

Governor Kaine Recognizes High-Performing Virginia Public Schools

– 153 Earn Governor's Excellence Awards; Board of Education Honors Additional Schools & School Divisions –

RICHMOND – Governor Timothy M. Kaine today announced that 153 Virginia public schools have earned the 2010 Governor's Award for Educational Excellence. The award is the highest honor under the Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) incentive program created by the Board of Education in 2007 to advance Governor Kaine's "competence to excellence" agenda promoting advanced learning and achievement.

"My administration has made it a priority to move beyond merely meeting standards to truly encouraging excellent performance in our schools," said Governor Kaine. "I'm pleased to recognize the many Virginia educators and students whom stepped up to the challenge of exceeding the minimum expectations of the Standards of Learning to receive the coveted VIP awards this year."

To qualify for the Governor's Award for Educational Excellence, schools and school divisions must meet all state and federal achievement benchmarks for at least two consecutive years and achieve applicable excellence goals for elementary reading, enrollment in Algebra I by grade 8, enrollment in college-level courses, high school graduation, attainment of advanced diplomas, increased attainment of career and industry certifications, and participation in the Virginia Preschool Initiative. Schools and school divisions also earn bonus points for other performance measures, including the Governor's Nutrition and Physical Activity Scorecard.

"The criteria for these awards go beyond test scores and include student outcomes and best practices in areas that support learning," Board of Education President Mark E. Emblidge said. "It speaks well of the strength of Virginia's public schools that so many schools earned awards this year even with higher standards."

In July, the Board added objectives for high school graduation to the VIP awards criteria and established more rigorous benchmarks for achievement in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science and history/social science.

"The award-winning schools are in every corner of the commonwealth and serve all types of communities, including rural areas, urban neighborhoods and communities with high concentrations of children whose native language is not English," Superintendent of Public Instruction Patricia I. Wright said.

The 153 schools earning the Governor's Award for Educational Excellence are

- Albemarle County: Baker-Butler Elementary, Hollymead Elementary, Meriwether Lewis Elementary and Virginia L. Murray Elementary
- Amherst County: Elon Elementary
- Arlington County: Arlington Science Focus School, Arlington Traditional and McKinley Elementary
- Bedford County: Forest Elementary and Otter River Elementary
- Botetourt County: Cloverdale Elementary
- Bristol: Stonewall Jackson Elementary
- Buckingham County: Buckingham Primary
- Charlotte County: J. Murray Jeffress Elementary
- Charlottesville: Greenbrier Elementary
- Chesapeake: Deep Creek Central Elementary and Norfolk Highlands Primary

- Chesterfield County: Bettie Weaver Elementary, Bon Air Elementary, Elizabeth Scott Elementary, Evergreen Elementary, Midlothian High, Midlothian Middle, Robious Elementary, Swift Creek Elementary, Swift Creek Middle, W.W. Gordon Elementary, Winterpock Elementary and Woolridge Elementary
- Clarke County: Boyce Elementary
- Danville: Woodrow Wilson Elementary
- Dinwiddie County: Midway Elementary
- Fairfax County: Archer Elementary, Carson Middle, Cherry Run Elementary, Chesterbrook Elementary, Churchill Road Elementary, Clermont Elementary, Cooper Middle, Fairhill Elementary, Flint Hill Elementary, Forestville Elementary, Fox Mill Elementary, Franklin Middle, Frost Middle, Greenbriar West Elementary, Haycock Elementary, Hunt Valley Elementary, Langley High, Madison High, Mantua Elementary, McLean High, Navy Elementary, Oak Hill Elementary, Oakton High, Rocky Run Middle, Sangster Elementary, Shreveview Elementary, Springfield Estates Elementary, Sunrise Valley Elementary, Thoreau Middle, Vienna Elementary, Virginia Run Elementary, Waples Mill Elementary, West Springfield Elementary, Westbriar Elementary, Willow

Springs Elementary and **Wolftrap Elementary**

- Floyd County: Willis Elementary
- Franklin County: Boones Mill Elementary, Burnt Chimney Elementary, Callaway Elementary, Glade Hill Elementary and Lee M. Waid Elementary
- Gloucester County: Thomas C. Walker Elementary
- Goochland County: Goochland Elementary
- Hanover County: Chickahominy Middle, Cool Spring Elementary, Kersey Creek Elementary, Mechanicsville Elementary, Oak Knoll Middle, Pearson's Corner Elementary, Pole Green Elementary and Washington-Henry Elementary
- Henrico County: Colonial Trail Elementary, Echo Lake Elementary, Gayton Elementary, Greenwood Elementary, Jackson Davis Elementary, Maybeury Elementary, Nuckols Farm Elementary, Pocahontas Middle, Rivers Edge Elementary, Shady Grove Elementary, Short Pump Elementary, Short Pump Middle and Tuckahoe Elementary
- Henry County: Sanville Elementary
- Lee County: Rose Hill Elementary and St. Charles Elementary
- Loudoun County: Ashburn Elementary, Belmont Ridge Middle, Belmont Station Elementary, Eagle Ridge Middle, Lincoln Elementary, Lowes Island Elementary, Pinebrook Elementary, Sanders Corner Elementary and Waterford Elementary
- Lynchburg: Bedford Hills Elementary
- Mecklenburg County: LaCrosse Elementary
- Newport News: Hilton Elementary
- Norfolk: Larchmont Elementary and Mary Calcott Elementary
- Northumberland County: Northumberland Elementary
- Nottoway County: Burkeville Elementary
- Patrick County: Patrick Springs Elementary
- Portsmouth: Churchland Elementary
- Prince William County: Bristow Run Elementary, Old Bridge Elementary, Springwoods Elementary and Swans Creek Elementary

- Richmond: Bellevue Elementary and Fairfield Court Elementary
- Roanoke: Crystal Spring Elementary and Highland Park Elementary
- Roanoke County: Cave Spring Elementary, Clearbrook Elementary and Hidden Valley High
- Rockingham County: Pleasant Valley Elementary
- Russell County: Belfast Elk Garden Elementary
- Salem: Andrew Lewis Middle
- Scott County: Duffield-Pattonsville Primary, Fort Blackmore Primary, Hilton Elementary and Shoemaker Elementary
- Spotsylvania County: Lee Hill Elementary
- Tazewell County: Abb's Valley-Boissevain Elementary
- Virginia Beach: Creeds Elementary, Kemps Landing Magnet, Old Donation Center, Red Mill Elementary, Thoroughgood Elementary and Trantwood Elementary
- Washington County: Greendale Elementary and Watauga Elementary
- Waynesboro: Westwood Hills Elementary
- West Point: West Point High
- Williamsburg-James City County: Clara Byrd Baker Elementary and Matoaka Elementary
- Wise County: Coeburn Primary and Powell Valley Primary
- York County: Seaford Elementary

No school divisions qualified for a Governor's Award for Educational Excellence.

Fifteen school divisions and 288 schools earned the Board of Education's Excellence Award, the second-tier honor in the VIP program. These schools and divisions also have met all state and federal accountability benchmarks for at least two consecutive years and have made significant progress toward goals for increased student achievement and expanded educational opportunities set by Governor Kaine and the board.

Seventeen school divisions and 281 schools earned the Board of Education's Competence to Excellence Award. This award recognizes schools and divisions that have met all state and federal benchmarks for at least two consecutive years and are making progress toward VIP objectives that reflect the goals of the governor and the board.

As a consequence of the changes in criteria for the VIP program, no Board of Education Rising Star Awards were issued this year. The Rising Star Award recognizes school divisions and schools that have met all state and federal accountability standards for two consecutive years and have improved their VIP scores significantly from the previous year. Data from 2008-2009 will be used to create a new baseline reflecting the revised VIP criteria from which to measure progress.

A list of all schools and school divisions earning Virginia Index of Performance Awards is available on the Virginia Department of Education Web site at www.doe.virginia.gov.

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