# Superintendent’s Memo #054-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: February 28, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: Training Opportunity – Military Family Symposium: Empowerment Through the Use of Virginia Special Education Resources

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), Department of Special Education and Student Services (SESS), in collaboration with the Department of the Navy, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic is offering a one-day Military Family Symposium training opportunity for military families of students with disabilities and those who provide them with educational supports. The Symposium will convene on Saturday, May 2, 2020, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Kingsmill Resort, 1010 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185. Symposium participants will receive information on: (i) current federal and state educational laws affecting military families (i.e., parental consent, remote registration, enrollment flexibility when residing in temporary housing, and open enrollment policy for those residing in military housing; (ii) special education dispute resolution options, with an emphasis on due process hearing procedures; and (iii) post-secondary transition programming. Also, the Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC) and the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Center for Family Involvement (CFI) will provide briefings on the services that they provide specifically for military families. Additionally, there will be a briefing on the resources and supports available through the State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC), a school division’s local special education advisory committee, and the parent resource centers located throughout the Commonwealth.

Participation in this Symposium is at minimal cost. Complimentary lodging will be provided on Friday, May 1, 2020, for all participants who travel more than 60 miles one-way to the symposium location. Travel mileage reimbursements are available upon request for all symposium participants regardless of the round trip mileage incurred. A complimentary breakfast and lunch will be provided to all registered symposium participants on Saturday, May 2, 2020. Space is limited for this symposium; as such, registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. All participants **must pre-register** using the following weblink: [MilitarySymposium2020](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MilitarySymposium2020). Upon acceptance of their registration, attendees will receive additional information regarding the conference agenda. Registration closes on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, or when all spots have been reserved; whichever comes first.

Participant materials and an agenda will be provided during the on-site registration process at the symposium venue. For questions regarding online registration, or to register by phone, interested participants should contact Lisa Crafton at (804) 225-2402. General questions regarding the Symposium should be directed to Hank Millward, Director, VDOE, by email, at Hank.Millward@doe.virginia.gov, or via telephone, at (804) 371-0525.

JFL/HJM/lc