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News Release

For Immediate Release

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2020 VSBA High School Student Video Contest Winners Announced

November 18, 2020 - The Virginia School Boards Association's (VSBA) ninth annual student video contest challenged high school students across Virginia to create a 30-second video around the theme of "How Virtual Learning Changed My School Year." This year's contest was proudly sponsored by Haney Phinyowattanachip PLLC. The first, second and third place winners, selected out of 10 submissions, were announced today at the opening general session of the Virtual VSBA Annual Convention, and the videos were shared with the convention's attendees. The videos were reviewed by a panel of judges from within the video production field. The judges stated that the first place video although not a conventional winner, offered a truly authentic perspective on the current state of education for our students. They added that it offered a portrait that hadn't been seen but which left a lasting impression, even going as far as to say that among the submissions this is the one that would come to mind in five years when recalling this period of time.

1st Place: "More Than a Student" <https://youtu.be/DSQqfuWsblo>

Varina High School Center for Communications and Media Relations (Henrico County Public Schools) – Justin Abernathy and Damian Scott

2nd Place: "Different Look, Same Great School" <https://youtu.be/6997qpLeA9k>

Smithfield High School (Isle of Wight County Public Schools) - Alexandra Grossman

3rd Place: "Stronger Together" <https://youtu.be/4dc1Z7g3bEg>

Hanover High School (Hanover County Public Schools) – Ruthie Weeks, Paris Dailey, Kirsten McCarty, Diego Alleyne, Mason Johnson and Addy Klinger

The contest gives students an opportunity to create thought-provoking videos individually, in a small group, or as a class project. Videos were judged on how well they addressed the topic, the quality of the production of the video (with consideration given to the remote nature of instruction for many divisions at the time of the contest), as well as the depth of thought and creativity of the video. The contest was open to Virginia public high school students and one entry per school division was accepted.

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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