

**Resolution 2020-2021D**

**Resolution to Approve New Degree, Bachelor of Arts in Education in Secondary Education with New Majors: English Language Arts Education, and History and Social Sciences Education; and New Degree, Bachelor of Science in Education in Secondary Education with New Majors: Mathematics Education, Career and Technical Education - Agricultural Education, and Career and Technical Education**

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading:

October 26, 2020

Faculty Senate:

Staff Senate:

Graduate Student Assembly:

Student Government Association:

Second Reading:

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

First Effective Date to Declare Major: Fall 2021

First Effective Date to Graduate: Spring 2023

**WHEREAS**, Virginia PK-12 schools began the 2016-2017 school year with more than 1000 teacher vacancies; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a current documented shortage of qualified PK-12 teachers both nationally and within the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, former Governor Terry McAuliffe signed an executive order in December 2017 directing the state education board to adopt emergency rules to allow colleges to again offer four-year undergraduate degrees in teaching; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the *2020-2021 Ten Critical Shortage Teaching Endorsement Areas in Virginia* provided by the Commonwealth, the following endorsement areas are included as indicated; Mathematics #4, Career and Technical #5, English #8, and History and Social Sciences #10; and

**WHEREAS**, the School of Education (SOE) is committed to providing coursework and experiential learning fitting the VT-shaped curriculum to produce licensable graduates with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of highly qualified PK-12 educators thereby addressing the noted state teacher vacancies; and

**WHEREAS**, no new resources will be required to initiate the new Bachelor of Arts in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in English Language Arts Education, and History and Social Sciences Education; and new Bachelor of Science in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in Mathematics Education, Career and Technical Education - Agricultural Education, and Career and Technical Education due to redeveloping existing educator preparation courses and utilizing current undergraduate initiatives to the maximum extent possible; and

**WHEREAS**, letters of support have been received from all departments whose courses SOE students would take; and

**WHEREAS**, the new Bachelor of Arts in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in English Language Arts Education, and History and Social Sciences Education; and new Bachelor of Science in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in Mathematics Education, Career and Technical Education - Agricultural Education, and Career and Technical Education would be an identifiable curriculum that clearly signals the expertise and career focus of educator preparation; and

**WHEREAS**, the new Bachelor of Arts in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in English Language Arts Education, and History and Social Sciences Education; and new Bachelor of Science in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in Mathematics Education, Career and Technical

Education - Agricultural Education, and Career and Technical Education are anticipated to initially attract 30-40 additional students per year interested in pursuing careers in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade teaching to Virginia Tech.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bachelor of Arts in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in English Language Arts Education, and History and Social Sciences Education; and new Bachelor of Science in Education in Secondary Education with Majors in Mathematics Education, Career and Technical Education - Agricultural Education, and Career and Technical Education be approved effective Fall 2021 and the proposal forwarded to the President, the Board of Visitors, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) for approval, and to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for notification.