

Ordinance 2025/26-80

Section 8-37.1. Standardized testing permitted; Disclosure of Race etc. not required; Limited exception; superintendent to develop regulations. — A. A program of standardized testing prescribed by the Virginia Department of Education is administered annually. Standardized tests are administered according to state and local directives. In addition to this testing program, school personnel may use teacher made and other tests to meet specific needs within Suffolk Public Schools. Teachers, parents, principals, and other school leaders are provided with their students' results on any Standards of Learning assessment or Virginia Alternative Assessment Program as soon as practicable after the assessment is administered.

B. In administering tests or other assessment instruments, School Board employees do not require any public school student being tested to disclose their race or ethnicity on such tests. School division personnel, however, may obtain such information from a student's permanent record and place the information on the test or assessment.

C. No student or his parent is required to disclose information related to the student's race or ethnicity unless (i) the student or his parent is given an option to designate "other" for the students' race or ethnicity or (ii) such disclosure is required by federal law.

D. The school superintendent is granted the authority to promulgate regulations to protect the validity, security, and integrity of all state-mandated assessments administered within the school division. (Adopted January 12, 1995; Revised June 9, 2016; Ordinance Number 15/16-85; Effective Date: July 1, 2016; Revised February 14, 2016; Ordinance Number 18/19-65; Effective Date: February 14, 2019; Ordinance 23/24-52, Revised/Effective: January 11, 2024)

Legal Authority - Virginia Code § 22.1-4.2, and 22.1-253.13:3.