

DATE: August 25, 2017

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Algebra Readiness Diagnostic Test (ARDT) Fall Extension 2017

The Algebra Readiness Diagnostic Test (ARDT) will no longer be available for use in school divisions after September 30, 2017, as previously announced in <u>Superintendent's Memo #167-17</u>, released June 9, 2017. The limited fall extension testing window began August 14, 2017 and will remain open through September 29, 2017. School divisions should download all ARDT reports when testing is complete. PearsonAccess will be available until December 29, 2017. All desired reports must be downloaded and archived prior to that date.

All tasks associated with the fall extension for ARDT through September 30th will be performed under the ARDT 2016-2017 administration in PearsonAccess; Pearson will NOT create an ARDT 2017-2018 administration in PearsonAccessnext for this extension. School divisions should continue to use the ARDT 2016-2017 Student Data Upload (SDU) File Template and ARDT 2016-2017 SDU File Requirements document(s) to upload and register students for tests during the fall 2017 administration.

State ARDT testing units allocated during the 2016-2017 ARDT administration year will remain in effect through September 29, 2017. Students who have been previously assigned to an ARDT session will not require an additional testing unit in order to participate in ARDT this fall. Additional testing units will only be needed for students whose State Testing Identifier (STI) has never been associated with an ARDT test administration. A designated number of ARDT testing units will be available for allocation by the state for tests that will be administered to new students through September 29, 2017. Division ARDT Coordinators should have received correspondence regarding the 2017 Fall Extension window and ARDT testing units.

Every school division will submit a 2017-2018 Algebra Readiness Intervention (ARI) report to the Virginia Department of Education by August 1, 2018. This report will outline the diagnostic test administered, the remediation efforts used, the number of students who received ARI services, and the number of students demonstrating improvement. A template of this report is attached to this memo. This is a change from previous school years in that all divisions, regardless of the diagnostic testing tool utilized, will be asked to submit a written report to the Virginia Department of Education.

For additional information about the Algebra Readiness Initiative, please contact Tina Mazzacane, Mathematics Coordinator, Office of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, by email at tina.mazzacane@doe.virginia.gov or at (804) 225-4849.

SRS/TLM

Attachment:

A. Virginia Algebra Readiness Initiative 2017-2018 School Year Annual Report (Word)