

Carver School  
Purcellville, Virginia  
December 20, 1948

Mr. O. L. Emerick,  
Division Superintendent  
Leesburg, Virginia

Dear Sir:

The enclosed list of goals and objectives represent a summarization of a recent discussion period, during which we attempted to analyze and discuss in detail item #1 of the proposed school improvement program.

We hope that we interpreted item # "1" correctly and that <sup>the</sup> enclosed list complies with your request of Decem-



ber 13<sup>th</sup>. In the event that it does  
not we shall be glad to meet again  
immediately after the Christmas  
Holidays and discuss the matter  
further.

Very truly yours,  
Alfred Talbot, Jr.



## Suggested goals and objectives for a Ten Year School Improvement Program

1. That the State Department provide adequate equipment for a well rounded physical education program, including teaching personnel.

2. That the State Department provide equipped libraries in the elementary schools.

3. That the State Department make provisions for Special Teachers, in their program.  
Namely: Art, - Music, - Physical Education.

4. That the State Department furnish Vocational Advisors, for both boys and girls, in the elementary schools.

5. That the State Department provide free text books and other school supplies.

6. That the State Department provide adequate funds for a well trained, full-time clerk.

7. That the State Department set up standards for crediting elementary schools.



8. That the State Department provide for a full time nurse for a smaller number of school units.

# COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

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LEESBURG, VIRGINIA

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December 13, 1948

Aldie  
Douglass High  
Carver  
Leesburg  
Lincoln High  
Lovettsville  
Purcellville

Dear

The State Department of Education has under consideration a 10 year school improvement program. A statement in relation to such a program is inclosed. Mr. G. Tyler Miller, State Superintendent of Schools, is requesting that those who wish to make suggestions in reference to the program itself, do so either directly to him or through the local superintendent of schools. In other words, you are requested to specifically consider any ideas that you have that would come under the category of item "1" of the proposed program.

Very sincerely yours,

O. L. Emerick  
Division Superintendent

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December 31, 1948

Mr. G. Tyler Miller  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Mr. Miller:

For the school improvement program we have the following suggestions:

1. The elimination of grade promotions in the first three grades.
2. The admission of children to school under the age of 7 on the basis of readiness to learn.
3. Provision for placing <sup>in</sup> the the State Literary Fund an amount sufficient to finance the construction of all buildings needed.
4. Provision for more instructional materials including libraries.
5. Special provisions for trained teachers and the organization of special curricula for instruction of mentally retarded children.
6. Payment in full for transportation by the State as an equalization measure.
7. A minimum State-wide salary schedule for teachers.

Very sincerely yours,

Division Superintendent

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Richmond

SUPTS. MEMO. NO. 2237  
December 1, 1948

Memo. to: The Division Superintendent  
From: G. Tyler Miller, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Subject: Proposed Ten Year School Improvement Program for Virginia

I am planning to have a meeting of the Superintendent's Advisory Council on January 6 and 7 for the purpose of reviewing materials to be used in the development of a tentative bulletin on the proposed ten year school improvement program for Virginia.

In this connection, we are very anxious to have suggestions from as wide a range of school personnel and lay personnel as possible. Enclosed herewith are enough copies of the proposed plan in order for you to furnish one copy to each of your elementary principals in schools of seven teachers or more, one to each of your high school principals, and one to each of your supervisors, directors of instruction, and visiting teachers. It is my hope that these members of your professional staff may consider the proposed program both individually and collectively and that they may make recommendations to you as to what they consider should be included in the over-all tentative State program. These suggestions may be transmitted by you directly to this office or, if the chairman of your area calls a meeting of his group prior to the meeting on January 6 and 7, you could transmit your combined suggestions directly to him at that meeting.

I hope very much that you will leave no stone unturned to secure as many suggestions as possible from your local division since we are most anxious that the proposed plan originate from the grass roots and that this be related very closely to the needs of the several school divisions of the State.

I realize that you are not being allowed much time but since the Superintendent's Advisory Council is to be held early in January and the State Board of Education is meeting soon after that, the time is limited. There will be, however, opportunities later for all of these groups to study and make suggestions before the bulletin is put in permanent form. This is merely an attempt to get as many suggestions as possible before the preparation of the tentative bulletin and should not require a great deal of time or organization.

If we have not enclosed a sufficient number of the tentative statements for your Division, please let us know how many additional copies you need.



Purcellville Graded School

BOX 237

Purcellville, Virginia

12/17/48

Mr. O. L. Emerick  
Leesburg, Va.

Dear Mr. Emerick:

In response to your letter of December 13, we have the following suggestions to make;

1. that more library materials be provided - books, records, pictures, music books etc.,
2. that provision be made for salary of a teacher and materials for an opportunity class in each large elementary school,
3. that more help be provided for field trips - available buses,
4. that pre-first grade classes be included in the elementary schools to provide the back-



Purcellville Graded School

BOX 237

Purcellville, Virginia

ground experiences that many homes do not provide for the children, and

5. that some kind of recognition be given to teachers who grow in service.

These are some of our most urgent needs.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Ruth D. Schulke

## PROPOSED TEN-YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR VIRGINIA

The Superintendent of Public Instruction reported that during the past two years, with the cooperation and assistance of the professional staff of the State Department of Education, he has been studying carefully the existing conditions in the public schools in order to determine needed improvements in the program of public education for Virginia.

Attention was called to the reorganization of the State Department of Education as recommended by him which became effective July 1, 1947, after approval by the State Board of Education and the Governor. He stated that, after over a year of operation under this reorganization plan, in his opinion the work of the Department has been coordinated to better advantage and that the Department is functioning with greater efficiency resulting in the rendering of more effective services for the public school system of the State. Since the time appears to be appropriate for the inauguration of a school improvement program for Virginia, he recommended that the State Board of Education take definite action to establish the objectives for the improvement of the public school system over a ten-year period with goals to be reached at stated intervals during this ten-year period.

It was proposed that this program be properly balanced and include goals and objectives for every phase of education with which the public school system is properly concerned. It was pointed out that in recent years programs have been formulated for the improvement of education in the elementary schools, in the secondary schools, in vocational education, and the like, but that no definite long range objectives for a complete and well-balanced program of education have been formulated and presented recently to the citizens of the State by the State Board of Education. In developing the ten-year school improvement program, the following procedure was suggested:

1. That the members of the staff of the State Department of Education be requested to prepare statements of tentative goals and objectives for improvement of education over a ten-year period to include elementary education, secondary education, vocational education, and the several specialized fields for which the Department of Education is responsible for rendering supervisory services and assistance;
2. That the statement of tentative goals and objectives for the ten-year period be submitted to and reviewed by the Advisory Council of Superintendents before January 1, 1949, and that the statement then be revised in light of suggestions received from this group;
3. That the tentative statement of goals and objectives be submitted to the members of the State Board of Education at least ten days in advance of the meeting to be held on January 26th, and that the Assistant Superintendents of Public Instruction, the Co-ordinator of Teacher Education, and Directors of the five divisions in the State Department of Education be requested to meet with the State Board of Education at the regular meeting to be held on January 26th for the purpose of explaining and discussing with the Board the tentative goals and objectives of the proposed ten-year school improvement program;
4. That, after the State Board of Education has considered, revised, and approved the statement of the tentative goals and objectives for the school



improvement program, these tentative goals and objectives be set forth in pamphlet or bulletin form for presentation to the people of the State so that they may become informed as to the proposals for improving public education;

5. That, after the tentative goals and objectives for a ten-year school improvement program have been prepared in bulletin or pamphlet form, nine (9) meetings be held in the nine (9) geographical regions of the State which now have representation on the Superintendent's Advisory Council, such hearings to be conducted as early as possible in the year 1949; that these meetings be attended by the entire membership of the State Board of Education; that school officials, teachers, and other school personnel, members of tax-levying bodies, members of the General Assembly, and all other citizens interested in the welfare and improvement of the public school program be invited to attend these hearings; and that, after presentation of the proposed goals and objectives at such meetings, ample opportunity be given for full participation by those in attendance to raise questions, present their views, and make suggestions to the State Board of Education about the further development and improvement of education in Virginia:
6. That, as soon as possible after the public hearings have been completed, the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the two Assistant Superintendents of Public Instruction, the Co-ordinator of Teacher Education, and the Directors of the five divisions of the State Department of Education meet for the purpose of considering the needs of a properly balanced program of education in light of the questions raised and suggestions and reactions presented at the hearings; that, after giving due consideration to the suggestions and recommendations received, the statement of tentative goals and objectives for a ten-year school improvement program be approved, including such revision as may be deemed advisable; and that the long range objectives with definite goals to be attained at stated intervals during this ten-year period then be established and set forth in bulletin or pamphlet form for distribution and further consideration by the lay people and the public school personnel of the State.

Upon motion, duly made and seconded and unanimously carried, the Board endorsed the inauguration of a ten-year school improvement program and approved the above procedures as suggested by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

#### STANDARDS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS - ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION

Since, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Board has approved a proposed plan for inaugurating a ten-year school improvement program for Virginia, and because of the continuing unsolved problem of providing the necessary school buildings, it is the opinion of the Board that the accreditation and certification standards for high schools, approved on May 5, 1948, should be given further study and probably should be amended so as to extend the time for meeting these standards in order that such standards may more appropriately become a definite part of the proposed ten-year school improvement program. Upon motion, duly made and seconded, it was directed that the members of the staff of the State Department of Education give careful consideration to this matter and submit recommendations for amending the standards for accreditation and certification of high schools as a part of the statement of the tentative goals and objectives for a ten-year school improvement program in Virginia.