



Commission on Civic Education

June 16, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.

General Assembly Building, Senate Room B

<https://studies.viriniageneralassembly.gov/studies/237>

The Commission on Civic Education (the Commission) met in Richmond with Senator Jennifer B. Boysko, chair, presiding.¹ The meeting began with introductions and opening remarks followed by presentations and discussion. Materials presented at the meeting are accessible through the [Commission's website](#).

Senate Resolutions 115-116: Commending Bob Holsworth and Quentin Kidd

Senator David Marsden, Commission Member

Senator Jennifer Boysko, Commission Chair

Senators Marsden and Boysko read SR 115 (Marsden, 2026 Session) and SR 116 (Marsden, 2026 Session) commending Bob Holsworth and Quentin Kidd, respectively, for their contributions to civic education in the Commonwealth. Following the reading of the resolutions, both Mr. Holsworth and Mr. Kidd expressed gratitude and emphasized the importance of civic education. Senator Marsden noted that the Senate and House versions of the budget both include funding for George Mason University's (GMU) online civics education course which will also be available at community colleges in the Commonwealth.

Review of Senate Bill 214 (Boysko)

Ryan Brimmer, Lead Senior Attorney, Division of Legislative Services

Mr. Brimmer explained the changes included in SB 214 (Boysko, 2026 Regular). The bill's main purpose is for the Commission to establish and host its own website. Dr. Reilly shared that the Virginia Public Access Project (VPAP) has offered to build and host the website, but expressed that other options may be pursued if the offer is not feasible due to budgetary constraints. The other three options offered by VPAP are (i) \$5,000 to host a 4-page website; (ii) \$8,000 to host the 4-page website, to provide two VPAP-supported updates each year for the next three years, and to provide search engine optimization; or (iii) \$10,000 to include everything in (i) and (ii) plus a teacher-targeted advertising campaign.

¹ **Members Present:** Senator Jennifer B. Boysko (chair), Senator David W. Marsden, Delegate Jessica L. Anderson, Delegate Karen Keys-Gamarra, Delegate Delores Oates, The Honorable James H. Dillard II, Randy Pearson, Dr. Alice L. Reilly, Adam Wallach (virtual)

Members Absent: Meredith Detweiler, Marilyn Hill, Glen H. Hoptman, Lucile Miller, Anthony Walters, Jeff Walters, Steve Weddle

Discussion: 2026 Teacher Summit Planning

Mr. Dillard suggested that a focus of the Summit could be on increasing public understanding of the judiciary process at the federal, state, and local level. A few Virginia justices and judges have expressed interest in presenting if the Commission moves ahead with the topic. Several members of the Commission expressed support. The Commission discussed additional potential subtopics including jurisdiction and standing as well as theoretical approaches the Summit could take such as providing a critical analysis of changes and trends in the rule of law. The Commission also discussed ways to improve communication among members of the Commission and suggested that Delegate Oates, Delegate Keys-Gamarra, Delegate Anderson, Dr. Reilly, Mr. Wallach, Ms. Miller, and Mr. Dillard be included as members of the subcommittee on the Summit. The Summit will likely occur on November 10, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Members of the public were given a chance to speak in response to the information presented at the meeting. Tate Jordan of Virginians for Civic Engagement spoke about the organization's work in Northern Virginia encouraging localities to adopt ordinances to include nonvoting youth members on their boards. The Commission expressed gratitude and emphasized their shared mission. Juliette Adams and her seventh grade classroom at Glasgow Middle School shared their civic engagement project and requested funding as well as technical support. Delegate Keys-Gamarra expressed admiration and encouraged the students to write directly to the Commission.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Commission was not scheduled.



For more information, see the [*Commission's website*](#) or contact the Division of Legislative Services staff:

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