

# Say What?

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Hampton City Schools have reported school accreditation ratings at various times (I'll be polite) incorrectly or not at all to avoid transparency. This fact just recently became known...to me. What is clear, from all the other incorrect reporting Hampton City Schools has done; Hampton City Schools wouldn't know the truth if it hit them over the head...fell in their laps...crawled into their ears. It definitely doesn't emerge from the end of their fingertips.

## Schools

Hampton's impressive School Division, teaching PK through grade 12, ranks # 1 in Region II for National Board Certified teachers. While teachers represent 77% of National Board Certified teachers, Hampton City Schools has 92% of their personnel that holds the certification. (Source: <http://www.hampton.k12.va.us/about/overview.php>)

## 2016 School Board Approved Budget

It has been determined that Hampton does not lead Region II with the most National Board Certified teachers. This is a fact supported by information provided by the Virginia Department of Education and can be found at –

<https://nebula.wsimg.com/a5336e2fc7aef4a638fc1bd4d354d95a?AccessKeyId=F2E1E31F591DDE27ADAF&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>.

Hampton City Schools is not ranked #1 in the region, except in their own minds.

The next falsehood I want to address concerning National Board Certified teacher is the statement – “While teachers represent 77% of National Board Certified teachers [because the other 23% are janitors...bus drivers...cafeteria monitors], Hampton City Schools has 92% of their personnel that holds the certification.” Hampton does not now, nor has it ever had 92% of its personnel National Board Certified.

Hampton City Schools employs approximately 2000 people. Of those 2000+ personnel, according to the superintendent's 2015-2016 IPAL Verification Report, Hampton employs 1621 teachers. Therefore, if what Hampton is saying in the statement pulled from the **2016 School Board Approved Budget** is true, of the 1621 teachers employed by Hampton City Schools, 1491 are National Board Certified. As the above link proves, this is not the case. Reality, Hampton has less than 5% of its teachers awarded a National Board Certification. How does Hampton backup this falsehood of 92%? Hampton is its own source – “Source: <http://www.hampton.k12.va.us/about/overview.php>.” Can't go wrong with that logic.

Fact, in FY14 Hampton had 100 National Board Certified teachers. By FY15, Hampton had lost 14 of those teachers and gained eight. This left Hampton at 94. In FY16, Hampton lost an additional 20 National Board Certified teachers and only gained six. Eighty was the total for this past school year.

\* “Holds” should be hold. Should have gotten a National Board Certified teacher to proof read the budget. Did any board member read the budget before approving it? Given that Hampton pays the National Board Certified teacher a supplement of \$1,500, you would think one board member would be able to do some math in their head and determine that \$120,000 for 80 teachers is slightly less than \$2,236,500 for 92% (1491) of the teachers...\$2,116,500 less.