**Attachment A, Supt Memo No.236-16 September 16, 2016**

**“Expanding the Understanding, Development, & Use of Alternative Assessments in the Classroom”**

**Presented by Jay McTighe and Chris Gareis**

**Sponsored by the Virginia Association of School Superintendents and**

**The Virginia Department of Education**

**October 20, 2016**

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Williamsburg

50 Kingsmill Road

Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

As Virginia moves toward integrating alternative assessments with its accreditation and accountability systems, it will become increasingly important for division, school, and teacher leaders to understand the state’s expectations and to ensure that they are using high-quality assessments and scoring rubrics. This workshop will assist all educators, who have varied levels of experience, with strategies to improve the quality and use of alternative assessments and scoring rubrics. Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to develop specific alternative assessments and scoring rubrics.

The objectives of the workshop will be:

* for state officials to lay out the vision for the future of the Virginia alternative assessment initiative;
* to explore policies and practices to support the creation and use of alternative assessments at the school and division levels; and
* to deepen the understanding of the use of alternative assessments in the classroom.

The content of the workshop will include:

* an opening general session where Virginia Department of Education officials share the current status and future directions of the state’s alternative assessment initiative;
* concurrent sessions that address:
	+ the qualities of performance-based assessments (PBA’s)
	+ the qualities of sound rubrics
	+ how to leverage PBA’s for strategic initiatives
	+ curriculum mapping 3.0 – mapping performance
* A closing general session on “Working Smarter: using online resources for PBA’s” which covers:
	+ how to be a wise consumer – criteria for selection
	+ recommended online resources
	+ jigsaw viewing and sharing

**Meet the Presenters**

**Jay McTighe** brings a wealth of experience developed during a rich and varied career in education. He served as director of the Maryland Assessment Consortium, a state collaboration of school districts working together to develop and share formative performance assessments. Prior to this position, Jay was involved with school improvement projects at the Maryland State Department of Education where he helped lead Maryland's standards-based reforms, including the development of performance-based statewide assessments. He also directed the development of the Instructional Framework, a multimedia database on teaching. Well known for his work with thinking skills, Jay has coordinated statewide efforts to develop instructional strategies, curriculum models, and assessment procedures for improving the quality of student thinking. In addition to his work at the state level, Jay has experience at the district level in Prince George’s County, Maryland, as a classroom teacher, resource specialist, and program coordinator. He also directed a state residential enrichment program for gifted and talented students.

**Christopher Gareis**, Ed.D., is Associate Professor of Education at the College of William and Mary in Virginia, where he teaches courses in curriculum development, instructional leadership, and classroom assessment. He began his career as a high school English teacher and varsity soccer coach. He also taught middle school English, science, and mathematics and subsequently led two different middle schools as an assistant principal and then as principal. Additionally, Dr. Gareis served as an assistant to the superintendent, with responsibilities in strategic planning and facilities design. In 2001, he joined William and Mary as Associate Dean, in which role he directed the teacher preparation program and developed a network of partnership schools and clinical faculty in support of teacher preparation and school counselor education. As a faculty member at William and Mary, Dr. Gareis has worked with schools, school districts, state departments of education in the areas of classroom assessment, instructional leadership, curriculum development, teacher evaluation, teacher compensation, strategic planning, and mentoring.

**Registration Information:**

Registration Fee: $ 200/pp

**Hotel Information:**

Hotel Room Cost: $109/single or double

Hotel Room Registration Deadline: September 19, 2016

Hotel Reservation Number: 800-222-8733