



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**Department of Education**

November 8, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: Aspiring Superintendents Institute**

The turnover of 53 superintendent positions in Virginia since July 1, 2012, is a major impetus to increase our efforts to prepare potential candidates already working in Virginia's school divisions. The Aspiring Superintendents Program (ASP) has been an effective strategy to prepare and place Virginia educators in these vacancies. I encourage you to recommend outstanding candidates from your school division for the VASS and Virginia Tech Aspiring Superintendents Program that will provide intensive training for those seeking superintendent positions. The program is offered for course credit through Virginia Tech.

The Aspiring Superintendents Institute will be held at The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center. The dates of the training sessions are: **January 9-10, 2014; March 6-7, 2014; and May 4-6, 2014**. Tuition, fees, lodging, meals and parking are included in the \$3,975 cost of the program. Also, included in the program cost is the registration fee for the three-day VASS Annual Conference, May 4-5. For additional information, please review the flier at the following Web site: <http://www.cota.vt.edu/sli/asp/index.html>.

The ASP is conducted by two successful former Virginia superintendents, E. Wayne Harris and Wayne Tripp, who understand the path to the superintendency. During the program, experienced presenters cover a variety of topics that are critical to the success of all superintendents, and participants are actively engaged in discussions at least 40 percent of the time.

You are encouraged to share information about the ASP with staff members who you think would make excellent educational leaders in our school divisions. The ASP is for educators who are interested in becoming a division superintendent within the next six months as well as for those who are thinking about starting a career path to the superintendency.

The individual(s) you recommend should be of high caliber in terms of the basic skills required to become a superintendent (e.g. decision-making skills, communication skills, organizational skills, interpersonal skills, etc.). We are interested in those with demonstrated leadership qualities – individuals whom you would be happy to have as your colleagues.

To recommend a candidate, please send them a copy of this memorandum and tell them that if they are interested, they should complete the registration form online at <http://www.cota.vt.edu/sli/>. Thank you for helping us to cultivate our future school division leaders in Virginia.

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