# Superintendent’s Memo #013-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: January 24, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: #GoOpenVA Launch

Today, we are happy to announce the launch of [#GoOpenVA](https://goopenva.org/).  This platform will act as a resource for teachers to share openly-licensed digital learning resources with other educators. It will also provide an online space to afford educators the opportunity to collaborate on the creation of resources in support of Virginia Standards of Learning and initiatives tied to the Virginia is for Learners campaign. Effectively, #GoOpenVA will become a valuable educational resource built by teachers for teachers.

Our intent is that #GoOpenVA will be much more than a resource repository. Our vision is that the platform will support teachers as they endeavor to approach education in a different way supporting deeper learning and increasing personalization. Consequently, the bulk of the resources on the platform will come from educators all over Virginia as they curate, customize, and create resources to share with their fellow educators. For #GoOpenVA to be successful, teachers will need to be both producers and consumers of digital learning resources. Inasmuch, the Department is looking to local educational leaders to support educators as they shift their practice in positive ways.

Best practices and resources to support the shift in practice can be found in the following places:

* [Superintendent’s Memo 276-19](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2019/276-19.docx) has a list of best practices for supporting teachers and the platform in divisions.
* [Workshop in a Box](https://sites.google.com/vste.org/goopenva/home) is a set of resources available to division leads and ITRTs to conduct introductory workshops for teachers.  By the end of May 2020, three other workshops will be added to help teachers curate, customize, and create OER.
* [Introduction to OER](https://www.virtualvirginia.org/pd/vva-pd/), a four-hour online course available in Virtual Virginia for all teachers and division leads.  This can be taken at any time after signing up for an account.
* The VDOE [#GoOpenVA](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/technology/technology_initiatives/open-edu-resources/index.shtml) webpage contains mission, goals, FAQ and basic terminology.
* The [Virginia Society for Technology in Education (VSTE)](https://vste.org/goopenva/) will be supporting various activities to help #GoOpenVA trainers and users.  Please see website for more details.
* Ten minigrants will be available for divisions to apply for $10,000 in support of the sharing and creation of teacher resources.  For more information, please see Superintendent’s Memo 014-20.

Teachers can access #GoOpenVA using their division credentials to search for instructional materials and to share resources for other educators across the state. #GoOpenVA will create a Virginia community of learners where divisions are no longer working in isolation but come together to share and create instructional resources for all students.  We look forward to your support as #GoOpenVA evolves under the direction of Virginia’s educators.

If you have any further questions about technical support, please contact Jean Weller, at jean.weller@doe.virginia.gov, or (804) 225-2825. Other questions may be directed to Tina Manglicmot, Office of STEM and Innovation, at tina.manglicmot@doe.virginia.gov, or (804) 786-2481.

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