

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

June 13, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Update on Revised Foreign Language Standards of Learning

The Virginia Board of Education adopted revised *Foreign Language Standards of Learning* on May 22, 2014. The PDF and Word versions of the newly adopted foreign language standards are available on the Department of Education's Web site at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards docs/foreign language/index.shtml.

Recognizing that curriculum alignment efforts require planning, time, staff development, and resources, the Department of Education's goal for the implementation schedule allows teachers to begin, in the fall of 2014, to focus instruction on the content in the newly revised *Foreign Language Standards of Learning*.

School divisions should begin to:

- review and align their foreign language curricula with the revised standards;
- review current resource materials and correlate them with the revised standards;
- identify new materials where needed; and
- provide staff development for teachers as appropriate.

For further information, please contact Dr. Lisa Harris, specialist for foreign languages, Office of Humanities and Early Childhood, by e-mail at <u>Lisa.Harris@doe.virginia.gov</u> or by telephone at (804) 225-3666.

SRS/LAH/vdg