



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

August 15, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Radon Testing Training Class Announcement

The Virginia Department of Education, in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health, is offering a radon training class, Thursday, September 25, 2014, from 10 a.m.-Noon. The class is free and is intended to assist school divisions in training their staff to conduct radon testing in accordance with accepted U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) protocols. This training may also help school divisions to achieve a significant cost savings when compared to contracting with external radon testing companies. It is recommended that attendees have some background knowledge of the potential health hazards from radon exposure and review one of the following EPA documents before taking the class:

- **Radon Measurement in Schools: EPA 402-R-92-014, July 1993, 47 pages.** This document is still the accepted EPA protocol document for school testing. You may access and download a free copy of this document at: <http://www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/index.html>.
- **Radon Measurement in Schools, Self Paced Training Workbook: EPA 402-B-94-001, October 1994, 84 pages.** This document shows helpful illustrations, examples, and offers several training exercises that allow participants to actually practice radon test planning, data recording, and quality control activities. This document may be found by searching for: 402B94001 at this Web page: <http://nepis.epa.gov/Simple.html>.

To join the live webcast September 25, 2014, attendees will go to the following Web site:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/facility_construction/index.shtml. Under "Radon Testing Training Class" click the link that says, "Watch live streaming video" a few minutes prior to 10 a.m.

[Superintendent's Memo #131-14](#) recently reminded school divisions of the requirement to do radon testing and reporting pursuant to Section 22.1-138, *Code of Virginia* (Minimum Standards for Public School Buildings). The key provision in Section 22.1-138 states:

B. By July 1, 1994, every school building in operation in the Commonwealth shall be tested for radon pursuant to procedures established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for radon measurements in schools.

School buildings and additions opened for operation after July 1, 1994, shall be tested for radon pursuant to such EPA procedures and regulations prescribed by the Board of Education pursuant to subsection A of this section. Each school shall maintain files of its radon test results and make such files available for review. The division superintendent shall report radon test results to the Department of Health.

If you need additional information regarding this announcement, please contact Hunter Barnes at Hunter.Barnes@doe.virginia.gov, Vijay Ramnarain at Vijay.Ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov, or call (804) 225-2035.

SRS/HB/aam