The Virginia Longitudinal Data System

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What is the VLDS?

• A project funded by USED ($17.5M)
• A partnership of education and workforce agencies
• A way to connect and share data across agencies
• A way to make data available to researchers
• Video
Current Partners

- Virginia Department of Education
- State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
- Virginia Employment Commission
- Virginia Community College System
- Virginia Information Technologies Agencies
Major Outcomes of the Project

• Create an integrated **K-12 student-teacher information system** that matches individual teachers to students.

• Create a longitudinal data linking and reporting system with the ability to link data among state agency data sources, including K-12, higher education, and workforce systems.

• Develop a **web-based portal to provide one-stop access to education and workforce data** by policymakers, educators, the public, program directors, researchers, etc.

• Design a **data management and control system** that enables us to maximize data quality, ensure accessibility with appropriate security, and enhance the usefulness of the data in both existing and proposed systems.

• Develop a mechanism for postsecondary institutions to receive **transcript data**.
Major Outcomes for SCHEV

• New SCHEV Research website
• New data model
• Data server upgrade
• Access to key data on transitions – K12 & Workforce
Guided Research via “Burning Questions”

• How can Virginia improve high school graduation rates while increasing students’ preparation for college and careers?

• How can Virginia improve the preparation, recruitment, and retention of Virginia’s educational personnel, including their meaningful and ongoing professional development, especially in teacher shortage areas and in hard-to-staff schools?

• How can Virginia improve performance of the public workforce system?

• By what means can Virginia’s public workforce development system meet the needs of job seekers/workers and employers?
Key Benefits

• Expand reporting, particularly through high school and college feedback reports.
• Expand our study of policy outcomes as students transition into higher education and then to the workforce.
• We will be able to support more research done by researchers outside the partner agencies.
  – Faculty researchers, doctoral candidates
Current Projects

• Metrics of Economic Success
• ARRA Reporting Requirements
  – State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Indicator (C)(12)
• UVa/VCU joint research project funded through a Workforce Data Quality Initiative grant to guide the development of available data for
  – Enhancing outcomes in teacher education programs
  – Performance improvements in the public workforce system