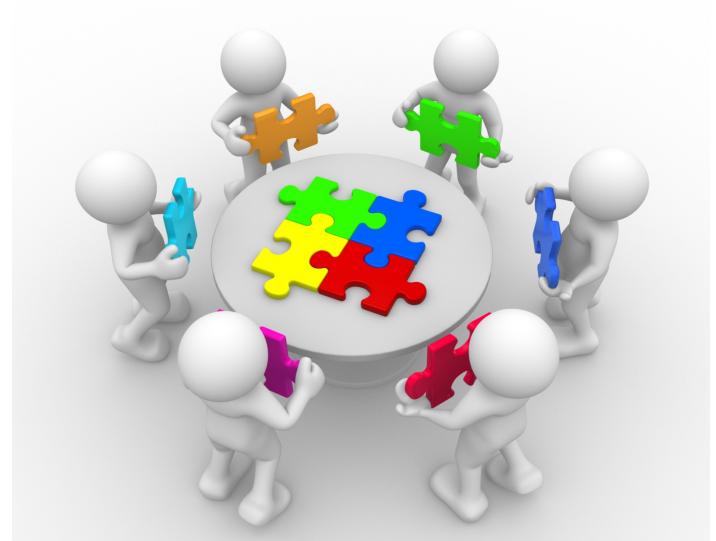


County and School Relations: Community Leaders — Common Goals November 10, 2014





Constitution of Virginia Excerpts

Article VIII, Section 1. Public schools of high quality to be maintained

 The General Assembly shall provide for a system of free public elementary and secondary schools for all children of school age throughout the Commonwealth, and shall seek to ensure that an educational program of high quality is established and continually maintained.

Constitution of Virginia Excerpts

Article VIII, Section 2. Standards of quality; State and local support of public schools

 Standards of quality for the several school divisions shall be determined and prescribed from time to time by the Board of Education . . . The General Assembly shall determine the manner in which funds are to be provided for the cost of maintaining an educational program meeting the prescribed standards of quality, and shall provide for the apportionment of the cost of such program between the Commonwealth and the local units of government comprising such school divisions. Each unit of local government shall provide its portion of such cost by local taxes or from other available funds.

Constitution of Virginia Excerpts

Article VIII, Section 7. School boards.

 ... to be composed of members selected in the manner, for the term, possessing the qualifications, and to the number provided by law § 22.1-28. Supervision of schools in each division vested in school board.

... supervision of schools in each school division shall be vested in a school board....
(1980, c. 559.)

§ 22.1-70. Powers and duties of superintendent generally.

• A division superintendent shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law, by the school board and by the State Board.

(Code 1950, § 22-36; 1980, c. 559.)

§ 22.1-79. Powers and duties of school boards.

- 1. School laws are properly explained, enforced and observed;
- Secure . . . as full information as possible about the conduct of the public schools . . .
- 3. Care for, manage and **control the property** of the school division . . .

§ 22.1-79. Powers and duties of school boards.

- 4. Provide for the consolidation of schools or redistricting of school boundaries...
- 5. ... operate and maintain the public schools in the school division and determine the length of the school term, the studies to be pursued, the methods of teaching ...
- 6. . . establish and administer . . . a grievance procedure . . .

§ 22.1-79. Powers and duties of School Boards.

- 7. Perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by the Board of Education or as are imposed by law
- 8. . . Obtain public comment . . .
- 9. . . . identify critical shortages of teachers and administrative personnel . . .
- 10. Ensure that the public schools within the school division are registered with the Department of State Police . . .

§ 22.1-89. Fund Management.

 Each school board shall manage and control the funds made available to the school boards for public schools and may incur costs and expenses.

§ 22.1-91: Limitation on Expenditures.

 No school board shall expend or contract to expend, in any fiscal year, any sum of money in excess of the funds available for school purposes for the fiscal year. . .

- § 22.1-92. Estimate of moneys needed for public schools; notice of costs to be distributed.
- It shall be the duty of each division superintendent to prepare, with the approval of the school board, and submit to the governing body or bodies appropriating funds for the school division, by the date specified in § 15.2-2503, the estimate of the amount of money deemed to be needed during the next fiscal year for the support of the public schools of the school division. The estimate shall set up the amount of money deemed to be needed for each major classification prescribed by the Board of Education and such other headings or items as may be necessary.

§ 22.1-94. Appropriations by county, city or town governing body for public schools.

 A governing body may make appropriations to a school board from the funds derived from local levies and from any other funds available, for operation, capital outlay and debt service in the public schools. Such appropriations shall be not less than the cost apportioned to the governing body for maintaining an educational program meeting the standards of quality for the several school divisions prescribed as provided by law. The amount appropriated by the governing body shall relate to its total only or to such major classifications prescribed by the Board of Education.

§ 22.1-253.13:1. Standard 1. Instructional programs supporting the Standards of Learning and other educational objectives.

 Local school boards shall develop and implement a program of instruction for grades K through 12 that is aligned to the Standards of Learning and meets or exceeds the requirements of the Board of Education.

Virginia Standards of Quality Excerpts

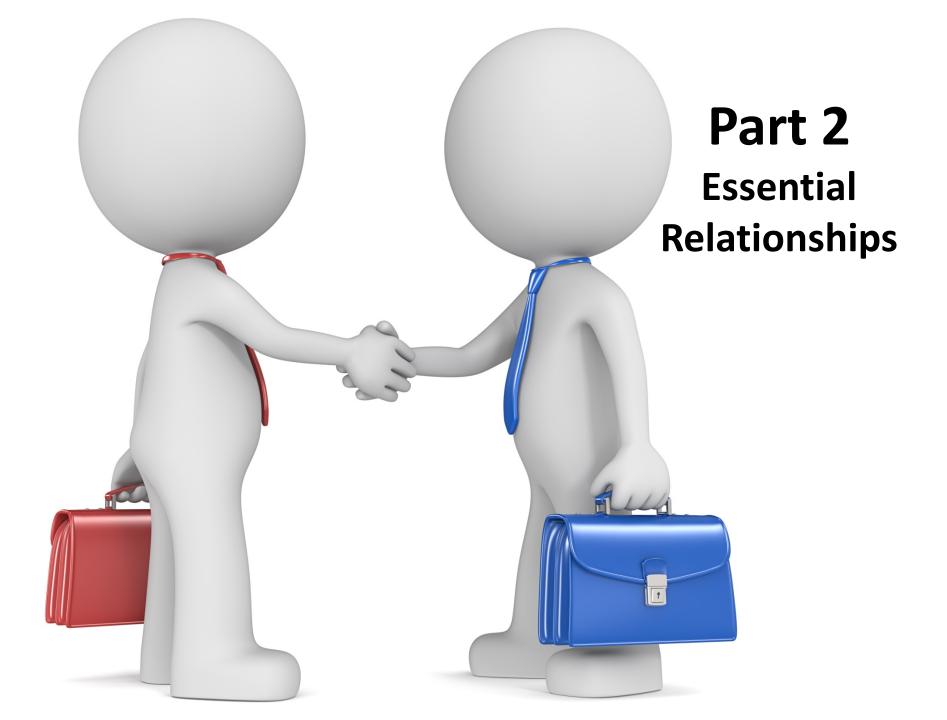
§ 22.1-253.13:2. Standard 2. Instructional, administrative, and support personnel.

• Each school board shall assign licensed instructional personnel in a manner that produces division-wide ratios of students in average daily membership to full-time equivalent teaching positions, excluding special education teachers, principals, assistant principals, counselors, and librarians, that are not greater than the following ratios.

Virginia Standards of Quality Excerpts

§ 22.1-253.13:3. Standard 3. Accreditation, other standards, assessments, and releases from state regulations

 Each local school board shall maintain schools that are fully accredited pursuant to the standards for accreditation as prescribed by the Board of Education.



The School Board and the Superintendent

- Public education is a state function governed locally by the political subdivision known as a school board
- State school authorities rely on the superintendent to exercise their supervision and control of the school system

The School Board and the Superintendent

- The superintendent is also a local officer in that he or she is the chief executive of the county school board through whom the board operates the local school system.
- His or her powers and duties as a state officer are defined and fixed by state law and the Board of Education and may not be altered or amended by the local board.

Division of Functions

- The school board performs the functions of the directors and directs.
- They form policy and legislate.
- They also review and evaluate the superintendent's work and hear appeals.

Division of Functions

- The superintendent performs the functions of the executive and executes.
- He or she is administrative.
- Neither the superintendent or the board usurps the duties of the other.

A Cooperative Enterprise

- The board and the superintendent do not act alone.
- Together with the state authorities, they must work harmoniously to serve pupils and the public while advancing state requirements and local expectations.
- The division and distribution of powers and duties provides for an efficient organization and increases the chances for success.

The School Budget

- The school budget frequently constitutes the largest single portion of total county budget.
- Preparing the budget is a cooperative effort between the superintendent and the school board; ideally, the preparation involves close communications with the county administrator, the board of supervisors, and the community.
- This educational plan provides an estimate of receipts and expenditures needed to operate the schools from July 1 to June 30 of each fiscal year.

The School Budget

- It includes:
 - Administration
 - Instruction
 - Food services
 - Transportation
 - Operation
 - Maintenance
 - Fixed charges

- Adult education
- Attendance and health
- Debt service
- Capital outlay
- Revenue plan

Board of Supervisors Relationships

- School boards may be appointed or elected in Virginia.
- They do not have the power to levy or collect taxes.
- They are dependent upon two elected bodies, the General Assembly and the governing body
- Obviously, relationships with these two bodies are very important

Board of Supervisors Relationships

In order to succeed with the governing body, the school board must be:

- Fully sold on the program.
- Be familiar with the program and the data supporting the budget request.
- Maintain the best possible relations with the appropriating body.
- Approach the appropriating body in a spirit of fairness and reasonableness.
- Recognize that they must consider the needs of the schools in connection with the needs of all of the other public business of the county.

Board of Supervisors Relationships

In order to succeed, they must both:

- Understand that relationships are not confined to the formal presentation of the budget.
- Recognize that the schools' success is a joint responsibility.
- Model the behavior that respect and trust is a two way street.

Questions?





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