

**REPORT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ON**

**Fire Prevention
Education Programs
in Public Schools**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



SENATE DOCUMENT NO. 11

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
1990**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RESPONSE TO
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 165**

The Department of Education began revising the Standards of Learning objectives for health education in August 1989. Representatives from the Fire Marshal's Office, Fire Programs Service, and Department of Forestry served on the revision committee. The objectives related to fire prevention education were increased and strengthened for kindergarten through grade ten. The objectives will be finalized in the summer of 1990. The assessment strategies will be completed in the spring of 1991.

A memo has been sent to all division superintendents to encourage them to continue to work with outside resources in their community to assist in strengthening fire prevention education in the schools. (See attached memorandum).

The Department of Fire Programs has submitted a report which includes the number of schools using fire-related agencies to bring fire prevention education programs into the schools, the number and types of programs presented, and the number and grade level of students participating, and the names of the participating agencies. (See attached report). While this is not a complete report of school programs because many of the community resources did not document or report to the Fire Program office, a more complete report based on a survey to be conducted by the Department of Education will be submitted to the 1991 General Assembly.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P. O. BOX 6Q
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23216

SUPTS. MEMO NO. 262
December 6, 1989

INFORMATIONAL

MEMO TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: S. John Davis
Superintendent of Public Instruction

E. B. Howerton, Jr., Deputy Superintendent for
Curriculum, Instruction and Personnel Services

SUBJECT: Fire Prevention Education Programs

In response to Senate Joint Resolution 165 (enclosed), we are encouraging you to continue to work with your community resources to strengthen fire prevention education in your schools.

The Fire Marshal's Office, Fire Program Service, Forestry Service, and city and county fire departments have developed fire programs for all grade levels and special programs and are anxious to assist your teachers in this area. You may want to coordinate this effort through your health education contact person to ensure continuity and eliminate duplication of programs. The Department of Education will survey the schools in the fall of 1990 for a report to the 1991 General Assembly.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jeane L. Bentley, Associate Director, Health, Physical, and Driver Education, at (804) 225-2866.

SJD/EBHJr/tim

Enclosure

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 165

Encouraging the Department of Education to promote fire prevention education in the public schools.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 31, 1989

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 17, 1989

WHEREAS, fire prevention education is worthwhile because it can reduce the number of human lives lost, injuries caused by fire, property loss and destruction due to fire; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education has a health education program which includes fire prevention education in the safety and first-aid strands of the Standards of Learning Objectives for kindergarten through the eighth grade; and

WHEREAS, some school administrators feel that they cannot allocate time to fire prevention activities because of the emphasis on test scores in academic subjects; and

WHEREAS, in some instances outside agencies are discouraged from bringing their programs into the schools; and

WHEREAS, students and the community at large would benefit if the amount of fire prevention education in the public schools was increased; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Department of Education is requested to give increased attention to fire prevention education during its next revision of the Standards of Learning Objectives and the accompanying assessment strategies in the health education program for kindergarten through the eighth grade; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly requests the Department of Education to urge each school division in the Commonwealth to work cooperatively with outside resources in the community, such as local fire department personnel, local fire marshals, the Department of Fire Programs and the Department of Forestry to bring fire prevention education into the public schools; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Department of Education is requested (i) to submit to the 1990 General Assembly a report on all efforts made to have school divisions include fire prevention education in their curriculums; (ii) to submit to the 1990 General Assembly a joint report with the Department of Fire Programs on the number of schools using fire-related agencies to bring fire prevention education programs into the schools, the number and types of programs presented, the number and grade level of students participating, the names of the participating agencies and all efforts made to encourage school divisions to work cooperatively with fire-related agencies to bring fire prevention education programs into the schools; and (iii) to submit to the 1991 General Assembly a report on any revisions to the Standards of Learning Objectives in the health education program regarding fire prevention education for kindergarten through the eighth grade.

Report On Jurisdictions Providing Fire Safety Education In Public Schools

<u>Agency</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Grade Levels</u>	<u>Program</u>
Augusta Co. F.D.	Not Designated	60	Kindergarten	Fire Safety
	Crimora	233	K-7	Fire Safety & Fire Existing
	New Hope	250	K-3	Public Education
	Beverly Manor	300	K-3	Public Education
	Hugh Cassell	400	K-3	Public Education
	Hunter McGuire	75	K-2	Public Education
	Verona	82	Kindergarten	Public Education
	Riverheads	<u>100</u>	Kindergarten	Fire House Tour
	TOTAL	1,500		
Chesapeake F.D.	All Elementary Schools (23)	4,000	5-6	"Test Your Smoke Detectors"
	Butts Road	200	5-6	"Pluggie The Robot"
	Central	50	K-6	"Stop, Drop & Fall" and fire safety in the home
	Georgetown Elem.	<u>160</u>	5-6	"Crawl Low-S.D.R."
		TOTAL	4,410	
Chesterfield Co. F.D.	Greenfield	230	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Gates	150	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Matoaca	234	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Bon Air	96	K	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Watkins	344	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Clover Hill	156	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	George Hall	222	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Curtis	210	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Bensley	164	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Crestwood	204	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Providence	192	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
	Bellwood	<u>213</u>	K-5	Fire Safety & Exiting
		TOTAL	2,415	

<u>Agency</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Grade Levels</u>	<u>Program</u>
Fredericksburg F.D.	Hugh Mercer	51	3	Fire Station Visit
Hampton F.D.	Asbury	18	4	Station Tour
	Bethel	25	10	Fire Extinguisher
	Burbank	40	2-3	Station Tour
	Booker	100	K-5	Operation Demo.
	Phoebus	100	9-12	Fire Apparatus Demo.
	MacHen	100	K-5	Home Fire Safety
	Cooper	<u>80</u>	1-2	Station Tour
	TOTAL	514		
Ladysmith V.F.D.	Bowling Green	604	6-8	Edith Fire Safety What is a Volunteer High-Rise Training Awareness
	Ladysmith	363	K-2	Stop, Drop, Roll Edith
	Lakelawn	<u>40</u>	3-5	Stop, Drop, Roll Edith
	TOTAL	1,007		
Loudoun Co. F.D.	Catoctin	130	4	Escape Planning
	Catoctin	<u>130</u>	4	Burn Safety
	TOTAL	260		
Newport News F.D.	Not Identified	10,091	K-12	General Fire Safety
	Not Identified	<u>3,180</u>	K-5	Station Tours
	TOTAL	13,271		
Portsmouth F.D.	Portsmouth Elem. Schools (23)	609	4	Fire Prevention & Safety (6 lessons)
	Mt. Hermon	78	K-5	Fire Safety Lecture
	Portsmouth Catholic	28	K	Letter F - "The Firefighter Is Your Friend"
	Lakeview	156	K-5	Firefighters Visit
	Churchland	131	K-5	Firefighters Visit
	Norcom	50	10	Fire Ext. Demo.
	Craddock	14	11-12	Kitchen Fire Safety

<u>Agency</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Grade Levels</u>	<u>Program</u>
Portsmouth F.D. (Cont.)				
	Churchland	18	11-12	Kitchen Fire Safety
	Brighton	32	4	Kitchen Extinguisher
	Park View	216	K-5	Apparatus Demo.
	Harry Hunt	122	6-7	Fire Evaluation Demo.
	Westhaven	29	1	Station Tour
	Simonsdale	180	K-5	Apparatus Demo.
	Highland-Biltmore	192	K	Apparatus Demo.
	St. Christopher's	89	K	Apparatus Demo.
	Alliance School	28	3	Lecture
	Westhaven	64	1	Station Tour
	John Tyler	31	1	Lecture
	Brighton	100	5	Film/Lecture
	Churchland Academy	1,080	4	Fire Safety
	Hodges Manor	590	4	Fire Safety
	Churchland	<u>146</u>	4	Fire Safety
	TOTAL	3,983		
Dept. of Forestry	4772 Meetings With School Children	100,000	K-12	Fire Safety In The Out-Of-Doors
	TOTAL STUDENTS	127,360		

