

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

DATE: October 5, 2018

TO: Division Superintendents

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

SUBJECT: 2018 Broadband Connectivity Capability Survey

In 2015, the Virginia Department of Education implemented the <u>K-12 Learning</u> <u>Infrastructure Program (KLIP)</u>. The KLIP was implemented to support school divisions in upgrading their network infrastructure. The 2017 Broadband Connectivity Capability Report is now available on the KLIP web page. The 2017 Report showed that more school divisions are meeting minimum connectivity goals, more divisions are increasing their bandwidth, and 99 percent of schools in Virginia have the fiber connections they need. The results also reflect that some school divisions need additional resources for managing complex internal Wi-Fi networks and information security. In addition, the Report outlines recommendations to further support broadband connectivity in Virginia's public school system

As part of the KLIP and to meet the requirement of the 2017 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Item 139 C, 44-52, p. 167, Broadband Connectivity, we are asking for your assistance in responding to the 2018 Broadband Connectivity Capability Survey (BCCS). To meet these requirements, the 2018 BCCS can be accessed and submitted through the Department of Education's Single Sign-On for Web Systems (SSWS) portal. The survey should take about 20 minutes and will open on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 and will need to be complete by November 9, 2018. The information collected from the survey will include: Funding Your School Division's Network Infrastructure, E-rate, Wi-Fi, Information Security, and Internet Access at Home.

Access to the BCCS application in the SSWS portal should be requested through the school division's SSWS account manager. A staff member should also be designated as the official Application Contact by the SSWS account manager.

The BCCS Survey results will produce the 2018 BCCS Report and will be published on the VDOE KLIP web page. The Report will be used to inform the KLIP Work Group,

policymakers, and key stakeholders of the state of broadband connectivity in Virginia's public school system. Therefore, it is very important that school divisions complete the survey as accurately and completely as possible. Thank you for responding promptly.

Please direct any questions about the survey to Dr. Susan M. Clair, Learning Infrastructure Coordinator, <u>susan.clair@doe.virginia.gov</u>, or (804) 786-9281.

JFL/SC