

August to December

K-12 Funding and Policy Processes in the Commonwealth of Virginia

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January to April

Department of Planning and Budget (DPB): an agency under the Secretary of Finance that issues instructions to other state agencies for the purposes of initiating the budget creation process (Tweedy, 2018, slide 3).

The **Virginia Constitution** dictates that the **Board of Education (BOE)** determines and prescribes the **Standards of Quality (SOQs)** with **General Assembly (GA)** approval (Article VIII, section 2)

The **Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)**, implements the **Board of Education's (BOE)** statutory responsibilities. This includes utilizing existing formulas in the **Standards of Quality (SOQs)** and **Local Composite Index** approved by the **General Assembly (GA)** to calculate state and local funding shares during even years (Dickey, 2013, slide 13-14).

Odd Years: in odd years, the **VDOE** participates in "rebenchmarking," a process that updates inputs prescribed in the previous year's **GA** approved **Standards of Quality (SOQs)** and **Local Composite Index** formulas to adjust state and local funding shares for future budgets (Dickey, 2017, slides 3-4). If necessary, the **BOE** (sometimes, with the support of the Governor and political appointees) might also suggest revisions to the **SOQs** for **GA** approval (Code of Virginia, § 22.1-18.01)

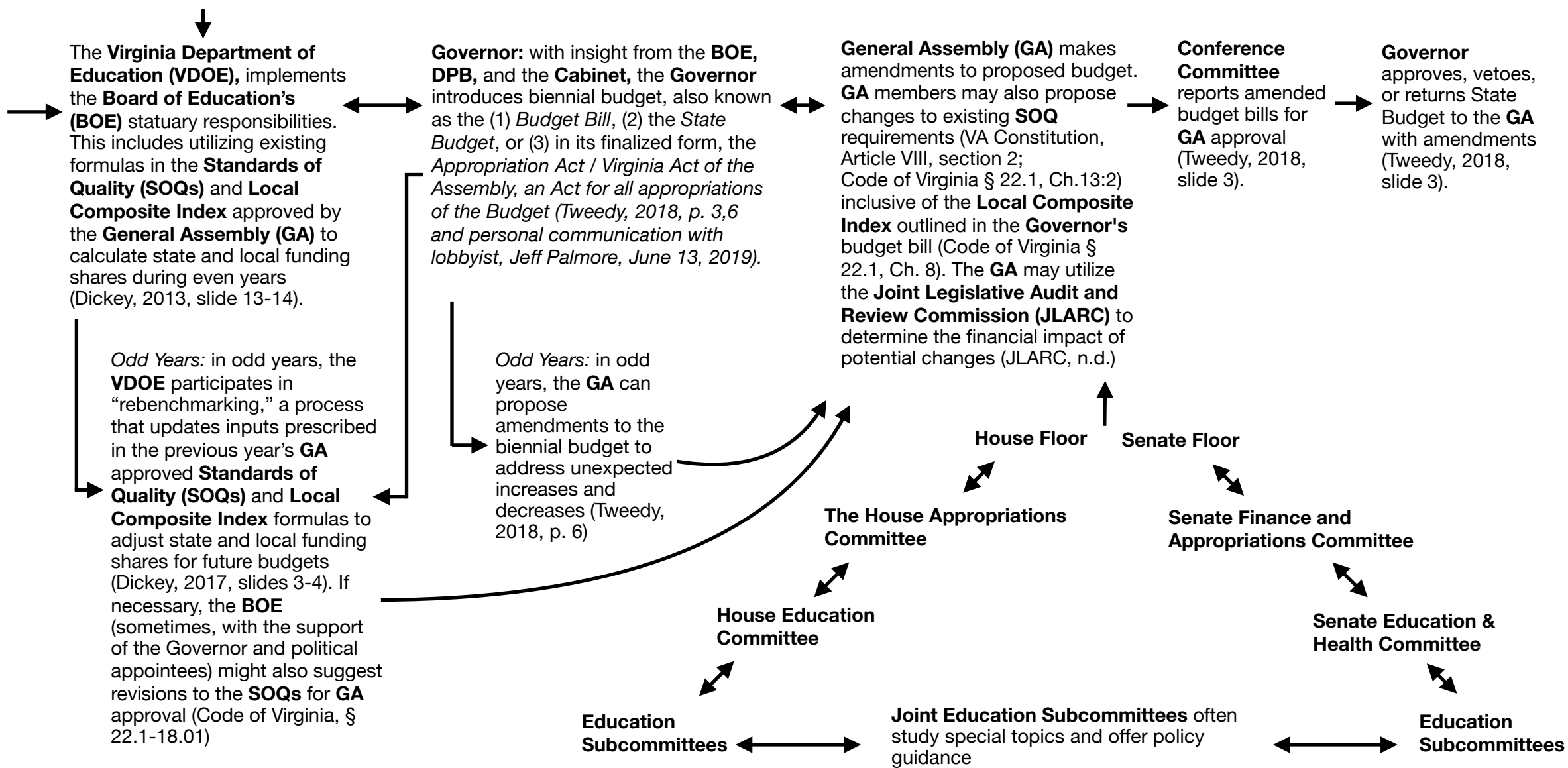
Governor: with insight from the **BOE**, **DPB**, and the **Cabinet**, the **Governor** introduces biennial budget, also known as the (1) *Budget Bill*, (2) the *State Budget*, or (3) in its finalized form, the *Appropriation Act / Virginia Act of the Assembly, an Act for all appropriations of the Budget* (Tweedy, 2018, p. 3,6 and personal communication with lobbyist, Jeff Palmore, June 13, 2019).

Odd Years: in odd years, the **GA** can propose amendments to the biennial budget to address unexpected increases and decreases (Tweedy, 2018, p. 6)

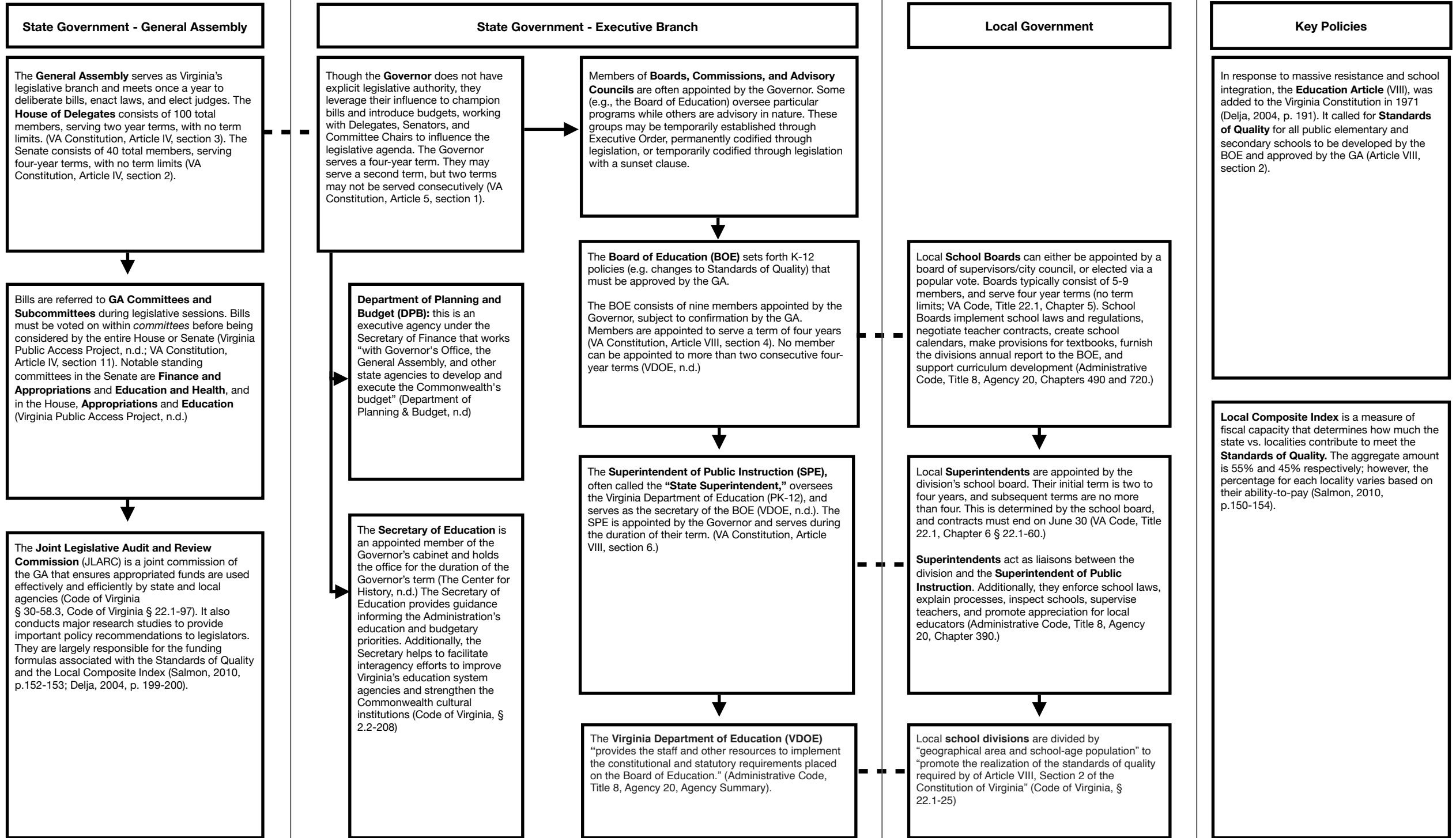
General Assembly (GA) makes amendments to proposed budget. **GA** members may also propose changes to existing **SOQ** requirements (VA Constitution, Article VIII, section 2; Code of Virginia § 22.1, Ch.13:2) inclusive of the **Local Composite Index** outlined in the **Governor's** budget bill (Code of Virginia § 22.1, Ch. 8). The **GA** may utilize the **Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC)** to determine the financial impact of potential changes (JLARC, n.d.)

Conference Committee reports amended budget bills for **GA** approval (Tweedy, 2018, slide 3).

Governor approves, vetoes, or returns State Budget to the **GA** with amendments (Tweedy, 2018, slide 3).



K-12 Education in Virginia, Key Policy Drivers



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