
Educational Attainment & Community Leadership



JUNE 22, 2013

JANE N. KUSIAK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Educational Attainment & Community Leadership

Thinking Beyond the Numbers

- Building a 21st Century Workforce Starts with Education
- The Virginia Experience
- Thinking Beyond the Numbers – A Community Challenge

Community Change Agents

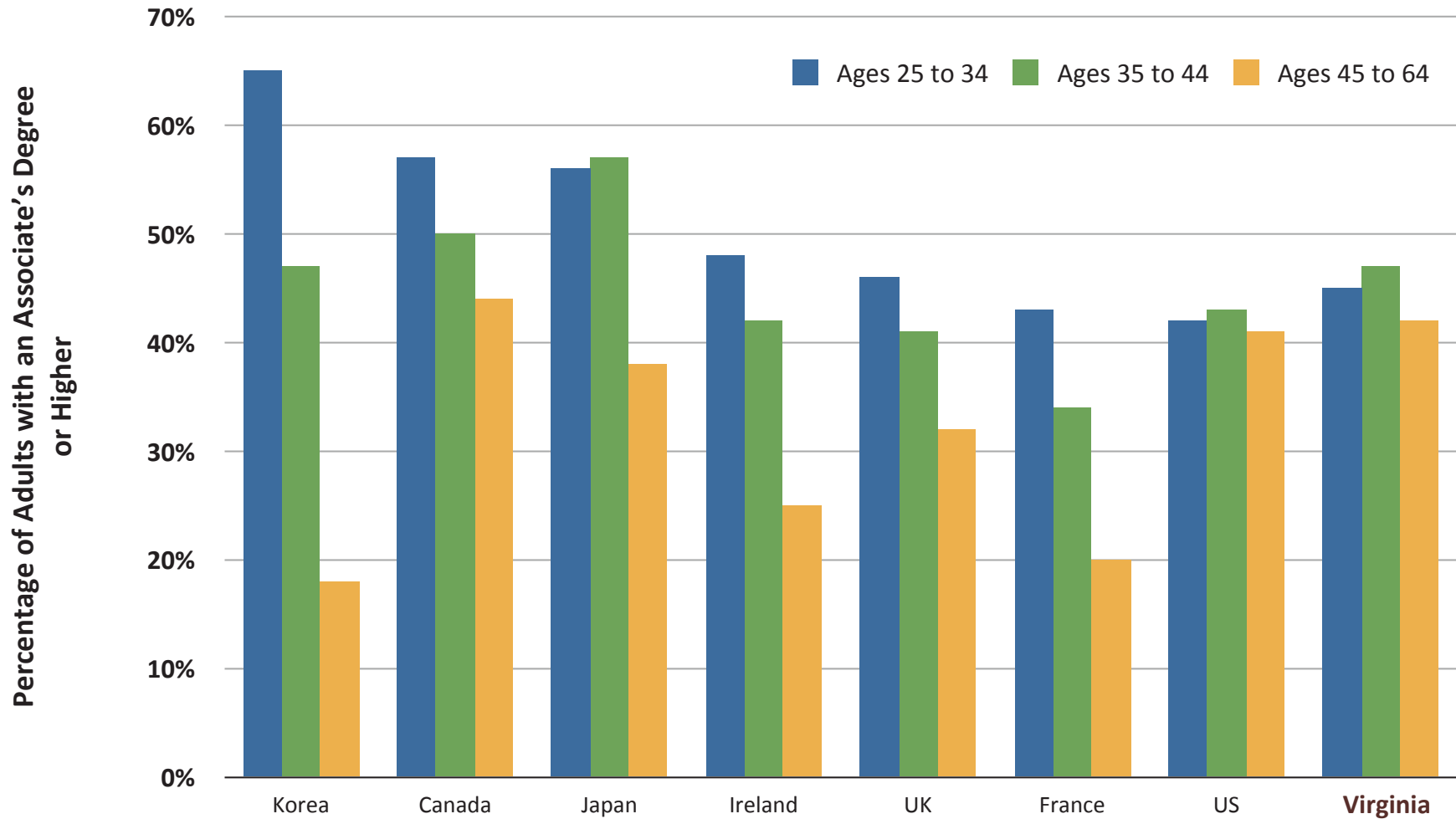
- Heidi Abbott, Counsel, Hunton & Williams LLP
- Kurt Krause, General Manager, The National Conference Center

Building a 21st Century Workforce Starts with Education



Global Competition: Degrees Matter

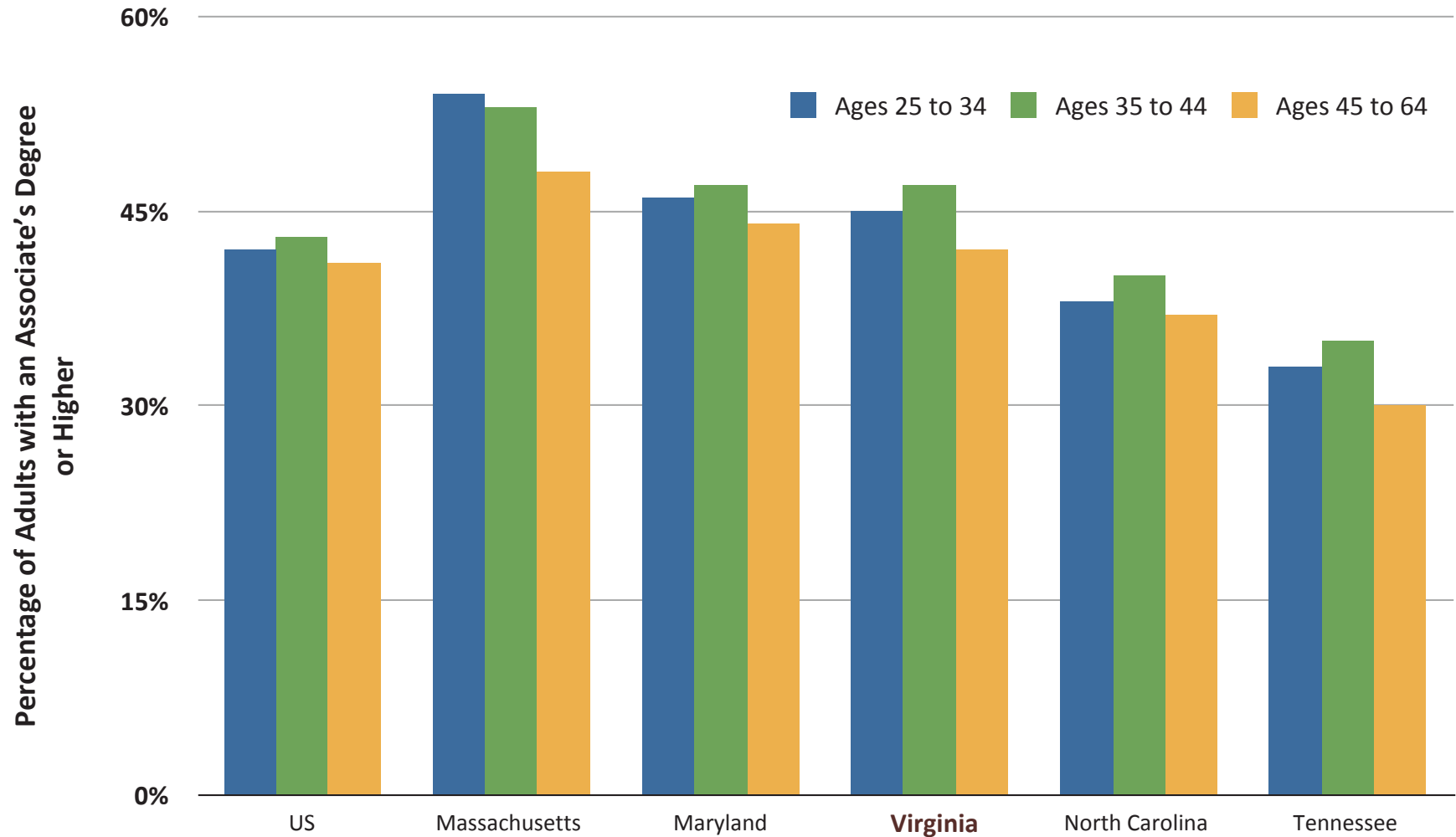
The educational attainment of young adults (ages 25 to 34) in Virginia is lower than the previous generation (ages 35 to 44) and behind a growing number of key competitors.



SOURCE: Country Data - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Education at a Glance, 2012
Virginia Data - American Community Survey, US Census Bureau, 2009-2011

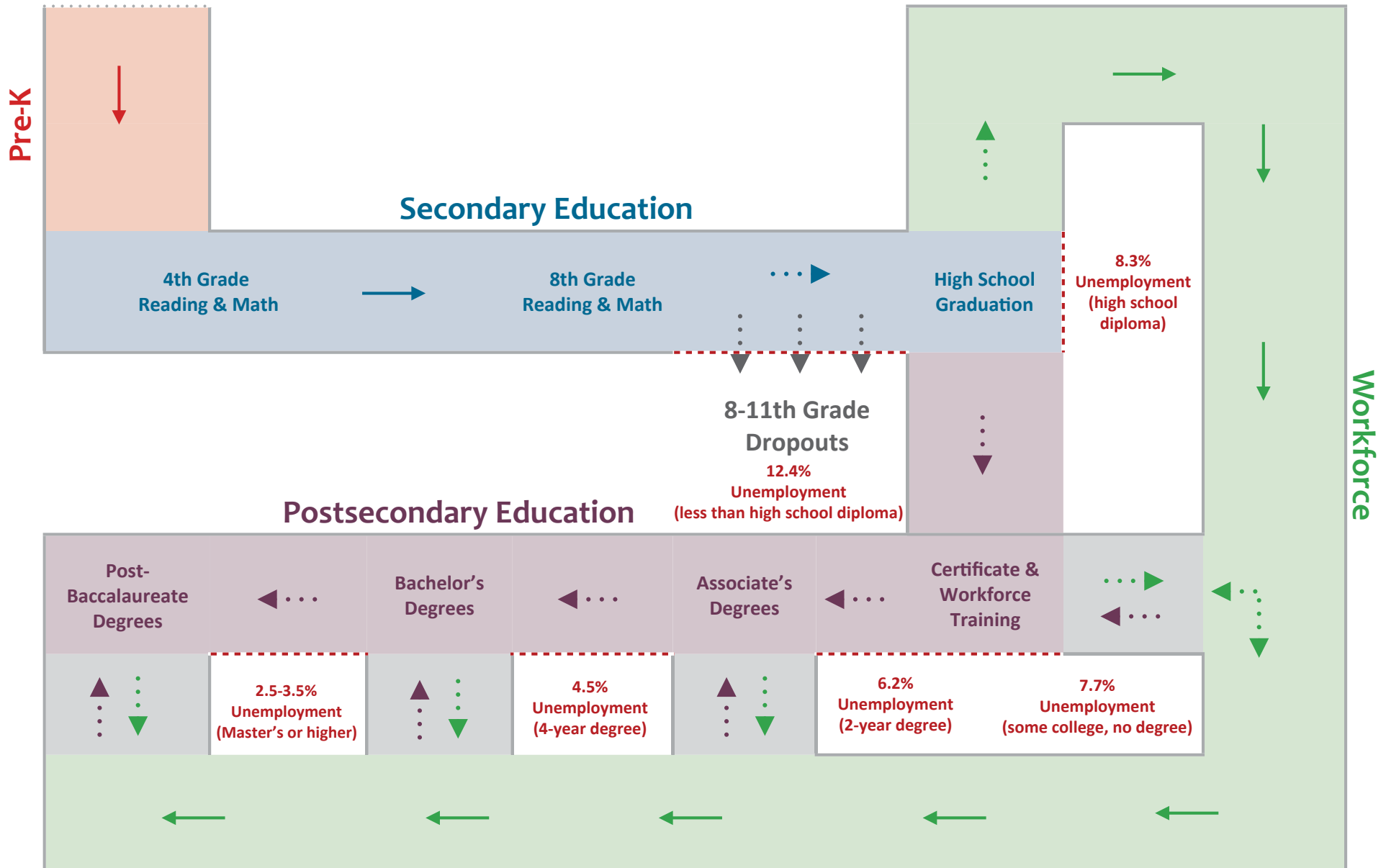
National Competition: Degrees Matter

At 54 percent, Massachusetts leads the states in the percentage of young adults (ages 25 to 34) with an associate's degree or higher.



SOURCE: US Data - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Education at a Glance, 2012
State Data - American Community Survey, US Census Bureau, 2009-2011

Education-Workforce Pipeline: Creating a 21st Century Workforce



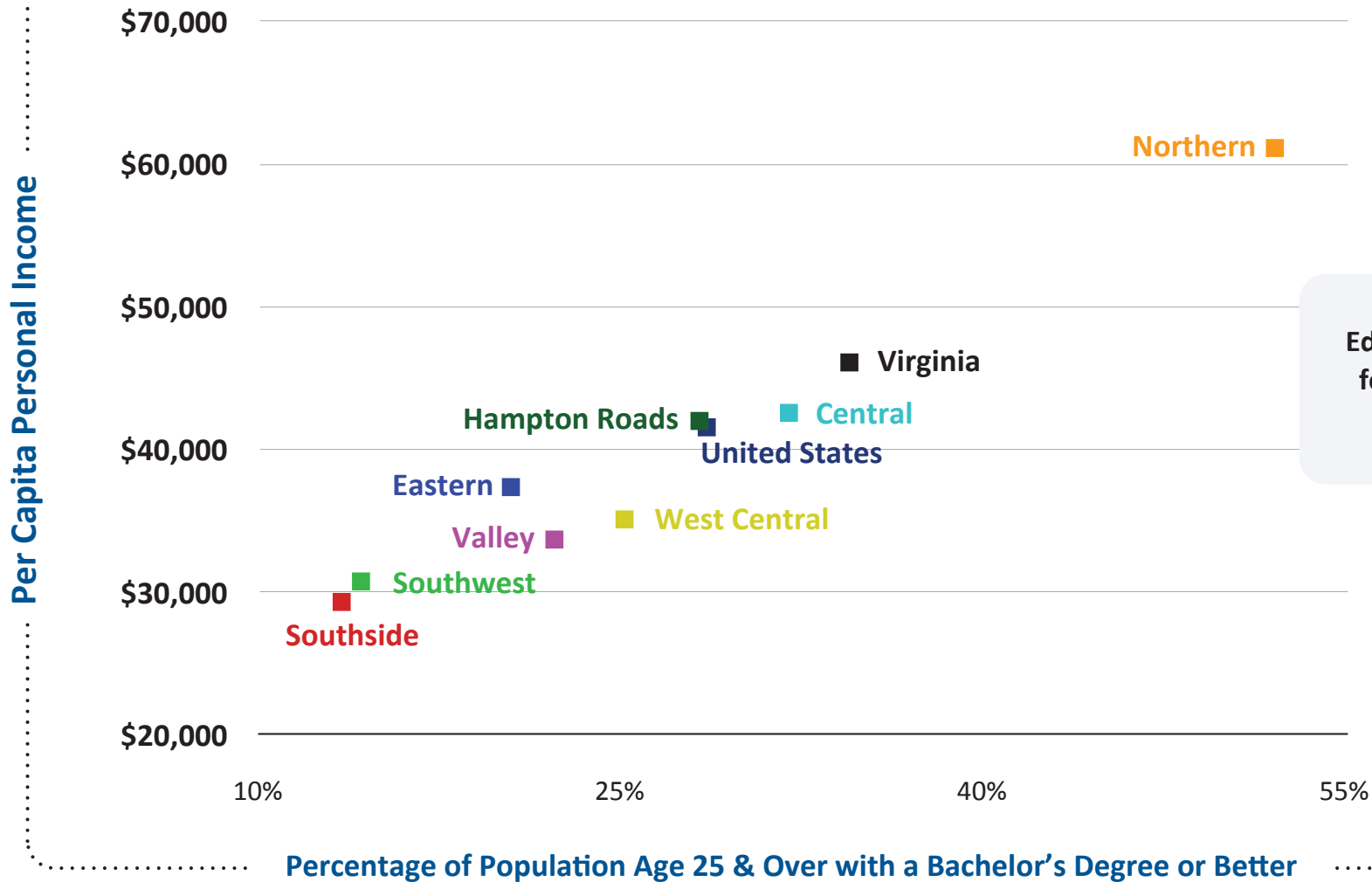
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012

The Virginia Experience



Educational Attainment & Community Prosperity

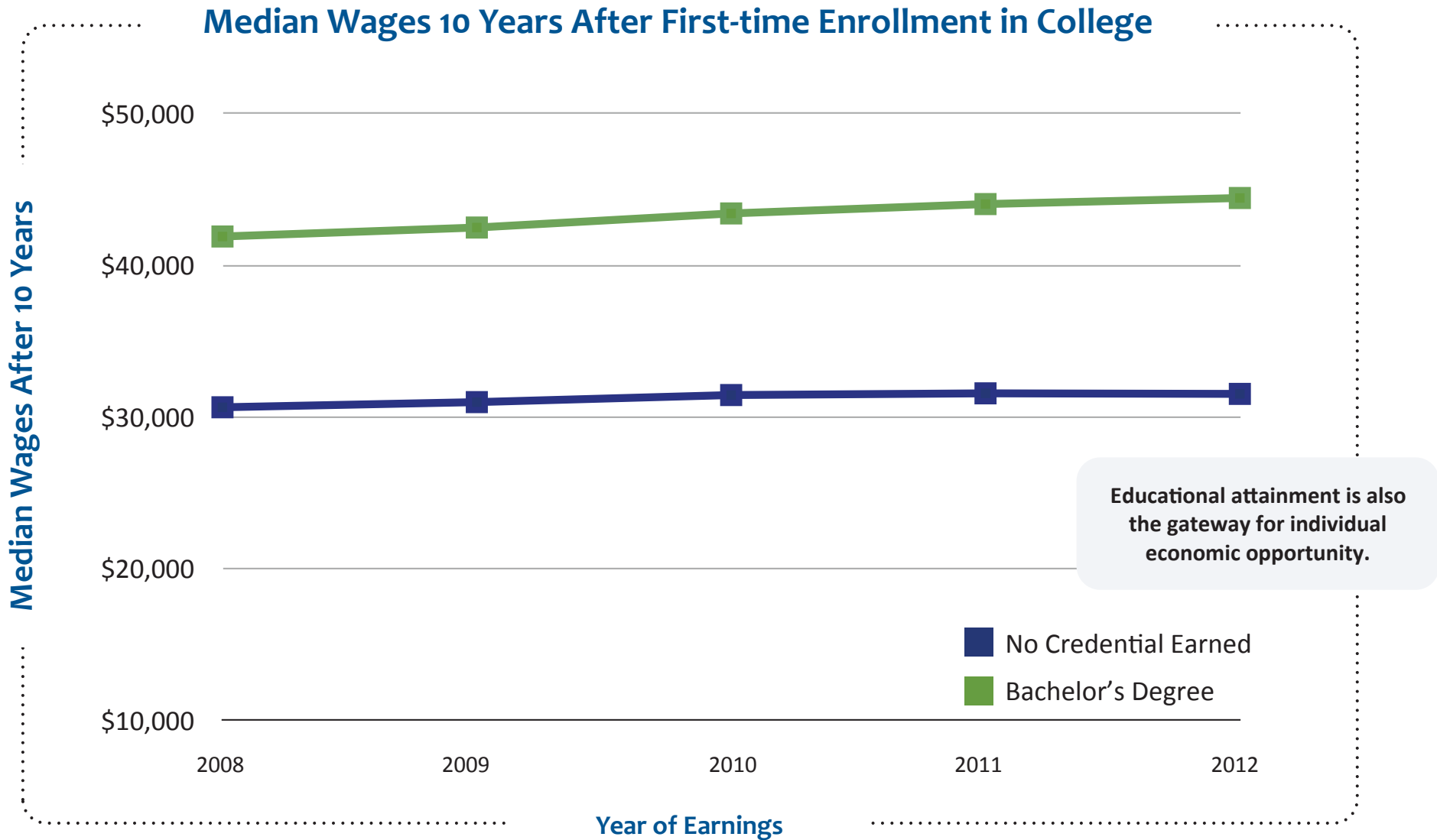
Educational Attainment and Personal Income by Virginia Region, 2011



Education is vital for community prosperity.

SOURCE: American Community Survey, US Census Bureau, 2007-2011 and 2011
Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2011

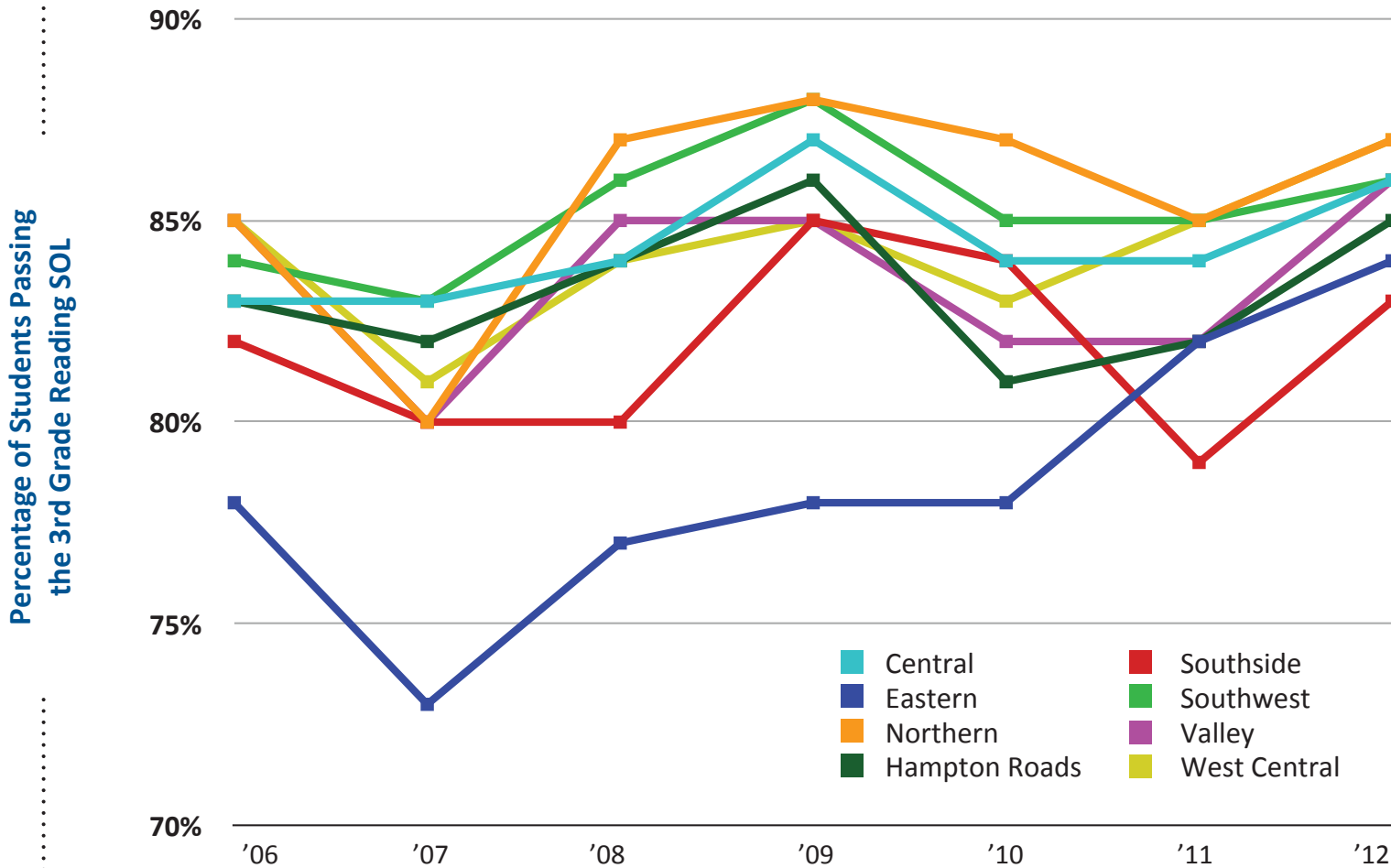
Educational Attainment & Individual Prosperity



SOURCE: State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, Virginia Longitudinal Data System

3rd Grade Reading is Critical

3rd Grade SOL Pass Rates by Region



One in six children who are not reading proficiently in 3rd grade fail to graduate from high school on time.

Three factors are strongly associated with 3rd grade reading performance in Virginia: a student's economic status, a student's disability status, and a student's race.

Through 3rd grade, children are mainly learning to read. By 4th grade, children are reading to learn.

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Education

Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters, Annie E. Casey Foundation

Strategies to Promote Third Grade Reading Performance in Virginia, Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission

Virginia's Reading Assessment Across the Pipeline

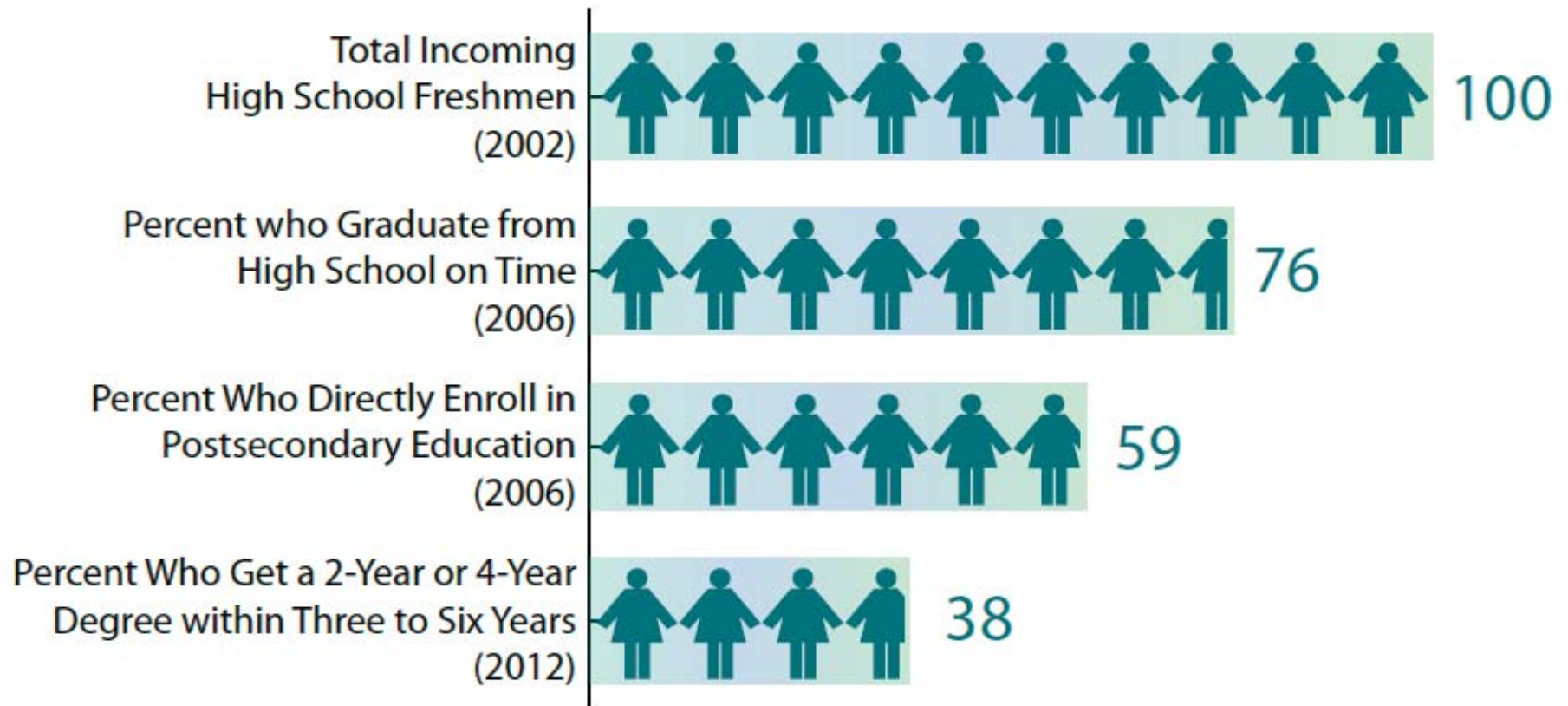


SOURCE: Virginia Department of Education

NOTE: Data does not reflect a specific cohort and is not longitudinal. Graphic is intended merely to illustrate the challenges for students if they fall behind.

Educational Attrition in Virginia

The High School – College Pipeline (2012)



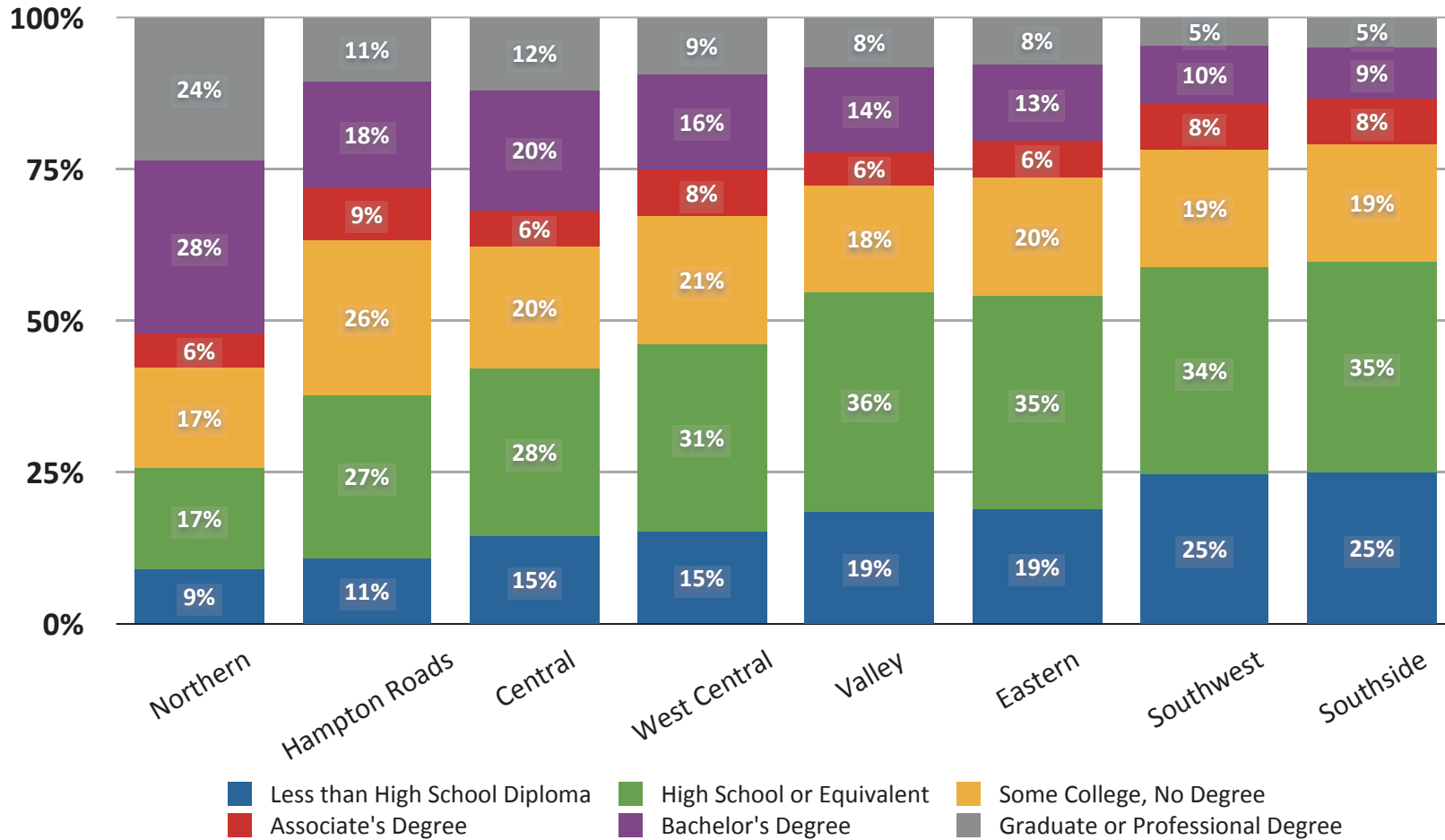
SOURCE: Virginia Department of Education and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

NOTE: Data does not reflect a uniform cohort and is not strictly longitudinal.

Regional Attainment

Highest Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Over) by Virginia Region, 2007-2011

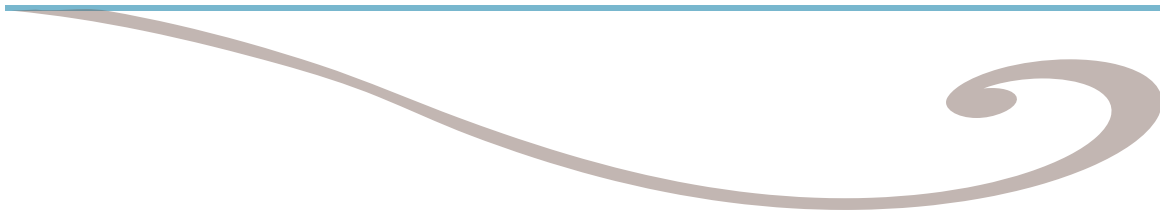
By 2018, over 60% of jobs in Virginia will require postsecondary education.



SOURCE: American Community Survey, US Census Bureau, 2007-2011

Help Wanted: Projections of Jobs and Education Requirements through 2018, Georgetown University, Center on Education and the Workforce

Thinking Beyond the Numbers – A Community Challenge



How Do We Accelerate Achievement?

- There is an inextricable link between education reform efforts and community supports that can enhance the overall experience of our young people.
- There is no magic bullet, but education reformers are currently discussing a myriad of solutions; for example:
 - Teacher Recruitment and Retention
 - Classroom Management Strategies
 - Digital Learning
 - New Approaches to Standards and Testing

Many Voices, Many Solutions



Community Matters



"Community building must become the heart of any school improvement effort."
– Thomas Sergiovann

"Neighborhood schools are often the anchors of their communities, a steady presence that helps to cement the bond of community among neighbors."
– Diane Ravitch

"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."
– G. K. Chesterton

"What matters most in a child's development is not how much information we can stuff into her brain in the first few years. What matters is whether we are able to help her develop a very different set of qualities, a list that includes persistence, self-control, curiosity, conscientiousness, grit and self-confidence."
– Paul Tough

Community Partnerships

 In each region of Virginia, numerous community organizations, programs, and initiatives support and strengthen our youth. Some examples include:

- **Space of Her Own:** An art-based mentoring program in Alexandria that serves at-risk girls. Students create pieces of art to personalize their living environment while at the same time learning skills such as planning, patience, and concentration.
- **Kids Cafe Program:** Operated by Feeding America in Southwest Virginia, Kids Cafe provides free meals and snacks to low-income children at locations such as Boys and Girls Clubs, churches, and public schools.
- **Higher Achievement in Richmond:** A rigorous program targeted to middle school children that combines academic work with skill-building, mentoring, and encouragement to close the middle school achievement gap.
- **Belmont Ridge Middle School Partnership:** A partnership between the National Conference Center (NCC) and Belmont Ridge Middle School in Loudoun County that gives 8th-grade students the opportunity to learn about hospitality and businesses operations on-site at NCC.

Testimony From Community Change Agents

- ↪ Heidi Abbott, Counsel, Hunton & Williams LLP
- ↪ Kurt Krause, General Manager, The National Conference Center

An Obligation As Leaders . . .

- ↪ What are one or two actions that you can take in the near-term, either personally or professionally, that could make a difference for the young people in your community?
- ↪ What are the potential threats for your community and our future as a Commonwealth if you do not take action?
- ↪ What can you do to ensure Virginia's leaders, including the next Governor, recognize the significance of educational achievement to our prosperity?

Data Sites of Interest

Virginia Performs:

VaPerforms.virginia.gov

Virginia Longitudinal Data System:

vlds.org

Virginia Higher Education Wizard:

vawizard.org

Virginia Department of Education:

doe.virginia.gov

State Council for Higher Education in Virginia:

schev.edu

JANE N. KUSIAK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
COUNCIL ON VIRGINIA'S FUTURE

1001 E. BROAD ST., SUITE 430
RICHMOND, VA 23219
804.371.2346

JANEKUSIAK@VIRGINIA.EDU