It seemed like reaching for the moon.
- Barbara Johns
Civil Rights Education Advocate
Education Equity Summer Institute

sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education and the Secretary of Education, jointly with VCU's School of Education presents the 2018 Virginia is for All Learners: Education Equity Summer Institute

With generous support from Jobs For the Future (JFF)

This professional learning opportunity is funded by:
Virginia Project AWARE, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services
The Virginia Department of Education and Jobs For the Future (JFF)

The opinions expressed during this event do not necessarily represent endorsement of the funding agencies.

Use the App
This year, we are using the Attendify app for our conference. Attendify will update you on any changes to speakers and/or breakout sessions. It will also allow you to communicate with fellow attendees.

In order to use the app, please go to the event landing page. From there, you may download the app, either from your phone's app store or by scanning the bar code.

After you have downloaded the app and open it, you will see a screen that asks you to search for events. Click within the search box, and a prompt message will appear asking if you have an event code; click on the area reading “Enter Code.” For this event only, please enter “equity;” then click on the Submit button.

The “Event Page” will appear with some of the Institute information and a Join button at the bottom. You must join this event and create an account in order to use the app. Once you do that, you can do all sorts of things.

Wifi Network Name: VA_ForALL_Learners
Wifi Passphrase: vfaledequity

USE OUR HASHTAG #EdequityVA
Monday, July 23, 2018

7:15–8:15 a.m.  Registration

8:15–8:20 a.m.  Welcome
Dr. James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Commonwealth of Virginia

8:20–8:25 a.m.  Opening Remarks
The Honorable Atif Qarni, Secretary of Education
Commonwealth of Virginia

8:25–8:30 a.m.  Opening Remarks
Mr. Daniel Gecker, President, Virginia Board of Education

8:30–9:30 a.m.  KEYNOTE ADDRESS
From Massive Resistance in Virginia to ESSA:  Education is a Civil Right
The Honorable Robert C. “Bobby” Scott
Ranking Member, Education and the Workforce Committee
US House of Representatives (VA-03)

9:30–10:00 a.m.  Education Equity:  The National Landscape
Dr. Aaliyah Samuel, Education Policy Director
National Governor’s Association Center for Best Practice

10:00–10:30 a.m.  Context Setting:  Applying an Equity Lens to Student Outcomes in Virginia –
An Overview of Virginia Specific Achievement Gap Data
Ms. Leah Walker, Community and Minority Affairs Liaison
Virginia Department of Education

10:30–10:45 a.m.  Transition to Morning Breakout Sessions A

10:45–11:45 a.m.  DAY ONE:  Breakout Sessions A

Breakout #1:  One Fairfax: The Journey of Creating a Joint Equity Policy
E21-A&B
Dr. Francisco Durán, Chief Academic Officer and Equity Officer
Ms. Karla Bruce, Chief Equity Officer
Fairfax County Public Schools

Breakout #2:  What Does All-Access Instruction Look Like?
E10-A&B
Ms. Shannon Meyer, Instructional Coach and Educational Consultant

Breakout #3:  Diversifying the Educator Pipeline, The Role of EPPs
E10-C&D
Dr. Joan Johnson, Executive Director, Accreditation and Licensure
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Education
Breakout #4: Leveling the Playing Field for High Ability Students From Underrepresented Groups: Lessons Learned From Camp Launch
Parlor C
Dr. Tracy L. Cross, Jody and Layton Smith Professor of Psychology and Gifted Education, Executive Director, Center for Gifted Education and Institute for Research on the Suicide of Gifted Students, The College of William & Mary

Breakout #5: Achieving Success Through Inclusion
Parlor C
Mr. Jonathan Zur, President and CEO
Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities

11:45–Noon Transition to Lunch – Visit Vendor Tables and Virginia is For Learners Photo Booth
Noon Doors Open - Lunch is Served

Noon–1:15 p.m. KEYNOTE:
Reality Pedagogy
Dr. Chris Emdin is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology at Teachers College, Columbia University, where he also serves as Director of Science Education at the Center for Health Equity and Urban Science Education. He is also the Associate Director of the Institute for Urban and Minority Education at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Reality Pedagogy is an approach to teaching and learning that focuses on teachers gaining an understanding of student realities, and then using this information as the starting point for instruction. Merging real stories with theory, research and practice, Emdin shares his theory of Reality Pedagogy and provides practical tools that unleash the brilliance and eagerness of youth and educators alike.

1:15–1:30 p.m. Remarks:
The Honorable Ralph Northam, Governor of Virginia

1:30–1:45 p.m. Transition to Afternoon Breakout Sessions B

1:45–2:45 p.m. DAY ONE: Breakout Sessions B

Breakout #1: Embracing Equity – Policy Levers Making Impact
E21-A&B
Dr. Aaliyah Samuel, Education Policy Director
National Governor’s Association Center for Best Practice

Breakout #2: Equity and Mental Health in Schools
E11-A&B
Dr. Kristen Jamison, Founder
The Loop Center for Social and Emotional Development

Breakout #3: Preparing Teachers and School Leaders for Diverse Classrooms
E10-C&D
Ms. Maria Hyler, Learning Policy Institute

Breakout #4: Teaching and Learning from the Student’s Standpoint
(Continuation of Keynote)
Parlor C
Dr. Chris Emdin is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology at Teachers College, Columbia University, where he also serves as Director of Science Education at the Center for Health Equity and Urban Science Education. He is also the Associate Director of the Institute for Urban and Minority Education at Teachers College, Columbia University.
In an age where terms like “multiculturalism” and “cultural relevance” have been littered across the educational landscape, teachers and administrators still have a challenging time implementing instructional approaches/tools that meet the needs of a diverse student population. Education speaker Christopher Emdin explores the current educational buzz words, bridges the divides between theory and practice, and provides tangible tools for educators on improving their practice.

Breakout #5: Prioritizing Equity in your School Division – Panel discussion of SUPERINTENDENTS
Moderated by Mr. Zachary Robbins, Policy Director
Virginia Department of Education
PANEL: Dr. Stanley Jones, Danville City Public Schools;
Dr. Marcus Newsome, Petersburg City Public Schools;
Dr. Rosa Adkins, Charlottesville City Public Schools; and
Dr. Jeff Smith, Hampton City Public Schools

This session will extend through breakout session C.

2:45–3:00 p.m. Transition to Late Afternoon Breakout Sessions C

3:00–4:00 p.m. DAY ONE: Breakout Sessions C

Breakout #1: Embracing Equity – Policy Levers Making Impact
E21-A&B
Dr. Aaliyah Samuel, Education Policy Director
National Governor’s Association Center for Best Practice

Breakout #2: Equity and Student Codes of Conduct
Parlor C
Ms. Rebecca Kahila, School Safety and Discipline Specialist
Virginia Department of Education

Breakout #3: Preparing Teachers and School Leaders for Diverse Classrooms
E10-C&D
Ms. Maria Hyler, Learning Policy Institute

Breakout #4: Leveling the Playing Field for High Ability Students From Underrepresented Groups: Lessons Learned From Camp Launch
E11-A&B
Dr. Tracy L. Cross, Jody and Layton Smith Professor of Psychology and Gifted Education, Executive Director, Center for Gifted Education & Institute for Research on the Suicide of Gifted Students, College of William & Mary

Breakout #5: Prioritizing Equity in your School Division – Panel discussion of EQUITY COORDINATORS
Moderated by Mr. Zachary Robbins, Policy Director
Virginia Department of Education
PANEL: Dr. Francisco Durán, Chief Academic Officer & Equity Officer, Fairfax County Public Schools;
Dr. Tameshia V. Grimes, Director of Equity and Student Support Services, Chesterfield County Public Schools;
Ms. Monica Manns, Director of Equity and Diversity, Henrico County Public Schools; and
Ms. Ethel Reeves, Director of Engagement, Equity, and Opportunity, Lynchburg City Public Schools

This session IS A CONTINUATION of break out session B.
Tuesday, July 24, 2018

7:30–9:00 a.m. Coffee Service

8:30–8:45 a.m. Welcome/House Keeping

8:45–10:30 a.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Deconstructing the Achievement Gap to Move from Equity to Excellence
Dr. Ivory Toldson, president and CEO of the QEM Network, professor of counseling psychology at Howard University and editor-in-chief of The Journal of Negro Education.

Try to imagine the absence of the school-to-prison pipeline. Now, imagine academically nourished children of color graduating from high school prepared to go to college. Try to imagine a school without implicit bias. Now, imagine a school where all teachers provide quality education and unconditional care to all learners, regardless of race. It is more effective to imagine the presence of a desirable outcome, than it is to imagine the absence of an undesirable outcome. This keynote address helps visionary leaders create images of how things should be; not merely opine about how things should not be, and begin to reevaluate our conventional understanding of the “achievement gap.” Closing the achievement gap is not simply about examining test score differences. It is about making sure every student, regardless of race or any other social characteristic, has the opportunity to achieve. This speech highlights the “PROPER” technique in educating students of color, which emphasizes the holistic factors by which students grow academically and developmentally.

10:30–10:45 a.m. Transition to Morning Breakout Sessions D

10:45–11:45 a.m. DAY TWO: Breakout Sessions D

Breakout #1: Profile of a Virginia Educator; EdLeader; and Graduate – Embedding Equity in Virginia’s K-12 Reforms
Ms. Gena Keller, Acting Chief Academic Officer
Virginia Department of Education

Breakout #2: Equity and Inclusion for LGBTQ Students
Dr. Jennifer Freeman, Assistant Professor
Center for Behavioral Education Research (CBER)
The University of Connecticut

Breakout #3: Breakout Session - Diverse Teachers and Diverse Learners: Promoting Culturally Relevant Education
Dr. Ivory Toldson, president and CEO of the QEM Network, professor of counseling psychology at Howard University and editor-in-chief of The Journal of Negro Education.

Today, of the more than 6 million teachers in the United States, nearly 80 percent are white, 9.3 percent are black, 7.4 percent are Hispanic, 2.3 percent are Asian and 1.2 percent is another race. Relative to the composition of preschool through 12th-grade students in the U.S., the current teaching force lacks racial and gender diversity. Black and Hispanic teachers are underrepresented in the U.S. teaching force. Nationally, black and Hispanic boys will spend most of their school experiences under cross-gender and cross-cultural supervision. Considering the entire student body, the U.S. has one white female teacher for every 15 students and one black male teacher for every 534 students. Racial differences between the teacher and student population can matter. A recent study found that black students were less likely to
perceive empathy and respect from their teachers and more likely to view the school as a punitive learning environment than white students. Still, any teacher, regardless of race, ethnicity or gender, can teach any student, regardless of race. Effective teachers exhibit openness, unconditional positive regard and empathy, as expressed in their ability to listen to and learn from the student. Educators’ feelings toward their students and knowledge of their students’ cultures are important to the students’ learning process.

Breakout #4: Applying an Equity Lens to Data You Already Collect – Do it Yourself
E10-C&D
Equity Dashboard
Dr. Jennifer Piver-Renna, Senior Executive Director for Research Virginia Department of Education

Breakout #5: Building Family & School Partnerships: Improving Outcomes For All Students
E11-A&B
Ms. Pamela B. Bell, Director of Family Engagement Henrico County Public Schools

11:45–Noon
Transition to Lunch – Visit Vendor Tables and Virginia is For Learners Photo Booth
Noon
Doors Open - Lunch is served
12:15 p.m.
Recognition of Social Media Contest Winners

12:30–2:00 p.m. KEYNOTE PANEL DISCUSSION:
Virginia is For ALL Learners: Ensuring Every Student is Life Ready
Connecting the Pieces; Profile of a Virginia Graduate, Engaged Learners, Virginia’s Accreditation Reforms
Moderated by Ms. Stephanie Krauss, Director of Special Projects, Jobs For the Future (JFF)
PANEL:
  Dr. James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction
  Mrs. Diane Atkinson, Vice-President, Virginia Board of Education
  Dr. Jamelle Wilson, Dean, School of Professional and Continuing Studies, University of Richmond and Member, Virginia Board of Education

2:00–2:15 p.m. Transition to Afternoon Breakout Session E

2:15–3:15 p.m. DAY TWO: Breakout Session E (Stay for Door Prizes afterwards)

Breakout #1: The Legacy of School Segregation: Causes, Experiences, and Implications for Today’s Virginia Student
Parlor C
Moderated by Mrs. Anne Holton, Member, Virginia Board of Education and Visiting Professor at George Mason University
Dr. Genevieve Siegel-Hawley, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Education

Breakout #2: Connecting Trauma Sensitive Practices and Equity When Addressing Difficult Behaviors
E21-A&B
Dr. Connie Honsinger, Trauma Specialist Chesterfield County Public Schools

Breakout #3: Applying an Equity Lens to College Access in Virginia
E10-A&B
Ms. Paula Robinson, Associate Director for College Access and Ms. Erin McGrath, Program Manager for GEAR UP State Council for Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV)
3:15–3:30 p.m.  Transition to Late Afternoon Breakout Session F

3:30–4:30 p.m.  DAY TWO:  Breakout Session F

Breakout #1:  Overcoming The Legacy of School Segregation: Intentional Strategies to Achieve Diverse and Equitable Schools
Parlor C
Moderated by Mrs. Anne Holton, Member, Virginia Board of Education
Dr. Genevieve Siegel-Hawley, Virginia Commonwealth University
School of Education

Breakout #2:  Let’s Make it Happen: Foundational Infrastructure Needed to Create a Division-wide Social-Emotional Wellness Tiered Approach
E21-A&B
Ms. Kim Dupre, Program Specialist for Project AWARE, Virginia Commonwealth University;
Ms. Jennifer Baldwin, Program Specialist for Project AWARE Montgomery County Public Schools and
Ms. Jeanne Veraska, Project AWARE/Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports (VTSS) Project Manager, Fairfax County Public Schools

Breakout #3:  Applying an Equity Lens to College Access in Virginia
E10-A&B
Ms. Paula Robinson, Associate Director for College Access and
Ms. Erin McGrath, Program Manager for GEAR UP
State Council for Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV)

Breakout #4:  Dean’s Mini Institute – Extension of Breakout E
E10-C&D
How Can Teacher Preparation and Schools of Education impact Equity for Students in Virginia?
Moderated by Dr. Andrew Daire, Dean, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Education
A conversation with Deans and Faculty Leaders from Virginia’s Schools of Education facilitated by Performance Management Group (PMG). Participants will receive a written report summarizing discussion and consensus points from this meeting.

4:30-5:00 p.m.  Adjourn/Networking
Dr. James F. Lane was appointed Virginia’s 25th superintendent of public instruction by Governor Ralph S. Northam, effective June 1, 2018.

As state superintendent, Dr. Lane serves as the executive officer of the Virginia Department of Education, which is the administrative agency for the commonwealth's public schools. He also serves as secretary of the state Board of Education.

Prior to his appointment as the commonwealth's chief school officer, Dr. Lane served as a division superintendent in Chesterfield County, Goochland County and Middlesex County. He was recognized as the 2017 Virginia Superintendent of the Year for his leadership in Goochland County.

Dr. Lane was one of 100 superintendents in the nation selected to attend the 2014 ConnectEd Superintendents Summit at the White House in recognition of his leadership in the use of instructional technology by his schools.

In 2015, the national Data Quality Campaign awarded its annual Flashlight award to Goochland County in recognition of the division’s achievements under Lane’s leadership in using data to empower educators and communicate with parents and the public.

Dr. Lane holds a doctorate in education from the University of Virginia, a master’s degree in school administration from North Carolina State University, and master’s and bachelor’s degrees in teaching from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Lane and his wife, Sarah, are the parents of two elementary school students in Chesterfield County.

William County, leading courses in civics, economics, U.S History, and mathematics. He also served as a GED Night School Instructor. In 2016, Atif was recognized as the Dale City Teacher of the Year.

In addition to his work as an educator, Atif is a former Sergeant of the United States Marine Corps, and was deployed to Iraq in 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has also served at the state level, having been appointed by Governor Terry McAuliffe to the Small Business Commission in 2013.

Secretary Qarni holds a Bachelor’s in Sociology from George Washington University as well as a Master’s in History and teaching license from George Mason University.

Mr. Daniel A. Gecker was appointed to the Board of Education by Governor Terry McAuliffe. Mr. Gecker was elected by the Board to serve as its president in July 2017.

Mr. Gecker is a partner in Urban Development Associates LLC, specializing in historical rehabilitation and urban revitalization. He was a member of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors from 2008 to 2014, serving as chairman in 2010 and 2012. Mr. Gecker has dedicated many years to community involvement through organizations including the Orchard House School Board, the Greater Richmond Partnership Board, and Bridging RVA.

Mr. Gecker is a graduate of Princeton University, where he received his degree in economics, the University of Southern California, where he received his masters of public administration, and William and Mary’s School of Law. He resides in Chesterfield County, where he and his wife raised four daughters.

Congressman Scott is also fighting to reform the nation’s criminal justice system. He has introduced the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education (PROMISE) Act, which would provide resources to state and local governments for evidence-based strategies and programs to prevent juvenile crime. In 2015, he and Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI) co-authored the Safe, Accountable, Fair, and Effective (SAFE) Justice Act, which has been recognized as one of the most comprehensive criminal justice reform bills in a generation and has attracted significant support from across the political spectrum.

Congressman Scott resides in Newport News, Virginia. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Boston College Law School. He also served in the Massachusetts National Guard and the United States Army Reserve.

Dr. Aaliyah A. Samuel is Director of the Education Division at NGA’s Center for Best Practices. Dr. Samuel’s work has focused on programs and policies regarding early literacy and language development, evidenced based programs, early childhood systems building, alignment of policies, programs and education reform initiatives. Before joining NGA, Dr. Samuel was the Senior Director of Family Support and Literacy with First Things First in Arizona, where...
Ms. Leah Dozier Walker currently serves as the Community and Minority Affairs Liaison for the Virginia Department of Education where she manages special initiatives on behalf of the state Superintendent of Public Instruction. Leah’s work is focused on soliciting engagement, partnerships and support for initiatives aimed at closing the achievement gap, promoting equity, and decreasing disproportionality in student outcomes in Virginia. While at the Department of Education, Leah successfully launched the Virginia Minority Educator Recruitment Summit and the Virginia Education Equity Summer Institute. Additionally, she led the Department’s efforts in support of the Secretary of Education’s Taskforce to Diversify Virginia’s Educator Pipeline; the Governor’s Advisory Council on Teacher Shortages; the Governor’s Children’s Cabinet Challenged Schools Initiative; the Petersburg City and Schools Partnership; and the Governor’s Classrooms Not Courtrooms Initiative. Leah earned her Bachelor’s of Arts Degree in Political Science from Hampton University, and a Masters of Public Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Christopher Emdin is an Associate Professor of Science Education and Director of Science Education in the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology at Teachers College, Columbia University. He also serves as Associate Director of the Institute For Urban and Minority Education at the college. Dr. Emdin holds a Ph.D. in Urban Education with a concentration in Mathematics, Science and Technology, a M.S. in Natural Sciences, and Bachelors degrees in Physical Anthropology, Biology, and Chemistry.

He was recently awarded the 2016 Early Career Award by the American Educational Researchers Association and 2015 Multicultural Educator of the Year by the National Association of Multicultural Educators. Professor Emdin was also selected as a STEM Access Champion of Change by the White House, and currently serves as Minorities in Energy Ambassador for the United States Department of Energy.

Dr. Emdin is also listed on the ROOT100 list of most influential African Americans in the fields of business, science, politics, technology, social justice, sports and entertainment.


Topics:
- The Crisis of Urban Education
- Teaching & Learning from the Student’s Standpoint
- Hip-Hop & Education
- Rethinking STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

Governor Ralph S. Northam of Virginia

Before he was inaugurated as the 73rd Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Ralph Northam served as an Army doctor, pediatric neurologist, business owner, state Senator and Lieutenant Governor.

A native of Virginia’s Eastern Shore, Governor Northam was educated at the Virginia Military Institute (VMI), where he graduated with distinction.

After graduation, Governor Northam was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army. He served eight years of active duty and rose to the rank of major.

He attended Eastern Virginia Medical School and then traveled to San Antonio for a pediatric residency, where he met his wife Pamela, a pediatric occupational therapist at the same hospital.

Governor Northam approaches public service with the same passion he brought to his military and medical service. He is committed to working with leaders from both parties to build a Virginia that works better for every family, no matter who they are or where they live.

Governor Northam is the first native of the Eastern Shore to serve as Governor since Governor Henry A. Wise took office 1856. He is also the first VMI Keydet to serve as Governor since Governor Westmoreland Davis took office in 1918.

Governor Northam and First Lady Pamela Northam have two adult children: Wes, a neurosurgical resident in Chapel Hill, and Aubrey, a web developer in Richmond.

Dr. Ivory A. Toldson is the president and CEO of the QEM Network, professor of counseling psychology at Howard University, editor-in-chief of The Journal of Negro Education, and executive editor of the Journal of the Center for Policy Analysis and Research, published by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. Previously, Dr. Toldson was appointed by President Barack Obama to devise national strategies to sustain and expand federal support to HBCUs, as the executive director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Since 2016, as QEM principal investigator, Dr. Toldson has been awarded more than $2 million to support capacity building efforts for STEM programs at Minority Serving Institutions from federal agencies including NSF and NASA. With more than 80 publications, Dr. Toldson was dubbed a leader “who could conceivably navigate the path to the White House” by the Washington Post, one of “30 leaders in the fight for Black men,” by Newsweek Magazine, and the “Problem Solver” by Diverse: Issues In Higher Education. A sought after speaker, Dr. Toldson has been featured on MSNBC, C-SPAN2, NPR News and numerous national and local radio stations. In print, his research has been featured in The Washington Post, CNN.com, The New York Times, The National Journal, Essence Magazine, BET.com, The Grio, and Ebony Magazine.
Dr. Toldson was named in The Root 100, an annual ranking of the most influential African-American leaders. He also served as contributing education editor for The Root, where he debunked some of the most pervasive myths about African-Americans and gained a national reputation for challenging “BS,” or Bad Stats. Dr. Toldson, according to former U.S. Secretary Arne Duncan, is “a prolific young scholar and myth buster.” According to NPR, “Toldson says the refusal to look at the data closely — to prefer a story over the facts — creates more problems than it solves.” According to the Washington Post, Dr. Toldson has a “spirit and irrepressible desire to beat the odds.”

He is married to Marshella Toldson, and together, they are raising their daughter, Makena and their son, Ivory Kaleb.

Ms. Stephanie Malia Krauss is director of special projects at JFF. She develops, shapes, funds, and manages cross-team and cross-strategy projects that further JFF’s ability to best serve its target populations, ensuring their education and economic advancement.

Previously, Ms. Krauss served as a senior fellow with the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce, the Forum for Youth Investment and JFF. As a senior fellow, she took on various national- and state-level initiatives focusing on postsecondary credentialing, competency-based education, youth readiness, and opportunity youth. She has served as campaign director of Connecting Credentials and co-director of The Readiness Project. In addition, Ms. Krauss founded and served as Chief Executive Officer of Shearwater Education Foundation, where she successfully pushed for state policy change and the cultivation of partnerships to enable competency-based education and flexible learning opportunities for St. Louis City’s disconnected youth, including those in foster care, coming out of the justice system, or experiencing homelessness.

One of the youngest-ever recruits to Teach For America, Ms. Krauss began her career as a fifth-grade teacher, at age 18, servicing a mostly Latino migrant community in Phoenix, Arizona. While teaching, she spent her summers training teachers in rural and impoverished communities in East Africa.

Ms. Krauss has been a guest commentator on PBS NewsHour, StoryCorps, and public radio. She holds a master’s degree in curriculum and instruction from Arizona State University and a master’s degree in social and economic development of youth from Washington University in St. Louis.

Mrs. Diane Atkinson is a graduate of Syracuse University, where she received her bachelor’s degree in Education, and the University of Richmond’s School of Law.

She was appointed to the Virginia Board of Education in April 2012 by Governor Robert F. McDonnell and reappointed for a second 4-year term by Governor Terry McAuliffe. She was elected vice-president of the Board in July 2017. She has served as chairman of the Board’s Committee on School and Division Accountability since May 2013 and has served on the Board’s Committee for Evidence-based Policymaking since its establishment in January 2018.

She began her career in education as a special education teacher and taught in Rhode Island and Connecticut. Following her graduation from law school, she began working as an educational consultant at the Virginia Department of Education in September 1985. Following her marriage in July 1987, she worked at the United States Department of Education in the Office of Special Education Programs. Upon returning to Virginia, she worked again at the Virginia Department of Education. During her career at the Virginia Department of Education, she has served as a Special Education Complaints Coordinator to the Assistant Superintendent for Policy and Public Affairs and a Special Advisor to the State Superintendent. She left the Virginia Department of Education in September 2001 to serve on the Virginia Board of Education following her appointment by Governor James Gilmore to serve the unexpired term of a deceased board member.

She has been active in her community and currently serves as the Secretary for a 501c3 charitable organization, Hope for Families Worldwide, which provides camp experiences for children living in poverty in Latvia, Costa Rica and the City of Richmond.

Dr. Jamelle S. Wilson was appointed to the Board of Education for a four year term in 2017 by Governor Terry McAuliffe.

Dr. Wilson serves as the fifth dean of the University of Richmond School of Professional and Continuing Studies (SPCS). Prior to her appointment as dean, Dr. Wilson served as Superintendent of Schools for Hanover County, Virginia. Before her appointment as superintendent, Dr. Wilson worked in Hanover County Public Schools as a classroom teacher, a lead teacher, an assistant principal, a principal and an assistant superintendent.

Dr. Wilson was the 2015 Region 1 Superintendent of the Year and currently serves on the Board of Governors of the International Baccalaureate Organization and is immediate past Chair of the Association Board of Directors of the YMCA of Greater Richmond.

Dr. Wilson earned a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in English and a Master of Teaching (M.T.) from the University of Virginia, a Master of Arts (M.A.) in English, Writing and Rhetoric from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a doctorate (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, also from the University of Virginia.
VIRGINIA MILESTONES IN EDUCATION CIVIL RIGHTS

Late May 1861 - African American teachers establish the first openly taught black schools in Virginia.

September 17, 1861 - Mary A. Peake opens a school in Hampton; at about the same time, schools are opened in Yorktown, Norfolk, and Fort Monroe to serve refugees fleeing nearby plantations.

1862 - Clement Robinson, a former slave from Petersburg and a student at the Ashman Institute in Pennsylvania, establishes Beulah Normal and Theological School in Alexandria.

1866 - Petersburg’s school board, with assistance from the Freedmen’s Bureau and the Peabody Education Fund, opens several public schools serving African American children. Giles Buckner Cooke is appointed principal of one of them, Elementary School Number 1, reportedly the first public school for black children in Virginia.

1908 - Virginia Estelle Randolph is appointed the first Jeanes Supervising Industrial Teacher, establishing a formal in-service training in Virginia for African American teachers.

1939 - Robert Russa Moton High School, named for the Virginia-born educator and built with Public Works Administration funding, opens for black students in Prince Edward County. It is one of only twelve black high schools in rural Virginia.

April 23, 1951 - Under the leadership of Barbara Johns, fellow students at the all-black Robert Russa Moton High School in the town of Farmville in Prince Edward County walk out of their school to protest the unequal conditions of their education as compared to those of the white students in nearby Farmville High School.

May 23, 1951 - The NAACP files the suit Davis, et al. v. County School Board of Prince Edward County, Virginia in federal court, challenging the constitutionality of segregated education in Prince Edward County schools on behalf of black students and their parents.

May 17, 1954 - The U.S. Supreme Court rules in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas, that segregation in schools is unconstitutional.

May 5, 1959 - The U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals overturns Judge Sterling Hutcherson’s ruling in the case of segregated schools in Prince Edward County and orders Prince Edward to integrate its schools by September 1, 1959. NAACP and Prince Edward County lawyers will continue to fight in court over desegregation of the schools for the next five years.

March 28, 1962 - Martin Luther King Jr. visits Prince Edward County.

May 25, 1964 - After Prince Edward County’s public schools have been closed for the previous five years, the U.S. Supreme Court in Griffin v. School Board of Prince Edward County rules that the county has violated the students’ right to an education and orders the Prince Edward County schools to reopen.

September 8, 1964 - About 1,500 students, all but eight black, attend classes in the Prince Edward County public schools for the first time in five years.

April 23, 2001 - The Robert Russa Moton Museum for the study of civil rights in education opens in the former Moton High School on the fiftieth anniversary of the school strike for equal facilities for black students in Prince Edward County.

July 21, 2008 - The Virginia Civil Rights Memorial is dedicated in Capitol Square in Richmond. One side of the four-sided monument recognizes Barbara Johns and her fellow students, their parents, community leaders, and civil rights attorneys.

SOURCE: Virginia Historical Society (http://www.vahistorical.org/)