COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

DATE: April 27, 2018

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven M. Constantino, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program for 2018-2019

For the 2018-2019 school year, mathematics work samples for students who are participating in the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) will measure the Aligned Standards of Learning (ASOL) based on the 2009 Mathematics SOL. As a reminder, the VAAP is intended to assess the achievement of students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to participate in the Standards of Learning (SOL) assessment program. Work samples used for the VAAP Collections of Evidence demonstrate the student's achievement of the ASOL that are based on the SOL but reduced in depth and complexity.

Typically when new SOL are adopted by the Virginia Board of Education, new ASOL for students participating in VAAP are also developed. Mathematics ASOL based on the 2016 Mathematics SOL have been developed and will be provided to school division personnel in early summer 2018 to allow sufficient planning time for full implementation in 2019-2020. However, to give school divisions additional time to implement the new mathematics ASOL, VAAP Collections of Evidence for 2018-2019 will be based on the mathematics ASOL aligned to the 2009 Mathematics SOL.

Student work samples based on the new mathematics ASOL will be needed for the development of materials used to train school division staff to score VAAP Collections of Evidence in 2019-2020. Department staff will be soliciting volunteers to assist in this process during the 2018-2019 school year.

Questions about the new mathematics ASOL should be directed to Deborah Johnson at deborah.johnson@doe.virginia.gov ✉ or (804) 371-2725. Question about the implementation of VAAP should be addressed to the student assessment staff at student_assessment@doe.virginia.gov ✉ or (804) 225-2102.

SMC/SJS/cb

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