

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2020 SESSION

## CHAPTER 872

*An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-199.7, relating to the Department of Education; community schools.*

[H 1355]

Approved April 8, 2020

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-199.7 as follows:**

**§ 22.1-199.7. Community schools.**

*A. In order to remove nonacademic barriers to learning as a means to enhance student academic success in public elementary and secondary schools throughout the Commonwealth, the Department of Education shall establish an interagency task force composed of state and local agencies and entities in the areas of early childhood development, health, social services, community engagement, family engagement, higher education, communities in schools, and workforce development for the purpose of (i) developing a program for the establishment of community schools whereby public elementary and secondary schools serve as centers for the provision of such community programs and services to students and their families as may be necessary on the basis of unique needs of the student population to be served and (ii) developing and providing to the Governor, the Secretary of Education, local school boards, and other interested state, local, and private entities policy recommendations relating to the coordinated delivery of community services to students and their families and the operation of community schools throughout the Commonwealth in accordance with the Virginia Community School Framework.*

*B. The community schools program established pursuant to subsection A shall include a process by which school boards and community partnerships consisting of school boards and other community and service providers may apply to the Department of Education to designate an elementary or secondary school in the local school division as a community school. The application process shall include requirements for applicants to provide a plan for the sustainability of the community school and for the measurement of the success and effectiveness of the community school. The Department of Education shall consult with the interagency task force established pursuant to subsection A in the selection of applications and the designation of community schools.*

**2. In implementing the provisions of this act, the Department of Education (the Department) shall adhere to its recommendations as published in the Virginia Community School Framework in October 2019, subject to any further research, development, modification of, or addition to such recommendations by the Department.**