



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

August 9, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Multistate Purchasing Agreement

The purpose of this memo is to provide schools with information that may be beneficial in procuring devices to support the Virginia e-Learning Backpack Initiative. Information on this initiative may be found in [Superintendent's Memo #147-13](#).

Through a multistate effort led by the Maine Department of Education's Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) in coordination with the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO), master agreements have been reached with three vendors that allow school divisions to purchase computer hardware for use by students and teachers. The Multi-State Learning Technology Initiative is a multistate effort to facilitate the procurement of devices that support a wireless student-centered, digital learning environment.

The participation of Virginia school divisions in the initiative depends on a variety of factors that may differ among school divisions related to size, local procurement policies, and other factors. The Virginia Public Procurement Act of the *Code of Virginia* provides information on cooperative purchasing agreements and local governments in §§ 2.2-4304 and 2.2-4343. School divisions are encouraged to work with their procurement staff and legal counsel in considering participation in the Multi-State Learning Technology Initiative.

Additional information including links to master agreements, vendor information, and pricing are available on the NASPO Web site at <http://www.aboutwsca.org/contract.cfm/contract/e55-2013>.

Questions regarding the Multi-State Learning Technology Initiative should be directed to Richard Schley, instructional technology specialist, via e-mail at richard.schley@doe.virginia.gov or telephone at (804) 371-6882.

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