

Giles County Public Schools

STANDARDS OF QUALITY

SIX-YEAR PLAN

2018-2024

June, 2018

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... F O R E W O R D ...

BACKGROUND: The climate of Giles County School is one of fostering continuous improvement. The potential that exists for the students of Giles County is unlimited. Some of the major factors that contribute to this potential are:

1. Giles County Schools has embarked upon a number of significant educational initiatives. These include: site-based decision making, accreditation, Gap Group Interpretation / Progress Tables Implementation / Performance Based Assessment and Performance Based Learning and community involvement, and many others.
2. The consistent emphasis on "positive" accomplishments has established the belief among employees and community members that this is a quality school system.
3. The collaboration between and among county agencies, all with a common goal of establishing the best possible community in which to live, work, learn, and play continues to improve on a regular basis.
4. The increasing recognition by numerous agencies (the State Department of Education, the office of the Governor of Virginia, and the U.S. Department of Education – Region 7) demonstrates that Giles County is becoming a leader within the Southwest region, if not in all of Virginia.
5. The stabilizing student population and supportive financial base, especially the cooperation between the School Board and the Board of Supervisors, provide a foundation for improvement.
6. State-level concerns regarding funding, disparity, and educational needs of rural

areas are all being addressed by Giles County Schools. This contributes to expanding opportunities for the system.

7. The availability of talented, creative and dedicated individuals provides an invaluable resource for new and sustained programs.

Description: The Six-Year Plan is used as a means to develop a clear, concise, and encompassing set of short- and long-range goals for Giles County Schools. Such action will result in the focusing of current and future resources and energies into the continuing improvement of the school system. The result is the establishment of the means to fulfill the school system's and the community's collectively shared goals.

PROCESS: The following steps are designed as the means of utilizing existing programs, personnel, and requirements to achieve the recommended proposal.

- **Mission Statement:** The mission of Giles County Public Schools is to continue the improvement of instruction in a positive manner and to create a welcome climate for students, parents, and employees while achieving the mandates of the Virginia Department of Education. This mission is to be accomplished in a team setting where the team shall include students, parents, employees, residents, industry and local merchants.
- **The Six-Year Plan:** This serves as an encompassing "umbrella" for identifying the school division's goals. The result is a standard against which proposals for implementation of new ideas can be measured. New programs and proposals can be effectively judged as to their appropriateness for application. The available resources

and energies can then be effectively and efficiently focused. The format for the six-year plan shall follow that of the school improvement process and includes the following:

- Biennial Plan – Constant evaluation of classroom instruction
- Student Achievement Plan – Student Growth
- Spending Plan – Financial Support
- Remediation Plan – Individualized instructional opportunities
- Crisis / Safety Plan – School Climate / Safety

SIX-YEAR PLAN DEVELOPMENT: The division-wide goals identified in the Six-Year Plan have been developed from the foundation up rather than a top-down basis. The following steps were included:

- I. Needs Assessment:
 - A. Identification of needs assessment data:
 - DOE Facilities Study – completed Winter of 2017
 - School Report Cards – (State and Local)
 - DOE Transportation Study – completed Winter of 2017
 - Accreditation standards
 - State-Division testing data
 - Internal assessment survey / studies
 - Individual site data
 - Comprehensive Instruction Program – Implemented August, 2017
 - B. Needs assessment review and program recommendations:
 - Administrative review of needs assessment information
 - S.O.Q. Committee review of needs assessment information

- Individual school review
 - County Facilities / Transportation Review
- Other Advisory Committees and/or individual review
 - Professional Advisory
 - Bus Advisory
 - Intragovernmental Action Committee for Truancy
 - monitor chronic student absences

II. Goal Identification

- A. Identification of "key" goals - specific division-wide goals to be considered
- B. Accreditation Crisis
- C. Development and refinement of goal and objective statements as needed

III. Verification:

- A. Six-Year goal recommendations were reviewed with those groups (S.O.Q. Community, Administrators, etc.) providing initial input.
- B. Proposed goals distributed for review/comment.

IV. Approval:

- A. Final review/refinement - Administrative Staff
- B. Presented for final Board of Education review/adoption

SUMMARY: The following plan is designed to provide a structural framework for achieving integration and focusing of our school system's resources and efforts toward the achievement of our "Vision".

Standards of Quality Advisory Committee

Jason Mills
Principal, Eastern Elementary

Kevin White
Principal, Macy McClaugherty School

Chris Gautier
Principal, Narrows Elementary/Middle

Toni Robertson
Teacher, Eastern Elementary/Middle

Randall Westbrook
Teacher, Giles Technology Center

Tracie Turner
Teacher, Narrows Elementary/Middle

Teresa Lowe
Teacher, Narrows High School

Laura Helvey
Teacher & Parent, Narrows Elem/Middle

Lee Blaker
NHS Parent & Community Member

Babette Martin
Teacher & Parent, Giles High School

Richard Franklin
Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum

Melissa Guynn and Drema McMahan
School Board Members

This committee served as the working group during the 2017-18 school year in the preparation of this document. Their hard work is sincerely appreciated.

STANDARDS OF QUALITY

§ 22.1-253.13:6 Standards 6-C. Planning and public involvement.

C. Each public school shall also prepare a comprehensive, unified, long-range plan which the relevant school board shall consider in the development of its division-wide comprehensive plan.

SCHOOL DIVISION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A. Generally

The school division is committed to excellence in education, equality of educational opportunity, and the recognition of each student's individuality. Inasmuch as students differ in their rate of physical, mental, emotional and social growth and vary in their needs and abilities, learning opportunities shall be provided that are consistent with personal development and potential. Programs shall emphasize diagnostic and prescriptive instruction, allowing an individual approach to each student's learning style and educational needs.

The educational program introduces each student to a variety of interest and subject areas that offer exposure to the range of opportunities available in later years. These experiences produce the basis for further education and future employment. As students demonstrate increased maturity, they may assume more responsibility for the decisions regarding their education.

The school environment should be responsive and conducive to learning. The physical environment facilitates and enhances the learning experiences available to each student. A responsive environment includes competent, dedicated teachers using a variety of techniques and a classroom atmosphere where students can function and develop according to their abilities. Safety, physical comfort, and appearance also are vital environmental components.

B. Standards of Quality and Objectives

The School Board accepts the overall goals of public education as expressed by the Standards of Quality legislated by the Virginia General Assembly and implemented by State Board of Education regulations.

The School Board will report its compliance with the Standards of Quality to the Board of Education annually. The report of compliance will be submitted to the Board of Education by the chairman of the board and the division superintendent.

C. Standards of Quality--Programs and Services

The School Board commits itself to providing programs and services as stated in the Standards of Quality to the extent funding thereof is provided by the General Assembly.

Adopted: August 27, 2004

Revised: March 20, 2014

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, section 22.1-253.13:1 22.1-253.13:8
GILES COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STANDARDS OF QUALITY
SIX-YEAR PLAN
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL 1 - CLIMATE

An educational environment that is conducive to learning and appropriate to instructional expectations shall be established.

OBJECTIVES

1. Data regarding satisfaction with the school system will be gathered from all relevant sources and utilized in program review.
 - a. Each school will develop a climate committee that includes input from teachers, students, parents and administrators and shall address each school's individual and general needs.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year plan - Biennial Plan
2. There will be an organized and continuing effort to assess and improve the status of working conditions and staff morale.
 - a. A division-wide commitment to Quality Management and Site-based decision making shall be continued.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
 - b. Each school shall develop a means of assessing staff and teacher morale through the use of better communication between the administrators and employees.
Timeline: Yearly Update - November
School Biennial Plan
Evaluation: Biennial Evaluations
3. School facilities shall be reviewed to insure a safe and conducive educational environment. Additionally, efforts to assess the educational environment shall be implemented on a division-wide basis as well as on an individual basis for each school.
 - a. Continuation of employment of Resource Officers/Giles County Deputies to implement education, prevention, and safety in our schools.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Giles County Sheriffs Department and Local School Division
 - b. Yearly reviews of drug/violence data.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: State & School Discipline & Violence Reports and NRVCS Surveys
 - c. Efforts shall be made to assess the development of problems between groups of students.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: IACT Meetings/Guidance Meetings

- d. Monthly and yearly reviews of each schools compliance with safety procedures shall be established.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Monthly Maintenance and Garage Reports
 - e. Programs such as Character Counts, DARE, Civil Law and AI's PALS will help address learning environment issues.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan
4. There will be an organized and continuing effort to assess and improve student SOL scores through remediation (small group and individualized), before/during/after-school remediation, with support from technology support staff and ARDT Coordinator.
- a. Remediation
Timeline: Biennial/Yearly
Evaluation: SOL Results / Teacher Recommendations / Student Achievement
 - b. After School Remediation
Timeline: Biennial/Yearly
Evaluation: SOL Results / Teacher Recommendations / Student Achievement

GOAL 2 - PLANNING

A system for on-going program improvement shall be developed.

OBJECTIVES

1. Available materials will be utilized for pre, mid, post and/or benchmark testing as utilized in the teacher evaluation process. These materials will aid in implementing the requirements set forth in the evaluation process. Materials may include released SOL tests, teacher-made materials, student portfolios, PALS, ARDT, Accelerated Reader, Coach, SOL Pass, Clickers, Wilson Reading and Foundations, My Portal, Jeopardy adaptation and CARS (Comprehension Assessment of Reading Strategies). Student growth percentiles will be provided by DOE.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan – Biennial Plan
2. Secure and evaluate DOE’s Scope and Sequence and teacher lesson plans to maximize and implement SOL mastery.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
3. Schedule and plan instruction so as to maximize time on task in the classroom, computer labs, and individual instruction for mastery of SOL objectives.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
4. Evaluate and track at-promise students in all classes through PowerSchool.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
5. A follow-up program of gathering data from graduates and school withdrawals will be used in program review and improvement.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan – Biennial Plan

GOAL 3 - STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Programs to enhance professional growth and development of personnel at all levels shall be pursued.

OBJECTIVES

1. Professional development programs will be designed to provide for involvement in the development and implementation of programs and activities.
 - a. Review of data to determine needs and goals

School Accreditations	Instructional Personnel Reports
Student Growth Percentiles	SOL scores/Benchmark Testing
Technology Workdays	Special Needs Issues
Instructional Technology Resource Teachers (ITRT)	State Sponsored Certifications
Teacher Projects	PBA / PBL
Nursing Instructional Programs	Gap Groups
Staff Development Committee	
Review of CIP Data (Comprehensive Instructional Program)	

Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan Yearly Update (reference: Climate #1, Planning #1)
 - *b. Professional Development opportunities shall be provided through programs established by individual sites and through division wide planning initiatives. Such programs may include course offerings, release time for personnel, teacher work days for instructional purposes and summer workshops.

Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Yearly Update
School Biennial Evaluation
2. Efforts to recruit and retain the most qualified personnel possible shall be continued
 - a. Review of recruitment efforts, mentor program, and evaluation systems.

Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
3. Continue division-wide Professional Development Council for planning and evaluation purposes.

Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan Yearly Update

* Requires inclusion in School Biennial Plan if goal is to be addressed.

GOAL 4 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Instructional opportunities and placement that increase students' potential for achieving success as adults shall be provided.

OBJECTIVES

- *1. Continuation and expansion of programs to improve student success from pre-kindergarten through graduation.
Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

2. To align the curriculum to meet the Profiling of a Graduate and ESSA and Standards of Learning (SOL) requirements.
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

3. To maximize the use of technology to meet curriculum and instruction requirements.
Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

4. Provide recognition for educational achievement by students as well as by educational personnel.
Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

5. Continue to partner with the community in providing additional instructional programs (i.e. Celco, NRCC, Carilion, Patrick Enterprises, Nanosonic, and guest speakers, etc.)
Timeline: Yearly – November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan – Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

* Requires inclusion in School Biennial Plan if goal is addressed.

GOAL 5 - COMMUNICATIONS

Continued improvement shall be sought through a community that is informed and involved in school operations.

OBJECTIVES

- *1. Existing committees of students, schools, parents and community representatives will continue to be reviewed and upgraded (i.e. email lists, newsletters, county and school websites, open houses, and news media).
Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

- *2. New and continuing partnership efforts with existing and other school partners shall be pursued.
Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

3. Foster an open-door policy to inform and seek input from the business community as noted in the Climate Committee.
Timeline: Yearly - November
Evaluation: Six Year Plan - Biennial Plan
School Biennial Plan

4. As mandated by the State of Virginia, a portion of all teacher evaluations will be their effectiveness at communicating clear goals and instructional procedures to students and being flexible in scheduling meetings with parents as well as using multiple modes of communication.

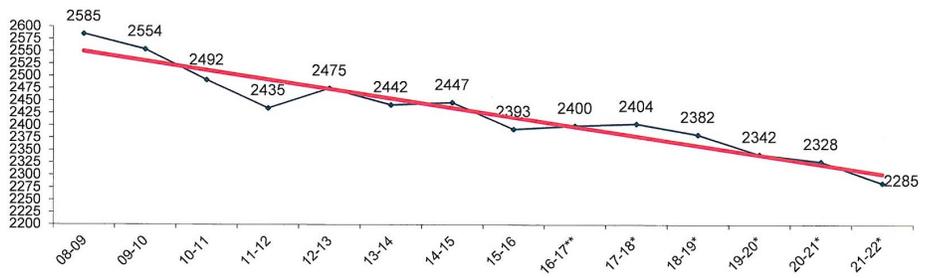
Timeline: Yearly
Evaluation: Teacher Evaluations & Observations

* Requires inclusion in School Biennial Plan if goal is to be addressed.

Enrollment Projections
September 12, 2017

	December 31 Enrollments								Projected Enrollments					
	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17**	17-18*	18-19*	19-20*	20-21*	21-22*
EEMS	497	490	482	470	484	456	460	450	429	430	425	413	414	414
MMS	561	526	527	515	506	500	486	496	521	508	517	513	526	524
NEMS	560	537	511	484	505	490	463	457	432	460	462	466	466	475
Elementary	1618	1553	1520	1469	1495	1446	1409	1403	1382	1398	1404	1392	1406	1413
GHS	662	668	662	674	674	676	688	666	678	660	648	642	620	593
NHS	305	333	310	292	306	320	350	324	340	346	330	308	302	279
Secondary	967	1001	972	966	980	996	1038	990	1018	1006	978	950	922	872
TOTAL	2585	2554	2492	2435	2475	2442	2447	2393	2400	2404	2382	2342	2328	2285

* Enrollment projections for incoming KG classes equals the average size of that school's current KG-5 levels (52 for EEMS, 64 for MMS and 58 for NEMS).
 ** Enrollment based on September 12, 2017



ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

While enrollment projections can provide a broad view of population changes and instructional needs, they must be considered as only one part of the total picture. In establishing the future for the students of Giles County, consideration must also be extended to historical precedents, instructional needs, funding availability, and community concerns.

In an effort to improve the instructional quality and cost efficiency of school system operations, numerous steps have been taken over the past several years. At the end of 1989-90 school year, Rich Creek Elementary was closed and moved into Narrows Elementary School; King Johnston Elementary was phased out and closed with the students incorporated into Macy McClaugherty Elementary School. At the end of the 1990-91 school term, the Alternative Education Program was redesigned and relocated. During the early 1980's, similar efforts were undertaken in the Pembroke, Eggleston, and Newport areas. More recently, Pre-K programs have been incorporated into all elementary schools.

All schools are currently aligned in a PreK - 7 and 8-12 configuration with the exception of the Giles Technology Center. Although enrollment projections show a stabilization, there are no plans to alter this configuration.

STATUS REPORT

2018 - 2024 Six-Year Plan

The Six-Year Plan, as designed through state legislation, is to serve as an on-going and evolving nature. The development of the 2018-2024 plan attempts to pull together all state and local instructionally related plans into one document that establishes the guiding principles for continual improvement.

Goal #1: To establish an educational environment that is conducive to learning and appropriate to instructional expectations.

Objectives:
1. Data regarding satisfaction with the school system will be gathered and utilized in program review.
2. There will be an organized and continuing effort to assess and improve the status of working conditions and staff morale.
3. School facilities shall be reviewed to insure a safe and conducive educational environment. Additionally, efforts to assess the educational environment shall be implemented on a division-wide basis as well as on an individual basis for each school.

Goal #2: A system for on-going personnel and program improvement shall be developed.

Objectives:
1. Data regarding various aspects of school system operations shall be regularly gathered from students, staff, parents and community.
2. A follow-up program of gathering data from graduates and school withdrawals will be used in program review and improvement.
3. Long range six year plan is based on data derived at school and division levels and includes development of long range priorities and objectives. Plans will include funds required to achieve prioritized objectives.

Goal #3: Programs to enhance personnel growth and development at all levels shall be pursued.

Objectives:
1. Professional development programs will be designed to provide for involvement in the development and implementation of programs and activities.
2. Efforts to recruit and retain the most qualified personnel possible shall be continued.
3. Continue division-wide Professional Development Council for planning and evaluation purposes.

Goal #4: Provide instructional opportunities and placement that increase students' potential for achieving success as adults.

Objectives:
1. Continuation and expansion of programs to improve student success upon graduation (i.e. career guidance, school to life transition programs, higher student expectations, advanced academic programs, increasing post-secondary attendance rates, programs of work-study/co-op/etc.)
2. A system of technology "integration" shall be pursued within appropriate grade levels and subjects.
3. Means of providing increased recognition for students who demonstrate increased achievement shall be continued.
4. The need for implementing alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) awareness, education and prevention in the elementary, middle and high school arena is part of the GCPS Standards of Quality Six Year Report: GOAL 4 – Instructional opportunities and placement that increase student's potential for achieving success as adults shall be provided. OBJECTIVES 5. Continue to partner with the community in providing additional instructional programs (i.e. NRCC, Carilion, Patrick Enterprises, Nanosonic, Celco, and guest speakers, etc.) Teaching lessons that include instruction in active listening, effective communication skills, stress management, tobacco cessation techniques and self-control to counteract risk factors for drug abuse relevant to older teens and creates good life skill methods.

Goal #5: Promotion of continued improvement will be sought through a community that is informed and involved in school operations.

Objectives:
1. The program of student, school, parent and community information and involvement shall be continued and periodically reviewed and upgraded.
2. New and continuation partnership efforts with the FOCUS (Focus on Communities Utilizing Services), GEEP (Giles Early Educational Project), GYAP (Giles Youth Adult Partnership), ACCE Program (Access to Community College Education) and CHAT (Community Health Assessment Team), FAPT (Family Assessment Planning Team) and other school partners, shall be pursued.
3. As mandated by the State of Virginia, a portion of all teacher evaluations will be their effectiveness at communicating clear goals and instructional procedures to students and being flexible in scheduling meetings with parents as well as using multiple modes of communication.

22.1-253.13:6. Standard 6. Planning and public involvement.

A. The Board of Education shall adopt a statewide comprehensive, unified, long-range plan based on data collection, analysis, and evaluation. Such plan shall be developed with statewide participation. The Board shall review the plan biennially and adopt any necessary revisions. The Board shall post the plan on the Department of Education's website if practicable, and, in any case, shall make a hard copy of such plan available for public inspection and copying.

This plan shall include the objectives of public education in Virginia, including strategies for first improving student achievement, particularly the achievement of educationally at-risk students, then maintaining high levels of student achievement; an assessment of the extent to which these objectives are being achieved; a forecast of enrollment changes; and an assessment of the needs of public education in the Commonwealth. In the annual report required by § 22.1-18, the Board shall include an analysis of the extent to which these Standards of Quality have been achieved and the objectives of the statewide comprehensive plan have been met. The Board shall also develop, consistent with, or as a part of, its comprehensive plan, a detailed comprehensive, long-range plan to integrate educational technology into the Standards of Learning and the curricula of the public schools in Virginia, including career and technical education programs. The Board shall review and approve the comprehensive plan for educational technology and may require the revision of such plan as it deems necessary.

B. Each local school board shall adopt a division-wide comprehensive, unified, long-range plan based on data collection, an analysis of the data, and how the data will be utilized to improve classroom instruction and student achievement. The plan shall be developed with staff and community involvement and shall include, or be consistent with, all other division-wide plans required by state and federal laws and regulations. Each local school board shall review the plan biennially and adopt any necessary revisions. Prior to the adoption of any division-wide comprehensive plan or revisions thereto, each local school board shall post such plan or revisions on the division's Internet website if practicable, and, in any case, shall make a hard copy of the plan or revisions available for public inspection and copying and shall conduct at least one public hearing to solicit public comment on the division-wide plan or revisions.

The division-wide comprehensive plan shall include, but shall not be limited to, (i) the objectives of the school division, including strategies for first improving student achievement, particularly the achievement of educationally at-risk students, then maintaining high levels of student achievement; (ii) an assessment of the extent to which these objectives are being achieved; (iii) a forecast of enrollment changes; (iv) a plan for projecting and managing enrollment changes including consideration of the consolidation of schools to provide for a more comprehensive and effective delivery of instructional services to students and economies in school operations; (v) an evaluation of the appropriateness of establishing regional programs and services in cooperation with neighboring school divisions; (vi) a plan for implementing such regional programs and services when appropriate; (vii) a technology plan designed to integrate educational technology into the instructional programs of the school division, including the school division's career and technical education programs, consistent with, or as a part of, the comprehensive technology plan for Virginia adopted by the Board of Education; (viii) an assessment of the needs of the school division and evidence of community participation, including parental participation, in the development of the plan; (ix) any corrective action plan required pursuant to § 22.1-253.13:3; and (x) a plan for parent and family involvement to include building successful school and parent

partnerships that shall be developed with staff and community involvement, including participation by parents.

A report shall be presented by each school board to the public by November 1 of each odd-numbered year on the extent to which the objectives of the division-wide comprehensive plan have been met during the previous two school years.

C. Each public school shall also prepare a comprehensive, unified, long-range plan, which the relevant school board shall consider in the development of its division-wide comprehensive plan.

D. The Board of Education shall, in a timely manner, make available to local school boards information about where current Virginia school laws, Board regulations and revisions, and copies of relevant Opinions of the Attorney General of Virginia may be located online.

1988, cc. 645, 682; 1990, cc. 820, 839; 1992, c. 591; 1998, c. 106; 2000, c. 867; 2001, c. 484; 2004, cc. 939, 955, 965; 2005, cc. 331, 450; 2007, c. 234.

REGIONAL SERVICES

Giles County Public Schools actively pursues involvement in those regional programs which serve to meet the needs of students and staff. These programs cover a wide variety of activities some of which are financially supported while others are regional organizations or initiatives which require no financial participation.

Adult and Continuing Education

Giles County Public Schools cooperates with New River Community College in providing adult and continuing education classes from the community college at school sites within the county.

Blue Ridge West Technology Consortium

Part of the Title II Part D Grant, federal funding is provided to enhance technology in the Blue Ridge West Technology Consortium.

Career Pathways Association

Career Pathways is a coherent, articulated sequence of rigorous academic and career/technical courses, commencing in the ninth grade and leading to an associate degree, baccalaureate degree and beyond, an industry-recognized certificate, and/or licensure. The Career Pathway is developed, implemented, and maintained in partnership among secondary and post-secondary education, business, and employers.

Comprehensive Instructional Program - The CIP is a consortium of public school divisions in Virginia working collaboratively to improve student achievement. The CIP is designed to help instructors by providing lesson plans, activities, and assessments that are highly aligned to Virginia's Standards of Learning in content and rigor. Data is collected on a district and regional level to discuss and review to improve student achievement. KIL (Key Instructional Leaders) meet monthly to facilitate the fluidity of the changing modes of education.

Dual Enrollment Program

Giles County Schools participates with New River Community College in the state approved Virginia Plan for Dual Enrollment. This program makes it possible for certain high school juniors and seniors to meet the requirements for high school graduation, while simultaneously earning college credit under guidelines approved by the Virginia Department of Education and the Virginia Community College System. Eligible students may attend classes on the New River Campus or, if they meet admission requirements, four selected classes offered during the school day at Giles High School.

Project PERT (Post-Secondary Education Rehabilitation Transition)

Project PERT is a cooperative effort of the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services, the Virginia Association of Rehabilitation Facilities, and the Giles County Public Schools System. This program is available to students with disabilities, to assist with transition from school to post-secondary education, vocational training, employment, and independence.

Regional Gifted Education Group

The Roanoke Regional Council for Gifted Education is comprised of representatives from the counties/cities in Region VI (Counties: Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Pulaski, and Roanoke; Cities: Clifton Forge, Covington, Danville, Martinsville, Radford, Roanoke, and Salem). The council is an affiliate of the state organization, The Virginia Association for the Education of Gifted. It is an advocacy organization which provides opportunities for parents, students, educators, and community members to become better informed regarding the needs of the gifted. RRCGE publishes a newsletter and sponsors meetings and conferences about gifted education. Every other year a regional conference is sponsored.

Regional Special Education Director

Region VII Directors of Special Education meet monthly in Washington County. The purpose of the meetings are to receive new and updated information from the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). A representative from the group attends monthly meetings in Richmond and presents updates provided by the Special Education & Student Services. Each region has a representative from the VDOE who attends the monthly meetings to provide additional support and information to the special education directors. In addition, special education information is shared between school divisions, presentations are provided by community agencies, vendors, and school staff. Meetings are an opportunity for networking and collaboration for divisions in Region VII.

School Health Coordinator

Giles Health Coordinator attends several meetings throughout the school year. Attendance is expected in order to obtain the latest knowledge needed to perform my School Health Coordinator job duties.

Medicaid Conference – Annual meeting in October in Charlottesville. This training is necessary in order to render nursing services in accordance with licensing standards and criteria of the Virginia Board of Nursing. Do all Medicaid billing for nursing and personnel care assistant services.

Attend Southwest Virginia School Nurses meetings four times a year where I serve as Vice President. My job is to provide educational speakers for the meeting and fill in for the President in her absence.

Attend the Virginia School Health Coordinators Meeting three-four times a year. These meetings are in Staunton and Richmond. The DOE School Health Specialist sends a calendar

of annual meetings (dates and location). We are expected to attend because information is given to us about upcoming Supts. Memos and legal issues. Information obtained to assist Virginia School Nurses with professional opportunities, current news pertaining to school nurses, timeline of significant events, links to community; resources and an abundance of knowledge through speakers.

Southwest Virginia Governor's School for Science and Technology

Students from Bland, Carroll, Galax, Giles, Pulaski, and Wythe counties and Radford City Public Schools are selected to attend a regular-year, half-day program at Pulaski County High School. Programs are designed to give students a greater awareness of the applications of science and math technology and an opportunity to develop skills needed at the college and professional level.

Superintendent

Giles County is part of Region VII, which is comprised of 19 total school divisions. The Superintendents from these division participate in monthly meetings with other Superintendents from the region to discuss topics that affect education and their divisions. These topics range from the GA Session, the budget, or Federal legislation. These meetings provide the opportunity to network with others who are facing similar situations and brainstorm possible solutions to these issues.

Western Virginia Public Education Consortium (WVPEC)

Utilizing the latest developments in technology, WVPEC will initiate and nurture systemic, sustainable, and collaborative efforts aimed at the improvement of learning conditions for all students in the WVPEC service area.

We have discontinued our association with SACS Accreditation.