

**Selected 2018 General Assembly Proposed Education Legislation**  
**January 29, 2018**

**STEAM Diploma Seal**

HB167 Diploma seals; science, technology, engineering, and advanced mathematics.

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Diploma seals; science, technology, engineering, and advanced mathematics. Requires the Board of Education to establish criteria for awarding a diploma seal for science, technology, engineering, and advanced mathematics (STEAM) for the Board of Education-approved diplomas. Under current law, such diploma seal is limited in scope to technology and advanced mathematics.

12/22/17 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 18102522D

12/22/17 House: Referred to Committee on Education

01/19/18 House: Assigned Education sub: Subcommittee #3

**Response:** Oppose the use of the acronym STEAM without the inclusion of art and design.

**Kindergarten**

**SB274 Public schools; increase kindergarten instructional time**

Introduced by George L. Barker

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

**Public schools; kindergarten instructional time.** Increases from 540 hours to 990 hours the minimum instructional hours in a school year for students in kindergarten. The bill directs the Board of Education to promulgate regulations by July 1, 2020, establishing standards for accreditation that include a requirement that the standard school day for students in kindergarten average at least 5.5 instructional hours in order to qualify for full accreditation. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2020.

01/05/18 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 1810197D

01/05/18 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

**Response:** Support - while ensuring that classroom space is funded and does not entail the use of arts teaching spaces.

**HB109 School divisions, certain; development of plan to fund and phase in full-day kindergarten.**

Introduced by Karrie K. Delaney

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

**Certain school divisions; plan to fund and phase in full-day kindergarten.** Requires each local school board that does not offer a full-day kindergarten program for each kindergarten student in the school division to develop a plan to fund and phase in a full-day kindergarten program for each kindergarten student in the school division and submit the plan to the General Assembly in advance of the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

12/14/17 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 18101300D

12/14/17 House: Referred to Committee on Education

01/19/18 House: Assigned Education sub: Subcommittee #2

**Response:** Support - while ensuring that classroom space is funded and does not entail the use of arts teaching spaces.

**HB350 Full-day kindergarten program; implementation in school divisions.**

Introduced by: David A. Reid (Bell, Turpin, Bourne, Boysko, Delaney, Gooditis, Hayes, James, Murphy, VanValkenburg)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

**Full-day kindergarten program plans.** Requires each local school board that does not offer a universal full-day kindergarten (FDK) program for each kindergarten student in the school division to develop and implement a plan to fund and phase in a universal FDK program for each kindergarten student in the school division and submit the plan to the General Assembly in advance of the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The bill requires such plan to identify the number and percentage of students enrolled in FDK in the local school division (i) during

the 2014-2015 school year and (ii) at the end of 2017, the specific steps for full implementation of the plan, impediments to full implementation of the plan, the areas in which support from the Commonwealth is necessary to achieve full implementation of the plan, and lessons learned from previous or ongoing efforts to provide a universal FDK program that can be shared with other local school boards that do not offer a universal FDK program.

01/04/18 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 18101479D

01/04/18 House: Referred to Committee on Education

01/19/18 House: Assigned to Subcommittee #2

**Response:** Support - while ensuring that classroom space is funded and does not entail the use the removal of arts teaching spaces.

### **Instructional Time**

HB 1419 Public schools; instructional time.

Introduced by Karrie K. Delaney (Bourne, Boysko)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

**Public schools; instructional time.** Requires local school boards to provide (i) a minimum of 680 hours of instructional time to students in elementary except for students in half-day kindergarten and (ii) a minimum of 375 hours of instructional time to students in half-day kindergarten in the four academic disciplines of English, mathematics, science, and history and social science. The bill authorizes local school boards to include and requires the Board of Education to accept, elementary school, unstructured recreational time that is intended to develop teamwork, social skills, and overall physical fitness in any calculation of total instructional time or teaching hours.

01/15/18 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 181024770D

01/15/18 House: Referred to Committee on Education

01/19/18 House: Assigned Education sub: Subcommittee #2

**Response:** Oppose

Currently the school term is required to be 990 hours. (§ 22.1-98)

990 hours minus 680 required instructional hours leaves 310 hours for all other instruction and activities in the school year.

990 total school term hours = 5.5 hours/day

680 instructional hours in required subjects = 3.8 instructional hours

1.7 hours/day for everything else - art, music, PE, lunch, recess and any specific programming based on student needs

A 45 min block schedule 5 days/week which includes art and music instruction at least once a week and PE at least twice a week totals 135 hours.

A 30-minute lunch 5 times per week totals 90 hours.

310 remaining hours less 225 (lunch and block total) leaves only 85 remaining hours for the year for all other instructional programs and activities.

A 60 min block schedule 5 days/week which includes art and music instruction at least once a week and PE at least twice a week totals 270 hours.

A 30-minute lunch 5 times per week totals 90 hours.

310 remaining hours less 260 hours (lunch and block total) leaves only 40 remaining hours for the year for all other instructional programs and activities.

There is a concern with the loss of flexibility to design special programs and instruction to meet the needs of specific student populations due to the tightness and specificity of the proscribed scheduling. In addition, there is the potential for a negative impact on arts instruction due to scheduling concerns.

### **Career Investigation**

HB6332 Career investigation course and programs of instruction: Board of Education to establish

Introduced by David L. Bulova

**SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:**

**Career investigation courses and programs of instruction.** Requires the Board of Education (Board) to (i) establish content standards and curriculum guidelines for courses in career investigation in elementary school, middle school, and high school; (ii) develop, in consultation with representatives of career and technical education, trade, and contractor organizations, career investigation resource materials that are designed to ensure that students have the ability to further explore interest in career and technical education opportunities in middle and high school; and (iii) disseminate such career investigation resource materials to each school board. The bill directs each school board to require each middle school student to take at least one course or alternative program of instruction in career investigation and permits each school board to require such courses in career investigation at the elementary and high school level as it deems appropriate.

01/08/18 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 18103176D

01/08/18 House: Referred to Committee on Education

01/19/18 House: Assigned Education sub: Subcommittee #2

**Response:** Support - The bill codifies what was done with the Department of Education and parallels the language in Superintendents Memo #187-17.

**PASSED BILL:**

**Unstructured Recreational Time**

**SB273 Public schools; instructional time, unstructured recreational time.**

Introduced by: J. Chapman Petersen

**SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:**

**Public schools; instructional time; recreational time.** Authorizes local school boards to include and requires the Board of Education to accept, for ~~grades one through six elementary school~~, unstructured recreational time that is designed to develop teamwork, social skills, and overall physical fitness in any calculation of total instructional time or teaching hours.

**AMENDMENT(S) PROPOSED BY THE SENATE EDUCATION AND HEALTH**

1. Line 10, introduced, after *for* strike the remainder of line 10 and through *six* on line 11 insert *elementary school*

**HISTORY**

01/05/18 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 18101672D

01/05/18 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

01/17/18 Senate: Assigned Education sub: Public Education

01/25/18 Senate: Reported from Education Committee with Amendment (15Y-0N)

01/26/18 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed (35Y-0N)

01/29/18 Senate: Read second time

01/29/18 Senate: Reading of amendment waived

01/29/18 Senate: Committee amendment agreed to

01/29/18 Senate: Engrossed by Senate as amended SB273E

01/29/18 Senate: Printed as engrossed 18101672D-E

01/30/18 Senate: Read third time and passed Senate (39-Y 0-N)

**Response:** Support - while making sure that any added unstructured recreational time does not impeded on regularly scheduled arts instruction.

**DEFEATED BILL:**

**"Tebow Bill"**

**HB496 Students who receive home instruction; participation in interscholastic programs.**

Introduced by Robert B. Bell (Landes, McGuire, Thomas, Wright)

**SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:**

**Students who receive home instruction; participation in interscholastic programs.** Prohibits public schools from joining an organization governing interscholastic programs that does not deem eligible for participation a student who (i) receives home instruction; (ii) has demonstrated evidence of progress for two consecutive academic years; (iii) is in compliance with immunization requirements; (iv) is entitled to free tuition in a public school; (v) has not

reached the age of 19 by August 1 of the current academic year; (vi) is an amateur who receives no compensation but participates solely for the educational, physical, mental, and social benefits of the activity; (vii) complies with all disciplinary rules and is subject to all codes of conduct applicable to all public high school athletes; and (viii) complies with all other rules governing awards, all-star games, maximum consecutive semesters of high school enrollment, parental consents, physical examinations, and transfers applicable to all high school athletes. The bill provides that no local school board is required to establish a policy to permit students who receive home instruction to participate in interscholastic programs. The bill permits reasonable fees to be charged to students who receive home instruction to cover the costs of participation in such interscholastic programs, including the costs of additional insurance, uniforms, and equipment. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2023.

01/08/18 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/18 18102554D

01/08/18 House: Referred to Committee on Education

01/26/18 House: Assigned Education sub: Subcommittee #1

)1/29/18 House: Failed to report (defeated) in Education (11-Y 11-N)

**Response:** Oppose due to potential impact on interscholastic programs, which could include band and theater and become a slippery slope of policy changes.