

## **Ordinance 2024/25-57**

### **Section 8-1.3. Career and Technical Education Programs K-12; plan required; High School to Work Partnerships; Agreements for Postsecondary Course Credit, etc.**

— A. The School Board will provide career and technical educational programs incorporated into the kindergarten through twelfth grade curricula that include:

- (i) knowledge of careers and all types of employment opportunities including, but not limited to, apprenticeships, entrepreneurship and small business ownership, the military, and the teaching profession, and emphasize the advantages of completing school with marketable skills;
- (ii) career exploration opportunities in the middle school grades; and
- (iii) competency-based career and technical education programs which integrate academic outcomes, career guidance and job-seeking skills for all secondary students based on labor market needs and student interest. Career guidance shall include counseling about available employment opportunities and placement services for students exiting school; ~~and~~
- (iv) annual notice on its website to enrolled high school students and their parents of (a) the availability of the post-secondary education and employment data published by the State Council of Higher Education on its website; and (b) the opportunity for such students to obtain a nationally recognized career readiness certificate at a local public high school, comprehensive community college or workforce ~~center~~; center; and
- (v) as part of each student's Academic and Career Plan lists of top professions in Virginia, skills required for each profession, and top degree programs at institutions of higher education in Virginia, as compiled annually by the Department of Education and provided to the School Board in accordance with Virginia Code § 22.1-253.13:1.

B. Suffolk Public Schools will develop and implement a plan to ensure compliance with this Policy. This plan shall be developed with the input of area business and industry representatives and local community colleges and shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction in accordance with the timelines established by federal law.

C. The School Board may establish High School to Work Partnerships or delegate the authority to establish Partnerships to the division's career and technical education administrator or the administrator's designee, in collaboration with the guidance counselor office of each high school in the school division, and educate high school students about opportunities available through such Partnerships.

D. The School Board may enter into agreements for postsecondary course credit, credential, certification, or license attainment, referred to as College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships, with comprehensive community colleges or other public institutions of higher education or educational institutions that offer a career and technical education curriculum. College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships must specify

- (i) the options for students to take courses as part of the career and technical education curriculum that lead to course credit or an industry-recognized credential, certification, or license concurrent with a high school diploma;
- (ii) the credit, credentials, certifications, or licenses available for such courses;
- (iii) the industry-recognized credentials that are accepted as substitutes for certain credits required for high school graduation, consistent with the list developed and maintained by the Virginia Board of Education pursuant to Va. Code § 22.1-253.13:1(F); and
- (iv) available options for students to participate in pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs at comprehensive community colleges concurrent with the pursuit of a high school diploma and receive college credit and high school credit for successful completion of any such program.

(Adopted April 10, 2013; Ordinance Number 12/13-1; Effective Date: July 1, 2013; Revised November 9, 2017; Ordinance 17/18-22; Effective Date: November 9, 2017; Revised November 8, 2018; Ordinance 18/19-34; Effective: November 8, 2018)

**Legal Authority** – Virginia Code §§ ~~22.1-253.13:4~~ 22.1-227.1, 22.1-237.1, 22.1-237.2, 22.1-237.3, 22.1-237.4, 22.1-237.5, and 22.1-227.1, 22.1-253.13.1(1950), as amended.