

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

October 2, 2015

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virtual Virginia Algebra I Outreach Pilot

This fall, Virtual Virginia, the online program provided by the Virginia Department of Education (DOE), will pilot a new Algebra I outreach program. This pilot program will provide a series of live interactive online lessons for Algebra I students across the Commonwealth, as well as provide a collection of resources, including recorded videos and suggested classroom activities, for Virginia teachers.

The pilot program is designed to support classrooms in school divisions in need of properly licensed and endorsed Algebra I teachers during the 2015-2016 academic year. The resources will be available for reteaching or intervention by any teacher in Virginia.

If your school division has a school(s) with teachers currently assigned to teach Algebra I content who are not properly licensed and would be interested in applying to participate in the pilot program, please complete the <u>application</u> by October 23, 2015.

These lessons will also be made available to all school divisions asynchronously at no cost via <u>eMediaVA</u>, a digital media distribution platform that provides teachers and students a learning resource with digital learning objects, video, audio, and interactive and graphic elements all correlated to the Standards of Learning. For classrooms utilizing these synchronous or asynchronous instructional resources, speakers and a projector may assist in maximizing the full benefits of the lessons.

WHRO – Hampton Roads Educational Telecommunications Association also provides Algebra I lessons for use by school divisions. The lessons are available to all school divisions via <u>eMediaVA</u>, and can be streamed, downloaded, or embedded into lessons, online courses, or e-textbooks.

The live lessons and resources will be available to the selected school divisions beginning November 2, 2015. The asynchronous lessons will be available starting November 16, 2015. Recorded lessons provided by WHRO are currently available. For additional information, contact Mark Saunders, director of technology and virtual learning, at mark.saunders@doe.virginia.gov or (804) 786-0307.

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