



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

February 7, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Review of the *History and Social Science 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 review and revision process of the *History and Social Science Standards of Learning* consistent with the schedule adopted by the Board in September 2000. It is anticipated that the standards revision will be completed before June 2015.

An important part of the review process for the *History and Social Science Standards of Learning* is the solicitation of comments from teachers, administrators, curriculum supervisors, history and social science educators, and others who have expertise with the content of the current standards. Please inform personnel in your school division and other stakeholders that they may [review and comment](#) on the [current standards](#) at the Virginia Department of Education's Web site. Comments will be received 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 committees to review the *K-12 History and Social Science Standards of Learning* during the summer of 2014. Nominees should be teachers, principals, administrators, content specialists, or others who have expertise with the content areas and the standards.

Committee members reviewing the *K-12 History and Social Science Standards of Learning* will be asked to review information related to their content areas prior to convening for a four day meeting on July 7-10, 2014, in Richmond, Virginia, to review the standards. Committee members who are not under contract with a school division will receive a stipend, and those under contract 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.

All individuals who wish to serve on one of the *History and Social Science Standards of Learning* review committees must submit an application through the Web-based process, *Instruction Committee Application Processing System* (ICAPS). 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 any questions about the *History and Social Science Standards of Learning* review, please contact Christonya Brown, coordinator for history and social science, Office of Humanities and Early Childhood

Education, by e-mail at Christonya.Brown@doe.virginia.gov, or telephone at (804) 225-2893; or Betsy Barton, specialist, history and social science (K-5) Office of Humanities and Early Childhood Education, by e-mail at Betsy.Barton@doe.virginia.gov, or telephone at (804) 225-3454.

PIW/CB/BB/vdg

Attachment:

- a. [Schedule for Review of the *History and Social Science Standards of Learning*](#) (Word)