

# VCCA January Newsletter



## VCCA Day on the Hill

January 15, 2020 was an exciting day for VCCA to represent early care and education. We met with delegates and senators from around the state to emphasize the importance of private sector childcare and early education and why it's so important that our industry be supported through public-private partnerships. These partnerships help to seat VPI (Va. Preschool Initiative) students in our schools rather than the public system adding classrooms, trailers and teachers for at-risk children. We want the state to partner with us in the delivery of pre-k services. Pilots for this model are happening around the state to gather supporting data that this partnership model works and it works well!

For child care and early education directly the most important legislation this session is [House Bill 1012 \(HB 1012\)](#) & the Senate version which is [Senate Bill 578 \(SB 578\)](#)

## **SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:**

**Early childhood care and education; licensing.** Requires the Board of Education to establish a statewide unified public-private system for early childhood care and education in the Commonwealth to be administered by the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Department of Education. The bill transfers the authority to license and regulate child day programs and other early child care agencies from the Board of Social Services and Department of Social Services to the Board of Education and Department of Education. The bill maintains current licensure, background check, and other requirements of such programs. Such provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2021. The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish a plan for implementing the statewide unified early childhood care and education system and requires the Department of Social Services and the Department of Education to enter into a cooperative agreement to coordinate the

transition. The bill also requires the Board of Education to establish, no later than July 1, 2021, a uniform quality rating and improvement system designed to provide parents and families with information about the quality and availability of certain publicly funded early childhood care and education providers and to publish the initial quality ratings under such system in the fall of 2022.

The two bills mirror one another, but are traveling on different sides of the legislature. The final version, once passed, will essentially transfer the authority of the Department of Social Service over to the Department of Education. We expect this legislation to pass and will get into the details in our next newsletter. Most all of the language is transferring exactly as written currently under Department of Social Services section of the code.

We want members to know that the VCCA Lobbyists, Matt and Josh, as well as the VCCA Executive Board, are working to ensure that private sector has a voice moving forward. Coalitions and committees are being formed to include our voice. We'll be sending out polls beginning next month to survey our members on a regular basis with how certain pieces may impact your business. We'll need to hear from you, our members to continually get a pulse on what would be most helpful moving forward.

More impactful than even the transfer of our industry to new leadership to the Department of Education could be the state minimum wage. The minimum wage could go anywhere from \$9.00 to \$15.00. We'll be polling our members next week to see what threshold you could support based on where you're located in the state. This could be very challenging for many businesses in Virginia. We'd like to know where our members stand to be able to voice where our members would struggle to make ends meet without driving up tuition costs for parents. Please be looking for that poll early next week.

**Professional Development: “Creating a Hand Hygiene Program”**

**Topic: Lunch & Learn Webinar**

**Date: February 12, 2020**

**Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm**

**Link: [Click here for webinar link](#)**

**Audience: Owners, Directors, Teachers**

**Sponsored by: [Acme Paper & Product Supply](#)**

**Registration Link: [REGISTER](#)**

Join VCCA for a professional development webinar on how to distinguish your program through better health and wellness practices. Listen how CEO of Extreme Infection Control, Jim Masterson shares ways to keep our children and teachers healthier in group settings during cold and flu season.

What's the secret to having a healthier learning environment? What would it mean to your families if you could use data to show how you are able to cut the spread of germs with impact during cold and flu season?

Tune in to this informative educational webinar and VCCA will email registered participants a 1hr. training certificate. All VCCA owners, directors, or teachers are welcome to join. You must be on live (listening or by computer) in order to receive credit. All webinars are achieved on the VCCA website. Need to reset your username and password? Email us at [virginiachildcareassociation@gmail.com](mailto:virginiachildcareassociation@gmail.com) and let us know. We're happy to send you a reset link anytime.

***If you miss the webinar*** join us again on Wed. 2/26 at 1:00pm as a last call to receive a training certificate. We'll replay the webinar live and there will be opportunity for Q&A during this session. [Click here for the link.](#)

### **2020 VCCA Professional Development Opportunities:**

You spoke and we listened. According to our last VCCA member survey members requested more “Luch & Learn” webinars. Please find below a list of the 2020 monthly webinar agenda. We're doing our best to schedule the webinars at 1:00pm on the second Wed. of each month. All current VCCA members and their directors will receive a 1 hour professional development training certificate if you're live on the call. Please be sure to share the webinar information with your directors.

| <b>2020</b>      | <b>Webinar Schedule</b>   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>January</b>   | <b>VCCA Lobby Day on the Hill, VCCA Lobbyist, Matt Benedetti</b>  |
| <b>February</b>  | <b>Wellness: Creating a Healthy Hand Hygiene Program</b>  |
| <b>March</b>     | <b>Marketing: Marketing for Growth &amp; More Growth</b>  |
| <b>April</b>     | <b>Dept. of Education: The New Landscape of Early Ed. In Va. – Chief School Readiness Officer - Jenna Conway</b>            |
| <b>May</b>       | <b>STEM &amp; STEM Accreditation – Cognia (formerly AdvancED)</b>   |
| <b>June</b>      | <b>Mindfulness – Teaching Children to Self-Regulate – Troy Byer</b>   |
| <b>July</b>      | <b>Vernon Mason – Subject Matter Expert</b>   |
| <b>August</b>    | <b>VECF: Va. Early Childhood Foundation – Public dollars being used in private sector programs to educate more children</b> |
| <b>September</b> | <b>Using the CLASS System for Driving Learning &amp; Development</b>  |
| <b>October</b>   | <b>Kathy Ligon – A National Perspective of Childcare &amp; Early Education</b>  |
| <b>November</b>  | <b>Staff Coaching &amp; Development – Caroline Jens</b>   |
| <b>December</b>  | <b>Setting Goals &amp; Intentions for 2021 – Speaker TBA</b>  |

**Newest VCCA Board Member:** VCCA would like to welcome our newest Board Member,



[Benita Petrella](#). Benita and her husband Marcus are the owners of Primrose Midlothian. She has three children ranging in ages from 10-18. Before becoming the owner of Primrose Benita was an attorney in Richmond. Benita's looking forward to serving VCCA as a Board Member and engaging to help shape the future of child-care & early childhood education in Virginia. When she's not working Benita enjoys spending time with her family at Smith Mountain Lake.

### **SHIFT: A CHILDCARE LEADERS CONFERENCE**

SHIFT initially launched as an event to help early education providers connect with other business owners and stakeholders in the industry. Now in its third year, the event has become a haven of meaningful resources for childcare providers—helping them manage the operational and financial sides of their businesses as well as introducing them to the newest and most innovative solutions for their schools.

The incredible growth and positive feedback has skyrocketed SHIFT to become a must-attend event for all childcare business owners and directors.

**If you are planning to attend the Shift Conference we'd like to connect with you! VCCA will be organizing a networking dinner for the Virginia conference goes Wednesday night of the conference. Please email us at [viriniachildcareassociation@gmail.com](mailto:viriniachildcareassociation@gmail.com) so we can include you in the invite! This is a great opportunity to meet and connect with other business owners from around the state.**



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### **Preferred Partner Spotlight [Acme Paper & Product Supply](#)**

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- ✓ Monthly service calls for preventative maintenance
- ✓ Labels and MSDS books provided
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Overall benefit

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