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**September 16, 2022**

**Pro-Family Women Commends Gov. Youngkin for Protecting Parental Rights and Religious Liberties with his new Model Policies for Virginia’s Public Schools**

Arlington, Virginia – Today Gov. Youngkin and his Administration issued new model policies for all students and parents in Virginia’s public schools.

Susan Muskett, President of Pro-Family, stated: **“Pro-Family Women commends Gov. Youngkin for standing up for parental rights. No longer will parents be kept in the dark while students are the sole arbiters of their transgender status at school. And teachers and students can issue a sigh of relief, knowing that their religious beliefs will be respected.”**

Under these new policies, parents must now be involved in any effort by a student to assert a new gender identity, with the parent required to make such a request in writing.

Moreover, the new policies make clear that the religious beliefs of school personnel and students must be respected, with the policies stating that a school division “shall not compel . . . personnel or other students to address or refer to students in any manner that would violate their constitutionally protected rights.”

These new Model Policies can be found here: <https://doe.virginia.gov/support/gender-diversity/2022-model-policies-on-the-privacy-dignity-and-respect-for-all-students-town-hall.pdf>

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