



# **Review of Certain Budget Items in SB 900 as Introduced and Updates on Other K-12 Issues**

**Presented to the Senate Finance  
Committee - Education  
Subcommittee**

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# **Review of Certain Budget Items in SB 900 as Introduced**

# *Teacher Residency Program*

- **SB 900 provides \$1.0M in FY18 (to \$1.5M) to expand the Teacher Residency model placing quality teachers in under-performing schools. Involves one-year intensive residency of master’s course work, field experience, and mentoring and 1-2 years of support after begin teaching.**
- **VCU serves Richmond; ODU serves Norfolk. VCU has federal grant as well but ending next year.**
- **VCU - 16 completers in 15-16 (8 spec. ed.; 8 MS/HS), all teaching in Richmond; 30 candidates in 16-17 and 32 or more projected for 17-18. ODU - 9 math/science completers in 15-16, all teaching in Norfolk; 15 math/science candidates in 16-17.**
- **Cost per resident teacher approx. \$35,000 for one-year tuition/stipend. Professional development, mentoring, and other program costs additional. State funding provided to date:**

	<b>FY 2016 State Funds</b>	<b>FY 2017 State Funds</b>
<b>VCU</b>	\$420,000 (from FY15 TFA balances)	\$500,000 (\$250,000 from Teacher Residency; \$250,000 from FY16 TFA balances)
<b>ODU</b>	\$500,000	\$500,000 (\$250,000 from Teacher Residency; \$250,000 from FY16 TFA balances)

# *Summer Cyber Camps*

- **One-time balances from the FY16 Extended School-year Grant Program were used to support 32 cyber camp sites (involving 38 divs.) in all eight supts. regions during summer 2016; each site developed and implemented standards-based programs.**
- **Camps enrolled high school students interested in cybersecurity careers or who had started cyber programs of study. 743 students participated; a third of the students were from Southside or Southwest.**
- **Camps were required to provide a minimum of 70 instructional hours and typically lasted 2-3 weeks.**
- **SB 900 includes \$480,000 in FY18 to continue state support for the 32 cyber camp sites during summer 2017, at \$15,000 per site.**

# *Teacher Improvement Funding*

- **Chp. 780 budget includes \$50,000 in FY17 for ten \$5,000 grants to develop alternative teacher compensation models and \$2.1M in FY18 to implement such models. SB 900 reduces FY18 funding to \$50,000 to maintain the planning grants next year.**
- **Priority for the FY17 planning grants given to divisions that had not previously explored alternative compensation approaches and that have schools not fully accredited or have high numbers of at-risk students – the first factor may have limited the number of divisions applying.**
- **Grant applications released to divisions on Aug. 12, 2016. Three divisions applied and were awarded \$5,000 grants: Chesterfield, Manassas Park, and Winchester.**

# *Transfer Federal Meal Programs from VDH to DOE*

- In FY18, SB 900 proposes transferring administration of the federal Summer Food Service Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program from VDH to DOE. \$57.7M in federal funds and approx. 20 positions would transfer.
- Would provide economies of scale and a single administrative agency for divisions that participate in the USDA meal programs currently administered separately by VDH and DOE.
- VDH employees will have to be integrated into DOE HR and supervisory structure. There will be various one-time start-up costs associated with the transfer (staff moves, preparing office space, etc.).
- This advances one of the options contained in the Nov. 2016 consolidation study report.

# *Spec. Ed. Endorsement Program*

- **\$600,000 currently provided for grants to Va. IHE's to offer course work and field experiences to increase the number of provisionally licensed spec. ed. teachers meeting endorsement requirements for a renewable license.**
- **This funding helps defray teachers' cost of the required coursework in a critical shortage area (185 spec. ed. teacher vacancies statewide in 15-16 school year).**
- **The *Code* sets the amount of tuition support at \$450 for a minimum of six semester hours of course work taken in a single semester or summer session. Taking two courses while teaching is challenging for new teachers. Also, \$450 for six semester hours equates to \$225 of support per course.**
- **SB 900 would set the tuition support in budget language at \$600 for a three-semester-hour course to reflect past tuition increases and reduce the course load. More provisionally licensed teachers may participate if the tuition support is increased and tied to just one course, allowing them to take one course in the fall and spring semesters while teaching.**

# *Teach For America in Va. - Update*

- **TFA has signed teacher placement agreements with Alexandria and Richmond. No TFA teacher placement has occurred yet in those divisions.**
- **\$80,000 in FY16 funding used by TFA to develop a recruitment, training, placement, and support process for Va.**
- **\$200,000 over FY17 and FY18 will be used by TFA to recruit, train, place, and support five teacher candidates in Alexandria and five in Richmond for the 2017-18 school year.**
- **SB 900 would allow any TFA balances each year to be used for Teacher Residency.**

# *Project Graduation*

- **\$2.8M per year currently provided to remediate students at-risk of not meeting verified credits for graduation.**
- **Program implementation in 2004 did not include formula distribution; instead, funding provided to divisions through an application process.**
- **All divisions do not apply each year and funding amounts may not align to division need or size.**
- **For FY17, DOE implemented a formula distribution that allocates funding to each school division to operate a program.**
- **Factors used in the distribution formula include failures on end-of-course SOL tests and composite index to align funding to local need.**

# *Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP)*

- Provides a kindergarten readiness assessment aligned to the kindergarten SOLs; program operates at UVA.
- SB 900 includes a \$100,000 reduction in FY17 and FY18 (from \$1.0M to \$900,000 each year).
- Assessments developed to date are of good quality; continued state funding needed for full statewide implementation and support similar to PALS.
- VKRP staff indicate the \$100,000 per year reduction could slow the statewide roll out of the readiness assessments, and delay improvements to reporting, alignment of measures to the SOLs, and development of growth data. Divisions may also have to purchase (or produce) printed assessment materials for each classroom.

# *Instructional Improvement System*

- **Primary vendor is PowerSchool.**
- **The system provides teacher-level and longitudinal student-level data; disaggregated SOL results and other student-level assessments (e.g., SAT, PALS, local benchmarks); student demographic, attendance, and discipline data; early warning indicators and intervention tracking; integration with local student info. systems; and DOE access to division-level data.**
- **Current utilization is 127 divisions but current state funding available can pay for 90 divisions.**
- **SB 900 provides \$1.6M in FY18 to support statewide access for all divisions.**

## *Student Growth Model – FY17 Update*

- **SB 900 continues the \$500,000 funding level in FY18.**
- **FY17 contracts awarded to two vendors (SAS, Education Analytics) focusing on the development of pilot growth measures that could be used for school and division accountability in reading and math.**
- **Vendors actively in development mode – deliverables due by June 30, 2017; FY18 funding would continue development efforts.**

# *Algebra Readiness Diagnostic Test*

- **SB 900 provides \$400,000 in FY18 for the Algebra Readiness Diagnostic Test (ARDT), the state-provided diagnostic test divisions use to identify students for the SOL Algebra Readiness program and required to be provided at no cost to divisions.**
- **The proposed funding backfills past reductions and reflects the annual cost of the current assessment, which exceeds available GFs by \$450,450. The remaining cost is currently covered from the SOL testing budget and federal spec. ed. funds; however, funds from the SOL testing budget not available going forward since they are needed to pay for required work on the SOL tests.**
- **Proposed funding is redirected from the Math/Science Teacher Recruitment Pilot, which has been completed and the program implemented at ODU.**

# Updates on Other K-12 Issues

# *BOE Annual Report on Condition/Needs of Public Schools*

- **Board of Education’s 2016 annual report available at:**  
[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/reports/annual\\_reports/2016.pd](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/reports/annual_reports/2016.pd). The report includes various recommendations on the Standards of Quality and other legislation:
- **SOQ Standards/Funding Recommendations:**
  - ✓ One full-time assistant principal for every 400 students in grades K-12 (FY18 impact: \$71.4M).
  - ✓ One full-time principal in every elementary school ( FY18 impact: \$6.8 M).
  - ✓ One school counselor for every 250 students in grades K-12 (FY18 impact: \$82.4M).
  - ✓ One full-time school psychologist for every 1,000 students (FY18 impact: \$42.7M).
  - ✓ One full-time social worker for every 1,000 students (FY18 impact: \$48.7M).
  - ✓ One full-time school nurse for every 550 students (FY18 impact: \$1.8M).
  - ✓ Eliminate the support position cap (approx. 1 support position for every 4 instructional positions) (FY18 impact: \$339.6M).
  - ✓ Provide additional resources to support professional development for the implementation of the Profile of a Virginia Graduate required by the SOQ.
- **Recommendations for SOQ and Other Legislation:**
  - ✓ Amend the *Code* to ensure that students and parents are made aware of career and technical education opportunities.
  - ✓ Eliminate the flexibility provisions in the Appropriation Act that waive or override certain staffing ratios in the SOQ.
  - ✓ Shift the BOE review of the SOQ from even to odd-numbered years to aligned more effectively with the state budget cycle.
  - ✓ Propose an in-depth study evaluating availability of data regarding the local deployment of SOQ positions.

# *Annual/Special Reports Filed*

- **Various reports recently filed by DOE, SOE, and others available on the LIS website (“RDXX” is LIS Report Doc. #):**
  - ✓ Teacher Salary Survey (RD28)
  - ✓ Required Local Effort/Local Match (RD26)
  - ✓ Uses of At-risk Add-on Funds (RD23)
  - ✓ Extended School Year Grant Program (RD430)
  - ✓ Project Discovery Evaluation (RD332)
  - ✓ Governor's Schools Funding Formula (RD463)
  - ✓ Alternative Breakfast Models (RD242 and RD29)
  - ✓ Consolidation of Federal Child Nutrition Programs (RD488)
  - ✓ Study on School Division Joint Contracting (RD548)

# *Working Group on Virtual Learning - Update*

- In response to HB 8 (2016), Gov. McAuliffe directed DOE to form a working group to look at the growing need for virtual learning.
- The workgroup includes the patron of HB 8, a Virginia delegate, school divisions, MOP's, parents, VASS, VSBA, and other stakeholders of virtual learning. SOE and DOE staff held two formal meetings with the workgroup to seek input.
- Workgroup recommendations were presented to the Virtual Learning Advisory Committee in Oct. A report to the Gov. on options to further enhance virtual learning in the Commonwealth was submitted in Nov.
- New option identified: a regional approach by school divisions to provide full-time virtual education; HB 1764 based on this concept has been introduced.

# *Update on Petersburg*

- **Two of six schools now fully accredited.**
- **Leadership team in place; supported by a portion of the \$350,000 Executive Leadership Incentives state funding, which was also used in recruiting teachers.**
- **Community in Schools model being expanded to all schools with state funds.**
- **Exploring with higher education partners expanding Teacher Residency to Petersburg.**
- **Lottery funds pre-payment that began last fall helping the division with cash flow to pay priority obligations.**