

BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATION { X } ACTION { } CLOSED MEETING { }

SUBJECT: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - PRESENTATIONS/INFORMATION

Spring 2013 SOL Testing Update – Mr. Lancaster

BACKGROUND: 2012-2013 SOL school test results have been released by the Virginia Department of Education. Mr. Lancaster will review the school and division results and their implications for state accreditation and federal accountability.

**Bath County Public Schools
2012-2013 SOL Test Results**

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
English/Reading/Writing	Gr 3 English Reading	72	67		62	69
	Gr 4 English Reading	70	68		86	64
	Gr 5 English Reading	73	58		73	50
	Gr 6 English Reading	73	70		90	64
	Gr 7 English Reading	74	80		76	82
	Gr 8 English Reading	71	61	61		
	Gr 5 Writing	71	51		87	32
	Gr 8 Writing	70	63	63		
	English EOC Reading	89	82	82		
	EOC Writing	87	73	73		

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
Mathematics	Gr 3 Mathematics	65	49		54	47
	Gr 4 Mathematics	74	71		100	65
	Gr 5 Mathematics	69	60		100	39
	Gr 6 Mathematics	77	51		90	39
	Gr 7 Mathematics	61	50		24	64
	Gr 8 Mathematics	61	51	51		
	Algebra I	76	73	73		
	Algebra II	76	83	83		
	Geometry	76	78	78		

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
Science	Gr 3 Science	84	76		92	69
	Gr 5 Science	75	63		73	57
	Gr 8 Science	76	73	73		
	Earth Science	83	87	87		
	Biology	83	70	70		
	Chemistry	86	67	67		

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
History/Geography	Gr 3 History	87	76		92	69
	VA Studies	87	89		100	87
	US History I	83	84		100	75
	US History II	82	67		90	61
	Civics & Econ	85	88		100	81
	Geography	86	98	98		
	World History I	84	73	73		
	VA & US History	86	81	81		

Bath County Public Schools 2012-2013 SOL Test Results

Standards of Learning test results from the 2012-2013 school year have been released by the Virginia Department of Education. Virginia has continued through the past several years to strengthen both the content of state standards of learning and the assessment process that measures student progress on the standards. Tests for new mathematics standards were administered to students in the 2011-2012 school year, and more recently in 2012-2013, tests for new English and Science standards were administered to students for the first time.

Standards of Learning test results are important for students, schools, and school divisions. Student progress on SOL tests give students and their parents feedback as to how the student is progressing on state standards, and plays an important role in the student's access to remedial and advanced curricular programs. At the secondary level, verified credits (course and SOL test success) are required for graduation. School and school division success is measured in large part on the pass rates of students on SOL tests. State accreditation ratings consider core content (English/Math/Science/History) success on SOL tests (in addition to graduation rates), with benchmarks of 75% in English and 70% in Math, Science and History. Federal accountability focuses on English and Math achievement results (in addition to graduation rates), though require success not only for the total population, but also for subgroups including students with disabilities, limited English proficient students, ethnic groups and economically disadvantaged students. The Annual Measureable Objective (AMO) rate set at the federal level varies for the different subgroups, but the 2013-2014 overall required pass rate set for Reading is 64% and is 66% for Mathematics.

Test results in 2011-2012 across Virginia dropped in mathematics as a result of the new standards measured by new tests. In addition to the revised standards, the new tests also began to assess students using new technology-enhanced items that measure critical-thinking skills in addition to more basic content. Likewise, scores fell in 2012-2013 for new English/Reading and Science standards as measured by the new assessments that included technology-enhanced items. Dr. Patricia Wright, State Superintendent of Instruction for Virginia summed up the drop in scores by stating: "Virginia's public schools are beginning a new trend line with the implementation of more challenging standards and assessments. The goal is to build on the progress already made under the Standards of Learning program and ensure that all graduates possess the knowledge and skills needed for success in college and the workplace."

There was a similar drop in Math, English and Science test scores in Bath County with the new tests. Mathematics scores improved somewhat overall in the second year with the new tests, but not at Valley Elementary School. Although this past year's test results have not yet been fully analyzed by the Virginia Department of Education, it is likely that Valley Elementary will receive an "Accredited With Warning" status for 2013-14 as a result of low mathematics test scores. Likewise, the federal accountability system of Annual Measureable Objectives (AMO) will likely find later this fall that Valley Elementary did not meet all AMOs in mathematics in the total population and various subgroups. Bath's 2012-2013 English test scores generally fell below the state benchmark level, though state accreditation and federal

accountability were not jeopardized because (like most Virginia school divisions) the three year average was sufficient to meet requirements. Bath's 2012-2013 science scores dropped to a lesser degree, and were generally well-above requirements.

There were a number of positive outcomes noted on this past year's SOL test scores, including:

- Five of fifteen test subjects at BCHS had higher than 80 percent pass rates, including a 98 percent pass rate for World Geography.
- Ten of twelve high school end-of-course tests met state accreditation benchmarks.
- Twelve of eighteen test subjects at MES had higher than 80 percent pass rates, including five subjects with 100 percent pass rates.
- Fourteen of eighteen test subjects at MES met state benchmarks, including all science and history tests.
- History was the strength at VES, with two of five subjects at or above an 80 percent pass rate.



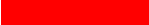
Staff at all three schools have revised their school improvement plans to focus on areas of need. There is important work to do at all county schools to ensure that all students are successful in their areas of study. A consultant from the Virginia Department of Education has been working with Valley Elementary staff and Jane Hall from Bath's central office to have plans in place to ensure successful progress for 2013-2014. The VES team will be monitoring student progress throughout the school year. A number of staff changes this school year should have a positive impact on student progress and school climate. Finally, the school division has several staff development initiatives underway that should contribute to improved student performance, including in particular:

- A third and final cohort group for the formative and summative assessment class.
- Reading curriculum consultants to assist with primary grade curriculum planning & instruction.
- Math curriculum consultants to evaluate K-12 mathematics curriculum & instruction.

We have much to do. Division staff are engaged in the school improvement process like never before, and are fully committed to the school division's mission to be the best for our students. We will work to sustain areas of strength, and are confident that improvements in student achievement will be evident as the school year unfolds.

Bath County Public Schools
2012-2013 SOL Test Results -- State Accreditation Emphasis*

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
English/Reading/Writing Benchmark = 75%	Gr 3 English Reading	72	67		62	69
	Gr 4 English Reading	70	68		86	64
	Gr 5 English Reading	73	58		73	50
	Gr 6 English Reading	73	70		90	64
	Gr 7 English Reading	74	80		76	82
	Gr 8 English Reading	71	61	61		
	Gr 5 Writing	71	51		87	32
	Gr 8 Writing	70	63	63		
	English EOC Reading	89	82	82		
	EOC Writing	87	73	73		

 Meets Accreditation Level - Current Year
 Meets Accreditation Level - 3 Year Average
 Does not Meet Accreditation Level

Bath County Public Schools
2012-2013 SOL Test Results -- State Accreditation Emphasis*

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
Mathematics Benchmark = 70%	Gr 3 Mathematics	65	49		54	47
	Gr 4 Mathematics	74	71		100	65
	Gr 5 Mathematics	69	60		100	39
	Gr 6 Mathematics	77	51		90	39
	Gr 7 Mathematics	61	50		24	64
	Gr 8 Mathematics	61	51	51		
	Algebra I	76	73	73		
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	Gr 8 Science	76	73	73		
	Earth Science	83	87	87		
	Biology	83	70	70		
	Chemistry	86	67	67		

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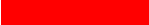
**Bath County Public Schools
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	Geography	86	98	98		
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 Meets Accreditation Level - 3 Year Average
 Does not Meet Accreditation Level

Bath County Public Schools
2012-2013 SOL Test Results -- State Accreditation Emphasis*

Subject	Benchmark	BCHS	MES	VES
English	75	69	78	63
Mathematics	70	73	70	55
Science	70	76	82	64
History	70	87	97	76

 Meets Accreditation Level - Current Year
 Meets Accreditation Level - 3 Year Average
 Does not Meet Accreditation Level

Bath County Public Schools
2012-2013 SOL Test Results -- Federal Accountability Emphasis

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
Reading "All Student" AMO = 66%	Gr 3 English Reading	72	67		62	69
	Gr 4 English Reading	70	68		86	64
	Gr 5 English Reading	73	58		73	50
	Gr 6 English Reading	73	70		90	64
	Gr 7 English Reading	74	80		76	82
	Gr 8 English Reading	71	61	61		
	English EOC Reading	89	82	82		

Meets AMO - Current Year
 Meets AMO - 3 Year Average
 Does not Meet AMO

Bath County Public Schools
2012-2013 SOL Test Results -- Federal Accountability Emphasis

Subject	Test	Pass Rate (%)				
		Virginia	BCPS	BCHS	MES	VES
Mathematics "All Student" AMO = 64%	Gr 3 Mathematics	65	49		54	47
	Gr 4 Mathematics	74	71		100	65
	Gr 5 Mathematics	69	60		100	39
	Gr 6 Mathematics	77	51		90	39
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	Algebra I	76	73	73		
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Meets AMO - Current Year
 Meets AMO - 3 Year Average
 Does not Meet AMO