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## NEWS

### September 13, 2012 – Division and School Report Cards

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### STAUNTON CITY SCHOOLS COMPARABLE TO STATE IN SUBGROUP PERFORMANCE

**Staunton, VA, September 13, 2012** – The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) has updated its online report cards for schools, school divisions, and the Commonwealth to include test-by-test and subject area pass rates for Asian, black, economically disadvantaged, Hispanic, limited-English proficient, white students, and students with disabilities. Overall, the subgroup performance of students within Staunton City Schools was similar to the trend lines set across the state.

The 2011-2012 reading assessment information for Staunton City School students reveals a similar pass rate from the previous year, with an overall division rating of 86%, comparable to the state average of 89%. Lee High School exceeded the state average in both reading and writing, with all subgroups scoring a range of 2 to 13% above the state average. McSwain exceeded the reading state average in two of three grade levels. Bessie Weller Elementary increased the overall reading results from the previous year by 5% for the combined group of economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and English language learners. Shelburne Middle School had a 7% reading increase for students with disabilities.

In mathematics, Staunton City Schools saw a decline in pass rates, as seen across the state, based on the new rigorous mathematics assessments that were implemented last year. The overall passing rate in Staunton for all students was 67%, similar to the state average of 68%. Three of the five schools in Staunton exceeded the state average in the subgroup of economically disadvantaged. Ware Elementary School exceeded the state average in all subgroups, with all subgroups scoring a range of 4 to 33% above the state average.

Science results in Staunton City Schools also indicate a similar pass rate as that of the state in the overall performance. Staunton City Schools performed at 89%, compared with the state average of 91%. Lee High School exceeded the science state average in the black subgroup by 7% and students with disabilities subgroup by 14%. The science pass rate for students with disabilities at Lee High School was a 23% increase from the previous year.

History saw a slight increase in pass rates from the previous year in all subgroups, ranging from 2% - 5% increase, with the largest increases for Staunton City Schools in the area of economically disadvantaged. The overall pass rate in history for Staunton City Schools is 80%, compared with the state average of 85%.

Staunton City Schools will continue to support individual student achievement and work to meet and exceed state benchmarks. As State Superintendent Patricia Wright has stated, "What matters now is where we go from here."

Our teachers and staff are committed to working with each student to ensure the highest level of achievement. "We are aligning our curriculum, using data to inform our instructional practices, and focusing on the learning and understanding of students. The intentional focus and collaboration with students, staff, parents, and the community will lead to continued improvement," comments Director of Assessment, Stephanie Haskins.