



## SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Dr. Gwendolyn P. Shannon, Division Superintendent

Dr. Deborah Goodwyn, Chairman  
Denise Bunn, Vice-Chairman

June 13, 2025

Greetings, Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

As we close the 2024-2025 school year, we are writing to inform you of the full implementation of the Virginia Literacy Act (VLA) in grades 4-8 in the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. This transformative initiative marks a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to fostering literacy excellence among our students. The VLA, enacted by the Virginia General Assembly, aims to ensure that every child in our state receives high-quality, evidence-based literacy instruction using high quality instructional materials and based on science based reading research. By focusing on early literacy skills development, the act aims to lay a strong foundation for academic success and lifelong learning.

Attached to this letter is the Southampton County Public Schools (SCPS) year-end newsletter providing information regarding the full implementation next school year. The newsletter also contains the SCPS Literacy Vision. This vision is designed to be a pillar for our school community and stakeholders during implementation of the VLA. Our objective is to ensure that all actions carried out during implementation will revolve around these comprehensive ideals and goals. Our division remains dedicated to providing the best possible literacy instruction and education to your student.

By fully implementing the Virginia Literacy Act, we are committed to equipping every student with the literacy skills they need to succeed academically and thrive in the 21st century. We invite you to partner with us in this important endeavor and encourage you to engage with your child's school to learn more about how you can support literacy at home.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the education of our students.

Sincerely,

Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Southampton County Public Schools

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