COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

May 23, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virginia Assessment Program Standards of Learning Testing Schedule for 2014-2015

The state schedule for the Standards of Learning (SOL) tests for the 2014-2015 school year is available on the Department of Education's Web site at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/test_administration/index.shtml. Please share these dates with appropriate personnel so that SOL testing and other activities may be scheduled without conflicts. The following information will assist you in preparing for the 2014-2015 school year.

Fall 2014 SOL Writing Tests

The fall 2014 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, October 20, 2014** to **Friday, November 7, 2014**. In August 2014, each division director of testing (DDOT) will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the fall 2014 grade 8 and End-of-Course (EOC) SOL Writing tests online within the statewide test window.

Term Graduates scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2015, and Project Graduation students may have an additional online testing opportunity if they are not successful on their first attempt. The first online test opportunity for Term Graduates and Project Graduation students must be administered between **Monday, October 20, 2014 and Friday October 31, 2014**. If a Term Graduate/Project Graduation student fails the first attempt, the student may be administered a second online EOC Writingtest during the Term Graduate/Project Graduation second attempt test window scheduled from **Monday, November 17, 2014** to **Friday, December 12, 2014**.

Students with a documented need for a paper/pencil test who are scheduled to take the fall 2014 SOL Writing test *and* those students needing to retake the EOC English: Writing test based on the 2002 English SOL should be administered paper/pencil versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test during the week of October 20, 2014. The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil Writing tests will be administered on **either Monday, October 20, or Tuesday, October 21, 2014**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests must be administered statewide on **Wednesday, October 22, 2014**. Students who are absent on the date of the statewide paper/pencil short-paper component will respond to a different writing prompt, the alternate prompt, during the make-up period. Term Graduates and Project Graduation students completing paper/pencil tests will be provided two testing opportunities. All paper/pencil SOL Writing tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, November 7, 2014**.

Fall 2014 SOL Non-Writing Tests

The fall 2014 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, December 1, 2014** to **Friday, February 27, 2015.** School divisions will continue to have flexibility in determining their testing windows for grades 6 through 8, Content Specific History (CSH), and EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the fall. The VMAST grade 8 Reading and Mathematics tests and VMAST Algebra I and EOC Reading tests also will be available for administration in fall 2014 to eligible students who need to pass these tests for graduation. In August 2014, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the fall 2014 Non-Writing SOL tests for Term Graduates, EOC, and grades 6 through 8 and CSH within the statewide test window.

Spring 2015 SOL Writing Tests

The spring 2015 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, March 2, 2015** to **Friday, April 3, 2015**. In November 2014, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the spring 2015 grade 8 and EOC SOL Writing tests online within the statewide test window.

Term Graduates scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2015, and Project Graduation students may have an additional online testing opportunity if they are not successful on their first test attempt. The first online test opportunity for Term Graduates and Project Graduation students must be administered between **Monday, March 2, 2015 and Friday, March 13, 2015**. If a Term Graduate/Project Graduation student fails the first attempt, the student may be administered a second online EOC Writingtest during the Term Graduate/Project Graduation second attempt test window scheduled from **Monday, April 6, 2015** to **Friday, April 24, 2015.**

Students with a documented need for a paper/pencil test who are scheduled to take the spring 2015 SOL Writing test *and* those students needing to retake the EOC English: Writing test based on the 2002 English SOL should be administered paper/pencil versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test during the week of March 2, 2015. The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil Writing tests will be administered on **either Monday, March 2, or Tuesday, March 3, 2015**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests must be administered statewide on **Wednesday, March 4, 2015**. Students who are absent on the date of the statewide paper/pencil short-paper component will respond to a different writing prompt, the alternate prompt, during the make-up period. Term Graduates and Project Graduation students completing paper/pencil tests will be provided two testing opportunities. All paper/pencil SOL Writing tests for Term Graduates must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 17, 2015**. Paper/pencil SOL Writing tests for all other students must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, March 20, 2015**.

Spring 2015 SOL Non-Writing

The spring 2015 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, April 13, 2015** to **Friday, June 26, 2015**. School divisions will continue to have flexibility in determining their testing windows for grades 3 through 8, CSH, and EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the spring. The VMAST grade 8 Reading and Mathematics tests and VMAST Algebra I and EOC Reading tests also will be available for administration in spring 2015 to eligible students who need to pass these tests for graduation. In January 2015, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the spring 2015 Non-Writing SOL tests for Term Graduates, EOC, grades 3 through 8 and CSH within the statewide test window.

Summer 2015 SOL Writing Test

The summer 2015 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, July 13, 2015** to **Friday, July 24, 2015**. In April 2015, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the summer 2015 EOC SOL Writing tests online within the statewide test window.

In summer 2015, two online EOC Writingtest opportunities will be available to Term Graduates and Project Graduation students, but in contrast to the fall 2014 and spring 2015 online SOL Writing test administrations, test results from the first Writing test attempt will not be available prior to the administration of a second test attempt. Two online Writing test attempts will be given to Term Graduates and Project Graduation students during the summer online SOL Writing test window (July 13, 2015 – July 24, 2015).

Students with a documented need for a paper/pencil test who are scheduled to take the summer 2014 SOL Writing test *and* students needing to retake the EOC English: Writing test based on the 2002 English SOL should be administered paper/pencil versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test during the week of July 13, 2015. The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil Writing tests will be administered on **either Monday, July 13, or Tuesday, July 14, 2015**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests must be administered statewide on **Wednesday, July 15, 2015**. Students who are absent on the date of the statewide paper/pencil short-paper component will respond to a different writing prompt, the alternate prompt, during the make-up period. Term Graduates and Project Graduation students completing paper/pencil tests will be provided two testing opportunities. All paper/pencil SOL Writing tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, July 24, 2015**.

Summer 2015 SOL Non-Writing

The summer 2015 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, June 15, 2015** to **Friday, September 18, 2015**. School divisions will continue to have flexibility in determining their testing windows for EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the summer. The grade 8 Reading and Mathematics tests, VMAST grade 8 Reading and Mathematics tests, and VMAST Algebra I and EOC Reading tests also will be available for administration in summer 2015 to eligible students who need to pass these tests for graduation. In April 2015, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the summer 2015 Non-Writing SOL tests for Term Graduates and EOC within the statewide test window.

Questions concerning the state testing program schedule should be directed to the student assessment staff by e-mail at Student_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov or by phone at (804) 225-2102.

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