

Virginia Asian Advisory Board Meeting

May 23, 2024

Patrick Henry Building

1111 E. Broad St. Richmond, VA

Conference Room 1

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94145117965?pwd=VStUOEN6N0hhYjhRazdVK05lOVJYdz09>

Meeting ID: 941 4511 7965

Passcode: 812233

Advisory Board Members:

Laura Beldin, Harshad Barot, Pepe Cabacoy, Dr. Kamlesh Dave, Tom Fitzpatrick, Dr. Nina Ha, Shakira Khan, Xiawei Lin, Salinna Lor, **Bobby Ly**, Tian Olson, Dr. Srilekha Palle, Dr. Marie Sankaran Raval, Quan Schneider, Sunny Shah, My Lan Tran, Dokmai Webster, Henry Yuan, Tony Yeh, Go Eun (Elaine) Kang, Minesh Patel

Advisory Board Members In-Person: Laura Belden, Tony Yeh, Marie Sankaran Raval, Elaine Kang, Tian Olson, Minesh Patel, Srilekha Palle, Shakira Khan, Tom Fitzpatrick, Quan Schneider, Harshad Barot

Advisory Board Members On-Line: Nina Ha, Pepe Cabacoy, Xiawei Lin,

Advisory Board Members Not Present: My Lan Tran, Kamlesh Dave, Dokmai Webster, Henry Yuan, Kamlesh Dave, Salinna Lor, Sunny Shah

- 1:30 PM Welcome remarks, approved last meeting's Minutes and this meeting's Agenda, Dr. Srilekha Palle, Chair.
- Update on the briefing with the Governor in February (Town Hall, AAPI history in curriculum, AAPI student's mental health challenges, separate data on Asians by ethnicity, enhanced procurement opportunities, discrimination in business, promoting international trade opportunities, language access in business/procurement, civic engagement)
- Facebook and Instagram accounts are set up and ready to go. Tian has access. Dr. Palle has access to the LinkedIn account.
Quan's question: Do we get free tables at community events? We can ask. If need to pay, request budget months in advance.
- 1:35 PM Update: Right Help, Right Now (Governor's Youngkin's Behavioral Health Transformation Plan), Dr. Alexis Aplasca, Senior Clinical Advisor:
 - RHRN 1st year focus on community-based services, build up crisis infrastructure. 19 mobile crisis teams, and walk-in centers.
 - RHRN 2nd year, continues to develop mobile crisis teams and one-person teams.
 - Fentanyl - 1st Lady's campaign "One Pill Can Kill", passed a law to protect people administering Narcan, Narcan is available over the counter at drugstores or free from the state.
 - Fentanyl Awareness Day on May 9, trained business owners on how to use Narcan. Offers Narcan training to the public upon request. Trained public school coaches on how to administer Narcan.

- The Office of the Chief Medical Officer has a quarterly update on overdose data by demographic. AAPI has a lower percentage
- Mental health is less discussed in the AAPI community. Recommend coupling mental health discussion with other topics.
- Harshad: need to work on addressing the cause of mental health issues, such as working on how to handle stress and eliminating/reducing stress factors. Many new stress factors developed in recent years onset later in life previously.
- Quan: older generation suffers from mental health issues. Onset later in life, not knowing.

- 2:00 PM Commerce & Trade Briefing Wyatt Toehlke, Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade
 - Leads international trade
 - Goal: creating 400,000 jobs through international trade, helping Virginian export, foreign direct investment
 - Has overseas offices, 70% of which are in Asia. Opened Taiwan office last year.
 - Governor's trade mission to Asia
 - Top export: Agricultural, soybeans, specifically to Asia, aerospace products
 - China, Mexico, and Canada are the largest importing countries of VA products
 - Export readiness: how to assist small businesses. Provide export managers to match small businesses with the right channels. VEDP connects small businesses with foreign officials to facilitate trade. Join VEDP's trade missions to sell products overseas, and to build connections.
 - VAAB to share VEDP's information on Facebook and Instagram to promote VEDP's resources to small businesses.
 - VAAB board members offered support to connect VEDP with opportunities abroad

- 2:30 PM Presentation: Virginia Department of Education, Em Cooper, Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Michelle Wallace, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
 - Cooper - Leading Teaching and Learning Division
 - Wallace - oversees curriculum
 - World language programs, Asian languages. Received National Security Language Initiative Grant to create Mandarin dual emergent program pilot. School divisions apply for this grant, not DOE's decision.
 - SOLs - World Language, History review committee included external stakeholders
 - History and Social Studies Instructional Guides - looking for input from external stakeholders. Tian to follow up.
 - How to use the \$100,000 proposed in FY 2025 budget. Need to spend it sustainably. Education Subcommittee to discuss how to spend the money.
 - Contact Christonya Brown at christonya.brown@doe.virginia.gov
 - Website for resources - we can add additional resources for teacher
 - Local school districts decide on what language to offer

- 3:00 PM BREAK

- 3:10 PM Town Hall Preparation
 - June 26 - Town Hall 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM, @ Tuckahoe Library, Shakira Khan, Vice Chair
 - Guest Speaker - Garrison Coward
 - Need a check-in process

- Flyer to come
 - Shakira will assign tasks
 - What is the budget for Town Hall?
 - VAAB's fund - How much? How to access it?
 - VAAB can raise money for specific causes.
 - Eric Lin knows about the VAAB private fund. Should be able to find the details about the fund in 2022/2023 meeting minutes.
 - Subcommittee approves budget proposals before sending it to Treasurer
 - Submit a budget request in advance to avoid delay in approval.
 - Do not spend your own money then ask for reimbursement. Won't be reimbursed.
 - Subcommittee chairs will report progress and pending programs at Town Hall - 5 minutes each
 - Subcommittee to submit questions to Garrison Coward ahead of Town Hall
 - Community dialogue with subcommittee chairs
 - Seating 75-80, invite groups in different tiers
 - 4 Zoom meetings per year are permitted, an increase from 2 per year
- 3:40 PM Committee Breakouts
 - Education Subcommittee
 - Videos, modules, and content creation by graduate students (Nina has contacts for this). UVA has a major in Asian history. Nina has students currently working on creating APPI history content.
 - A student leading a task force - anti-bullying in middle school and high schools, a good listening session topic. A potential topic on our report.
 - Not enough AAPI heritage teachers, not aware of any initiatives to address this issue.
 - HCPS Teacher Scholars, Teacher candidates program - help students explore interest in teaching: Contract with high school students to pursue a teaching degree and guarantee a teacher position
 - Business & Trade Subcommittee
 - Increased minimum wage hurts businesses - what government can support small businesses?
 - Safety is still a concern for Asian small businesses
 - Promote awareness of VAAB, so small businesses can come to us. Idea - tell a story about VAAB's success in helping small businesses.
 - Civic Engagement Subcommittee
 - Taste of India - successful event, promoted VAAB at the event. Received feedback - not having a VAAB banner or sign
 - To come: Meet and Greet - informal town halls. If any VAAB members learn about upcoming community events, inform the Civic Subcommittee and invite them to attend.
 - Health Subcommittee
 - Virtual health panel in July.
 - Avoid health professionals being burnt out. Mindful meditation for health professionals

- 4:50 PM Public Comment Shakira Khan, Vice Chair
 - 3 guests in attendance. Appreciate the work VAAB is doing.
- 4:50 PM Closing Remarks, Adjournment Dr. Srilekha Palle, Chair
- 4:55 Adjourn