



VIRGINIA OFFICE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION COLLABORATIVE

Thursday, May 21, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority

7450 Freight Way

Mechanicsville, VA 23116

VOSAP Collaborative Member Agency representatives in attendance:

Wyatt Anderson, Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (ABC)

Colleen Hughes, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)

Sakina Weekes, Virginia Cannabis Control Authority (VCCA)

Geri Douglas, Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)

Robin Shepherd, VDOE

Jennifer Vedder, VDOE

Kristina Yager, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (VDMV)

Michael Parsons, Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY)

Kendall Lythgoe, Virginia State Police and Youth of Virginia Speak Out About Traffic Safety (VSP/YOVASO)

Natasha Fortune, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)

Tiffany Eustice, Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

Jada Woodley, VDH – Crater Health District

Also in Attendance:

Chris Young, ABC

VOSAP Collaborative Members Agencies not in attendance:

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:06am. Meeting attendees introduced themselves, including their position and the organization they represent.

Approval of February 2026 Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the February 2026 VOSAP meeting were approved.

Speaker: Robin Shepherd and Jennifer Vedder of VDOE presented on legislative updates to Driver Education and Health Education Standards of Learning (SOLs). The presentation slides are attached alongside these minutes.

VOSAP Updates

Wyatt Anderson brought up some current events with implications for youth substance use prevention, including the veto of Virginia' retail marijuana bill, legislation relating to education and training for sellers of nicotine products, and the first flavored vape products authorized by the FDA.

Wyatt discussed the VOSAP Annual Report and the submission process, including the kinds of data included in the report and asked for any additional feedback. The group discussed resharing areas identified initially gaps, so they can be better addressed in the report, considering the wide range of organizations involved. Wyatt will resend the document collecting report responses by June 1. Responses should be submitted by July 15 so that a timely draft of the report can be prepared.

ABC News and Updates

The enrollment period for the 2026 Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project ([YADAPP](#)) Kickoff Conference closes June 1. The week-long leadership substance use prevention conference is a unique opportunity for high school students to network with other students around the state and develop a prevention plan they work to accomplish in their school communities. The event is July 13-17, 2026, at Christopher Newport University.

Online training for sellers of tobacco products are being prepared as a part of HB308 and SB620.

VCCA News and Updates

The Safe Diving Campaign is ongoing. The VCCA did a social media tour to spread awareness about the myths of driving and cannabis. They partnered with VCU and George Mason and are updating various FAQ documents on the website, particularly information for teachers.

DBHDS News and Updates

Currently working on updating tobacco retailer training modules from when they were first developed. DBHDS has identified a Learning Management System, and Colleen will reach out to Virginia ABC for collaboration.

Problem Gaming and Gambling – Beyond your Beat campaign is ongoing for high school. Local CBSs can train teachers.

Data collection for the Young Adult survey has just closed, and it received over 600 submissions.

DCJS News and Updates

Closed on a funding opportunity for detention centers, with the goal of additional mental health training for staff working with youth.

Two additional funding opportunities remain available. One involves a summer youth

program with a focus on alternative activities as a crime prevention strategy. The second involves training schools on diversion and intervention strategies to keep youth from entering the legal system. Funding for these opportunities goes to a locality, but that funding can pass through to an organization.

A number of DCJS events are approaching:

June 2-4: Violent Crime Conference in Norfolk

July 20: DCJS Annual Summer Conference

September 2: Cognitive Behavioral Theory training for those working with youth. This is not a Cognitive Behavioral Therapy training but a primer to share its principles and importance.

September 3: Multidisciplinary Team Training

VDOE News and Updates

The Health and Physical Activity Institute is taking place July 13-15 at James Madison University.

For driver education updates, an e-bike safety module is being developed. Additionally, driving safety resources for kids are being collected to add to the website (activities promoting seatbelts, coloring books, etc.). A parent/teen component is being updated with testimonials from parents and siblings. VDOE wants to collect more data on a few counties close to the North Carolina border that have a higher teen crash rate.

DMV News and Updates

April was Districted Driving Awareness month, with an accompanying campaign, "Put the phone away or pay." May is for seatbelt safety with the "Click it or ticket" campaign. The next Impaired Driver Stakeholder meeting is June 17. The focus of July will be preventing reckless driving.

VDH News and Updates

Funding was received for the Tobacco Control Program. Quit Now Virginia is doing well and can offer several weeks of free nicotine replacement therapy. There are ongoing efforts to meet with K-12 schools and encourage living vape free as well as alternatives to student suspension for those who may be addicted to nicotine.

VSP/YOVAO News and Updates

YOVASO Program Director has retired. YOVASO is reaching out to DMV to help get YOVASO clubs engage in areas of the state where impaired driving is more common. The spring project ends next week. YOVASO's Summer Leadership Retreat for high school students is taking place July 16-19 and James Madison University.

VFHY News and Updates

VFHY anticipates a drop in funding in future years based on the conditions outlined in the Master Settlement Agreement related to declining smoking rates. VFHY has other funding sources, and Virginia has fared far better than most states.

Request for applications for evidence-based tobacco prevention programs open in September. Schools, CSBs, and others can apply for funding. Another round of fentanyl prevention grants is also expected. This provides incentives for schools to utilize the middle and high school fentanyl prevention lessons with students.

VFHY just wrapped up a successful Champions for Youth Summit, May 4-6 in Reston, VA.

Upcoming Dates

- FY27 VOSAP Meetings
 - August 20, 2026
 - November 19, 2026
 - February 18, 2027
 - May 20, 2027

Public Comment

The meeting adjourned at 11:25am.

Respectfully submitted,
Wyatt Anderson
VOSAP Facilitator

Recent Legislation & Planned Integration into the Driver Education & Health Education *Standards of Learning*

Robin Shepherd

Driver Education Specialist

Robin.shepherd@doe.virginia.gov

Jennifer Vedder

Health, Physical, Family Life, & Driver Education Coordinator

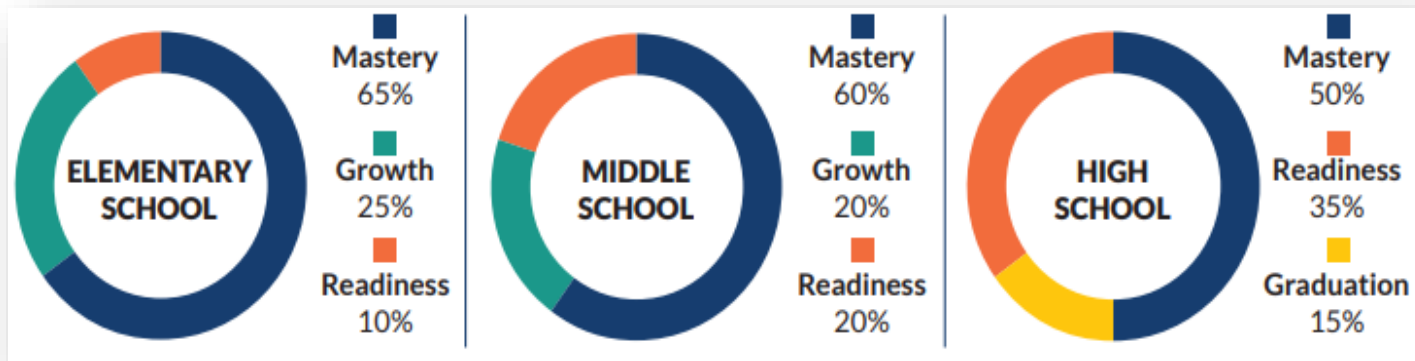
jennifer.vedder@doe.virginia.gov



Alignment to School Performance and Support Framework (SPSF)

Health, Physical, and Driver Education supports divisions and teachers in implementing the SPSF by strengthening the Readiness pillar through reducing chronic absenteeism.

- Driver Education opens the door to *Employment*
- Health and Physical Education prepares students to meet *Enlistment* fitness benchmarks
- Health career pathways guide students toward *Enrollment* and *Employment*.



Listening Tour: Where We Went

VDOE and the Secretary's office traveled across the Commonwealth.

In-Person Sessions

Region 1: Colonial Heights

- Student roundtable
- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Region 2: Hampton

- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Region 3: Gloucester

- Student roundtable
- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Region 4: Alexandria

- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Region 5: Fluvanna

- Parent roundtable
- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Region 6: Salem and Roanoke

- Student roundtable
- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Region 7: Smyth

- Student roundtable
- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Region 8: Cumberland

- Student roundtable
- Stakeholder roundtable
- Public evening listening session

Miscellaneous

- NOVA parent roundtable
- NOVA early childhood roundtable
- Region 4 superintendents and leaders
- Region 7 superintendents
- Region 7 math leaders
- UVA K-12 Advisory Council
- SPED directors
- VDOE staff

Virtual Sessions

- Principal virtual session
- Teacher virtual session
- Parent virtual session
- Business/community member virtual session
- Virginia Education Association (VEA) virtual session
- Student Advisory Council virtual session

School/Site Tours and Visits

Region 1

- Colonial Heights High School
- Powhatan High School

Region 2

- Bethel High School
- Kecoughtan High School
- Yorktown Elementary School

Region 3

- Gloucester High School
- Chancellor Elementary School

School/Site Tours and Visits Continued

Region 4

- Alexandria City High School
- Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 IB School

Region 5

- Carysbrook Elementary School
- Central Elementary School

Region 6

- G.W. Carver Elementary
- Roanoke County CTE Center
- Northside High School
- Blacksburg High School

Region 7

- EO Career Commons Hub
- HEALS at SWVA Higher Education Center
- HEALS at Emory & Henry
- Oak Point Elementary School

Region 8

- Cumberland Middle School
- Nottaway County Public Schools

By the Numbers – 2,282 Individuals Provided Feedback



113 students participated in a student roundtable



562 individuals participated in an in-person stakeholder roundtable session

422 individuals participated in a public evening sessions



967 survey responses

218 individuals participated in a virtual session

53 hours of listening sessions

74 VDOE staff volunteers

Listening Tour: What We Learned

We heard about the many strengths of our schools and divisions as well as difficulties they face.

Strengths:

- Dedication of Educators
- Strong School Leadership
- Community Relationships
- Reduced Distractions without Cell Phones
- Literacy Approaches and Interventions
- Expansive Postsecondary Pathways
- Targeted Instructional Supports and Interventions

Challenges:

- Agency-Division Relationships
- Assessments
- Accountability System (SPSF)
- Educator Pipeline
- Licensure Flexibility
- Behavioral and Mental Health Supports
- Education Technology
- Public Education Funding
- Early Childhood Access

VDOE Communication Pathways



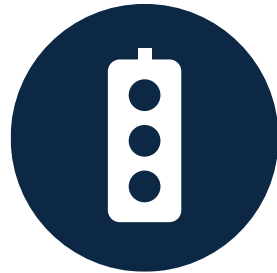
[Virginia Education Update](#)



[Teacher Direct Newsletter](#)

Latest Legislation & Planned Integration

Driver Education *Standards of Learning*



SB 309 AND HB 1097

SB 309

- Driver education programs; voluntary initiatives for drivers with autism spectrum disorder.
- Requires driver education programs to include information about voluntary initiatives for drivers with autism spectrum disorder.

HB 1097

- Driver communication improvement program for drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder .
- The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to distribute educational materials to all public schools offering a driver education program.

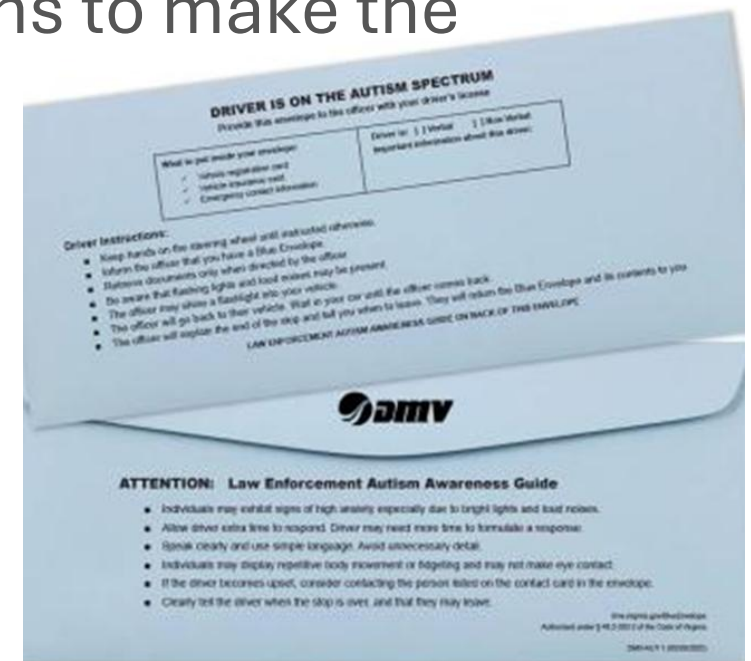
Curriculum Updates

- The driver communication improvement program.
- The driver's license indicator option.
- The registration indicator option.

Interacting with Law Enforcement/Reporting Crashes

Blue Envelope Program

- The Blue Envelope is a tool that helps drivers with autism during traffic stops or crashes. It informs officers that the driver may communicate differently and gives instructions to make the interaction easier.
- You can request a Blue Envelope at any Virginia DMV customer service center (CSC).
- There is no cost, and no documentation is required.



Virginia Learner's Permit and License

Medical Indicators

- Upon request, one or more medical indicator code(s) may be placed on a driver's license or ID card for law enforcement personnel.
- You must present a signed statement from a licensed physician confirming that condition.
- A "9" will be displayed in the restriction field on the front of the license and will be decoded on the back of the license as follows:
 - Insulin-dependent diabetes
 - Speech impairment
 - Intellectual disability (IntD will display)
 - Autism spectrum disorder (ASD will display)
 - Blind or vision impaired
 - Traumatic brain injury
 - Non-apparent disability

HB1352

Driver education; dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds.

- Covered in Module 3 Topic 2: Assessing and Managing Risk
- Resource: [Virginia State Police](#)



Assessing & Managing Risk

Aggressive/Reckless Drivers

- Under Virginia law, a police officer must witness a misdemeanor aggressive/reckless driving offense or has reasonable suspicion to stop a vehicle.
- You may need to give your name and additional information to a dispatcher in order for a law enforcement officer to take appropriate enforcement action if the law enforcement officer does not witness the driving behavior firsthand.
- If you are the only witness, any action taken against the driver of the other vehicle must be initiated by you.
- Taking this action would require that you secure a warrant for the person who committed the violation of Virginia's traffic laws.
- To accomplish this, you must first be able to identify the driver of the other vehicle and be willing to testify in court regarding the violation.

Assessing & Managing Risk

If you encounter an aggressive/reckless driver:

- Stay calm. Don't take it personally!
- Safely get out of their way and keep your distance from that driver.
- Avoid eye contact.
- Ignore rude gestures and refuse to return them.
- Dial #77 on a cell phone or 911 for the nearest law enforcement office.
- If you are followed, go to a safe, public place and contact police.

Reporting Aggressive/Reckless Drivers

Motorists should never attempt to stop, confront, and/or follow an aggressive driver while awaiting police response.

- **Dial #77** on a cell phone. This is the most effective means to report a reckless and dangerous driver to the Virginia State Police.
 - Provide a vehicle description, license number, location and, if possible, direction of travel.
- Every effort will be made to dispatch a trooper to the location to witness the driver's behavior and take appropriate enforcement action.
- If a cell phone is not available, Virginia State Police maintains toll-free phone numbers ([Office Locations](#)) throughout the state for use by travelers to notify the Emergency Communication Centers/Dispatch of incidents and significant events including dangerous drivers on the highway.

SB396 & HB1224

Driver's licenses; requirements for initial licensure, persons age 18 to 21.

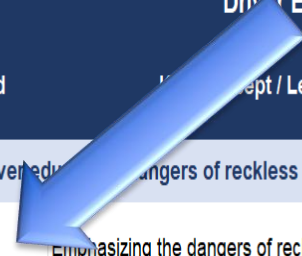
- Expands from 60 days to 90 days the length of time an applicant for a first-time noncommercial driver's license who is at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old is required to hold a learner's permit
- Requires an applicant to complete a course of driver instruction (classroom and in-car) prior to being issued a driver's license.
- A learner's permit, when accompanied by documentation verifying that the driver is at least 18 but less than 21 years old and has successfully completed an approved driver's education course, serves as a temporary driver's license that allows the holder to drive unaccompanied by a licensed driver 18 or older, provided certain other requirements are met.

Takes effect July 1, 2026

Correspondence Course - Updates

Driver Education Correspondence Course — 2026 Virginia Legislative Update Correlation					
Standard	Key Concept / Legislative Requirement	Content		Assessment	
		Page Numbers	Content Rating	Question Numbers	Assessment Rating
HB1352 Driver education; dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds.					
HB1352.1	Emphasizing the dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds, in the classroom component of driver education.				
HB1352.2	Emphasizing the dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds, in the parent/student component of the driver education program. (See Topic 4, 90-Min Parent-Teen Tab below)				
HB1352.3	Including updated interviews with or accounts from individuals who have lost family members due to speeding by teen drivers to illustrate real-world consequences.				
HB1352.4	Identifying the legal definition and criminal consequences of reckless driving by excessive speed under Virginia Code § 46.2-862 (20+ mph over limit or over 85 mph), including Class 1 misdemeanor penalties (up to 12 months jail, \$2,500 fine, 6-month license suspension, 6 demerit points).				
SB309 Driver education programs; voluntary initiatives for drivers with autism spectrum disorder.					
SB309.1	Including information about the Virginia DMV Driver Communication Improvement Program for drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in the driver education curriculum.				
SB309.2	Explaining the voluntary nature of the Driver Communication Improvement Program and how students and families may access enrollment information through the DMV.				
SB309.3	Describing the purpose of the Driver Communication Improvement Program: to facilitate safer interactions between drivers with ASD and law enforcement officers and emergency medical services providers during traffic stops and emergencies.				
SB309.4	Providing information on how participating drivers may display or communicate their ASD status to law enforcement or EMS personnel during a roadside encounter.				
HB1097 Driver communication improvement program; drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, etc.					
HB1097.1	Directing students and families to the Virginia DMV website for up-to-date information and enrollment resources related to the Driver Communication Improvement Program for drivers with ASD.				
HB1097.2	Discussing communication strategies and accommodations that may assist drivers with autism spectrum disorder during traffic stops (blue envelope program)				

Driver Education Correspondence Course — 2026 Virginia Legislative Update Correlation					
Standard	Key Concept / Legislative Requirement	Content		Assessment	
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HB1352 Driver education; dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds.					
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Latest Legislation & Planned Integration

Health Education *Standards of Learning*



The Revision Process: Big Picture

HOW THE 2027 SOL REVISION WORKS

- 1 Research & Applications**
Dec 2025 – Feb 2026
Findings synthesized;
committee applications open
- 2 Committee Selection**
Mar – Apr 2026
Steering & Revision
Committees identified by
VDOE
- 3 Revision Work**
Jul – Sep 2026
Review committees draft
revised SOL indicators
- 4 External Review**
Oct – Dec 2026
Draft shared with stakeholders
for comment
- 5 Board Presentation**
Jan 2027
Draft SOL presented to Board
for approval
- 6 Public Comment & Adoption**
Feb – Spring 2027
Public hearings, final edits,
Board adoption

Revision Goals

Refine the verb language and measurability of the standards.

Building on the foundation of the 2020 standards, the 2027 revision will strengthen indicator language with precise, Bloom's-aligned verbs that clearly reflect what students are expected to know and do at each grade level.

Incorporate stakeholder feedback into content decisions.

Input from Virginia educators, families, and community members collected through the public comment process will directly inform the 2027 revision, ensuring the updated standards reflect the evolving needs of the students and communities they serve.

Strengthen connections across disciplines.

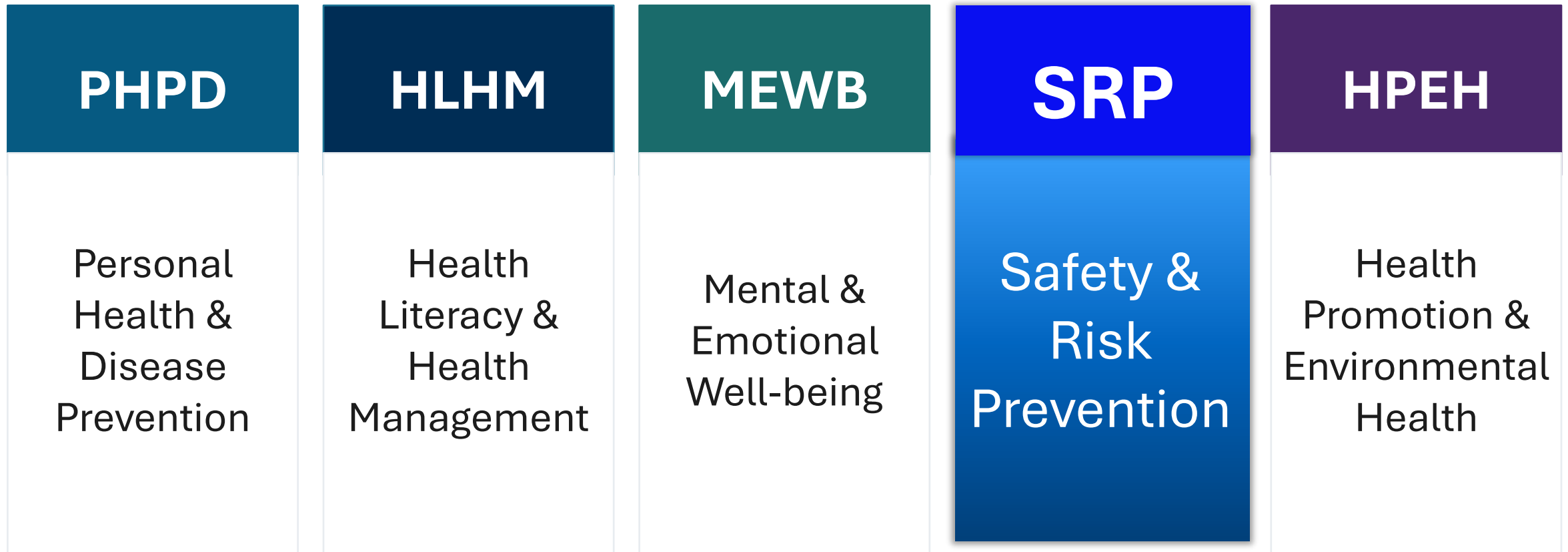
The 2027 revision will build on existing health content by making more explicit connections to related disciplines, including physical education, science, and computer science, so health education is reinforced across the school day.

Streamline and consolidate the standards for clarity and usability.

Where the 2020 standards address similar content across multiple indicators, the 2027 revision will look for opportunities to consolidate and simplify, making the document easier for teachers and curriculum writers to navigate without reducing the breadth of health content covered.

The Proposed 2027 Standards Framework

Health Education Five Proposed Strands:



The Safety & Risk Prevention Strand

In the next SOL revision, it is proposed that Safety & Risk Prevention will be a named, strand running K-12, incorporating the following:



ATCOD Prevention

Alcohol, tobacco/
nicotine,
cannabis,
opioids, fentanyl,
and emerging
substances.



Injury Prevention

Motor vehicle,
water, fire,
sports, and
unintentional
injury.



Mental & Emotional Health

Suicide
prevention, 988
Lifeline, stress,
and coping.



Medical Emergencies

CPR/AED,
naloxone,
bleeding control,
anaphylaxis,
diabetes.



Digital Wellness

Screen time,
social media,
online safety,
and digital
decision-making.

The 2026 Legislation

*[SB 542](#) will amend *Virginia Code* § 22.1-206. Instruction concerning drugs, alcohol, substance abuse, retail tobacco products, hemp products intended for smoking, and gambling.

- A. Instruction concerning drugs and drug abuse shall be provided by the public schools as prescribed by the Board of Education.
- B. Instruction concerning the public safety hazards and dangers of alcohol abuse, underage drinking, *underage marijuana use*, and drunk driving shall be provided in the public schools. The Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority and the *Virginia Cannabis Control Authority shall provide educational materials to the Department of Education*. The Department of Education shall review and shall distribute such materials as are approved to the public schools.

2026

HB 705 / SB 151 Water safety in Health SOL

HB 1486 / SB 568 Screen time/digital addiction

HB 1352 Reckless driving instruction (Driver Ed)

***SB 542 Underage marijuana use**

HB 462 – Incorporation of Health Literacy Instruction in Grades 9 and 10

4

*SB 542 – The Governor vetoed this bill on May 19, 2026.

The Connections

- HB 462 puts even more statutory weight behind health education, by mandating health literacy in grades 9 and 10
 - This provides a basis for our proposed Health Literacy and Health Promotion strand.
- Safety and Risk Prevention is elevated as its own strand in the proposed revision.
 - Water safety, underage marijuana use, and digital addiction all land here.
- We are intentionally connecting Health Education to Driver Education.
 - Learning is more readily retained when students can see the connections.
 - Reckless driving content on the DE side aligns with digital addiction, impaired driving sits inside substance use prevention, and decision-making skills carry across both.

One consistent prevention message.



Contact Information

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Jennifer Vedder

Health, Physical, Family Life, & Driver Education Coordinator

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VOSAP Collaborative Quarterly Meeting

May 21, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Welcome & Introductions



Approval of February Meeting Minutes

VDOE – Legislative updates

VOSAP Updates

Current Events

[Veto of Retail Marijuana Bill](#)

[FDA Authorizes New ENDS Products](#)

[Flavored vapes led to a major shake-up at the FDA](#)

[New federal vape rules expected to build on Virginia's forthcoming vape law](#)

2026 Annual Report Survey

- I sent everyone the document with which to gather submissions for the VOSAP Annual Report.
- After reviewing, do you have any questions or feedback?
- I will resend it (with changes VOSAP would like to make) by **June**.
 - Need a response by **July 15**

2026 Annual Report

- Youth Substance Use Data
 - National Data
 - Monitoring the Future
 - Youth Risk Behavior Survey
 - Reports on emerging trends from FDA, CDC, etc.
 - Virginia Data
 - Virginia Youth Survey
 - VDH Overdose Data

2026 Annual Report

- Prevention Activities and Spending
 - Prevention Activities
 - Organized around Youth Access and Drug Education, Caregiver Support, Community Support.
 - Reach and other highlights of effectiveness
 - Spending
 - Distinction between prevention vs. treatment spending where applicable
 - Indicating youth, where applicable
 - Happy to include treatment activities/spending in the section for each organization, but it needs to be clear.

2026 Annual Report

- Gaps, focuses for next year, unmet Needs
 - These have been sections in the report, so your input for cohesion is highly-valued. Things that have been mentioned in some way:
 - Funding
 - Data reliability (i.e., reduced participation in Virginia Youth Survey)
 - Changing landscape of substances
 - Understanding the berth of resources and opportunities available

Group Discussion

Agency News and Updates

Virginia ABC Updates

Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project (YADAPP)

- July 13-17 at Christopher Newport University
 - High school leadership and substance use prevention conference.
 - 4 rising high school students and 1 Adult Sponsor
 - Registration closes June 1

Preparing online training for retailers of tobacco products as a part of HB308 and SB620.

Upcoming Events

Things to Note

- **Please send Annual Report Submission by July 15**
- **Fiscal Year 2027 Meeting Schedule:**
 - August 20, 2026
 - November 19, 2026
 - February 18, 2027
 - May 20, 2027
- **Virginia ABC Contact Information**
 - Education@VirginiaABC.com
 - www.ABC.Virginia.gov
 - 804-977-7440

Public Comment

