



VIRGINIA COMMISSION ON YOUTH

Meeting Minutes

Commission Meeting

May 6, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

General Assembly Building, Senate Committee Room A

Attending:

Senators: Barbara Favola (Chair), Dave Marsden, David Suetterlein;
Delegates: Carrie Coyner (Vice-chair), Joshua Cole, Karrie Delaney, Holly Seibold,
Citizen Member: Mackenzie Babichenko

Not Attending:

Delegates: Irene Shin and Anne Ferrell Tata
Citizen Member: Rita Jones and Jessica Jones-Healey

Staff Attending:

Amy Atkinson, Will Egen

I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Senator Barbara A. Favola, Chair

Senator Barbara Favola called the meeting to order and welcomed Commission members and attendees. Senator Favola introduced Amy Atkinson, Executive Director for the Virginia Commission on Youth, to review the proposed study plans and initiatives for the 2025 study year.

II. Approval of Commission on Youth 2025 Study Plans and Initiatives

Amy M. Atkinson, Executive Director

Amy Atkinson explained the five 2025 studies and initiatives requested consideration and approval from Commission members to complete the studies during the current year. The studies included the following:

- Discharge Planning from Inpatient Treatment to a Public School
- Review of Virginia's Special Education Dispute Resolution System

- *Collection of Evidence-Based Practices for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Treatment Needs*
- Office of the Children's Ombudsman Relief of Custody Work Group
- School-Based Mental Health Review

These study plans can be accessed on the Commission's webpage under the meetings tab.

III. Review and Approval of Commission on Youth Remote Meeting Policy

Will Egen, Senior Policy Analyst

Will Egen reminded the Commission that based on current law the Commission must at least once annually adopt a policy on remote meeting participation, if the Commission wishes to allow its members to use remote participation. Mr. Egen described the current policy before the Commission which is identical to the policy adopted by the Commission on October 22, 2024. After presenting, a motion was made and seconded and the policy was adopted unanimously.

This policy can be accessed on the Commission's webpage under the meetings tab.

IV. Maximizing School-based Mental Health Services

Nathalie Molliet-Ribet, Executive Director, Behavioral Health Commission

Claire Pickard Mairead, Associate Policy Analyst

Senator Favola introduced Nathalie Molliet-Ribet, Executive Director to present on their 2023 study Maximizing School-based Mental Health Services. Ms. Molliet-Ribet introduced the topic then turned the presentation over to Claire Pickard Mairead, Associate Policy Analyst. Ms. Mairead reviewed the background of mental health in schools, availability of mental health services, resource challenges, status of study recommendations, and relevance to the Commission on Youth.

This presentation can be accessed on the Commission's webpage under the meetings tab.

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.