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Update on the VDOE's Virtual Virginia Program and Work Plan for the Establishment of Virtual School Programs

House Appropriations Committee

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and Adult Education

June 20, 2011



Virtual Virginia

- Provide access to high quality and rigorous Advanced Placement and World Language courses
- Develop innovative, cutting edge coursework for state and local use (e.g. Economics and Personal Finance)
- Supported by state funding and local share tuition



Enrollment

- Students from 115 divisions and 250 middle and high schools enrolled in 2010-2011
- 6,439 half-credit enrollments in 2010-2011
- Virtual Virginia has served over 13,000 students since its inception in 2002



Advanced Placement Course Offerings

Art History

Biology

Calculus AB

Calculus BC

Chemistry

Computer Science A

English Language
and Composition

English Literature
and Composition

Latin Literature

Physics B

Psychology

Spanish Language

Statistics

U.S. History

World History

Chinese

Environmental
Science

Government and Politics:
Comparative

Macroeconomics

Microeconomics

Government and
Politics: U.S.

Human Geography

European History

French Language
and Composition



Non-Advanced Placement Course Offerings

Economics and Personal Finance*

Arabic I

Chemistry (Honors)

Chinese I

Chinese II

Chinese III

Chinese IV

Creative Writing

Earth Science

Earth Science II: Astronomy

Latin I

Latin II

Latin III

Latin IV

Physics (Honors)

Pre-Calculus and Math Analysis

Spanish I

Spanish II

Spanish III

Survey of World Languages

World Mythology



Establishment of Virtual School Programs

(§ 22.1-212.24, A. and B.)

- Board of Education approved the following processes related to multidivision online providers:
 - criteria and application process for approval
 - process for monitoring approved providers
 - process for denial/revocation of previously approved providers
 - appeals process for denied/revoked providers
- Superintendent of Public Instruction shall require criteria for approval in the following areas:
 - MOP accreditation by national, regional or state accreditation programs
 - programs, standards or curriculum meet /exceed Standards of Learning (SOL) and Standards of Accreditation (SOA)
 - assessment of pupil performance shall meet SOA and all applicable federal and state laws
 - programs maintain minimum staffing requirements



Establishment of Virtual School Programs

(§ 22.1-212.24 C.; § 22.1-212.25; § 22.1-212.26; § 22.1-212.27)

- Local school boards may enter into contracts with approved providers
 - contracts are exempt from the Virginia Public Procurement Act
 - local school boards shall post courses/offerings by July 1
- Superintendent of Public Instruction shall develop model policies/procedures for division use
- Teachers who deliver instruction shall be licensed in Virginia
- Students taking an online course shall be enrolled in a public school
- Board of Education will report to Governor and General Assembly on program progress by November 1, 2011



Criteria for Approval of Multidivisional Online Providers

Approved by Virginia Board of Education on
November 18, 2010

- Organizational requirements
- Staffing requirements for teachers and administrators
- Data reporting requirements
- Accountability requirements
- Curriculum and Instruction requirements
- Technology requirements



The Application Process

- The initial application window was open from February 1 to March 3, 2011
- Application consists of Parts I (Affidavit), II (Program Profile), III (Program Meeting Criteria), IV (Program Description), and Standards of Learning Course Correlations forms



14 Applications Received

- Apex Learning
- Brigham Young University
- Chesterfield County Public Schools
 - CompuHigh
 - Connections Academy
 - EdOptions Online
 - Edison Learning
 - Education 2020
 - Florida Virtual Schools
 - Giant Campus
 - Jefferson County High School
 - K-12 Virtual Schools
- Virtual High School Global Consortium
 - York County Public Schools



Application Review Process

- Primary review teams: expertise in curriculum, instruction, online learning, counseling support, assessment and accountability, finance, staff quality, data collection, and technology
- Secondary review: conducted by organizations with expertise in standards correlations
- Per 22.1-212. 24 A., the Superintendent of Public Instruction made final decision regarding approval of providers and course offerings



Approval Contingencies

Approved providers must return documentation to ensure that:

- Each teacher is licensed and highly qualified in accordance with *Code of Virginia* Section 22.1-212.26; Program directors shall have a masters degree and experience with virtual programs
- Documentation is provided that curriculum/program meets standards of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)



Approval Contingencies

Approved providers must return documentation to ensure that:

- The content of each course is rigorous and meets Virginia's Standards of Learning and Standards of Accreditation requirements



Approval

- Applicants notified of their approval status on May 5, 2011
- Conditions and list of approved courses included
- Providers received detailed course content correlation forms
- Formal appeals process (no appeals were made)
- Informational webinar conducted on May 10, 2011
- Revised applications may be submitted (primarily SOL correlations) for further review



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 - K-12 Virtual Schools
- Virtual High School Global Consortium
 - York County Public Schools
- Jefferson County High School (not approved)



Program Implementation

- Approved providers may enter into multidivision online provider contracts with school divisions
- Superintendent of Public Instruction will provide model policies and procedures to divisions
- Instruction may not begin until all approval conditions are met
- List of approved providers and approved courses were made available on the VDOE Web site on June 6, 2011



Implementation/Project Review

- Divisions' posting of offerings/ requirements by July 1, 2011
- Implement monitoring process
- Prepare annual report for Governor and General Assembly



Implementation/Project Review

- Conduct review of application and implementation process
- Revise implementation process as needed
- Open window for additional applications (January 2012)
- Repeat review/approval process



Review Programmatic Data/Trends

- Student demographics
- Course enrollment
- Parental satisfaction
- Aggregated student course completion/passing rates
- Activities and outcomes of course
- Provider approval reviews
- Fiscal data



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