



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

DATE: September 7, 2018

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: School Counselor Summit

The 2nd Annual Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) School Counseling Division Director Summit will be held on Wednesday, October 17, 2018, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton Roads, Virginia.

The Summit is a collaboration with the Virginia School Counselor Association (VSCA) and precedes the group's annual conference that is scheduled for October 18-19, 2018, at the same location.

We are inviting division superintendents, or their designee and the division school counseling director to be a part of this year's Summit. The morning keynote speaker will be Dr. Matthew Haas, Superintendent of Albemarle County Public Schools. According to the 2019 *Best School Districts in America* ranking by Niche, Albemarle County Public Schools (ACPS) ranks among the top two percent of all public school divisions in the nation. In Virginia, ACPS was ranked third out of 132 school divisions. Dr. Haas will be discussing Albemarle's focus on the future through the High School 2022 (HS 2022) vision and how utilizing the expertise of school counselors is critical to the division's mission.

Additional agenda items include:

- Profile of a Virginia Graduate – Where do school counselors fit? New requirements and resources to assist school divisions
- The VDOE AdVantage School Counseling Training Initiative – Dr. Julia Taylor, University of Virginia
- The importance of using data to drive school counselors work
- Action planning

The Embassy Suites, the Conference's host hotel, has a conference rate of \$127 per night, plus tax, which remains valid for reservations made by September 26, 2018, while rooms are available. The price includes full, cook-to-order breakfast and evening Manager's Reception.

To make hotel reservations call (757) 827-8200 or (800) 362-2779. Please be sure to tell the hotel that your group/convention code is "VSC."

Please coordinate with your school counseling division director and plan to attend. If you cannot attend, please consider sending a division level leader in your place. We would like to keep the division team to two people. Each person must register individually.

To register, use the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018VDOE>.

If you have questions, please contact Joseph Wharff, School Counseling Specialist, VDOE, by telephone at (804) 225-3370, or by email at Joseph.Wharff@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/JAW/rt