



Dr. Billy K. Cannaday, Jr., served as president of the Virginia Board of Education. Dr. Cannaday served as Dean of School of Continuing and Professional Studies at University of Virginia from October 2008 to September 2015. Dr. Cannaday served as Superintendent of Public Instruction and Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Department of Education. He also served as Secretary of the Virginia Board of Education. Dr. Cannaday was superintendent of Hampton Public Schools from 1994 to 2000. From 1986 to 1994, He served as Hampton's Director of Secondary Education and Assistant Superintendent for instruction. In 1984, he was principal of Huntington Middle School in Newport News when that school received a Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence from the U.S. Department of Education.

In 2004, he served as the distinguished leader-in-residence at the University of Richmond's Jepson School of Leadership. He also previously served on the University of Virginia's Teacher Education Advisory Committee and the College of William and Mary's Gifted Advisory Board. Before taking the state position, he was superintendent of Chesterfield County Public Schools. Under his leadership, in five years the district went from having fewer than half of its 59 schools being fully accredited by the state to 100 percent receiving full accreditation. In 2005, he was named the Virginia Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Cannaday received a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Virginia Tech in 1972, a master's degree in educational administration from Hampton University in 1980 and a doctorate in educational administration from Virginia Tech in 1990.