**Dr. Seibert – aye**

**Mr. Sturdifen – abstain**

## ***Standing Committee on the Standards of Quality***

Ms. Melissa Velasquez, Assistant Superintendent of Policy and Communication, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Dr. Seibert stated that as a division superintendent, he predominantly focused on Standard 2. He expressed interest in proposing revisions to accreditation and accountability.

Mr. Rotherham asked for clarification on the reading recovery/equity fund item in the Board’s prescriptions and whether this is related to the Virginia Literacy Act (VLA). VDOE staff will research and provide additional information.

Ms. Holton asked if the VLA legislation (specifically reading specialist ratios) is aligned with the Board’s prescription on reading specialists. VDOE staff will research this issue and provide Board members an update.

Dr. Northern recommended adopting a student-based funding model (instead of staff-based funding model) and noted that Virginia is one of only nine states to use staff-based funding.

Board members discussed the JLARC report and what initiatives can be addressed in this year and what initiatives will be more long-term.

Ms. Holton noted that the 2019 recommendations were outcome focused, citing examples such as the teacher mentor program. She asked for documentation of the research that was used when drafting the 2019 recommendations, so current Board members can discuss taking up those proposals.

Mr. Hansen expressed support for examining Standard 1 and addressing learning loss, particularly for at-risk students and student with disabilities. Ms. Holton asked for recommendations for translating the JLARC recommendations into potential proposals.

Dr. Northern discussed graduation requirements and redesigning Standard 4 to facilitate students earning credentials in high school.

Dr. Coons summarized that the Board would like to receive as follows:

* Historical research from the 2019 prescriptions
* Presentation on Standard 2, including research on student-based funding as opposed to staff-based funding and solutions to the teaching crisis and redesigning the profession of teaching/adjusting the role (e.g. part time teachers or exceeding the staffing ratios)
* Presentation on Standard 1, including learning loss recovery initiatives, particularly students with disabilities
* Presentation on Standard 4 – high school redesign, including research on graduation requirements and Louisiana’s fast-forward model
* Presentation on SOQ review timeline – timelines and time ranges for which proposals might be quicker and which might be more long-term
* An emphasis, in all initiatives, on high-quality impact

The Board Members discussed process and it was suggested to implement subcommittees to examine specific standards, possibly short-term and long-term list.

Ms. Holton noted the importance of considering compensation increase. Mrs. Creasey noted that disparities in compensation for younger teachers can encourage older teachers to retire. Mrs. Kilgore noted the challenges of being near to the border of another state and teachers teaching across the border to receive more money.

## **Virginia Regulatory Process - An Overview**

Mr. Jim Chapman, Director of Board Relations, presented this item to the Board. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

## ***E. Presentation and Conversation on Accountability and Accreditation***

Mrs. Shelly Loving-Ryder provided an overview of the Accountability and Accreditation model. The material for this item can be found on [the Board’s page on the VDOE website](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/state-board-data-funding/virginia-board-of-education/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/july-25-27-2023).

Mr. Hansen requested additional information regarding how the standard/benchmark (i.e., 75% pass rate for English) was established.

Mr. Rotherham requested clarification about how growth is included in the pass-rate calculation for accreditation. Ms. Loving-Ryder explained that a student who demonstrates growth is counted in the indicator as having passed the assessment. Mrs. Loving-Ryder explained the vertical scale that is used from 3rd through 8th grade. So, if a student moves up in their score range, then growth is counted.

Dr. Northern asked about the range that is used to calculate growth. Mrs. Loving-Ryder stated that it is established in the year that a new test is established.

Mrs. Loving-Ryder was requested to compile visual aids for the Board to help explain growth.

Ms. Holton noted that this accreditation model was only in place for one year (2018-2019) before the pandemic occurred.

Mr. Rotherham asked for more clarification on the measure of growth, emphasizing the misunderstanding and differences of opinion around the sufficiency of this growth measure. Mrs. Loving-Ryder stated that a student at the very lowest of the failing scores will need to make more growth than a student in the middle. If a student moves one range, they receive credit.

Dr. Coons asked if the scores (passing and growth) are demonstrated as one rate. Mrs. Loving-Ryder stated that for accreditation, they are combined. But they are shown disaggregated on the School Quality Profiles.

Mr. Rotherham stated that the growth is obscuring the data and there is no incentive to divisions. Dr. Coons stated that other states calculate growth for all students. Dr. Seibert emphasized that the issue is that growth is not calculated for all students, and it should be. Currently, growth is just showing students “failing less.” Dr. Coons stated that division superintendents have communicated that the most transparent way to measure impact is to show growth for all children.

Mrs. Creasey asked which high school accreditation indicator causes the most difficulty for school divisions. Mrs. Loving-Ryder responded that dropout rate is currently the most challenging; however, this is the first year that the CCCRI will be calculated.

Secretary Guidera presented on the accreditation model. Secretary Guidera urged Board members to change the proficiency level to address the honesty gap, to change the accreditation and accountability model to improve clarity and transparency, and to prioritize providing actionable data supporting the Office of School Quality.

Dr. Coons explained that Virginia’s accreditation system refers to accountability, and a language change is needed. Accreditation is about inputs.

Dr. Northern discussed growth to proficiency models, achievement is corelated to demographic and states are moving towards a growth measure to highlight student growth regardless of achievement. A performance index could give schools partial credit for getting growth. Dr. Northern suggested looking at the growth index being used in Ohio. Alternatively, the Board could consider specific measure for different levels of school (like an early literacy bucket for elementary). Student accountability and career readiness should be focal points. Virginia needs individualized measure for growth.

Dr. Seibert shared that “career readiness” is preferable to “workforce readiness.” Ms. Holton and Mr. Hansen echoed Dr. Seibert’s suggestion to use “career readiness” instead of “workforce readiness.” Ms. Holton suggested looking at Hampton as an example of improved school engagement in high school.

Mr. Hansen agreed with reducing the number of indicators: complexity and clarity should not be mutually exclusive.

Dr. Seibert opined that legislation regarding through-year growth assessments did not envision using Pearson tests, as the Pearson tests require shutting down elementary schools three times per year. Board members discussed Dr. Seibert’s suggestion to use alternative assessments to satisfy the through-year growth assessment requirement. It was requested that the OAG’s office research whether alternative assessments are permissible under the legislation. Dr. Seibert stated that Virginia SOL tests were intended to be a baseline measure. He suggested redefining what constitutes an absence for chronic absenteeism.

Dr. Coons suggested bringing in national speakers at the next meeting to discuss statewide growth measures for consideration. Ms. Holton asked to find out how many divisions are already using one of the national alternative assessments. Dr. Coons stated that the through-year growth assessments have decreased the number of divisions using alternative tests, like MAP.

Mr. Rotherham requested data on how much the SQPs are being used.

Ms. Holton asked for a briefing on the VVAAS project that Dr. Coons mentioned.

Dr. Northern mentioned industry credentials, apprenticeships, and moving away from chronic absenteeism. She suggested looking at “value added attendance” measures and expressed support for using NAEP proficient as the standard for Virginia and having a school climate survey.

Ms. Holton asked for more information on the surveys currently implemented. Mrs. Creasey stated that there was legislation (McClellan’s bill) to this point.

For the next meeting: consider what should be part of accreditation and what should be part of accountability. VDOE staff will draft a proposal for the Board to respond to.

Board members discussed a special meeting in August. Ms. Holton suggested that a work session may be appropriate, although the members would not be able to vote on a NOIRA during a work session. Board members agreed to try and find a date with a physical quorum.

## ***Board Member Training***

Mrs. Creasey announced that the Board will enter into Closed Session to receive Board Training. Mr. Hansen made a motion to enter into a Closed Session in accordance with § 2.2-3711 and/or 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, under the following enumerated subsection:

Subsection (A)(8): Consultation with legal counsel employed by or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel

And that legal counsel to the Virginia Board of Education and staff, whose presence would aid in this matter, participate in the closed meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Seibert and carried unanimously. The Board went into closed session at 2:40 p.m. Mr. Sturdifen made a motion, seconded by Dr. Seibert, that the Board reconvene in open session at 5:20 p.m.

President Creasey made a motion that the Board certify by roll-call vote that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements under Chapter 37 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered.

Board roll call:

* **Mrs. Kilgore – aye**
* **Ms. Holton – aye**
* **Dr. Seibert – aye**
* **Mr. Hansen – aye**
* **Mrs. Creasey –aye**
* **Dr. Northern – aye**
* **Mr. Sturdifen – aye**
* **Mr. Rotherham –aye**

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

# ***DINNER MEETING***

The Board met for a public dinner on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, 6:30 p.m., at The Tobacco Company Restaurant, 1201 E Cary St, Richmond, VA 23219, with the following members present: Mrs. Creasey, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Rotherham, Mr. Sturdifen, Dr. Northern, Dr. Seibert, Ms. Holton, Mrs. Kilgore, and Dr. Coons. Mrs. Mashea Ashton was absent. Members conversed informally without discussion of the whole, and no votes were taken. The dinner ended at 8:30 p.m.