



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

August 30, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Earthquake Drill Set for October 17, 2013

The purpose of this memorandum is to encourage school divisions to participate in the second annual *Great SouthEast Shakeout* earthquake drill. On October 17, 2013 at 10:17 a.m. the schools and communities of several southeastern states will participate in this drill. In August 2011 Virginia experienced the historic 5.8 magnitude earthquake centered in Louisa County when it struck during the school day. Participation in the *Great SouthEast ShakeOut* is an opportune time for staff and students to become familiar with earthquake response protocols.

Schools can register for the drill and find additional information and resources at www.ReadyVirginia.gov and www.shakeout.org/southeast. A *ShakeOut* drill manual for K-12 schools is available at http://www.shakeout.org/downloads/ShakeOutDrillManualSchools_v2.pdf.

If you have questions about the *Great SouthEast ShakeOut*, please contact Laura Southard, public outreach coordinator at the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, by phone (804) 897-6510 or e-mail laura.southard@vdem.virginia.gov.

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