



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

November 15, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virginia AdvancED SACS 2014, Annual Conference

The Virginia AdvancED SACS Council extends an invitation to all division superintendents, principals, assistant principals, instructional leaders, and teachers to attend the 2014 Annual AdvancED SACS Conference entitled, *Cultivating Learner Success*. The conference will be held February 24-25, 2014, at The Fort McGruder Hotel and Conference Center in Williamsburg, Virginia.

The conference will provide quality professional development sessions designed to explore how school improvement and accreditation can increase school and district effectiveness. Information will be shared regarding the AdvancED Standards, the new accreditation protocol, and Adaptive System of School Improvement Support Tools (ASSIST) that are being used by schools and districts for External Review visits. These new components of the accreditation process have been designed to provide a leverage that can positively impact student performance. Regardless of where a school or district is in the process, the conference will provide the skills, strategies, and resources to develop and implement continuous improvement initiatives successfully.

The Fort McGruder Hotel and Conference Center has reserved a block of rooms for conference participants at a special rate of \$77.00 per night. Hotel reservations can be made directly with the hotel by calling 757-220-2250.

Register online at the AdvancED Web site at: <http://www.advanc-ed.org/virginia>. Click on Professional Development on the left side of the page, and then click on View Virginia Professional Development Calendar. Please register by February 3, 2014, to take advantage of the \$170 conference early registration rate. The registration rate after the early registration date will be \$195. If you have questions about the conference or need additional information, please call Hilda Kelly at 804-225-2814 or Dr. Patricia Golding at 540-520-8600.

PIW/LMW/oml