Superintendent’s Memo #004-21


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: January 8, 2021

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: Virginia School Principals Appreciation Week January 24-30, 2021

On behalf of the Virginia Board of Education and the Department of Education, I am pleased to announce that Governor Ralph S. Northam has signed a Certificate of Recognition declaring January 24-30, 2021, as Virginia School Principals Appreciation Week. I hope that you and others throughout your community will join me in acknowledging the tireless efforts of our school principals across the Commonwealth.

The role of the principal as the instructional leader of the school is critically important to ensure students are provided the opportunity to learn. Our principals work diligently to help students and teachers excel, and their leadership and hard work are essential to the success of our schools. They deserve all the recognition and praise we can give them—this school year especially—as they have led though a school year with enormous challenges.

The full text of the Governor’s Certificate of Recognition announcing Principals Appreciation Week is available on [Governor Northam’s website](https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/proclamations/proclamation-700/virginia-school-principals-appreciation-week.html). I express my appreciation to the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals (VASSP) and the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals (VAESP) for their assistance in requesting this Proclamation.

I hope that you and other officials in your division will celebrate Virginia School Principals Appreciation Week by planning a special community event or some other appropriate function.

JFL/jgh