



American Youth Policy Forum

Scaling Deeper Learning in Virginia: A Focus on Preparing Teachers and Principals

An AYPF Study Tour

Richmond, VA

17-19 November, 2019

How are students in Virginia being provided with more deeper learning opportunities – opportunities to master rigorous core academic content; to engage in critical thinking and problem solving; to experience teamwork and collaboration; to become effective communicators; to learn how to learn; and to cultivate an academic mindset? On this study tour we will examine how administrators and teachers are being prepared to provide deeper learning experiences to students.

Participants will visit the Hopewell and Cumberland school districts. Through conversations with students, teachers, administrators, and business leaders, as well as explorations of classrooms, participants will witness first-hand how to create a teaching and learning environment that supports the development of deeper learning competencies and incorporates hands-on learning that gives students industry-specific skills that prepare them for careers.

Participants will also hear from educators at the College of William and Mary, to learn about redesign efforts around school leadership, and how state leaders are thinking about the in-service and pre-service work necessary to transform school leadership. We will also learn about the Virginia is for Learners Innovation Network, which is working to build capacity in school divisions for innovation.

High-level state and district education policy leaders will join the study tour to share with participants an understanding of the state policy conditions that support the promotion of deeper learning and the Profile of a Graduate at the district and state levels. The policy discussions will focus on effective and scalable models, capacity building, professional development, funding, curriculum, instruction, innovative assessments, and data and reporting systems. State teams will enjoy time to reflect on necessary policy conditions as it relates to their own states, as well as learn from colleagues in other states.

Sunday, November 17, 2019:

4:00 – 4:30pm **Welcome, Introductions, and Program Overview – AYPF staff**

4:30 – 5:00pm **Distributed Leadership in VA – Overview**
Stephanie Krauss, Senior Director, Special Projects, Jobs for the Future
Gena Keller, Former Asst. Superintendent for Learning, VA Department of Education

5:00 – 6:00pm **Overview of Deeper Learning and Supportive State Policies in Virginia**
This panel will provide insight into Virginia is for Learners, the development and implementation of the Profile of a Virginia Graduate and Profile of a Virginia Education Leader, modernizing the Virginia Standards of Learning, and efforts to

strengthen professional development for teachers and administrators.
Atif Qarni, Secretary of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia
James Lane, State Superintendent, VA Department of Education
Holly Coy, Deputy Secretary of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia

6:00 – 6:45pm **Networking Dinner**

6:45 – 7:30pm **Presentation: Educational Equity in VA**

Monday, November 18, 2019:

6:30 – 7:00am Breakfast

7:00 – 8:00am Travel to Hopewell High School
Participants will learn about the implementation of Deeper Learning and performance assessments, as well as opportunities students have for internships.

8:00am – 11:30am Site visit at Hopewell High School
At Hopewell High we will learn about the tools being put in place for the full implementation of performance tasks, and how teachers are being provided with professional development. What is the impact of these changes on instructional practices in class? What is the role of school leadership in providing feedback to teachers? How does the implementation of performance tasks tie in to the Profile of a Graduate?

11:30am – 12:30pm Return to Hotel in Richmond

12:30pm – 1:30pm Lunch at hotel with presenters from College of William and Mary

1:30pm – 4pm Presentations: Faculty of William and Mary School of Education, etc.

Steve Staples, Executive Professor, William and Mary School of Education
Steve Constantino, Executive Professor, Educational Policy, Planning and Leadership Department, William and Mary School of Education
Peggie Constantino, Director of Executive Ed.D. Programs, William and Mary School of Education

Steve Staples, Steve Constantino and Peggy Constantino will discuss the **Executive Ed.D. program in Educational Policy, Planning and Leadership (EPPL)** that focuses on practicing professionals who are in K-12 leadership settings. We will also learn about **School Retool** that is helping high school principals develop the vision and mindset to redesign their school culture to include deeper learning practices.

4:00 – 4:15pm Break

4:15– 5:30pm **State Team Time**
5:30 – 6:30pm **Dinner on your own**

Tuesday, November 19, 2019:

6:00 – 7:00am **Breakfast**
7:00 – 8:00am **Travel to Cumberland High School**
8:00am – 11:30am **Site Visit to Cumberland High School**

Participants will learn about the implementation of Deeper Learning and the use of performance assessments, as well as opportunities students have for internships and dual enrollment. Cumberland is participating in the Virginia is for Learners Innovation Network, and we will learn more about professional development for teachers being provided by this network.

11:30am – 12pm Debrief Learning, with a focus on policy implications –with **Gena Keller**
12:00 – 1:00pm **Travel back to Richmond, VA airport and study tour concludes.**