



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

February 8, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Substance Abuse Awareness Vital for Virginia Youth (SAVVY) Schools and Communities Recognition Program

This memorandum announces the Substance Abuse Awareness Vital for Virginia Youth (SAVVY) Schools and Communities Recognition Program. The program was developed by the Virginia Departments of Education, Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Criminal Justice Services, and Alcoholic Beverage Control, in partnership with educators and health professionals from the University of Virginia and Virginia Commonwealth University. It is to identify and recognize leading evidence-based substance abuse prevention and intervention efforts occurring in Virginia's schools and communities.

The SAVVY Schools and Communities Recognition Program will acknowledge and validate the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in striving for, and attaining, outstanding achievement in substance abuse prevention. It will also distinguish meritorious schools and communities as models for others in the Commonwealth and honor the valuable contributions being made by school divisions and the professional community.

The SAVVY Schools and Communities Recognition Program online application is available as of January 31, 2013, from the Alcoholic Beverage Control Web site, at www.gosap.virginia.gov. Applications are due by March 29, 2013. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Stephanie Davis at (804)213-4594, or by e-mail Stephanie.Davis@abc.virginia.gov.

I encourage you to submit an application. An awards reception at the Governor's Executive Mansion will be held for recipients in late spring.

PIW/CC/rt