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News Release

For Immediate Release

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Janet Turner-Giles Elected VSBA President



November 20, 2020 – Janet Turner-Giles, who has served on the Nelson County School Board since 2014, has been named President of the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) at the association’s annual convention, which took place Virtually from November 18-20. Janet was voted in as President during the virtual VSBA Delegate Assembly on Monday, November 16th, and took over as President during the closing session of the Convention on Friday, November 20.

Janet has served five years on the Nelson County School Board and has held several leadership positions with the VSBA, including serving as an at-large member, a chair of the Central region, a nominating committee member, a member of the Audit committee, and a member of the finance committee. In addition, Janet has served on the VDOE School Readiness Committee since 2016 and chaired the VSBA Task Force on Collective Bargaining which was created in 2020.

"It is a great honor to serve in this role on behalf of the Virginia School Boards Association and our membership," said Janet. "The Virginia School Boards Association’s core mission is to strengthen and empower our school boards, I look forward to working with school boards across this great Commonwealth and other groups and individuals that share our passion for public education. The last year has been especially tough for public schools, it is important now more than ever for school board members to lean in and do the hard work so that our students can succeed, we must remember the students are our why."

In addition to Janet, Teddy Martin II of Henry County was elected president-elect, and Cardell Patillo of Portsmouth City and Iris Lane of Westmoreland County were elected as members-at-large. VSBA’s 2019-2020 president, Rodney A. Jordan of Norfolk City, will serve on the VSBA Board of Directors as immediate past-president.

President Janet, appointed James E. Coleman Jr. of Lynchburg City as chair of the VSBA Finance/Audit Committee, and appointed David R. Woodard of Tazewell County as chair of the VSBA Legislative Positions/Federal Relations Committee.

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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