

Rivanna Ridge Professional Building 200 Hansen Road, Suite 2 Charlottesville. VA 22911

## **News Release**

### For Immediate Release

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#### Contact

Gina Patterson, executive director 434-295-8722 or <a href="mailto:gina@vsba.org">gina@vsba.org</a>

# Virginia School Boards Association President Visits Greensville County Public Schools to Highlight Innovation and Inclusivity

**Charlottesville, VA –** Yesterday, November 6, 2024, Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) President, Dr. Cardell Patillo, made his 23rd stop on the VSBA President's Roadshow with a visit to Greensville County Public Schools (GCPS). This visit showcased the division's dedication to educational innovation, inclusivity, and wellness across various age groups and learning environments.

Dr. Patillo's afternoon in Greensville County began with a visit to Greensville County High School, where he learned more about the school's Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program. This program aims to close the opportunity gap by preparing all students in the school division for college, career readiness, and global success.

The afternoon continued with a stop at Greensville Elementary School where Dr. Patillo was able to view the school's new ADA-compliant playground. Designed to be fully inclusive, the playground features adaptive equipment, including a zero-G swing chair, an ADA-compliant wheel spinner that accommodates up to two wheelchairs simultaneously, an inclusive seesaw, and harmonic chimes. The playground, built on poured rubber surfacing, ensures accessibility for children of all abilities, highlighting the school division's commitment to equity and inclusivity for their youngest students.

The final visit of the day took place at the YMCA of Emporia-Greensville, where Dr. Patillo observed the Edward W. Wyatt Middle School Swimming Class in action. This unique program emphasizes the importance of physical education and water safety skills for students, providing them with valuable swimming instruction and fostering lifelong health and fitness habits.

"Greensville County Public Schools exemplifies a commitment to inclusion, opportunity, and wellness through programs like the AVID initiative, the ADA-compliant playground, and the middle school swimming partnership," said Dr. Cardell Patillo. "Each of these initiatives reflects a dedication to empowering every student to succeed. I'm grateful to Greensville County for the opportunity to witness these impactful efforts firsthand."

#### **About the Virginia School Boards Association**

The Virginia School Boards Association, a voluntary, nonpartisan organization of Virginia school boards, promotes excellence in public education through advocacy, training, and services. The Association offers conferences, information, training, and counseling designed to meet the needs of the Commonwealth's educational leaders.

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