

The 9/6 Funding Proposal: Increase State Funding for Full-time Governor's Schools

Virginia Encourages Full-day Governor's Schools

The FY14 Appropriations Act states: "All regional Governor's Schools are encouraged to provide full-day grades 9 through 12 programs." Virginia currently has only three full-day Governor's Schools out of 19 total Academic Year Governor's Schools. The last full-day Governor's School was established in 1997. In 2013-14, the state invested a total of \$300K in planning grants to establish or expand Academic Year Governor's Schools.

Full-day Governor's Schools Facing Budget Crisis: Teachers Severely Impacted

Both Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government and International Studies and Appomattox Regional Governor's School for Arts & Technology have faced severe budget pressures over the past five years. Both schools are operating with revenues dramatically below 2009 levels. As a result, neither school is compensating teachers on a competitive salary scale.

The State Funding Formula for Governor's Schools Is Not Equitable

The Appropriations Act (state budget) provides \$12.6 million for Academic Year Governor's Schools in FY2014. This \$12.6 million is disbursed to the Governor's School programs based on a formula that incorporates Local Composite Index (LCI), student enrollment, and an assigned weight for program length. While the state clearly supports full-day Governor's Schools, the funding formula provides a strong incentive for programs to remain part-time. The formula provides part-time schools with about 85% of the funding that full-day schools receive. Twelve of Virginia's 19 Governor's Schools are part-time.

Half-time	Part-time	Full-day
Typically 3 or fewer courses per year, per student	Typically 3 courses per year, per student	Typically 8 courses per year, per student
(Base Amount X Local Comp. Index) X (Enrollment X Program Length of 1/2)	(Base Amount X Local Comp. Index) X (Enrollment X Program Length of 5/6)	(Base Amount X Local Comp. Index) X (Enrollment X Program Length of 6/6)

Proposal: Adjust the Funding Formula So It Is Equitable

The school communities of Appomattox Regional Governor's School and Maggie L. Walker Governor's School are urging Governor McDonnell and the General Assembly to adjust the formula for calculating the Governor's School payments in order to more equitably support these two full-time, diploma program schools as well as Thomas Jefferson School for Science & Technology, which is also a full-time Governor's School*. Here is the proposed formula:

Proposed Formula for Full-Day, Diploma Program Governor's Schools
(Base Amount X Local Composite Index) X (Enrollment X 9/6)

A budget increase of **\$2.7 million** and the 9/6 formula adjustment will provide an increase for the three full-day schools and preserve funding for the remaining 16 Governor's Schools. The resulting *annual* increase per school is:

Appomattox Regional Governor's School for Arts & Technology	Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government & International Studies	Thomas Jefferson School for Science & Technology
\$506,428	\$919,428	\$1,276,320

* The Governor's School for the Arts in Hampton is designated with a program length of full-day. Under this proposal, the program length for this school would remain 6/6.