

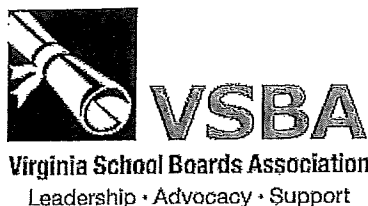
BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

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

SUBJECT: ITEMS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

**BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
VSBA MEETINGS & CONFERENCES
2018 UPCOMING EVENTS**

| | |
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| | |
| August 22, 2018, Wednesday 1 to 2 PM | Webinar (free) The Captive Alternative Health Plan Public Schools Join Forces to Stabilize Costs |
| | |
| September 20, 2018, Thursday 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM | Legislative Advocacy Conference Charlottesville, VA |
| | |
| September 27, 2018, Thursday 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM | VSBA Board Governance Meeting VSBA Office/Charlottesville, VA Mandatory Board Attendance |
| | |
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MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

FREE WEBINAR: The Captive Alternative Health Plan- Public Schools Join Forces to Stabilize Costs August 22, 2018

[Schedule](#)

[Annual Convention](#)

[Capital Conference](#)

[Capital Conference Handouts](#)

[Clerks Workshop](#)

[Clerks Workshop Handouts](#)

[Conference on Education](#)

[Conference on Education 2018 Presentation Book](#)

[Hot Topic Conferences](#)

[Southwest Hot Topic Conference Materials](#)

[April Hot Topic Conference Handouts](#)

[Legislative Advocacy Conference](#)

[Legislative Advocacy Conference Handouts](#)

[Orientation for New Board Members, Superintendents, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen](#)

[Orientation Handouts](#)

[Regional Spring Network Forums](#)

[School Law Conference](#)

[Law Conference Handouts](#)

[Superintendent Evaluation Workshop](#)

[Title IX Workshop](#)

[Webinars - "Live"](#)

[Webinars - "On Demand"](#)

[Refund Policy](#)

For many school divisions, providing health insurance to their employees is the second highest cost behind payroll. It is also the fastest rising cost and the one they feel they have the least control over. A group Captive is designed to address the biggest concerns of divisions when considering self-funding—volatility and risk.

Join BPA to learn about how the Captive alternative plan works, and to learn about the benefits and rewards current clients are seeing.

Reserve your webinar seat [here!](#)

Cost: FREE

Date and Time: August 22, 2018 1-2:00PM

Presenter: Charles Clement, CLU, CPCU, Captive Advisor, Elite Captive Strategies



VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference

September 20, 2018

DoubleTree by Hilton Charlottesville
990 Hilton Heights Road
Charlottesville, VA

Join us for our 2018 Legislative Advocacy Conference!

This conference will focus on school safety, equity, and legislative and advocacy topics to better prepare you for the 2019 General Assembly session. You will hear directly from legislators, school leaders and the department of education on equity in rural schools. The conference will also include a presentation of the 2018 VSBA Legislative Award of Excellence. Don't miss your chance to network with your school board colleagues and state policy makers and learn how to make your voice more effective in Richmond.

We hope that you will register today for what will be an exciting conference!

Workshop Agenda

- 8:30** Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00** Welcome
Beth Hardy, Legislative Positions/Federal Relations Committee Chair
Virginia School Boards Association
- 9:05** School Safety
Brian Moran, Secretary, Virginia Public Safety and Homeland Security
Donna P. Michaelis, Manager, Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety
- 10:05** Equity in Rural Schools
• Legislator Panel Discussion
Delegate Steve Landes
Delegate Terry Kilgore
- 10:45** Break
- 11:00** Equity in Rural Schools (continued)
• School Leaders Panel Discussion
David Woodard, School Board Member, Tazewell County Public Schools
Dr. Keith Perrigan, Superintendent, Bristol City Public Schools
Dr. Kelly Wilmore, Superintendent, Grayson County Public Schools
• Broadband Access
Rodney Jordan, School Board Member, Norfolk City Public Schools
Bobby Keener, Chief Technology Innovations Officer, VDOE
Dr. Susan Clair, Learning Infrastructure Coordinator, VDOE
- 12:00** Presentation of the 2018 VSBA Legislative Award of Excellence
- 12:15** Prep for the 2019 General Assembly Session
Jeremy Bennett, Government Relations Specialist, Virginia School Boards Association
Stacy Haney, Lobbyist, Virginia School Boards Association
- 1:00** Lunch & Adjournment



Rivanna Ridge Professional Building
200 Hansen Road, Suite 2
Charlottesville, VA 22911

www.vsba.org | 434-295-8722 | 800-446-8722

DoubleTree by
Hilton
Charlottesville
Hotel



A block of rooms has been reserved at the DoubleTree by Hilton Charlottesville for the night of September 19th. Please make your hotel reservations directly by calling 1-800-222-TREE. Inform the reservation staff you are attending the conference to receive a special rate of \$126 (single or double).

The deadline for the reserved block is August 19th, 2018. If reservations exceed the block number, or are made after the August 19th deadline, the discounted rate is not guaranteed. Please make your reservations by this date.

Questions?

Contact
Jessica Blythe at
jessica@vsba.org

Fill out the registration form below or register for the conference online:

[https://ams.embr.mobi/Events/Registration/Wizard/EventDetails.aspx?
C=ifON&EID=GJEG](https://ams.embr.mobi/Events/Registration/Wizard/EventDetails.aspx?C=ifON&EID=GJEG)

Reminder: Nametags
must be visible to be
admitted to ALL VSBA
meetings and conferences.

Thank you to our sponsor:



Register Online
www.vsba.org



Registration Form

Name _____

Division _____

School Board Member

Superintendent

Other _____

2018 VSBA LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

No refunds will be made after September 6th except in the case of personal illness. All requests for refunds must be made to the VSBA president in writing signed by the board chair certifying a personal illness. Registrations made after September 6th will incur a \$50 late fee.

Please return this form with your payment to:
VSBA
200 Hansen Road, Suite 2
Charlottesville, VA 22911

Costs:

Registration: \$165
Late Fee: \$215 (after September 6th)

The following article, written by George A. Goens, originally appeared in ASBJ in February 2017, copyright 2017, National School Boards Association. All rights reserved. It is reprinted with permission.

School Boards as Stewards

School board members are stewards of the principles of public education

In most of our lifetimes, public schools were seen as the bedrock of our nation and a source of pride for our communities. They were places to realize the American dream, where the playing field could be leveled and children could pursue their aspirations and have a life better than their parents.

The idea, which is uniquely American in many respects, was that it didn't matter where you came from or who your parents were. Neither did your race, ethnicity or socio-economic status. What mattered was hard work and perseverance to learn and hone abilities and contribute to the future.

Free public schools nourished the concept that what you know matters more than who you know. Common people coupled with an education, talent, and drive could counter social status and elitist contacts based on wealth or position. Only in America is there a Fanfare for the Common Man, instead of fanfares for some inherited royalty or elitist privilege. Public education celebrated the possibilities in the "common" diverse citizenry.

Stewardship

Local school board members are stewards of the principles of public education. Stewardship rests on responsibility, a sense of the future, and a commitment to the common good. As citizens holding elective office, board members have a responsibility to take long term care of the public schools and protect the community's investment and the interests of children. They should leave the schools in better condition than they were prior to their holding office. Making difficult and unpopular decisions today so the schools are better tomorrow is the role of a steward.

Stewards add value to the community, rather than diminish it. Board members interested in their own self-interest of getting re-elected can compromise stewardship for expediency or their own popularity. Only in looking back do we realize which public officials, from presidents to school board members, have been good stewards.

Inquiry is the foundation for stewardship. The board must ask questions and inquire into the principles behind proposals, the research base to support them, the reasons for and the costs of initiatives, and the expected results and accountability procedures to ensure proper implementation and outcomes.

Sometimes educational and political decisions overlap and local boards must be able to rise above local, state, or national politics to do what is best for children in their local community.

Stewardship requires courage to face special interests, the economically connected, the politically powerful, and the criticism of pundits and the press. Some board members and superintendents are cowardly lions in the face of economic, social and political pressures. Doing what is expedient takes less courage than doing what is right. Decisions and pressure are a part of public life, but those decisions should look to the future and support core values and the common good.

Running schools is not easy or always efficient. Democratic governance never is. But it is better than elites or corporations deciding the future of our children and the education they receive. Marketing is not synonymous with results and reformers are not always interested in the common good. Locally elected school boards epitomize what the founders believed. Democracy, while not perfect, is preferable to self-interest and the control of corporations or special interests.

Public schools are an indispensable foundation of our democratic society. Keeping public schools democratic, rather than agents of corporations or partisan politics, is absolutely essential.

Important Debates

What boards debate about and how they do it is an indicator of whether they are in touch with the essence of the school's purpose and soul. The focus of the debate defines their efficacy as a group. Discussing the issues in the form of dialogue generates understanding and better comprehension of the basic assumptions behind different options and the thinking and values behind them. Dialogue is an essential component of stewardship.

Dialogue allows people to see divergent points of view and respectfully consider options. Listening actively and clarifying for understanding are important. Dialogue is more than a discussion. It involves reflecting together, understanding the content and intent of messages and ideas, inquiring into the assumptions behind concepts and proposals, suspending judgment and ultimately creating shared meaning.

Determining a collective vision for the public schools requires open and respectful dialogue. Obviously one standard is that "the best interests of the children" be the determining factor. Obviously, resources are not unlimited, local or political issues affect decisions, and when a decision is made, everyone will not be happy.

Board members must ask thoughtful questions and do due diligence as part of their responsibilities to the citizenry. They must find common ground and positive connections in the school community by establishing clear values and principles under which the school district operates.

Whether a school community is true to itself is a matter of integrity. To be a good steward of the public education, board members have to ensure the honor of the school district by making its actions, words, and programs congruent with its core values and principles. All this presupposes the board and the community have a dialogue about the schools and the ideas under which they function. Dialogue on principles is positive and can instigate growth.

The common good through strong schools should be the [school board's] primary focus. Citizenship emphasizes responsibilities and obligations. Service, responsibility, duty, and honor almost sound like anachronistic ideas from the past. But they are the mainstays of the common good and the sense of community that are necessary for society to work. The values, ideals, and principles under which schools operate are the core that gives people a sense of identity and purpose.

Communities are value-based; politics are power-based; and the private sector is profit-based. The public has become cynical about government, which is a dangerous trend, particularly as the younger generation hears repeatedly that government does not work and that it cannot be trusted. It does not work if special interests are served and the interests of the people are ignored.

The old adage -- wisdom is knowing what you don't know -- applies to board members. Wise ones know what they need to learn. School districts are complex places fiscally, educationally, organizationally and culturally. Board members need to understand the large and subtle issues of school districts before taking action. New members must take time to sort out what they know and don't know. Grasping technical and policy questions takes time and work. There is a significant difference between opinion and knowledge, and information and understanding. Knowledge and understanding are prerequisites for responsible decision-making.

Good public servants understand what is controllable and what is not. Otherwise, policies and planning can be compromised. Stewardship and accountability are the foundations of public officials and not necessarily at the forefront with privatization.

The heart of stewardship is valuing what a school is and what it can mean to children. Board members must protect the soul of the school from the dark entrapments that can destroy schools and turn them into mere institutions, complete with standard operating procedures and no heart.

To do that, communities must elect people with deep passion for children and the courage to stand on the point and advocate for them. There is no greater public service than to improve the condition of children. To do so, school board members must be committed to the ideals and values of public education.

If you have any questions about this Policy Page, please call Elizabeth Ewing at 434-295-8722.