



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

September 4, 2015

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: 2015 Fall Institute: “REFRAMING DISCIPLINARY PRACTICES THROUGH A TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS”

A two-day fall institute to view school disciplinary practices and student behavior using the Virginia Tiered System of Supports framework is to be hosted by the Office of Student Services in the Division of Special Education and Student Services. The institute is September 22-23, 2015, at the Chesterfield Career and Technical Center Conference Center, 13900 Hull Street Road, Midlothian, Virginia 23112.

The purpose of the institute is to provide alternatives to out-of-school suspensions that will increase positive outcomes for students and create a more engaging climate and culture through a tiered framework. This training is recommended for school disciplinary administrators, problem-solving/student assistance teams, teachers and other school staff who are responsible for school discipline and school climate related issues.

Day One will highlight the *Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports* framework and how disciplinary practices can be addressed at each tier, followed by sessions on the legal implications for school disciplinary practices, trauma and behavioral implications, and using Universal Design for Learning, I'm Determined, and Double-Check as strategies to support student behavior challenges.

Day Two will share promising practices and strategies as alternatives to out of school suspensions such as sessions on Managing Negative Classroom Behaviors, Culturally Responsive Positive Behavior Supports, Restorative Practices, Mentoring and Micro Messaging.

Additional information including an online registration link can be found at the following link: <https://redcap.vcu.edu/surveys/?s=YCRPFWFAFY>. The registration deadline is Tuesday, September 15, 2015. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Vivian Stith-Williams, school social work specialist at Vivian.Stith-Williams@doe.virginia.gov or (804) 225-4543.

SRS/VSW

