



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

December 16, 2016

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virginia School Principals Appreciation Week January 22-28, 2017

On behalf of the Virginia Board of Education and the Department of Education, I am pleased to announce that Governor Terence R. McAuliffe has signed a Certificate of Recognition declaring January 22-28, 2017, as Virginia School Principals Appreciation Week. I hope that you and others throughout your community will join me in acknowledging the tireless efforts of our school principals across the Commonwealth.

The role of the principal as the instructional leader of the school is critically important to ensure students are provided the opportunity to learn. Our principals work diligently to help students and teachers excel, and their leadership and hard work are essential to the success of our schools. They deserve all the recognition and praise we can give them.

The full text of the Governor's Certificate of Recognition announcing Principals Appreciation Week is attached. I would like to express my appreciation to the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals (VASSP) and the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals (VAESP) for their assistance in requesting this Proclamation.

I hope that you and other officials in your division will celebrate Virginia Principals Appreciation Week by planning a special community event or some other appropriate function.

SRS/jm

Attachments:

- A. [2017 Principals Appreciation Week Proclamation](#) (PDF)