

2009 Review of the Standards of Quality

**Presented to the Joint Subcommittee on
Elementary and Secondary Education Funding**

**Dr. Mark Emblidge, President
Virginia Board of Education**

June 18, 2009



General Assembly's Charge

Item 140.C.5.k.3), 2009 Appropriation Act:

The Board of Education shall review the current Standards of Quality to evaluate the appropriateness of the existing staffing standards for instructional positions and the appropriateness of establishing ratio standards for support positions, with the objective of maximizing resources devoted to the instructional program.

General Assembly's Charge

Item 140.C.5.k.3), 2009 Appropriation Act:

The findings of this review, its associated costs, and its final recommendations for rebenchmarking shall be submitted to the Governor, the Chairmen of House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees and the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding established pursuant to Item 1, paragraph H. of this Act no later than November 1, 2009.

Standing Committee of the Standards of Quality

- **The SOQ Committee was established in Board bylaws in 2001 to review the Standards of Quality (SOQ) at least every two years.**
- **Legislation passed by the 2002 General Assembly requires the Board of Education to conduct a biennial review of the Standards of Quality (§ 22.1-18.01 of the *Code of Virginia*).**
- **All Board members are on the SOQ Committee.**
- **Mrs. Eleanor Saslaw serves as the chair.**
- **The committee meets the afternoon before the full Board meeting.**
- **SOQ Committee meetings include “open mic” opportunities for public comment.**

SOQ Work Plan

The work plan includes:

- **Participation and involvement of education entities and the public;**
- **Collection and analysis of data provided by school divisions;**
- **Research and analysis by an outside independent consultant;**
- **Examination of all facets of the Standards of Quality (SOQ) staffing standards;**
- **Identification of best practices; and**
- **Formulation of recommendations.**

SOQ Timeline

- **SOQ Committee meetings – April 28, May 27, June 24, and July 22**
 - ✓ **Planning meeting – April 28**
 - ✓ **SOQ Forums (presentations by education organizations) – May 27 and June 24**
 - ✓ **Comments and recommendations from the public – May 27, June 24, and July 22**
 - ✓ **Staff updates on research, data collection, and analysis**
- **First public comment period – May 1 through July 31**

SOQ Timeline (con't)

- **First Board review of proposed revisions to the SOQ – September 17**
 - ✓ **Second public comment period – September 14 through October 4**
 - ✓ **Four public hearings throughout Virginia**
- **Final Board review and approval – October 22**
- **Due to the General Assembly – November 1**

SOQ Committee - May 27

Forum participants:

- **Virginia School Boards Association**
- **Virginia Association of School Superintendents**
- **Virginia Education Association**
- **Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals**
- **Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals**

SOQ Committee - May 27 (con't)

Forum participants:

- **Virginia Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development**
- **Virginia PTA**
- **Virginia Municipal League**
- **Virginia Association of Counties**

Public comment from:

- **Virginia First Cities Coalition**

SOQ Committee – June 24

Organizations invited:

- **Virginia Alternative Educators Association**
- **Virginia Council of Administrators of Special Education**
- **Virginia Educational Technology Advisory Committee**
- **Virginia Association of School Nurses**

SOQ Committee – June 24 (con't)

Organizations invited:

- **Virginia Association for Career and Technical Education**
- **Virginia Association of School Personnel Administrators**
- **Virginia School Counselor Association**
- **Virginia Consortium of Gifted Education Administrators**
- **Virginia ESL Supervisors' Association**

SOQ Committee – July 22

- **Staff and consultant reports on:**
 - ✓ **Research and best practices**
 - ✓ **Data collection and analysis**
 - ✓ **Possible options for the Board's consideration**

- **Consultant - Augenblick, Palaich, and Associates, Inc. www.apaconsulting.net**



SOQ Information

- **SOQ review materials posted on the Web**

www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/quality/index.shtml

- **SOQ e-mail**

SOQComments@doe.virginia.gov