



Local Roots, Global Reach

# ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## PRESS RELEASE

**SUBJECT:** Workforce Development

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**DATE:** March 25, 2015

Isle of Wight County and Isle of Wight County Schools, along with representatives from Opportunity Inc., Keurig Green Mountain, Paul D. Camp Community College, Blackwater Regional Library, Isle of Wight Education Foundation, and Isle of Wight-Smithfield-Windsor Chamber of Commerce, met in late February to discuss the current and future needs of the County's existing employers.

The attendees provided information about their respective programs and efforts to address concerns that much of the workforce is falling short in basic areas such as communication, reliability, initiative, and problem solving. It was also noted that there is a significant need for Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) and robotics education.

The meeting of this work group was the first in a series of meetings intended to position Isle of Wight County as the premier destination for business growth. Subcommittees were formed and tasked with identifying the current programs available to employers and developing a needs assessment. Once an inventory can be established of current programs as

well as the future needs assessment, a strategic plan will be developed to ensure the long-term vision is met.

The next meeting of the group is planned for late April. Any employers wishing to share input related to their particular workforce issues are asked to contact Rachel Chieppa with that information.

For more information contact:

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