# Superintendent’s Memo #086-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: April 12, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: #GoOpenVA Summit on June 14, 2019 in Abingdon

#GoOpenVA is a collaborative initiative that enables educational entities throughout Virginia to create, share, and access openly-licensed educational resources (OER, also known as open education resources). OER are free digital materials that can be used or modified to adjust to student needs; they are openly-licensed unhampered by many traditional copyright limitations. #GoOpenVA encourages all Virginia educators and learners to create, share, and use digital resources with the end goals of providing equitable access to great learning materials throughout the state, and supporting new approaches to learning and teaching for all Virginians.

Our #GoOpenVA cloud-based system is currently in development and will be piloted in late spring/early summer. We are also sponsoring a one-day #GoOpen Regional Summit (serving other states involved in the #GoOpen national project as well as Virginia educators) on all aspects of openly-licensed educational resources, including technical specifications; resource editing, creation, and curating; copyright and accessibility concerns; collaboration strategies; and communication with others involved in your same interests and passions.

The Summit will take place at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon on June 14.  Proposals for presentations are currently being sought through the [Summit’s webpage](https://vste.org/swvasummit2019/). You may also register at this time.  The Summit is free and lunch is provided on-site.  Teams of participants from interested divisions or schools are encouraged to attend together in order to maximize your ability to gather pertinent information.

For further information, please contact Jean Weller, Educational Technology Specialist, Office of Technology Innovation, at jean.weller@doe.virginia.gov or 804-225-2825.

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