

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

February 7, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Review of the *Health Education*, *Physical Education*, and *Driver Education Standards of Learning*: Seeking Input from the School Community

At the January 16, 2014, Board of Education meeting, the Department of Education was authorized to proceed with the *K-10 Health Education*, *K-12 Physical Education*, and *Driver Education Standards of Learning* review process. It is anticipated that the review will be completed by January 2015.

An important part of this review process is the solicitation of comments from teachers, administrators, and curriculum supervisors who have worked with or have an interest in the current standards, and others who promote health literacy, exercise science, and injury prevention. The current standards for health education, physical education, and driver education may be viewed online at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/index.shtml. Please inform personnel in your school division that forms for comments regarding the current standards are located on the Virginia Department of Education's Web site as follows:

- Health Education Standards of Learning Review;
- Physical Education Standards of Learning Review; and
- Driver Education Standards of Learning Review.

Comments will be received at each of the above addresses from February 7, 2014 to March 10, 2014.

The Department of Education is also seeking nominations from division superintendents for individuals who are qualified and available to serve on the *Health Education, Physical Education,* and *Driver Education Standards of Learning* Review Teams. Nominees should be teachers, principals, administrators, content specialists, or other educators who have knowledge of the content areas and experience with standards development.

Selected team members will be assigned to a specific health education, physical education, or driver education committee and asked to review information related to their content area prior to convening for a three-day committee meeting during the summer of 2014. Committee meetings will be held July 9-11, 2014, at James Madison University.

Committee members who are not under contract or who take personal leave with a school division will receive an incentive for their participation, and all committee members may receive recertification points, pending the approval of their school division. The Department of Education will cover expenses for mileage, meals, and lodging related to the review process following approved state guidelines.

All individuals who wish to serve on one of the Health Education, Physical Education, or DriverEducation Standards of Learning review committees must submit an application through the Web-based process, Instruction Committee Application Processing System (ICAPS). Each applicant must apply for a specific committee and by grade level: Health K-5, Health 6-8, Health, 9-10, Physical Education K-5, Physical Education 6-8, Physical Education 9-12, and Driver Education. The application will require a professional reference and division approval. The procedure for submitting the Web-based application is available at https://plpe.doe.virginia.gov/icaps. Completed applications are due to the Virginia Department of Education through the ICAPS process by March 21, 2014. Committee members will be notified on or before April 30, 2014. Committee members will be selected on the basis of expertise, experience, and balanced regional representation.

If you have questions about the *K-10 Health Education*, *K-12 Physical Education*, or *Driver Education*Standards of Learning review, please contact Vanessa Wigand, principal specialist for health, physical, and driver education, Office of Science and Health Education, by e-mail at Vanessa.Wigand@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-3300; or Janet Ragland, specialist for driver education, Office of Science and Health Education, by e-mail at Janet.Ragland@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 786-2799.

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Attachment:

a. <u>Schedule for Review of the Health Education, Physical Education, and Driver Education Standards of Learning</u> (Word)