WHEREAS, school bullying has become an increasingly significant problem in the United States and Virginia; and

WHEREAS, over twenty percent of the youth in the United States are estimated to be involved in bullying each year, either as a bully or as a victim; and

WHEREAS, students who experience bullying are at increased risk for depression, anxiety, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school; and

WHEREAS, bullying can take many forms, including verbal, physical, and most recently in cyberspace, and can happen in many places on and off school grounds; and

WHEREAS, it is important for Virginia parents, students, teachers, and school administrators to be aware of bullying, and to encourage discussion of the problem as a school community; and

WHEREAS, the VSBA has developed a model policy on anti-bullying to encourage positive behaviors and to eliminate bullying behaviors;

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Virginia School Boards Association recognizes the month of October 2020 as VSBA Bullying Prevention Month, with the intention that the issue of bullying and its prevention be discussed in Virginia schools and classrooms during that time;

Now, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the School Board of the City of Richmond joins the Virginia School Boards Association in recognizing the month of October 2020 as VSBA Bullying Prevention Month, with the intention that the issue of bullying and its prevention be discussed in Virginia schools and classrooms during that time.

Linda Owen  
Chairman

Jason Kamras  
Superintendent

October 5, 2020