

# **READ 180 PROGRAM: EVALUATION READINESS REPORT**

**VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Department of Educational Leadership and Assessment  
Office of Research and Evaluation  
2512 George Mason Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this Evaluation Readiness Report is to comply with School Board Policy 6-26, adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach on September 5, 2007. According to the policy, “Existing programs will be evaluated based on an annual Program Evaluation Schedule which will be developed by the Program Evaluation Committee and approved by the School Board annually.” On September 8, 2010, the School Board approved the 2010-2011 Program Evaluation Schedule, in which the READ 180 Program was recommended for an Evaluation Readiness Report. Based on School Board Policy 6-26, for programs scheduled for an Evaluation Readiness Report, the Department of Educational Leadership and Assessment will “assist program staff in defining measurable goals and objectives, as well as linkages with activities and outcomes.” According to the policy, an Evaluation Readiness Report focusing on the outcomes of this process and recommendations regarding continued evaluation of the program will be presented to the Superintendent and School Board.

## **RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION READINESS PROCESS**

- A committee of representatives from departments involved in overseeing the READ 180 Program, school-based personnel, and program evaluation staff met to develop goals and measurable objectives that were organized into two types--implementation goals and outcome goals.
- The implementation goals focused on the screening criteria for program placement and program accessibility, implementation of the program with fidelity, and training and support for teachers and administrators.
- The outcome goals focused on improved reading skills among program participants, transferability of skills developed in the program to other academic areas, and the overall improvement of student attitudes and perceptions related to reading.
- Literature regarding READ 180 program evaluations was reviewed by the program evaluators as part of the process for determining the evaluation plan for the program.
- A proposed evaluation plan for the READ 180 Program was developed. This plan included the evaluation questions that would be the focus of the comprehensive evaluation scheduled for 2011-2012 and the planned data collection process for evaluating the program goals and objectives.

## RECOMMENDATION

The information garnered from the READ 180 Program evaluation readiness process led to the formulation of the following recommendation. A rationale is also presented for the recommendation.

*Recommendation 1:* Conduct a comprehensive evaluation during the 2011-2012 school year, focused on program implementation, student academic outcomes, stakeholders' perceptions of the program, and program cost. (Department of Educational Leadership and Assessment)

*Rationale:* It is proposed that a comprehensive evaluation of the READ 180 Program be conducted during the 2011-2012 school year, which focuses on evaluating implementation-related issues, student outcomes, stakeholders' perceptions, and the additional cost of the program to the school division. A comprehensive evaluation of the Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) READ 180 Program has not been conducted previously. Having successfully completed the evaluation readiness process with the development of goals and measurable objectives, a comprehensive evaluation is recommended.