



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

February 14, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Updates to the Standards of Learning (SOL) Practice Item Sets on the Virginia Department of Education Web Site

In preparation for the spring 2014 Standards of Learning (SOL) test administration, additional practice items have been added to the grades 3-8 reading practice item sets located at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/practice_items/index.shtml.

The number of additional items varies by grade level and content area, but in all cases the additional items have been added to the end of the previously posted practice items.

In addition, the practice item guides for each practice item set have been updated to reflect the inclusion of the additional practice items. The use of the guides is strongly encouraged, as their use will help ensure that students are familiar with the item types, the online tools, navigation through the test, and the Section Review screen within TestNav.

The addition of items to the existing practice item sets for grades 3, 5, and 8 science, End-of-Course (EOC) Earth Science, EOC Biology, EOC Chemistry, grades 5, 8, and EOC Writing, and EOC Reading practice items occurred in December 2013 and was announced via Superintendent's E-mail on December 9, 2013.

Should you have any questions, please contact the student assessment staff at Student_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov or (804) 225-2102.

PIW/SLR/aw