# Superintendent’s Memo #278-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: December 6, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: 2019 Broadband Connectivity Capability Survey

In 2015, the Virginia Department of Education implemented the [K-12 Learning Infrastructure Program (KLIP).](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/technology/edtech_plan/infrastructure_program/index.shtml) The KLIP was initially implemented to support school divisions in upgrading their network infrastructure. However, the goals of KLIP have evolved to keep pace with the rapid changes in technology. The VDOE recently updated its strategic priorities for this program. These priorities include: continued support for network infrastructure, E-rate, digital equity, information security and student data privacy, cloud computing, and increasing the communication and collaboration among division technology leaders.

The [2018 Broadband Connectivity Capability Report](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/technology/edtech_plan/infrastructure_program/index.shtml), which is now available on the VDOE web site, showed that Virginia continues to make progress. For example, the percentage of schools on fiber increased from 99% in 2017 to 99.5% in 2018. The number of divisions meeting the 100 kbps/student bandwidth goal as set forth by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) increased from 92% in 2017 to 99% in 2018. In 2017, only 29% of school divisions met the EducationSuperHighway broadband affordability benchmark, while in 2018, 45% met it.

As part of the KLIP and to meet the requirement of the [2017 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Item 139 C, 44-52, p. 167, Broadband Connectivity Capabilities](https://budget.lis.virginia.gov/get/budget/3279/), we are asking for your assistance in responding to the 2019 Broadband Connectivity Capability Survey (BCCS). The results will be aggregated and used to inform VDOE decisions about network infrastructure, digital equity, and cloud computing. To allow continued compliance with the annual Virginia Acts of Assembly requirement we ask that your division Technology Director complete this five-minute survey by **December 20, 2019.** To access the BCCS, division technology directors will need go to the [Survey Monkey Broadband Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8SK2WFD).

Thank you for responding promptly. Please direct any questions about the survey to Dr. Susan M. Clair, Learning Infrastructure Coordinator, susan.clair@doe.virginia.gov, or 804-786-9281.

JFL/DM/smc