

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



THE VIRGINIA SUPERINTENDENTS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (VSLA) is a 12-month competency-based training program designed for sitting Virginia superintendents who desire to serve as leading change agents through innovation and deeper learning in their school division. The Academy bases its curriculum on the acquisition of leadership competencies identified in the Profile of a Virginia Leader, which was presented to the Virginia Board of Education in July 2020. There are a number of superintendent academies throughout the country; however, the VSLA is the only academy uniquely designed to meet the challenges and opportunities of Virginia superintendents. Participants who successfully complete VSLA requirements will receive a Certificate of Recognition from the Governor.

The VSLA incorporates elements of the American Association of School Administrators' (AASA) national models for superintendent "Professional Standards for Educational Leaders" (National Policy Board for Educational Leaders), which serve as the basis for AASA's Leadership Academy and National Superintendent Certification Program®. Participation in the VSLA is a significant investment in personal and professional growth to institutionalize lessons learned in the process in order to provide tangible follow-up through implementation which leads to student success. The Capstone Project is the authentic artifact produced by participants in the Academy.

The program is structured around four module conferences, three digital meetings, executive coaching, and a Capstone Project focused around a contemporary problem of practice. Participants examine, analyze, and investigate approaches to innovation, deeper learning, and engagement for superintendents as lead change agents who demonstrate outstanding instructional leadership and address the needs of increasingly diverse student populations through the lens of equity for all students. Participants are assigned an Executive Coach—a current or recently retired superintendent, whose primary responsibility is to help support the superintendent and facilitate the Capstone Project.

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Applications for the 2020-2021 session must be completed and submitted to VASS by May 30, 2020. For more information contact Marcus J. Newsome, Director, Virginia Superintendents Leadership Academy, (804) 930-7448 m.newsome@vassonline.com

