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## Board of Directors

*A Board of Directors comprised of one superintendent from each Virginia superintendents' region leads the work of the Coalition.*

### Region One

David Gaston, Vice President  
Charles City Public Schools

### Region Two

Eddie Lawrence  
Northampton County Public Schools

### Region Three

Peter M. Gretz  
Middlesex County Public Schools

### Region Four

Mark Johnston  
Shenandoah County Public Schools

### Region Five

Chuck Winkler  
Fluvanna County Public Schools

### Region Six

Eugene Kotulka, Treasurer  
Alleghany County Public Schools

### Region Seven

Keith Perrigan, President  
Bristol City Public Schools

### Region Eight

Amy Griffin, Secretary  
Cumberland County Public Schools

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## Current Members of the Coalition of Small & Rural Schools of VA Include:

Alleghany County  
Amelia County  
Appomattox County  
Augusta County  
Bland County  
Bristol City  
Buchanan County  
Buckingham County  
Buena Vista City  
Caroline County  
Carroll County  
Charles City  
Charlotte County  
Clarke County  
Covington City  
Craig County  
Cumberland County  
Dickenson County  
Dinwiddie County  
Essex County  
Floyd County  
Fluvanna County  
Franklin County  
Galax City  
Giles County  
Gloucester County  
Grayson County  
Greene County  
Greensville County  
Halifax County  
Henry County  
Highland County  
King and Queen County  
King George County  
King William County  
Lancaster County

Lexington City  
Louisa County  
Lunenburg County  
Madison County  
Mathews County  
Mecklenburg County  
Middlesex County  
Northampton County  
Norton City  
Nottoway County  
Orange County  
Page County  
Patrick County  
Pittsylvania County  
Powhatan County  
Prince Edward County  
Pulaski County  
Radford City  
Rappahannock County  
Rockbridge County  
Russell County  
Salem City  
Scott County  
Shenandoah County  
Smyth County  
Southampton County  
Surry County  
Tazewell County  
VA Dept. of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)  
Warren County  
Washington County  
Westmoreland County  
Wise County  
Wythe County

To learn more about the Small and Rural Division Coalition contact:

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# The Coalition of Small & Rural Schools of Virginia



## These Primary Areas of Focus Will Guide the Coalition's Work in 2019-20



***Small, rural school divisions across Virginia continue to face declining student enrollments, difficulty competing for high-quality teachers, inadequate facility and capital projects funding and pressure from unfunded mandates at both state and federal levels, placing them at a significant financial disadvantage with larger school divisions.***

### **Teacher Recruitment and Retention**

Limited resources for competitive pay and supply budgets make recruiting high quality teachers a special challenge for small, rural divisions.

### **Enrollment Loss**

Decreased student enrollment and per pupil state funding leave rural divisions at a financial disadvantage and make it hard to offer a wide range of programs and curricula to students.

### **School Construction Funding**

Old, outdated equipment and facilities result in higher maintenance costs and physical space often comparably unsuitable for learning.

Standards redefine how the state determines school accreditation based on subgroup performance. Including groups with fewer than 30 students creates an unequal, unfair comparison of large divisions to smaller divisions.

### **The Small N**

The newly-enacted Virginia Accreditation



## An Issue of Immediate Importance: At-Risk Funding

Va's budget includes additional funding to support divisions addressing the needs of at-risk students but it lags well below the national average. The Coalition seeks to see this funding increased. All schools in the Commonwealth will benefit and small and rural divisions are treated more equitably through this additional support. By providing flexibility to use the funding for recruiting and retaining great teachers, small and rural divisions have a better chance of providing high quality instruction and deeper student learning.



## A Purposeful Partnership

The Coalition of Small & Rural Schools of VA was established in 2017 to provide divisions with a strong, collaborative partnership. Insisting on a "hold harmless" approach to legislation and policy impacting non-participating divisions, the Coalition seeks to better advocate for the students, teachers, staff and stakeholders of small and rural school communities throughout the commonwealth.