# Superintendent’s Memo #302-20

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: November 13, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: Computer Science Education Week

The Virginia Department of Education asks that school divisions encourage all teachers and students to participate in the Virginia Computer Science Education Week events. Computer Science and coding are essential to the modern workforce with more than 70 percent of STEM-field occupations requiring computer science literacy as a foundational skill. Virginia’s celebration of Computer Science Week aims to increase awareness of the role of technology and the computer science industry.

Although Virginia Computer Science Education Week is virtual this year, there are many opportunities for teachers and students to engage in computer science activities that may be completed through classroom or virtual instruction. The week begins with a virtual kickoff event on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 9 a.m. [Registration for the virtual kickoff](https://csforva.org/) as well as other opportunities can be found on the [CodeVA website](https://csforva.org/). Resources and opportunities include teacher professional development, seminars, and various classroom and home activities for students.

Additional resources to support teachers with incorporating computer science instruction can be found on the [National Computer Science Education website](https://csedweek.org/).

For more information concerning Computer Science Education Week, please contact Chris Dovi at Code Virginia at [cdovi@codevirginia.org](mailto:cdovi@codevirginia.org) or by phone at (804) 440-7135. If you have questions concerning computer science instruction and the 2017 *Computer Science Standards of Learning*, please contact Dr. Anne Petersen at [anne.petersen@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:anne.petersen@doe.virginia.gov).

JFL/AP