



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

# News Release

## For Immediate Release

November 8, 2024

### Contact

Gina Patterson, executive director  
434-295-8722 or [gina@vsba.org](mailto:gina@vsba.org)

### Virginia School Boards Association President Makes Roadshow Stop at Henry County Public Schools

**Charlottesville, VA** – Yesterday, November 7, 2024, Dr. Cardell Patillo, Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) president, made his 24th stop on the VSBA President’s Roadshow with a visit to Henry County Public Schools. During his visit, Dr. Patillo visited Axton Elementary School.

Axton Elementary, recognized for its dedicated and experienced staff, has been instrumental in creating a supportive environment, particularly for its growing Hispanic student population. As part of Dr. Patillo’s visit, the school showcased the work of its English Learner (EL) staff, who provide essential support for language acquisition, bridging language gaps and helping students achieve academic success.

Additionally, Dr. Patillo toured Axton Elementary’s newly upgraded media center, a modern, flexible space designed to enhance student engagement and learning. The media center now includes updated technology and resources to meet the needs of today’s learners and to foster collaboration and creativity.

The visit also featured Axton Elementary’s recent playground improvements, with the addition of inclusive equipment that ensures students of all abilities can participate in outdoor activities. This playground upgrade represents the school’s ongoing commitment to equity and accessibility, providing a safe, fun, and inclusive environment for all students.

“It’s truly inspiring to see the dedication of Axton Elementary’s staff and the commitment of Henry County Public Schools to fostering success for every student,” said Dr. Patillo. “From the exceptional work of the EL team in supporting language acquisition to the investments in inclusive playground equipment and an upgraded media center, Axton Elementary is a shining example of an environment where students can thrive. Henry County Public Schools is setting a high standard for public education, and today’s visit underscores the incredible impact of these efforts.”

### 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.

###