

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

DATE: September 21, 2018

TO: Division Superintendents

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

**SUBJECT:** Career Investigations Online Curriculum

The revisions to the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools or Standards of Accreditation* (SOA), section 8VAC20-131-90, titled Instructional program in middle schools, states:

"Each middle school shall provide a course in career investigation in accordance with the provisions of 8VAC20-131-140. School divisions may seek alternate means of delivering the career investigation course content provided it is equivalent in content and rigor and provides the foundation for students to develop their academic and career plans."

The online Middle School Career Investigations (MSCI) content is provided through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and WHRO Education and serves as an alternate method of partially or fully delivering the Career Investigations curriculum. The instructional content is built around different types of careers related to a fictional amusement park, *Commonwealth Cascades*.

The course has been designed using rapid e-learning software and will deliver interactivities in a format that is compatible and fully functional on a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, mobile device, or a smartphone. Additionally, the content can be modified to meet the needs of local school divisions and individual students.

The Middle School Career Investigation (MSCI) content files and supporting documents are available for download for school divisions at the link below:

Host: ftp.mscicontent.org Username: MSCI\_access Password: WHROcontent! In addition to the MSCI content files, there are supporting documents available on the File Transfer Protocol site including installation directions (MSCI\_install.pdf), and a teacher and school counselor guide (README.pdf).

For technical assistance questions please contact Mitzi Fehl-Seward, E-Learning Director with WHRO Education, by telephone at (757) 889-9113, or by email at <a href="mailto:mitzi.fehl-seward@whro.org">mitzi.fehl-seward@whro.org</a>. For questions related to content and instructional delivery please contact Joseph Wharff, School Counseling Specialist, Virginia Department of Education, by telephone at (804) 225-3370, or by email at <a href="mailto:Joseph.Wharff@doe.virginia.gov">Joseph.Wharff@doe.virginia.gov</a>.

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