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# News Release

**For Immediate Release**

June 24, 2021

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## **Fredericksburg City School Governance Team Becomes a VSBA Master Board**

**Charlottesville, VA** – The Fredericksburg City School Board and Superintendent are the third school governance team in Virginia to earn the designation of a VSBA Master Board. The Team attended four sessions totaling over twenty-four hours of professional development beginning in April and concluding on June 24. The discussions, facilitated by staff of the Virginia School Boards Association, focused on team building, improving communication, listening, and board building behaviors.

“The VSBA Master Board Training has benefited the Fredericksburg School Board on a number of levels. We have learned about ourselves as individual board members, and we’ve learned communication and feedback skills,” said School Board Chair Jannan Holmes. “Most importantly, this training has strengthened us as a team. We are re-energized, refocused, and ready to work for FCPS during this time of transition and growth.”

“To become a Master Board takes a commitment of time and energy, and a willingness to learn about good board governance practices,” said VSBA Executive Director Gina Patterson. “As only the third board in the state to achieve this honor I would like to congratulate the Fredericksburg City Governance Team for this great accomplishment.”

The Virginia School Boards Association offers individualized professional development activities and training to school boards across Virginia. These sessions are personalized based on the need of the school board governance team. The VSBA Master Board Training program guides a school board and superintendent through numerous activities and modules that include personality assessments, team building exercises and prompts discussions focused on building a team and the many facets of communication.

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

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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