

# **HB 585 Work Group on the Future of Assessment**

**Meeting 5**

September 8, 2023

# Introductions

**Aimee Rogstad Guidera**, Secretary of Education, Office of the Governor

**Dr. Lisa Coons**, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education

**Katie Carroll**, Deputy Superintendent of Student Performance and Support, Virginia Department of Education

**Shelley Loving-Ryder**, Assistant Superintendent of Student Assessment & Accountability, Virginia Department of Education

**Sarah Susbury, Director**, Office of Student Assessment, Virginia Department of Education

**Justine Taylor-Raymond**, Assistant Secretary of Education, Office of the Governor

**Emily Anne Gullickson**, Deputy Secretary of Education, Office of the Governor

Supported by **Watershed Advisors**:

- Jill Pinsky, Managing Director
- Jamie Dollinger, Director
- Julia Hahn, Analyst

# Agenda & Meeting Objectives

1. Welcome, Framing, and Agenda (~15 minutes)
2. Report Feedback Rotations and Reflections (~65 minutes small group, ~45 minutes whole group)
3. The Path Forward: Supporting Students, Families, and Educators (~15 minutes)
4. Next Steps and Closing (~10 minutes)

## Meeting 5 Objectives

Consider final recommendations, including the timeline for implementation

Understand the legislative and regulatory changes needed

# Background

# Housekeeping & Meeting Norms



Please mute your microphone



If possible, turn on your video



Two ways to participate: (1) Type via chat, (2) Unmute to share



Parking Lot: Jot ideas for future consideration in the Zoom chat



Be ready for small group discussion

# House Rules & Shared Values

## House Rules

- Make space, take space
- Assume the best
- Speak from an “I” perspective
- Be open to learning and taking risks

## Shared Values

- We are committed to utilizing evidence and data to support development of a best-in-class assessment system that meets the needs of Virginia’s students, families, and educators.
- We believe that all assessments should be fair, rigorous, and aligned to Virginia’s vision for what every student should know and be able to do.
- We understand that assessments can serve different purposes, and that assessment data is a valuable tool to help students learn.

# HB 585 Purpose & Objectives

**Purpose.** Recommend changes to the statewide summative assessments and develop a plan for implementation of the revised assessments.

**HB 585 Required Considerations.** The Secretary of Education and the Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction shall convene and consult a work group, which shall consider:

- 1) Best practices and **innovations in summative assessments** of proficiency from across the nation;
- 2) Alternative **approaches to current and new assessment items**, including subject areas and methods of grading such items;
- 3) Assessment items that include **open-ended questions, long-form writing**, and other tasks, with student responses scored by the Department according to statewide scoring rubrics;
- 4) Plan for **pilot implementation of such assessment items** prior to the 2027-2028 school year as necessary to determine the validity of such items;
- 5) The **process for the development of a bank** of vetted sample assessment items that include a comprehensive representation of knowledge and skills being assessed;
- 6) The **legislative and regulatory changes and funding** necessary to implement alternative approaches considered by the work group;
- 7) The effectiveness of **assessments for students with disabilities**, including the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program for those students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, and the use of those assessments to improve and individualize instruction; and
- 8) A proposed **timeline for implementation** of such new assessments, giving consideration to implementation prior to the 2027-2028 school year.

# Work Group Timeline

## Meeting 1 March

Understand the purpose of state assessments generally

Understand how Virginia's state assessment system works currently

Consider the challenges with Virginia's current assessment system

## Meeting 2 April

Understand the national landscape and best practices, as context for Virginia's assessment system

Consider how national best practices and innovations do or do not address the challenges with the VA assessment system

## Meeting 3 May

Understand Virginia's assessment system currently, contrasted with the national landscape

Begin to define goals and objectives for the future of VA assessments

## Meeting 4 July

Weigh in on draft recommendations

## Meeting 5 September

Consider final recommendations, including the timeline for implementation

Understand the legislative and regulatory changes needed

*Based on the recommendations developed by this Work Group, VDOE will submit its initial plan for the implementation of Virginia's revised summative assessment to the General Assembly by **November 1, 2023**.*



# **Report Feedback Rotations and Reflection**

# Breakout Room Instructions

**We will now breakout into groups for small group rotations.** You will be automatically assigned to a Zoom breakout room.

**Each small group rotation will focus on a portion of the draft report, for four total rotations. In each rotation:**

1. Independently read the assigned section and consider the reflection questions. (~8 minutes)
2. Use the Jamboard “Sticky Notes” to record your reflections. (~2 minutes)
3. Discuss questions and reflections with your small group. Identify a team captain to share out whole group for that rotation. (~5 minutes, ~10 minutes for Rotation 4)
4. Return to the whole group to discuss your small group’s reflections before moving to the next rotation (~10 minutes, ~15 minutes for Rotation 4)

***These instructions will also be available in your small group rotations.***

## Whole Group Discussion: Work Group Reflections

**To begin, each identified team captain will share out key learnings and reflections from their small group on the following questions:**

- *What part or section of the report resonated most?*
- *If necessary, what edits would make you feel confident with this section?*

# **The Path Forward: Supporting Students, Families, and Educators**

# The Path Forward: Supporting Students, Families, and Educators

We just spent time reviewing and reflecting on the HB 585 report and the recommendations for the future of assessment in Virginia. Now, we will turn to think about what the implementation of these recommendations means for students, families, and educators.

**You will be automatically assigned to a breakout room with a small group. In your group, discuss the reflection questions.**

- *What hopes do you have for Virginia assessments following the report?*
- *What do you see as your role to support the implementation of the recommendations?*
- *As we look forward to selecting and implementing new assessments, how can we collaboratively work to frame the changes in these assessments?*
- *What resources and supports can VDOE provide to support teachers? Leaders? Students and families?*

**When we come back together, we will share out group reflections.**

# **Next Steps and Closing**

# Next Steps

- After today's meeting, Watershed Advisors will send out an exit ticket
- In the coming month:
  - Work Group Members will receive the final report
  - The Virginia Department of Education will publish the final report
  - Virginia will commence the process to select and procure a new assessment system