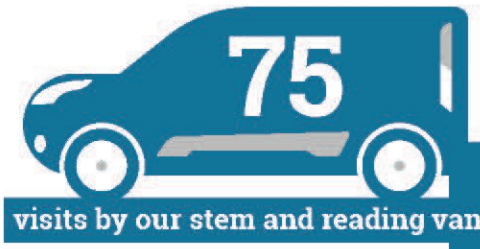
2018-2019

Annual Impact Statement

Poquoson City Public Schools



75

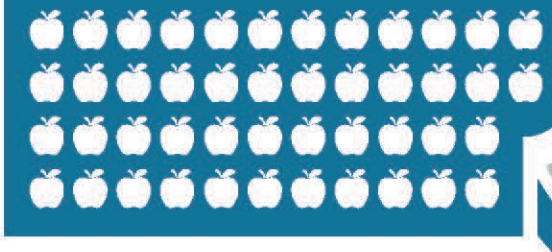
visits by our stem and reading vans

2,730

first books distributed

over $32M

savings and value for local schools



46 face-to-face trainings for educators

nearly **9,500**

children participated in early learning activities

whro EDUCATION

WHRO Annual Impact Statement
2018-2019

Poquoson City Public Schools

Regional Leadership

Group[1]	Poquoson Representative
HRETA Educational Advisory Committee	**Jennifer Mosteller**
HRETA Superintendents Advisory Council	**Dr. Jennifer Parish, *WHRO Board of Directors***
HRETA Technology Advisory Committee	**Dr. Antonia Fox** **Dr. Brandon Ratliff**
Consortium for Interactive Instruction	**Dr. Brandon Ratliff** **Chelsea Kulp**
D2L System Administrators	**Dr. Brandon Ratliff**

[1] Please see the "Notes" section on page 24 for complete descriptions of each of these groups.

Educator Resources and Training

1. eMediaVA℠ (www.emediava.org), a service of WHRO and supported by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and many other prominent national and Virginia-based educational content providers, is a one-stop shop for high quality digital content for Virginia's Pre-K through 12th grade teachers and students. Featuring the best purpose-built and open educational resource (OER) content from leading educational, cultural, and scientific organizations – such as PBS, Colonial Williamsburg, NASA, the Smithsonian Museums, the National Archives, Virginia's public media stations, Old Dominion University, the VDOE, the Norfolk Public Library, SAS Curriculum Pathways, NPR, the Science Museum of Virginia, the Valentine Richmond History Center, and many, many others – eMediaVA currently offers nearly 163,500 learning objects[2] (up from 150,000 the previous year), with more being added daily, all of which are correlated to the Virginia Standards of Learning and available at no cost to every teacher and student across the Commonwealth. As of June 30, 2019, there are more than 125,000 user accounts (20,000 more than the previous year).

Regional Savings/Value: $447,750.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[A]: $4,205.00*

eMediaVA℠ Trainings were conducted 23 times across the Commonwealth last year. More than 300 Virginia educators participated in one or more of these trainings, including more than 200 from HRETA owner schools.

Regional Savings/Value: $65,400.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[B]: $0.00*

eMediaVA also offers a number of division-wide connections designed to streamline access and account maintenance, including Single Sign-On options and Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI) integrations. In total, 51 (up from 43 last year) school divisions statewide, including 14 (up from 12 last year) of the 19 HRETA divisions (Chesapeake, Franklin City, Gloucester, Hampton, Isle of Wight, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Sussex, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg-James City County, and York) have now integrated with eMediaVA.

2. Special Topic Forums are held throughout the year to address timely educational technology topics. In 2018-2019, we conducted or hosted nine Forums: Apple Tech Update for Education; Engaging Elementary Learners with iPad; Legislative Update; Makey Makey Invention Literacy Workshop for Educators (2); Makey Makey Trainer Certification (2); Virginia Schools Social Emotional Learning; and Virtual Learning Days. One Poquoson educator participated in one or more of these Forums.

Regional Savings/Value: $28,500.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[C]: $150.00*

3. WHRO Education Online Professional Development is designed to bring teachers the latest and greatest in high quality, on-going, easy-to-access, online, technology integration training. Offered in units of 5, 10, 15, 30, and 45 hours and featuring 80 courses from Virginia's PBS TeacherLine as well as other locally developed, high need courses, this service enables educators to stay on top of the latest trends, tap into best practices, and earn recertification points and graduate credit from the comfort of their own home and on their own schedule. WHRO Education Online Professional Development is a 21st century teaching and learning tool that can help teachers strengthen students' academic skills and meet Virginia's Standards of Learning. In 2018-2019, nearly 50 teachers across the Commonwealth registered for a course, including 14 teachers from HRETA owner schools. While there is no savings to HRETA schools specifically, it is important to include this service so that you know the number of teachers from your division who are taking advantage of this opportunity.

[2] Please see the "eMediaVA Learning Objects Produced or Acquired by WHRO in 2018-2019" section starting on page 14 for a list of some of the content produced or acquired.

4. Other WHRO Education Professional Development offered in 2018-2019 included one PBS KIDS ScratchJr Code-to-Learn session and three Flood Mapping/Building Resilience Workshops. Sixty-two educators from across the Commonwealth participated in one of these events, including 58 teachers from HRETA owner schools.

Regional Savings/Value: $8,700.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[D]: $0.00*

5. Workforce Development includes **SkillsOnline™** (www.skillsonline.org) an affordable, digitally accessible career certification and training solution that offers thousands of self-paced and instructor-led online courses in 12 industry sectors, including Teacher Professional Development, Arts and Design, Business, Computer Applications, Computer Science, Construction and Trades, Health and Fitness, Hospitality, Information Technology, World Languages, Legal, and Writing. Five **Workplace Readiness Modules** developed by WHRO are available to all HRETA school divisions free-of-charge. There is also a GED preparation program called **Fast Forward**. HRETA schools enjoy a 10% discount on all SkillsOnline course registrations. Currently, we do not track registration or usage associated with these services to determine division-specific savings.

Student Services

1. WHRO Education Online Courses are developed by our Digital Learning Team. Our online courses are modular, textbook-independent, media-rich, engaging, interactive, and utilize 21st century technologies. All courses are aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning for specific subjects and are designed to be facilitated by an instructor. WHRO strives to provide students a rich, cognitively challenging online learning experience utilizing diverse content delivery methods. These courses provide authentic experiences, incorporate the 5 C's, allow for self-assessment and reflection, and encourage students to deeply explore subject matter. Lessons are designed to provide students with opportunities to receive instant feedback that is corrective in nature and allows for individual review prior to being assessed. All course content is created and reviewed by experts from across the region. Upon completion, the courses are made available to each participating school division to further customize and use as they see fit within their divisions.

Since 2007, the following courses have been developed:

- Algebra I
- Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Astronomy
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Digital Citizenship
- Earth Science
- Economics and Personal Finance
- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12
- French I
- Geometry
- Health and PE 9
- Health and PE 10
- Math Analysis
- Oceanography
- Online Teaching Methodology
- Physics
- Psychology
- VA and US History
- VA and US Government
- World Geography
- World History and Geography to 1500 A.D. (C.E.)
- World History and Geography: 1500 A.D. (C.E.) to the Present

The seven-week Online Teaching Methodology course instructs teachers how to be successful in a K-12 online teaching. Teachers have the option to take this course through James Madison University for three graduate credits. The Digital Citizenship module, created for students in grades 8-12, examines online security and risks and explores digital communications and social media.

This year, WHRO staff coordinated four regional Learning Management System (LMS) Administrator meetings, provided a full-day D2L training for all school divisions, and delivered more than 30 hours of personalized support to 12 divisions. Finally, in 2018-2019, WHRO staff completed a **Middle School Career Investigations** course for the entire Commonwealth and updated or revised 16 courses:

- Algebra I
- Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Astronomy
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Economics and Personal Finance
- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12
- Geometry
- Oceanography
- Physics
- Psychology
- World Geography
- World History and Geography: 1500 A.D. (C.E.) to the Present

Regional Savings/Value: $28,194,990.00

Poquoson Savings/Value[E]: $1,483,750.00

WHRO also coordinates an annual group purchase of the LMS used by schools to deliver all of the online student and teacher training courses and provides general support for all the schools in the region.

Regional Savings/Value: $541,690.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[F]: $27,770.00*

2. At the request of the VDOE and the HRETA Superintendents, WHRO has begun to produce a number of **Video Courses** to help with the growing shortage of highly-qualified teachers in certain subjects in the region and throughout the Commonwealth. All of the concepts covered in the Virginia SOL for each subject are presented in short, easy-to-use video segments that can be streamed or downloaded for later use and are available in eMediaVA. To-date we have completed **Algebra I** and **Geometry** and this year we finished **Earth Science**, which is also aligned to the Foundational Concepts for Environmental Literacy that were released in 2014.

Regional Savings/Value: $2,660,000.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[G]: $140,000.00*

3. Virtual Virginia offers nearly 80 online advanced-placement, core, world language, and elective courses to students across the Commonwealth. WHRO operates the system under contract with the VDOE. Statewide, students completed more than 16,000 courses[3] this past year. Regionally, there were more than 3,900 course registrations, including 538 Poquoson registrations from Poquoson High School.

Once again, students from across the state had the opportunity to participate in a full-time online high school program through Virtual Virginia. Statewide, there were 458 registrations, including 41 regional participants and two Poquoson participants. While there is no savings to HRETA schools, it is important to include this information in the list of services that WHRO provides to the K-12 community because it is revenue generating to WHRO and acknowledges the educational technology leadership position the HRETA schools have attained.

[3] Course registration counts also include registrations for the Virtual Virginia Economics and Personal Finance course hosted by school divisions and taught by school division teachers.

Additional Educational Resources, Training & Services

1. WHRO KIDS is WHRO's 24/7 digital children's channel airing on WHRO TV 15-3, Cox 108 and Charter 701. In early 2017, this service was expanded to include a 24/7 streaming option that can be used on any mobile device. Featuring newer, award-winning early childhood programs such as Ready Jet Go!, Nature Cat, Odd Squad, Peg + Cat, Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood, Thomas and Friends, Splash and Bubbles!, The Jim Henson Company's Dinosaur Train and Sid the Science Kid, Martha Speaks, The Wild Kratts, Pinkalicious, Molly of Denali, Word World, and perennial favorites Sesame Street, Curious George, Arthur, and Clifford The Big Red Dog, to name a few, WHRO delivered over 160 hours of the best high-quality educational television programming each and every week, free of charge. WHRO also delivered more than 65 hours of children's programming each week on our main channel WHRO 15.1. In total, WHRO delivered over 12,000 hours of televised instruction last year. It is important to note that every single household in the WHRO service area can access this proven educational programming that helps parents prepare their children to enter school ready to learn, free of charge; consequently, the true value is significantly more than the operational costs reported here.

Regional Savings/Value: $255,000.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[H]: $2,065.00*

2. The PBS KIDS Writers Contest, which was recently aligned to the Virginia Standards of Learning, encourages children to write and illustrate their own stories, and is open to K-5 students. In 2018, in connection with the Batten Environmental Education Initiative, we added a separate Environmental Story category. Local winners receive cash awards and their families are invited to attend a special reception in their honor where each winner is videotaped in the WHRO television studio reading their winning entry. A special website featuring the winners reading their stories is also created. All local K-3 1st Place stories are sent on to the national PBS KIDS Writers Contest competition. In total, nearly 160 entries were received this year. It is difficult to determine the value/savings this activity represents, but participation in certain divisions implies its worth.

3. The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee LIVE on WHRO is an annual event featuring 6th to 8th grade school Spelling Bee winners from Hampton Roads, Northeast North Carolina, and the Eastern Shore in a head-to-head competition that is broadcast on WHRO. This year, students representing 63 area schools as local Spelling Bee Champions, including Poquoson Middle School, competed. It is important to note that The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee LIVE on WHRO won a bronze Telly Award in the General Television – Live category in 2018.

Regional Savings/Value: $32,075.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[I]: $260.00*

4. Great Computer Challenges – Junior and Senior are joint projects of WHRO and ODU, and are competitive opportunities for students in grades K-12 to demonstrate their skills in various computer applications and computer programming, including Graphic Design, Video Editing, Desktop Publishing, Music Composition, Desktop Presentations, Web Design, Internet Scavenger Hunt, Integrated Applications, Scientific Non-Business Programming, Visual Programming, CAD, and JAVA. In 2018, two new categories were added: Cybersecurity for Level 4 and Visual Programming/Block Coding Using ScratchJr for Levels 1 and 2. In addition, in connection with the Batten Environmental Education Initiative, environmental themes were incorporated into this year's competition in the Music and Video Editing categories in the Senior Division and into the Desktop Publishing and Video Editing categories in the Junior Division. More than 180 teams participated in the Challenges this year, including seven Poquoson teams.

Regional Savings/Value: $6,560.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[J]: $280.00*

Poquoson Participants and Winners:

School	Teacher Sponsor(s)	Grade Level	Category	Award
Poquoson E.S.	Nanci Deibler	Level 2 - Upper Elem 3-5	Graphic Design	Honorable Mention
Poquoson E.S.	Nanci Deibler	Level 2 - Upper Elem 3-5	Internet Scavenger Hunt	
Poquoson E.S.	Kimberly Montalvo	Level 2 - Upper Elem 3-5	Desktop Presentations	Honorable Mention
Poquoson E.S.	Kimberly Montalvo	Level 2 - Upper Elem 3-5	Desktop Publishing	2nd Place
Poquoson E.S.	Kimberly Montalvo	Level 2 - Upper Elem 3-5	Video Editing	3rd Place
Poquoson M.S.	Kimberly Montalvo	Level 3 - Grades 6-8	Desktop Publishing	Honorable Mention
Poquoson M.S.	Kimberly Montalvo	Level 3 - Grades 6-8	Video Editing	3rd Place

5. General PBS Programming with full educational rights, such as American Experience, Nova, Nature, etc., is delivered each week on our main channel WHRO 15.1 and can be recorded and used in the classroom. Detailed local usage figures are unavailable, but according to national statistics, 30% of teachers use PBS programs in their classrooms.

Regional Savings/Value: $213,810.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[K]: $1,735.00*

6. Local Educational Video Productions included **Decisions**, an immersive, 360-degree, alcohol and substance abuse prevention video where middle school students make choices and can view the results of those choices; three **GreenBeats℠** segments entitled "Paper, Bottles & Cans," "Scoop the Poop," and "Skip the Straw" designed to instill good environmental stewardship practices at an early age; 16 **Virginia Indian Tribe** videos; 10 **Deeper Learning** segments illustrating deeper learning across the Commonwealth; 40 **Environmental Education** segments; **Virginia Society for Technology in Education (VSTE) Conference** live streaming; the **WHRO Young Storytellers** awards reception and studio taping of the winners of the PBS KIDS Writers Contest; two **Virginia School Board Association Hot Topic Forums;** and five **Virginia Commission on Civic Education** segments. New **Education Now** segments featuring successful school practices were also produced for Chesapeake, Hampton, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Suffolk. The new segments joined existing Education Now segments for Franklin, Gloucester, Isle of Wight, Mathews, Middlesex, Poquoson, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg-James City County, and York. All of the Education Now segments aired throughout the year on WHRO TV15, WHRO WORLD, and WHRO CREATE.

Regional Savings/Value: $340,770.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[L]: $2,760.00*

7. Local WHRV Radio productions **Another View** and **HearSay with Cathy Lewis**[4] featured 14 programs or special reports on topics of interest to educators in 2018-2019, and **Educationally Speaking**, a documentary podcast series, examined the current state of education and featured local interviews about a different topic each week.

Regional Savings/Value: $66,450.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[M]: $540.00*

[4] Please see the "Education Topics on Another View, Educationally Speaking, and HearSay in 2018-2019" section starting on page 17 for complete descriptions of each of the programs.

8. National Public Radio (NPR) regularly covers education topics within major shows such as Morning Edition, All Things Considered, Talk of the Nation, etc. In 2018-2019, nearly 300 stories touched on education topics, representing approximately 2% of the total number of stories covered.

Regional Savings/Value: $10,040.00 *Poquoson Savings/Value[N]: $80.00*

9. WHRO Education Staff Members presented, exhibited, or served as panelists at the following **Local, Regional, or Statewide Events**: Accomack County Technology Professional Development Day; GoOpenVA Southwest Summit; Newport News Public Schools Innovate Conference; VDOE Presentation Taping Session for Middle School Career Investigations Launch; Virginia Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference; Virginia Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development's Southwest Conference; Virginia Association of Art Educators Conference; Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals Conference; Virginia Association of School Librarians Conference; Virginia Association of Science Teachers Conference; Virginia Council for the Social Studies Conference; Virginia School Boards Association Conference; Virginia Society for Technology in Education Annual Conference; and the Virginia Society for Technology in Education's Leading Ed Forum Conference. In addition, WHRO Education Staff conducted training for Campbell County Public Schools.

10. In March 2017, the three-year **Batten Environmental Education Initiative** officially launched with a $3 million gift from Jane Batten. In 2018-2019, we:

- Delivered a new Video Earth Science course that is aligned to the Virginia SOL and the Foundational Concepts for Environmental Literacy and is available in eMediaVA.
- Delivered 3 of 10 GreenBeats, “Schoolhouse Rock!-like” animated video segments that are designed to instill good environmental stewardship practices at an early age. (Please see the Local Educational Video Productions section above for details.)
- Integrated environmental themes into the Great Computer Challenge problems and added an Environmental category to the PBS KIDS Writers Contest. (Please see the Great Computer Challenges – Junior and Senior and PBS KIDS Writers Contest sections above for details.)
- Added a new award to the Environmental Story category of the PBS KIDS Writers Contest. The winner’s story gets to be turned into an animation as a special edition of the GreenBeats video series.
- Began production of two new video series – Project Earth and RISE.
- Implemented the Flood Mapping Project with 117 registered classes.
- Revised and updated the Batten Environmental Education Initiative website with a responsive design – https://environment.whro.org/.

Families and Early Learners

The Ready To Learn initiative is an innovative partnership between Congress, the U.S. Department of Education, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), PBS, and local public media stations – including WHRO – and many community-based partners. Targeted toward America's most at-risk kids, but made available to all families and children across the country, Ready To Learn's high-quality transmedia content is unparalleled in its impact, value, and necessity. The STEM and literacy-based educational programming created by Ready To Learn provides families with effective, non-commercial content that helps prepare children for success in school. Stimulating online games, skill tracker websites, and other learning resources for children, parents, caregivers, and teachers are also provided.

Combined, WHRO delivered more than 12,000 hours of the best high-quality **Educational Early Childhood Programming** last year on WHRO KIDS 15.3 and on WHRO 15.1 free-of-charge to every household in greater Hampton Roads. WHRO KIDS also provides a 24/7 streaming service that can be used on any mobile device.

The CPB initiatives this year focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and included the WHRO STEM van, ScratchJr Coding Camps, Engineering Camps, and professional development for teachers. The STEM Van was funded through a local foundation and a corporate underwriter; the initial PBS KIDS ScratchJr Coding Camp and teacher professional development were made possible by grants from PBS; and additional coding camps were funded by local foundations.

The **WHRO STEM Van** has 20 iPads, 12 Chromebooks, and two Touch screen monitors – all purchased with CPB funding – that are available to be brought onsite for students to learn while having fun. The WHRO STEM Van made 50 visits to local festivals and events and to Title I kindergarten through 2nd grade classrooms. During classroom visits, WHRO staff members share STEM related activities in correlation with the VA Standards of Learning and, to extend the learning, children explore related PBS KIDS games on iPads and Chromebooks. WHRO staff use curriculum materials developed by PBS KIDS using the engineering model.

WHRO's Literacy Van is a cheerful, brightly colored vehicle featuring children's favorite PBS characters that tours throughout our broadcast region. A special presentation that includes a motivational speech on the importance of practicing reading skills daily, storytelling, and expressive literacy activities covering a variety of Pre-K Comprehensive Standards and Virginia Standards of Learning, is specifically given to students in Pre-K through 1st grade in an effort to motivate them to become lifelong readers. After the presentation, children take a reader's pledge – a commitment that they will start practicing their reading every day. Once they have taken the pledge, they are then eligible to tour the inside of the van which is stocked with books that are given directly to children in high need situations and/or given to each classroom library that the van visits. During 2018-2019, the literacy van made 25 visits in the area.

Super WHY! Reading Camps are multi-day, interactive learning adventures that show campers ages 4-5 the power of reading, and motivate them to play with letters, sounds, and words through a comprehensive curriculum developed by noted literacy experts. Twenty-six camps reaching nearly 500 children have been conducted since the initiative began in 2008, when WHRO conducted its first Super WHY! Reading Camp at Fort Story Army Base Child Development Center and participated in a study by Florida State University's Center for Reading Research. Campers showed gains in all of the literacy skills presented in the program including an 84% gain in phonics skills and a 139% gain in word recognition skills. This year, a Super WHY! Reading Camp for rising kindergartners was held at the Downtown Hampton Child Development Center in Hampton for 34 students.

PBS KIDS ScratchJr Coding Camps are one-, three-, or five-day afterschool programs where 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students are introduced to creative coding through digital and physical activities and are given the opportunity to create their own stories, games, and collages with the PBS KIDS ScratchJr tablet app. This year, camps were held at Mack Benn Elementary in Suffolk and Ruffner Academy, Captain's Quarters, and Titustown Community Center in Norfolk.

Martha Speaks Reading Buddies, now in its tenth year, has reached more than 2,500 Title I elementary school students in the region. Big Buddies (4th and 5th graders) and Little Buddies (kindergartners and 1st graders) meet for weekly sessions where together they watch a Martha Speaks video; read the selected book; talk and play games; and write in the Reading Buddies Journal. Big Buddies receive a guide and books to practice before each session. Each Little Buddy takes home a book and a Family Activity Booklet after each session. They also receive a Certificate of Achievement at the end of the program. The Big Buddies receive a chapter book called Because of Winn Dixie to take home at the end of the sessions. In addition to the kindergartners and 1st graders mastering 32 new vocabulary words, teachers report that 4th and 5th grade participants take their leadership role very seriously, resulting in improved reading skills and a decrease in discipline problems.

WHRO Library Corners are fully decorated with PBS KIDS décor and are provided with a wealth of fun educational resources and literacy activities for children to use when visiting the library. Our first corner was established at the Dr. Clarence Cuffee Library in Chesapeake. The program has now grown to include the Hampton Main Library, Hampton; Park Place Library, Norfolk; and Cradock and Main Branch Libraries, Portsmouth.

WHRO Super Reader Schools are Title I schools that receive additional services. These schools receive professional development, parent trainings, family literacy/STEM nights, classroom resources, and regular WHRO Literacy Van visits. Active WHRO Super Reader Schools include Bassette Elementary, Hampton; Carver Elementary School, Newport News; and Richard Bowling, Coleman Place, and St. Helena Elementary Schools, Norfolk;

Anytime Is Learning Time Training helps parents identify everyday teachable moments. All parents attending these trainings receive helpful PBS parent resources, tip sheets, and free books for their children. WHRO works with parent liaisons to set up trainings for parents in Title I schools and Head Start Centers.

The **WHRO KIDS Website** (www.whrokids.org) features PBS KIDS content including the 24/7 stream, games, and apps, among other services. The Learn section of the website pulls content from eMediaVA for children in grades K-5. Quarterly giveaway contests ask parents to answer a question, such as tell us your child's favorite PBS character and why, to be entered to win prizes like PBS KIDS Playtime Tablets and PBS KIDS Plug and Play devices. We also post local event information to let our families know when our WHRO Literacy Van and our STEM Van are out and about.

The **PBS KIDS Website** (www.pbskids.org) is an engaging multimedia destination specifically created for kids ages 2-8. With fun, quirky settings full of surprises, this site empowers kids to discover themselves, define the diverse world around them, explore new relationships, and embrace a love of learning. The website features popular age appropriate PBS series. Video clips, activities, apps, augmented reality games, and behind-the-scenes features are also available.

School Division Outreach keeps Superintendents and school representatives up-to-date on the initiative and activities. Literacy resources and materials are also regularly provided to Title I schools in all of WHRO's owner-member school divisions through this outreach.

Tens of thousands of **First Books** have been distributed over the past 20 years to area children who would not otherwise own books. Grants, local foundations, and WHRO's Leadership Circle provide support to allow children in challenging circumstances to start their own libraries. Books are distributed after parent and provider trainings, after WHRO literacy van visits, and at other community events.

Each year, WHRO is a major sponsor of the Virginia Children's Festival. In the past we have brought major headline acts such as Maria and Elmo from Sesame Street, Mr. Steve Songs, and Shock from The Electric Company. In addition, WHRO also secures PBS Costume Characters such as Super WHY!, Curious George, Word Girl, and Daniel Tiger, to name a few; provides hands-on computer labs, iPads and touch screens where children can experience all of the interactive, engaging, educational content now available online; and distributes hundreds of free books.

Overall in 2018-2019, more than 8,500 families, 1,000 caregivers/teachers, and 9,500 children participated in one or more of these activities. In addition, we distributed more than 2,700 First Books and 6,000 activity booklets to children most at need.

Total Regional Savings/Value: $161,655.00
(For all items above)

Total Poquoson Savings/Value[O]: $0.00
(For all items above)

Poquoson City Public Schools
Return on WHRO Investment
2018-2019

WHRO directly impacts:

1) Educators by providing ongoing, sustained, high-quality teacher training; leading edge, technology-based instructional resources; and regional opportunities for recognition.
2) Students by providing online courses; leading-edge, on-demand, video resources; educationally relevant competitions; and regional opportunities for recognition.
3) Adult learners by providing a variety of workforce development and GED programs and services.
4) Families by providing the highest quality children's programming 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, as well as a variety of online resources and face-to-face, hands-on early childhood workshops.

In summary, WHRO educational efforts directly affect not only the schools' bottom lines, but also the quality of education for every single teacher, student, adult learner, and family in Hampton Roads. Exemplary educators and initiatives are regularly publicized on-air, on-line, and in-person.

Poquoson Annual Investment in WHRO:		
Annual Assessment	$4,190.00	
C.I.I. Annual Dues	$3,500.00	
Total Annual Investment*		**$7,690.00**

**Additional product/service specific revenue (i.e., LMS group purchases, etc.) is included in the saving/value calculations below.*

Direct Value/Savings:		
eMediaVA℠ Operation and Content Acquisition	$4,205.00	
eMediaVA℠ Trainings	$0.00	
Special Topic Forums	$150.00	
Other WHRO Education Professional Development	$0.00	
WHRO Education Online Course Development	$1,483,750.00	
LMS Group Purchase	$27,770.00	
WHRO Education Video Course Development	$140,000.00	
Total Direct Annual Value/Savings		**$1,655,875.00**
Poquoson Direct Return on Investment		**$215.35 to $1.00**
Additional Value/Savings:		
WHRO KIDS	$2,065.00	
The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee	$260.00	
Great Computer Challenges (Junior and Senior Divisions)	$280.00	
General PBS Programming	$1,735.00	
Local Educational Video Productions	$2,760.00	
Local Educational Radio Productions	$540.00	
General NPR Programming	$80.00	
Families/Early Learners	$0.00	
Total Additional Annual Value/Savings		**$7,720.00**
Total Direct and Additional Annual Value/Savings		**$1,663,595.00**
Total Poquoson Return on Investment		**$216.35 to $1.00**

Value/Savings Calculations

A Comparable service value ($750.00 per building) multiplied by the number of buildings in each HRETA division plus content licensing fees ($148,500.00) allocated across HRETA owners according to relative size.

B Number of division registrations multiplied by an average course registration fee of $150.00.

C Number of division registrations multiplied by an average course registration fee of $150.00.

D Number of division registrations multiplied by an average course registration fee of $150.00.

E 2018-2019 WHRO online course development costs to create or refresh courses that each division would have had to pay on its own ($1,482,250.00) multiplied by the number of WHRO owner school divisions (19) to yield the true regional savings ($28,162,750.00). Also includes trainings and meetings with individual divisions at $1,500.00 and $740.00 each, respectively, and the all-day D2L training ($2,500.00) provided to all divisions.

F Online courses general support ($30,000.00) and Brightspace licenses ($10.00 each) minus cash paid by each participating division.

G 2018-2019 WHRO video course production costs that each division would have had to pay on its own ($140,000.00) multiplied by the number of WHRO owner school divisions (19) to yield the true regional savings ($2,660,000.00).

H Total annual operational cost ($255,000.00) of WHRO KIDS allocated across HRETA owners according to relative size.

I The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee production costs ($32,075.00) allocated across HRETA owners according to relative size, if participating.

J Number of division teams multiplied by HRETA member entry fee discount.

K Annual WHRO PBS dues ($1,068,054.00) multiplied by 20% (conservative estimated educational percentage of program usage) allocated across HRETA owners according to relative size.

L Decisions productions costs ($165,000.00) plus GreenBeats production costs ($27,000.00) plus Deeper Learning segments production costs ($23,600.00) plus Virginia Indian Tribe segments production costs ($14,670.00) plus Environmental Education segments production costs ($30,000.00) plus VSTE live streaming production costs ($6,600.00) plus WHRO Young Storytellers production costs ($13,400.00) plus VSBA Hot Topics production costs ($6,100.00) plus Virginia Commission on Civic Education segments production costs ($7,500.00) plus Education Now production and broadcast costs ($46,900.00) all allocated across HRETA owners according to relative size.

M Average Another View and HearSay with Cathy Lewis episode production cost ($4,150.00) plus Educationally Speaking podcast production cost ($450.00) multiplied by the number of episodes or podcasts of interest to educators allocated across HRETA owners according to relative size.

N Annual WHRO NPR dues ($502,083.00) multiplied by 2% (based on NPR statistics regarding the number of programs directly related to Education) allocated across HRETA owners according to relative size.

O Number of training sessions conducted multiplied by the average cost per session ($750.00/day) plus number of camps conducted multiplied by cost to conduct them ($1,000.00-$5,000.00) plus number of Super Reader Schools multiplied by cost to equip them ($2,600.00) plus number of appearances or events ($250.00-$500.00/each) throughout the region plus the number of PBS characters multiplied by the costs to obtain and employ them ($1,000.00) plus the cost of materials distributed.

eMediaVA Learning Objects Produced or Acquired by WHRO in 2018-2019

A History of Civic Rights in America (8 videos) – 1774-1833; 1834-1868; 1869-1916; 1917-1926; 1927-1961; 1962-1965; 1965-1993; 1994-2010

Art Classic Stories (30 videos) – Goldilocks and the Three Bears (Presented through the Art style of Keith Haring); Country Mouse and the City Mouse (Presented through the Art style of Henri Rousseau); Puss in Boots (Presented through the Art style of Edward Manet); A Grain as Big as a Hen's Egg (Presented through the Art style of George Seurat); The Musicians of Bremen (Presented through the Art style of Edvard Munch); The Shoemaker and the Elves (Presented through the Art style of Vincent Van Gogh); The Farm Rooster and the Weather Vane (Presented through the Art style of Henri Matisse); Snow White and Red Rose (Presented through the Art style of Sandro Botticelli); The Fisherman and the Golden Fish (Presented through the Art style of Henri Matisse); The Giant in a Bottle (Presented through the Art style of Max Beckmann); The Magic Pear Tree (Presented through the Art style of Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec); The Great Big Turnip (Presented through the Art style of Paul Gauguin); Prince Riquet (Presented through the Art style of Johannes Vermeer); The Goose that Laid the Golden Egg (Presented through the Art style of Vincent Van Gogh); Nandi and the Tigers (Presented through the Art style of Paul Serusier); The Last Leaf (Presented through the Art style of Cezanne); The Wolf and the Seven Little Goats (Presented through the Art style of Camille Pissarro); The Christmas Chime (Presented through the Art style of Wassily Kandinsky); The Three Little Pigs (Presented through the Art style of Paul Klee); The Happy Prince (Presented through the Art style of Ernst Kirchner); The Donkey and the Load of Salt (Presented through the Art style of William Turner); King Thrushbeard (Presented through the Art style of Marie Laurencin); The Fox and the Crane (Presented through the Art style of Gustave Courbet); The Angel (Presented through the Art style of Auguste Renoir); The Hare and the Hedgehog (Presented through the Art style of Claude Monet); The Giving Tree (Presented through the Art style of Raoul Dufy); The Little Girl and the Big Bear (Presented through the Art style of James Whistler); Saturday Mountain (Presented through the Art style of Paul Gustave Dore); The Seven Ravens (Presented through the Art style of Alfons Mucha); The Little Match Girl (Presented through the art Style of Rembrandt)

Artic with Bruce Parry (5 videos) – Siberia; Greenland; Alaska; Canada; Northern Europe

Ask A Biologist (4 videos, 10 lesson plans) – Plant Mass; Life in the Cold; Breaking Proteins; Banana DNA

Civilization: Is the West History? (6 videos) – Competition; Science; Property; Medicine; Consumerism; Work

Deeper Learning Video Series (10 videos) – Deeper Learning; Deeper Learning: Sounds Like a Plan!; Deeper Learning: Senior Projects; Deeper Learning: Virginia STAR; Deeper Learning: What Are You Thinking?; Deeper Learning: Bari"STARS" in the Making; Deeper Learning: Performance Assessment; Deeper Learning: What a Great Idea!; Deeper Learning: Living History; Deeper Learning: Entrepreneurship

Earth Science Video Course (12 Modules, 56 Topics, 94 videos)
Modules – What is Earth Science?; Mapping; Astronomy - The Universe; Astronomy - The Solar System; Minerals; Rocks; Plate Tectonics and Earth's Structure; Weathering, Erosion and Groundwater; Earth's History; Resources and Virginia's Geology; Meteorology; Oceanography
Topics – The Branches of Earth Science; Scientific Investigation; Measurement; Mapping the World; Analyzing Maps; Topographic Maps; Satellite Imagery and the Global Positioning System; Cosmology; Galaxies and the Milky Way; Stellar Evolution and Classification; The Electromagnetic Spectrum and the Doppler Effect; Telescopes and Other Tools; The History of Astronomy; The Formation of the Solar System; The Sun; The Terrestrial Planets; The Jovian Planets; Other Objects in the Solar System; Earth's Moon and Lunar Phases; Sun, Earth, and Moon Systems; Minerals; Identification of Minerals; Igneous Rocks; Sedimentary Rocks; Metamorphic Rocks; The Rock Cycle; Earth's Structure; Plate Tectonics; Volcanoes; Earthquakes; Weathering; Karst Topography; Soils; Erosion and Deposition; Surface Water and the Water Cycle; Groundwater; Decoding Earth's History; Relative Dating; Radiometric Dating;

Geologic Time; Fossils; Fossil Fuel Energy Resources; Alternative Energy Resources; Virginia Geology and Resources; Virginia Watersheds and the Chesapeake Bay; The Earth's Atmosphere; Clouds and Precipitation; Weather and Climate; Interpreting Weather; Severe Weather; Changes in Weather; The Blue Planet; Ocean Movement; Properties of Water; Ocean Geomorphology; Environmental, Economic, and Public Policy and the Oceans
Videos – The Branches of Earth Science; Implementing the Scientific Method; Observations and Inferences; Scientific Theories and Scientific Laws; Measuring Mass and Volume; Calculating Density; Graphs; Maps; Map Projections; Parts of a Map and Map Scale; Determining Latitude and Longitude; Time Zones; Topographic Maps; Satellite Imagery and GPS; Cosmology; Galaxies and the Milky Way; The Evolution of Stars; The Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram; Groups of Stars and Constellations; Electromagnetic Spectrum and the Doppler Effect; Telescopes and Other Tools; The History of Astronomy; The Solar Nebula Theory; The Sun; Terrestrial Planets; Jovian Planets; Dwarf Planets and Other Members of the Solar System; Moon Formation and Lunar Geology; Lunar Phases; Tilt, Rotation, and Revolution; Eclipses; The Five Properties of a Mineral; Mineral Groupings; Formation of Minerals; Identification of Minerals; Uses of Minerals and Ores; The Formation of Igneous Rocks; Common Igneous Rocks; The Formation of Sedimentary Rocks; Common Sedimentary Rocks; The Formation of Metamorphic Rocks; Common Metamorphic Rocks; The Rock Cycle; The Earth's Structure; Plate Tectonics Theory; Plate Tectonics; Volcanoes; Earthquakes; Types of Weathering; Rates of Weathering; Caves; Soils; Erosion; Deposition; Surface Water and the Water Cycle; Groundwater; Decoding Earth's History; Relative Dating and Unconformities; Radiometric Dating; Geologic Time; Fossils; Oil; Natural Gas; Coal and Types of Coal; Mineral Resources; Alternative Energy Resources; Virginia Geology and Resources; Virginia Watersheds and Rivers; The Chesapeake Bay; The Atmosphere and Energy Transfer; Layers of the Atmosphere; Clouds; Precipitation; Factors that Affect Climate; World's Climates; Atmospheric Circulation; Air Masses and Fronts; Measuring Weather; Reading Weather Maps; Severe Weather; Climate Change; Earth's Ocean and Ocean Formation; Ocean Waves; Tsunamis; Tides; Ocean Circulation; Dissolved Gasses; Dissolved Solids and Salinity; Temperature, Density, and Color; Features of the Ocean Floor; Shorelines; Managing Ocean Erosion; Ocean Pollution and Managing Ocean Resources; Oceans and Climate Change

Essential Math Skills (5 videos) – Circles; Perimeter and Area; Properties of Numbers; Ratios and Rates; Volume and Density

Famous People: Incredible Lives (79 videos) – This visually rich series offers a fascinating look at a broad cross-section of world-renowned individuals. Every historic re-creation explores the most important developments of their very famous lives whether artist, businessman, composer, leader, philosopher, poet, explorer, writer, reformer, scientist or ruler. Interested viewers will enjoy the focused approach to understanding the emotional state, significant contributions, important benchmarks and major turning points in these incredible lives.

Fierce Earth (10 videos) – Hurricanes; Wildfires; World's Hottest; Tsunami; Earthquakes; Thunderstorms; Volcanoes; Tornadoes; World's Coldest; Flooding

Great African American Authors (8 videos) – 1761-1901; 1902-1924; 1925-1937; 1938-1953; 1954-1967; 1968-1982; 1982-1993; 1993-Present

GreenBeats (3 videos) – Paper, Bottles & Cans; Scoop the Poop; Skip the Straw

Little Scientist (12 videos) – Here I Am - Camouflage; I Can See It - Convex and Concave Lenses; Our Magic Clothes - The Skin; Please Visit My Secret Garden - Leaves; Shhh! It's Earth Secret - Gravity; The Magic Time Machine - Fossils; The Secret of Colors; To Catch the Red Fox - The Food Chain; Where is the Air? - Air and Wind; Who Ate the Fly? - Carnivorous Plants; Who is the Janitor? Scavengers and Decomposers; While it Rain or Will it Snow? - Weather

Nature's Microworlds: A Delicate Balancing Act (13 videos) – Galapagos; Serengeti; Namib Desert; Monterey Bay; Canada's Coastal Forests; Great Barrier Reef; Australia's Red Centre; Yellowstone; Amazon; Svalbard; Deep Sea; Scottish Highlands; Okavango

Shakespeare: The Animated Tales (4 videos) – Julius Caesar; Romeo and Juliet; Macbeth; Hamlet

Spanish for Teens (2 videos) – Grammar Made Easy, Parts 1 and 2

Speeches That Changed the World (1 video)

The Spirit of the Mountain: The Story of Shenandoah National Park (5 lesson plan links) – Finding Our Place in Time; Mapping Our Past; Connecting People to Purpose; Leaving the Mountain; Moving Forward on Common Ground

Thomas Jefferson Foundation (9 documents/images) – Brief Biography of Thomas Jefferson for Middle School; Brief Biography of Thomas Jefferson for Elementary; Engraving the Declaration of Independence; Gilbert Stuart Painting of Thomas Jefferson; Houdon Bust of Thomas Jefferson; Thomas Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence for Middle School; Thomas Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence for Elementary School; Thomas Sully Painting of Thomas Jefferson; Who Lived at Monticello?

VDOE Webinars - Using the Desmos Calculators (8 videos) – Desmos Scientific Calculator Overview; Desmos Graphing Calculator Overview; Algebra I: Digging Deeper Into the Desmos Graphing Calculator; Geometry: Digging Deeper Into the Desmos Graphing Calculator; Algebra II: Digging Deeper Into the Desmos Graphing Calculator; Middle School Digging Deeper - Desmos Graphing Calculator; Introduction to Desmos Activity Builder for Middle School; Introduction to Desmos Activity Builder for the High School

Virginia Commission on Civic Education (5 videos) – Civics Education Key to Democracy with Delegate Rich Anderson; Mid-Term Election Analysis with Senator David W. Marsden, Bob Holsworth and Deirdre Condit; Student Involvement in the Legislative Process with Senator George L. Barker and Cathy Ruffing; Insights on the Legislative Process with Senator Amanda F. Chase and Delegate Cheryl Turpin; Update on the Status of Social Studies in Virginia with Secretary of Education Atif Qarni

Virginia Indian Tribes (16 videos) – A collection of oral histories from Virginia's Indian tribes.

Virginia War Memorial (12 videos) – A New Century, A New War; BG Anna Mae Hays; Cuban Missile Crisis; Korea - Inchon Landing Pusan Breakout; Korea - The Hill Fights; Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003-2004; The Cold War; Vietnam - Air Operations; Vietnam - TET Offensive; WWII - Battle of the Bulge; WWII – Okinawa; WWII - The Battle of Midway

What We Carry - Holocaust Education (14 videos, 7 Lesson Plans) – Alfred Dreyfus; Bill Jucksch; Dame Mary Barraco; David Katz; Dana Cohen; Hanns Loewenbach

Education Topics on Another View, Educationally Speaking, and HearSay in 2018-2019

Another View

Hayden High School
August 3, 2018
From 1953 until 1970, Hayden High School was the only place for African American high schoolers to get an education – despite the ending of segregated schools in 1954. The school was named for education pioneer Della Hayden, the daughter of a freed slave who graduated from Hampton Institute. Hayden taught in Franklin public schools for years before going on to become the first female principal at State Normal School (now Virginia State University). She returned to Franklin and ultimately founded a small boarding school for Black girls, where she served as principal until her death in 1924. Living up to the rich history of its namesake, Hayden High School graduated some of the most prominent African Americans in Franklin. The building was approved in December 2012 for listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register by the Board of Historic Resources and was placed on the National Park Service National Register of Historic Places in 2013. On the next Another View, we'll talk about the history of Hayden High, its legacy and plans for the future with Dr. Alvin Harris with the Hayden Group, and John Skirven, CEO, Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia.

Asa Jackson Murals (feature story)
March 29, 2019
In their quest to honor six civil rights activists, some Hampton 5th-graders got help from a professional artist. The students captured the notable images using paint, wood and glass. These mosaic murals will hang in the breezeway at Barron Elementary School. Our Lisa Godley, spoke with the artist helping them bring this all to fruition - Virginia Commissioner of the Arts, Asa Jackson.

The Parkway Mural (feature story)
June 14, 2019
Dozens of Parkway Elementary School Students recently got a chance to let their creative juices flow by helping their artist in residence, Markis Bowers, design a mural for their school. Our Lisa Godley was there when Bowers and his young protégées unveiled their creation, which colorfully celebrates their dreams for the future.

Writing a Wrong
June 21, 2019
In response to Brown v. Board of Education, Virginia chose massive resistance – schools were closed rather than allow black and white children to learn together. No school system was more affected than the Prince Edward County, Virginia schools. They were closed for 5 years and more than 2,000 African American children, along with a few white children were denied a formal education. We talk with Ken Woodley, author of “The Road to Healing,” his first-person account of his crusade to right a wrong and create the first civil rights era reparations in U.S. history.

Educationally Speaking

The Role of Technology in Today's Classroom
December 17, 2018
What is the role of technology in today's classroom? Has it enhanced comprehension, or has it had a paralyzing effect on students' hands-on learning? Paul Warren, founder of the New Hague School in Norfolk, observed the technology and how it has replaced peer-to-peer interaction and limited student learning.

Students in Active Roles at the New Hague School
December 18, 2018
Paul and Jennifer Warren have established the New Hague School in Norfolk. Opening in Fall of 2019, the school follows a model where the students take an active role as discussion leaders in order to better engage in the learning process.

Creative Thinking and Collaboration
December 19, 2018
The New Hague School will open in 2019 and will feature a curriculum that emphasizes creative thinking and collaborative work. Founder Paul Warren explains the dominant ideal that defines the school's approach.

Critical Thinking and Collaboration as Key Learning Elements
December 20, 2018
Paul and Jennifer Warren established the New Hague School as part of a personal crusade to incorporate critical thinking and collaboration as the key elements in the school's classrooms. Paul Warren discusses how the school will approach learning.

A Conference Model of Teaching
December 21, 2018
The New Hague School will follow a conference model of teaching that requires students to engage in debate and collaboration as the cornerstones of the classroom experience. Further, how students gather information and process it will be a tenant of the school. School-founder, Paul Warren, explains.

Commercial Trucking, Part I
March 18, 2019
Laura Kingsland took an unorthodox path to her current position as the Commercial Driving Program Director at Pinellas County Technical College: She became a commercial trucker at a time when there were few opportunities for women outside the traditional female dominated professions like secretaries and teachers.

Commercial Trucking, Part II
March 19, 2019
Laura Kingsland, Commercial Driving Program Director at Pinellas County Technical College discusses how certification standards and retiring baby boomers has created a high demand for truck drivers.

The Workplace as a Launching Pad for Advancement
March 21, 2019
Educationally Speaking Producers Barry Graham and Paul Bibeau review lessons learned from the two guests profiled in this week's educationally speaking episodes. The major lesson: using the workplace as a launching pad for advancement within the industry.

Pathways
March 22, 2019
Educationally Speaking producers Barry Graham and Paul Bibeau profile pathways to obtain certifications and licensing which help advancement in the workplace.

Pathways into the Field
April 8, 2019
Shawn Johnson presents his own career journey beginning with high school vocational education classes through community college classes ultimately leading to a licensure as a master electrician and operating his own company.

Finding the Qualified Skilled Trade Worker
April 9, 2019
Shawn Johnson, owner of Prestige Electric, discusses how he sees major vacancies in all skilled trades-with companies working overtime in order to finish jobs. Also, how entry into the skilled trades can be achieved through community college and trade school programs.

Filling the Trades Skilled Trades Jobs Gap
April 10, 2019
With baby boomers retiring and the current generation not filling these skilled trades jobs, companies are struggling to keep up with hiring trained workers. Shawn Johnson, Owner of Prestige Electric, sees technology and blue-collar job branding as part of the reason for this gap.

How and Where to Get Started in the Skilled Trades
April 11, 2019
Reports indicate that many students are unaware of how to pursue a career in the skilled trades. Also, many students are unaware of apprenticeships and on the job training. Shawn Johnson, owner of Prestige Electric discusses pathways into the trade skilled field.

Initiatives That Lure High School Graduates into the Skilled Trades
April 12, 2019
Faced with mounting labor shortages, many states and industries are launching initiatives that lure high school graduates into the skilled trades. According to Shawn Johnson, industries are well aware of the shortages and what needs to be done to get information out about the opportunities that exist in skilled trades careers.

Hampton's ACT Initiative
April 30, 2019
A discussion with Pam Croom, who is the Workforce Development Director for the City of Hampton. Hampton is a part of the ACT Certified Work Ready Initiative, a national effort focused on building the local workforce through community-based economic development. This program aligns with local educators to help build career pathways.

Academies of Hampton and the ACT initiative
May 1, 2019
The City of Hampton is participating in the ACT Work Ready Initiative. This effort is buoyed by the city schools' unique academy program whereby students are tracked into college and career prep classes. The ACT provides alternative assessments for students struggling to pass needed SOL tests for graduation and, it also provides certificate credentials which enhance employment opportunities.

Workforce Readiness and the Skilled Trades Gap
May 2, 2019
The City of Hampton has joined other localities across the nation in becoming a work ready community. This initiative focuses upon workforce development and helps potential employees with needed skills.

Thomas Nelson and the TRiO Program
May 20, 2019
Higher education institutions today have two million fewer students than they did in 2009. Despite an increased push by high schools in tracking students into Advanced Placement and College Prep classes, the number of students going directly into college is declining. This presents a generational challenge for students coming from homes where neither parent completed their college degree. Monica Pinier is a counselor in the TRiO Program at Thomas Nelson Community College. The federally funded initiative offers academic assistance and mentoring to first-generation college students. She discusses the challenges first generation college students face.

TRiO at Thomas Nelson
May 21, 2019
The Trio Program at Thomas Nelson Community College addresses the issues of first-generation college students. Nationwide, less than 10% of first-generation college students complete their college degree. TRiO is a federally funded initiative that provides close mentoring and academic advising. Thomas Nelson also works with the Great Expectations program which is aimed at students who previously were in foster care. Monica Pinier at Thomas Nelson discusses the success of the school's TRiO Program

From Foster Care to Thomas Nelson to William and Mary: Antonio-Dill-Word, A TRiO Grad at TNCC
May 22, 2019
Antonio Dill-Word is a 2019 graduate of Thomas Nelson Community College. A former foster care student in High School, he left college after his first year. He reenrolled at Thomas Nelson and took advantage of their TRiO program with close academic advising and mentoring. He discusses the challenges he faced during his first year in college and how the advisors at Thomas Nelson became cheerleaders for his success. He has been accepted to William and Mary for the Fall 2019 term and plans on majoring in Psychology.

The TRiO Program at TNCC: Navigating the Necessary Paperwork for a Successful Transition from High School to College
May 23, 2019
The TRiO Program at Thomas Nelson Community College has targeted first generation college students in an effort to boost their chances of completing their college degree. Monica Pinier, a TRiO Advisor, discusses how the school tracks these students and offer early intervention for problems. Also, Anotnio Dill-Word, a 2019 graduate of Thomas Nelson discusses how the TRiO advisors helped him navigate the needed paperwork to enroll at the school.

TCC and the Fast Forward Grant
June 10, 2019
Tidewater Community College is participating in a statewide grant program known as Fast Forward. Fast Forward grants offset tuition costs on select workforce training program and eligible students can earn an industry credential at 1/3 the cost of tuition for short-term training programs. The in demand skilled trades include many of the jobs that local industry leaders have been having difficulty recruiting qualified candidates for. However, according to Dr. Emily Richardson, Interim Associate VP for Business and Corporate Solutions at Tidewater Community College, there appears to be a new awareness for these in demand skilled workers.

TCC and the Fast Forward Grant: The New Awareness for In Demand Skilled Trades Workers
June 11, 2019
Fast Forward provides classes which lead to certifications especially in occupations deemed needed by local industry leaders. According to the bureau of labor statistics, people who held a certification or license had a lower unemployment rate than those who did not by over 2 to 1. Thousands of Virginians have enrolled in fast forward with a completion rate of 90% and the Grant provides an opportunity for training and certifications that enhance the opportunity for post high school employment. According to Emily Richardson, VP for Business and Corporate Solutions at Tidewater Community College, the need for additional training and education after leaving school, is critical to finding employment. Further, the stigma once attached to skilled trades jobs is fading with a new awareness for these in demand, well-paying jobs.

Virginia's Community Colleges and the Fast Forward Grant
June 13, 2019
The Fast Forward Grant targets skilled trades and credential jobs for the region that are in critical demand. Participants can learn key competencies in these jobs and often go directly into the field. Emily Richardson at TCC explains the model for the Fast Forward Program.

TCC and the Fast Forward Grant: The Need for Additional Training and Certifications in Post-High School
June 14, 2019
This week, Educationally Speaking has looked at the Fast Forward Grant, a statewide program provided to community colleges to bolster employment in critically needed areas. The program provides classes which lead to certifications especially in occupations deemed needed by local industry leaders. According to the bureau of labor statistics, people who held a certification or license had a lower unemployment rate than those who did not by over 2 to 1. Thousands of Virginians have enrolled in fast forward with a completion rate of 90% and the Grant provides an opportunity for training and certifications that enhance the opportunity for post high school employment. According to Emily Richardson, VP for Business and Corporate Solutions at Tidewater Community College, the need for additional training and education after leaving school, is critical to finding employment:

School Start Times and Adolescent Health
June 17, 2019
Studies indicate that high school students function better and achieve more academically when they don't start classes early because their internal clocks are wired to keep them up late. The American Academy of sleep medicine says that adolescents who do not get enough sleep are more likely to perform poorly in school. The American Academy of Pediatrics says that delaying school start times leads to a wide range of potential benefits, including regards to mental health, safety, and academic achievement. Local school divisions have been discussing later start times for several years. Community input on the issue has mostly been positive. Chesapeake City Schools has for years had later start times for its senior and middle schools. School Board members there said the "thought has always been that older students are more alert when they start later."

The Logistics of an Early School Starting Time
June 18, 2019
Dr. Melinda Boone of Norfolk City Public Schools discusses the logistics of changing their middle and senior high schools to a later starting time.

School Starting Times Do Not Affect the Actual Length of the School Day
June 19, 2019
Norfolk and Virginia Beach City Schools are shifting their start times in the 2020-2021 school year. This shift is backed by current research that indicates older students do better in schools with later start times. Dr. Melinda Boone, Superintendent of Norfolk City Schools, discusses how this shift affects only the start times for the division and not the actual amount of time students are in the classroom. Also, the shifting start times creates several logistical issues for school divisions, including transportation, before and after school care for elementary students, and lighting of athletic fields for the senior high schools.

School Starting Times: Chesapeake Sets a Standard Other Divisions are Now Following
June 20, 2019
The American Academy of Pediatrics says that delaying school start times leads to a wide range of potential benefits, including regards to mental health, safety, and academic achievement. Local school divisions have been discussing later start times for several years. Community input on the issue has mostly been positive. Chesapeake City Schools has for years had later start times for its senior and middle schools. School Board members there said the "thought has always been that older students are more alert when they start later."

School Start Times and Adolescent Health
June 21, 2019
This week, Educationally Speaking has looked at the issue of school starting times for high school and middle school students. Chesapeake City Schools already has a later start time for these students. Virginia Beach and Norfolk City schools will shift in the 2020-2021 school year to later start times. Studies indicate that adolescents perform better academically when they begin school after 8:30 a.m. Citing these studies, the school divisions are shifting their opening times. This presents some logistical issues that divisions must address including after school care for elementary students and transportation. However, citing Chesapeake's long standing later opening times, other divisions are embarking on the change. Hampton City Schools also have a later start time while Newport News maintains an earlier opening. Both Norfolk and Virginia Beach sought input on the change and both divisions report a positive community response for the shift. The later start times for middle and senior high schools is part of a broader shift in primary education which includes more technology in the classroom, on-line instruction, less use of traditional textbooks, and increased vocational and career instruction. This indicates a continuing realignment of the traditional public school setting that many communities are undertaking.

The Academies of Hampton City Schools
June 24, 2019
Veronica Hurd of Hampton City Schools discusses the new Academies of Hampton model that presents career pathways for each student.

The Academies of Hampton City Schools and the Work Ready Initiative
June 25, 2019
The city of Hampton has joined other localities nationwide in becoming a work ready community, an initiative that focuses upon workforce development and helps potential employees with necessary career skills. ACT provides a series of courses designed to enhance workplace skills. This program is buoyed by the Hampton City Schools and their unique Academy system where students are tracked into either college prep coursework or a career pathway series of classes. Pam Croom, workforce development coordinator for the city of Hampton explains how the ACT and the Academy Program helps to boost career readiness.

How the City of Hampton is Addressing the Trade Skills Gap
June 26, 2019
Hampton has joined other communities nationwide in becoming a work ready community. This initiative focuses on workforce development and helps potential employees with workplace skills. Pam Croom, Workforce Development Coordinator for the city explains how the ACT Key Train System is a series of courses to boost career readiness.

Hampton's ACT Initiative
June 27, 2019
The City of Hampton has embarked upon a program known as the ACT Work Ready Initiative. This national effort focuses upon economic vitality through workforce development. The city is buoyed by the new "Academies of Hampton" approach within the city schools. The ACT Work Ready initiative provides credentials based upon workforce skills while the Academy approach tracks students into career and college pathways. City and school officials say the two programs work together to help local industry address the critical shortage in skilled trades.

The Academies of Hampton and ACT Initiative
June 28, 2019
This week, Educationally Speaking has reviewed the City of Hampton's participation in the ACT Certified Work Ready Initiative which focuses on building the local workforce through economic development. This effort includes work with the public schools to close the skilled trades gap that exists in local industry. The program has both vocational and educational objectives. Students can earn the National Career Readiness Certificate which is a national recognized credential that enhances a candidate's employment profile.

HearSay with Cathy Lewis

Childhood and Mental Health Education
July 18, 2018
A new law went into effect in Virginia requiring mental health education in schools. We will talk to state Senator Creigh Deeds, one of the law's sponsors, whose son died tragically by suicide. Joining the conversation will be Stephanie Osler, the director of the CHKD Mental Health service line, and the Chair of the Norfolk school board, Dr. Noelle Gabriel, who is also a pediatrician at CHKD.

Debt-Free College?
August 27, 2018
Rep. Bobby Scott will tell us about his ambitious plan to help every student earn a college degree or credential debt-free. Can we do this? Are there downsides? Jason Delisle, who researches higher education financing for the American Enterprise Institute, gives the conservative take. Then we go beyond politics with Bonnie Sutton of the Access College Foundation, a program which has helped thousands of students in the region reach their educational goals.

Back to School
September 18, 2018
Kids are going back to school. It's an exciting, challenging time of year, and we will tackle the issues you care about, like how to deal with academic stress, how much sleep students need, and the new cooking at Virginia Beach schools.

Schools and Stocks
September 24, 2018
The Newport News School Board recently asked the city for $50 million to rebuild now-closed Huntington Middle School. In Norfolk, the future of Maury High School remains uncertain. This all raises the question of: What do you do with older schools? Do you renovate? Do you replace? We want to know your thoughts as we explore this question.

Women in Skilled Careers
September 26, 2018
As part of our continued work with the American Graduate 3 Initiative, we are talking to women in different skilled trades. We will discuss the career pathways women can pursue in trucking, funeral service or the maritime industry.

How Many Industries Does It Take to Build a House?
December 19, 2018
As part of our American Graduate 3 programming, Cathy will be talking to people in schools and industries about all the career paths involved in homebuilding.

School Safety
January 30, 2019
Dr. Aaron Spence, the superintendent of Virginia Beach's public schools, will discuss his new plan to improve school safety.

Success Stories
March 20, 2019
As part of the American Graduate initiative, Cathy will talk to people who have risen into leadership positions in their companies. It promises to be a powerful and inspiring show about the recipe for career success.

Reinventing America's Schools
April 9, 2019
We'll discuss a proposal for ambitious reforms to our nation's schools. Finally, we will talk to the people behind the student chef program in Virginia Beach's public schools.

American Graduate: Hampton
June 26, 2019
As part of the American Graduate initiative, Cathy Lewis will discuss the Academies of Hampton and the ACT certified work ready initiative.

Notes

Educational Advisory Committee (EAC)
The Educational Advisory Committee (EAC) consists of a division selected School Board member or designee from each HRETA Member Division. The EAC receives reports, updates, and other information related to educational issues and priorities. The EAC meets four times each year at WHRO, generally in October, December, March, and May. The EAC is the decision-making body on matters related to the policy, planning, and operation of WHRO public education related activities.

Superintendents Advisory Council (SAC)
The Superintendents Advisory Council (SAC) consists of HRETA member Superintendents. Because school divisions are the owners of WHRO, this group of superintendents serves as the body that makes final recommendations to the EAC regarding decisions related to the policy, planning, and operation of WHRO public education related activities. The SAC meets five times each year at WHRO, generally in October, December, January, March, and May. The SAC chair may schedule additional meetings as needed. The SAC will receive reports from WHRO on various issues pertaining to WHRO as well as summary reports regarding budgets, grants, instructional related services, and other business matters associated with educational initiatives supporting public schools.

Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)
The Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) consists of HRETA member Chief Information Officers or other superintendent designees from each division. The TAC reviews all aspects of established educational activities (including budgets, grants, new initiatives, etc.) and provides comment on any related issues or concerns. Additionally, the TAC works with WHRO staff to recommend new regional technology based directions and initiatives and provides written reports to the SAC. The C.I.I. will serve as a resource to the TAC, providing detailed information on their area of responsibility and recommendations, if any, relative to their activities. The TAC meets five times a year at WHRO, generally in September, November, January, March, and May. Additional meetings may be scheduled as determined by the TAC Chair.

Consortium for Interactive Instruction (C.I.I.)
The Consortium for Interactive Instruction (C.I.I.) consists of HRETA member representatives that are appointed by the division Superintendent. The C.I.I. serves as a subcommittee for the TAC to facilitate the communication, implementation, forums, and other activities essential to collaboration of instructional technologies in the HRETA region. C.I.I. business meetings are held three times a year, generally in September, January, and May, with additional special interest forums scheduled as needed throughout the year.

Desire2Learn System Administrators
The Desire2Learn (D2L) System Administrator group is comprised of school division representatives and WHRO Education personnel. All of these individuals serve as learning management system administrators and meet together to support online and blended learning. D2L System Administrator meetings are held regularly throughout the year.