Loretta Page

From: Gina Patterson <gina@vsba.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 12:39 PM
To: Gina Patterson
Subject: News Release - VDOE Directs 485 Schools to Implement Plans toNarrow Achievement Gaps
Attachments: 10_10_AMOs.pdf

For Immediate Release: October 10, 2012

Contact: Charles B. Pyle, Director of Communications, (804) 371-2420
Julie C. Grimes, Communications Manager, (804) 225-2775

VDOE Directs 485 Schools to Implement Plans to Narrow Achievement Gaps

Low-performing Schools Focus of Accountability under Virginia NCLB Waiver

The Virginia Department of Education is directing 485 schools to develop and implement improvement plans to raise the achievement of student subgroups that fell short of federal annual measurable objectives (AMOs) in reading and mathematics. The AMOs and related accountability requirements were established by the state Board of Education as part of the commonwealth's No Child Left Behind (NCLB) flexibility waiver.

In addition, 36 schools designated as "Priority" schools must engage state-approved turnaround partners to help design and implement school-reform models meeting state and federal requirements. The NCLB flexibility program announced in September 2011 by the Obama administration requires states to designate the lowest-performing five percent of Title I and Title I-eligible schools as Priority schools. Six of Virginia's Priority schools met all AMOs but are designated as Priority schools because they were already working with turnaround partners under the federal School Improvement Grant program.

Status	Met All Requirements*	Priority Schools*	Focus Schools	Improvement Plan Required	New Schools	Total
Number of Schools	1,241	36	72	485	8	1,836

** Six "Priority Schools" also "Met All Requirements" and are included in both column counts.*

Another 72 "Focus" schools — representing 10 percent of Virginia's Title I schools — must employ a state-approved coach to help develop, implement and monitor intervention strategies to improve student performance.

"Relief from unworkable federal mandates is welcome but there must be no retreat from the goal of closing the achievement gap," Governor Robert F. McDonnell said. "Every student has a right to attend a school where expectations for learning are high and there is accountability for results."

The AMOs represent the percentage of students within each demographic subgroup that must pass Standards of Learning (SOL) tests in reading and mathematics in order to make what the state board and US Department of Education define as acceptable progress toward reducing achievement gaps over six years.

"The waivers from NCLB mandates granted by the Obama administration to Virginia and other states mark a dramatic shift in federal education policy," Superintendent of Public Instruction Patricia I. Wright said. "We are now able to target school turnaround efforts and resources on those schools where students truly are falling behind."

The AMOs are intended as yearly progress measures for low-performing schools; higher-performing schools are expected to maintain or improve upon current pass rates. High schools must also meet a benchmark for graduation.

Starting points for the 2012-2013 accountability year are based on the actual pass rates of student subgroups in low-performing schools on the 2010-2011 SOL reading assessments and on the rigorous 2011-2012 mathematics SOL tests.

"Over the next six years, the lowest-performing students will be expected to make the greatest gains," Board of Education President David M. Foster said. "The benchmarks are challenging but achievable and reflect the board's firm belief that all students are capable of meeting Virginia's rigorous standards."

Eighteen schools must implement improvement plans solely because of achievement in mathematics and performance on the new mathematics SOL tests was a factor in 45 other schools that did not meet all AMOs.

Achievement in reading is the sole reason improvement plans are required for 393 schools, and reading was a factor in 44 schools that did not meet all requirements.

Sixty-eight percent, or 1,241 of the commonwealth's 1,836 schools met all of the benchmarks in reading, mathematics and graduation, as did 34 of Virginia's 132 school divisions. These divisions are:

- Accomack County
- Albemarle County
- Amelia County
- Bland County
- Chesapeake
- Colonial Beach
- Colonial Heights
- Craig County
- Essex County
- Gloucester County
- Goochland County
- Grayson County
- Halifax County
- Highland County
- King William County
- Martinsville
- Mecklenburg County
- Montgomery County
- Norton
- Orange County
- Patrick County
- Pittsylvania County
- Poquoson
- Powhatan County
- Radford
- Rappahannock County
- Richmond County
- Russell County
- Scott County
- Spotsylvania County
- Stafford County
- Surry County
- West Point
- York County

The Board of Education used actual subgroup pass rates in schools representative of the lowest-achieving as starting points in setting the objectives. The AMOs vary because subgroups performed at different levels on the 2010-2011 SOL reading tests and on the 2011-2012 mathematics SOL tests. Each annual measurable objective provides a goal for improvement for students in these schools that builds on current performance.

The board is scheduled to vote on October 25 on mathematics AMOs for assessment years 2012-2013 through 2016-2017 that culminate with all subgroups expected to achieve pass rates of at least 73 percent. Reading AMOs for assessment years 2012-2013 through 2016-2017 will be based on results from the more rigorous reading SOL tests students take for the first time this year.

Priority Schools

The schools identified as Priority schools (with the six meeting all AMOs designated with *), by division, are:

- Alexandria — Jefferson-Houston Elementary and T.C. Williams High
- Brunswick County — James S. Russell Middle
- Colonial Beach — Colonial Beach High*
- Danville — J.M. Langston Focus School
- Franklin — Joseph P. King Jr. Middle
- Grayson County — Fries School
- Hampton — Jane H. Bryan Elementary
- Hopewell — Hopewell High
- King and Queen County — Central High
- Newport News — Newsome Park Elementary and Sedgefield Elementary
- Norfolk — Lake Taylor Middle, Lindenwood Elementary, Tidewater Park Elementary and William H. Ruffner Middle
- Northampton County — Kiptopeke Elementary and Northampton High
- Petersburg — A.P. Hill Elementary, J.E.B. Stuart Elementary*, Peabody Middle and Vernon Johns Junior High*
- Prince Edward County — Prince Edward County High
- Richmond — Armstrong High, Elkhardt Middle, Fred D. Thompson Middle, Henderson Middle, John Marshall High, Martin Luther King Jr. Middle, Richmond Alternative and Thomas C. Boushall Middle*
- Roanoke — Lincoln Terrace Elementary*, Westside Elementary* and William Fleming High
- Sussex County — Ellen W. Chambliss Elementary and Sussex Central Middle

Focus Schools

The schools identified as Focus schools, by division, are:

- Alexandria — John Adams Elementary and Patrick Henry Elementary
- Amherst County — Madison Heights Elementary
- Arlington County — Barrett Elementary, Campbell Elementary and Drew Model Elementary
- Augusta County — Edward G. Clymore Elementary
- Bedford County — Bedford Elementary, Bedford Primary, Big Island Elementary and Body Camp Elementary
- Campbell County — Altavista Elementary, Brookneal Elementary and Rustburg Elementary
- Chesterfield County — Crestwood Elementary
- Culpeper County — Pearl Sample Elementary and Sycamore Park Elementary
- Danville — Schoolfield Elementary
- Fairfax County — Annandale Terrace Elementary and Forestdale Elementary
- Fauquier County — Margaret M. Pierce Elementary
- Fluvanna County — Carysbrook Elementary, Central Elementary, Columbia Elementary and Cunningham Elementary
- Franklin — S.P. Morton Elementary
- Frederick County — Indian Hollow Elementary
- Fredericksburg — Hugh Mercer Elementary and Lafayette Upper Elementary
- Greene County — Greene County Primary and Nathanael Greene Elementary
- Greensville County — Greensville Elementary
- Hampton — Alfred S. Forrest Elementary, Cesar Tarrant Elementary and John B. Cary Elementary
- Hanover County — Elmont Elementary
- King George County — Sealston Elementary
- Loudoun County — Guilford Elementary, Rolling Ridge Elementary and Sugarland Elementary
- Louisa County — Moss-Nuckols Elementary
- Lunenburg County — Victoria Elementary
- Lynchburg — Heritage Elementary, Paul Munro Elementary and Robert S. Payne Elementary
- Manassas — Jennie Dean Elementary and Richard C. Haydon Elementary
- Martinsville — Albert Harris Elementary
- New Kent County — George W. Watkins Elementary
- Newport News — Carver Elementary, L.F. Palmer Elementary and Magruder Elementary
- Norfolk — Jacox Elementary, Lafayette-Winona Middle, P.B. Young Sr. Elementary and Sherwood Forest Elementary
- Northampton County — Occohannock Elementary
- Northumberland County — Northumberland Elementary

- Nottoway County — Blackstone Primary and Crewe Primary
- Page County — Luray Elementary
- Prince Edward County — Prince Edward Elementary
- Prince William County — Elizabeth Vaughan Elementary, Suella G. Ellis Elementary, West Gate Elementary and Yorkshire Elementary
- Richmond — Binford Middle
- Shenandoah County — W.W. Robinson Elementary
- Smyth County — Marion Intermediate and Marion Primary
- Stafford County — Rocky Run Elementary
- Staunton — Bessie Weller Elementary

Improvement Plan Required

The 485 schools required to implement improvement plans, by division, are:

- Accomack County — Arcadia High, Arcadia Middle and Nandua Middle
- Albemarle County — Baker-Butler Elementary, Brownsville Elementary, Mary Carr Greer Elementary, Stone Robinson Elementary and Woodbrook Elementary
- Alexandria — Charles Barrett Elementary, Francis Hammond 3 Middle, George Mason Elementary, George Washington 2 Middle, George Washington Middle, James K. Polk Elementary, Maury Elementary, Mount Vernon Elementary and Samuel W. Tucker Elementary
- Alleghany County — Boiling Spring Elementary and Sharon Elementary
- Amherst County — Amelon Elementary, Amherst County High, Amherst Middle, Elon Elementary and Pleasant View Elementary
- Appomattox County — Appomattox County High and Appomattox Middle
- Arlington County — Carlin Springs Elementary, Francis Scott Key Elementary, Gunston Middle, Hoffman-Boston Elementary, Jefferson Middle, Kenmore Middle, Randolph Elementary, Tuckahoe Elementary, Wakefield High and Washington-Lee High
- Augusta County — Beverley Manor Middle, Buffalo Gap High, Churchville Elementary, Guy K. Stump Elementary, North River Elementary, Riverheads Elementary, S. Gordon Stewart Middle and Verona Elementary
- Bath County — Bath County High and Valley Elementary
- Bedford County — Bedford Middle, Goodview Elementary, Huddleston Elementary, Montvale Elementary, Staunton River Middle, Stewartsville Elementary and Thaxton Elementary
- Bland County — Bland High
- Bristol — Highland View Elementary, Virginia High, Virginia Middle and Washington-Lee Elementary
- Brunswick County — Brunswick High
- Buchanan County — Council Elementary/Middle, Council High, J.M. Bevins Elementary, Riverview Elementary/Middle, Russell Prater Elementary, Twin Valley Elementary/Middle and Twin Valley High
- Buckingham County — Buckingham County High
- Buena Vista — Enderly Heights Elementary, F.W. Kling Jr. Elementary, Parry McCluer High and Parry McCluer Middle
- Campbell County — Brookville High, Rustburg Middle and William Campbell High
- Caroline County — Caroline High, Caroline Middle and Madison Elementary
- Carroll County — Carroll County High, Virginia Virtual Academy, Gladesboro Elementary and Hillsville Elementary
- Charles City County — Charles City County Elementary
- Charlotte County — Randolph-Henry High
- Charlottesville — Buford Middle, Charlottesville High and Walker Upper Elementary
- Chesapeake — Deep Creek High, Grassfield High, Indian River High and Oscar F. Smith High
- Chesterfield County — C.C. Wells Elementary, Chesterfield Community High, Falling Creek Middle, J.G. Hening Elementary, Lloyd C. Bird High, Manchester High, Meadowbrook High, Monacan High, Providence Middle, Salem Church Elementary, Salem Church Middle, Thelma Crenshaw Elementary and Thomas Dale High
- Clarke County — Boyce Elementary and D.G. Cooley Elementary
- Covington — Covington High, Edgemont Primary and Jeter-Watson Intermediate
- Craig County — McCleary Elementary
- Culpeper County — Culpeper County High and Eastern View High
- Cumberland County — Cumberland Elementary and Cumberland Middle
- Danville — George Washington High, Irvin W. Taylor Elementary, O. Trent Bonner Middle and Westwood Middle
- Dickenson County — Ervinton Elementary, Longs Fork Elementary and Sandlick Elementary
- Dinwiddie County — Dinwiddie Elementary, Dinwiddie High and Dinwiddie Middle

- Fairfax County — Annandale High, Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences, Beech Tree Elementary, Bren Mar Park Elementary, Bryant Alternative High, Clearview Elementary, Crestwood Elementary, Dranesville Elementary, Edison High, Fairfax County Adult High, Fort Hunt Elementary, Freedom Hill Elementary, Glasgow Middle, Herndon Elementary, Herndon High, Hutchison Elementary, Lee High, Marshall High, McLean High, Mount Vernon High, Mount Vernon Woods Elementary, Mountain View Alternative High, Pine Spring Elementary, Saratoga Elementary, South Lakes High, Stuart High, West Potomac High, West Springfield High and Woodlawn Elementary
- Falls Church — Mary Ellen Henderson Middle
- Fauquier County — Claude Thompson Elementary, Fauquier High, H.M. Pearson Elementary, James G. Brumfield Elementary, Liberty High, Marshall Middle, Mary Walter Elementary, W.C. Taylor Middle and Warrenton Middle
- Floyd County — Floyd County High
- Fluvanna County — Fluvanna Middle
- Franklin — Franklin High
- Franklin County — Franklin County High
- Frederick County — Bass-Hoover Elementary, Frederick County Middle, James Wood High, James Wood Middle, Millbrook High, Orchard View Elementary and Stonewall Elementary
- Galax — Galax Elementary and Galax High
- Giles County — Giles High, Macy McClaugherty Elementary/Middle and Narrows High
- Grayson County — Baywood Elementary and Grayson Highlands
- Greene County — Ruckersville Elementary
- Greensville County — Edward W. Wyatt Middle and Greensville County High
- Halifax County — Halifax County Middle and South Boston Elementary
- Hampton — Benjamin Syms Middle, Booker Elementary, C. Alton Lindsay Middle, Captain John Smith Elementary, George P. Phenix Elementary, Hampton High, Hunter B. Andrews PK-8 School, Jefferson Davis Middle, Kecoughtan High, Paul Burbank Elementary, Phoebus High, Samuel P. Langley Elementary, Thomas Eaton Middle and Tucker-Capps Elementary
- Hanover County — Battlefield Park Elementary, Hanover High and Lee Davis High
- Harrisonburg — Harrisonburg High, Skyline Middle and Thomas Harrison Middle
- Henrico County — Anthony P. Mehfoud Elementary, Brookland Middle, Cashell Donahoe Elementary, Douglas S. Freeman High, Elko Middle, Fairfield Middle, George H. Moody Middle, Harvie Elementary, Henrico High, Hermitage High, Highland Springs High, John Randolph Tucker High, John Rolfe Middle, L. Douglas Wilder Middle, Lakeside Elementary, Montrose Elementary, Ridge Elementary, Ruby F. Carver Elementary, Seven Pines Elementary, Varina Elementary and Varina High
- Henry County — Bassett High
- Hopewell — Carter G. Woodson Middle
- Isle of Wight County — Smithfield High
- King and Queen County — Lawson-Marriott Elementary
- King George County — King George High
- King William County — Hamilton Holmes Middle
- Lancaster County — Lancaster Middle
- Lee County — Elk Knob Elementary, Flatwoods Elementary, Jonesville Middle, Rose Hill Elementary and Thomas Walker High
- Loudoun County — Algonkian Elementary, Ball's Bluff Elementary, Buffalo Trail Elementary, Catoctin Elementary, Cool Spring Elementary, Countryside Elementary, Creighton's Corner Elementary, Dominion High, Dominion Trail Elementary, Farmwell Station Middle, Forest Grove Elementary, Heritage High, Horizon Elementary, J. Lupton Simpson Middle, John W. Tolbert Jr. Elementary, Legacy Elementary, Loudoun County High, Meadowland Elementary, Mountain View Elementary, Newton-Lee Elementary, Park View High, Rosa Lee Carter Elementary, Seneca Ridge Middle, Smart's Mill Middle, Sterling Elementary, Sterling Middle, Steuart W. Weller Elementary and Sully Elementary
- Louisa County — Louisa County High, Thomas Jefferson Elementary and Trevilians Elementary
- Lunenburg County — Central High
- Lynchburg — Bedford Hills Elementary, Dearington Elementary/Innovation, E.C. Glass High, Linkhorne Middle, Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle for Innovation, Perrymont Elementary, Sandusky Middle, Sheffield Elementary and T.C. Miller Elementary for Innovation
- Madison County — William H. Wetsel Middle
- Manassas — Baldwin Elementary, Grace E. Metz Middle, Mayfield Intermediate and Osbourn High
- Manassas Park — Cougar Elementary, Manassas Park Elementary and Manassas Park High
- Middlesex County — Middlesex High

- Montgomery County — Christiansburg High, Christiansburg Middle, Kipps Elementary and Shawsville Middle
- Nelson County — Nelson County High
- New Kent County — New Kent Middle
- Newport News — Achievable Dream Academy, B.C. Charles Elementary, Crittenden Middle, David A. Dutrow Elementary, Denbigh High, Ethel M. Gildersleeve Middle, General Stanford Elementary, George J. McIntosh Elementary, Heritage High, Hidenwood Elementary, Homer L. Hines Middle, Horace H. Epes Elementary, Huntington Middle, J.M. Dozier Middle, Joseph H. Saunders Elementary, Lee Hall Elementary, Mary Passage Middle, Menchville High, Richard T. Yates Elementary, Richneck Elementary, T. Ryland Sanford Elementary and Willis A. Jenkins Elementary
- Norfolk — Azalea Gardens Middle, Blair Middle, Booker T. Washington High, Campostella Elementary, Coleman Place Elementary, Granby High, Lake Taylor High, Little Creek Elementary, Matthew Fontaine Maury High, Norview Elementary, Norview Middle, Oceanair Elementary, Poplar Halls Elementary, St. Helena Elementary and Tanners Creek Elementary
- Northumberland County — Northumberland High
- Nottoway County — Burkeville Elementary, Nottoway High and Nottoway Intermediate
- Page County — Page County Middle, Shenandoah Elementary and Stanley Elementary
- Patrick County — Stuart Elementary
- Petersburg — Petersburg High
- Pittsylvania County — Brosville Elementary, Chatham Middle, Stony Mill Elementary and Tunstall High
- Portsmouth — Churchland Middle, Cradock Middle, James Hurst Elementary, Park View Elementary, Simonsdale Elementary, Westhaven Elementary and Woodrow Wilson High
- Powhatan County — Flat Rock Elementary and Powhatan Elementary
- Prince Edward County — Prince Edward Middle
- Prince George County — N.B. Clements Junior High and Prince George High
- Prince William County — Battlefield High, Coles Elementary, Enterprise Elementary, Freedom High, Gar-Field High, George P. Mullen Elementary, Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary, Marumsco Hills Elementary, Minnieville Elementary, Neabsco Elementary, Osbourn Park High, Parkside Middle, River Oaks Elementary, Sharon C. McAuliffe Elementary, Stonewall Jackson High, Stonewall Middle, Stuart M. Beville Middle, Woodbridge High and Woodbridge Middle
- Pulaski County — Pulaski County Senior High and Pulaski Middle
- Richmond — Blackwell Elementary, G.H. Reid Elementary, George Mason Elementary, George Wythe High, Ginter Park Elementary, Huguenot High, Lucille M. Brown Middle, Oak Grove/Bellemeade Elementary, Summer Hill/Ruffin Road Elementary, Thomas Jefferson High and Westover Hills Elementary
- Roanoke — Fallon Park Elementary, Morningside Elementary, Patrick Henry High and Roanoke Academy for Mathematics & Science Elementary
- Roanoke County — Northside High and William Byrd High
- Rockbridge County — Central Elementary, Fairfield Elementary, Maury River Middle, Natural Bridge Elementary and Rockbridge County High
- Rockingham County — Fulks Run Elementary, Mountain View Elementary, Spotswood High, Turner Ashby High and Wilbur S. Pence Middle
- Russell County — Givens Elementary, Lebanon High and Swords Creek Elementary
- Shenandoah County — Ashby Lee Elementary, Sandy Hook Elementary and Signal Knob Middle
- Smyth County — Chilhowie Elementary, Marion Middle, Marion Senior High, Saltville Elementary and Sugar Grove Combined
- Southampton County — Riverdale Elementary
- Spotsylvania County — Battlefield Middle, Brock Road Elementary, Massaponax High and Riverview Elementary
- Stafford County — Anne E. Moncure Elementary, Anthony Burns Elementary, Brooke Point High, Colonial Forge High, Donald B. Dixon-Lyle R. Smith Middle, Ferry Farm Elementary, Grafton Village Elementary, Mountain View High, Park Ridge Elementary, Stafford Senior High, T. Benton Gayle Middle and Widewater Elementary
- Staunton — Arthur R. Ware Elementary and Robert E. Lee High
- Suffolk — John Yeates Middle, King`s Fork High, King`s Fork Middle, Lakeland High and Nansemond River High
- Tazewell County — Cedar Bluff Elementary, North Tazewell Elementary, Raven Elementary, Richlands Elementary, Richlands Middle and Tazewell High
- Virginia Beach — Bayside High, Bayside Middle, College Park Elementary, First Colonial High, Floyd Kellam High, Frank W. Cox High, Glenwood Elementary, Green Run Elementary, Kempsville High, Larkspur Middle, Lynnhaven Middle, Ocean Lakes High, Princess Anne High, Salem High, Tallwood Elementary and Tallwood High
- Warren County — A.S. Rhodes Elementary, Leslie Fox Keyser Elementary, Ressie Jeffries Elementary and Warren County Middle

- Washington County — Abingdon High, John S. Battle High, Meadowview Elementary and Valley Institute Elementary
- Waynesboro — Kate Collins Middle and Waynesboro High
- Westmoreland County — Cople Elementary, Montross Middle and Washington & Lee High
- Williamsburg-James City County — J. Blaine Blayton Elementary and Warhill High
- Winchester — Daniel Morgan Middle and Garland R. Quarles Elementary
- Wise County — Central High, Eastside High and Powell Valley Middle
- Wythe County — Fort Chiswell Middle, Rural Retreat Middle, Scott Memorial Middle and Spiller Elementary

###