



For Immediate Release: January 22, 2013

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VDOE Encourages Educators to Subscribe to TeacherDirect *Online Service Provides SOL Information & Resources Directly to Teachers*

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) this week launched a broadcast email service to provide Standards of Learning (SOL) resources and information directly to classroom teachers. Teachers — and other interested parties, such as school administrators and parents — may subscribe to receive free weekly “TeacherDirect” email updates. The updates will contain approximately 10 items that are new, have approaching deadlines or are of high interest to teachers.

TeacherDirect is the result of a survey that VDOE conducted during the 2011-2012 school year to learn how best to communicate new and updated instructional information — including SOL resources — to Virginia’s approximately 100,000 K-12 public school educators. More than 11,000 teachers responded to the survey, with more than 96 percent indicating their preference for email notifications over receiving information through social media, such as Facebook or Twitter.

“Teachers are enthusiastic about receiving information directly from VDOE on new and existing SOL resources that will help them — and their students — be successful in meeting the commonwealth’s expectations for learning, achievement and critical thinking,” Superintendent of Public Instruction Patricia I. Wright said. “I want teachers to know about a new SOL resource or professional development opportunity as soon as the information is available so they and their students can benefit sooner rather than later.”

Weekly updates will link teachers directly to pertinent content in the new TeacherDirect section of the VDOE website. TeacherDirect content is organized for easy and speedy reference:

- SOL News contains weekly updated items of interest to classroom teachers, including new instructional resources and upcoming professional development opportunities;
- SOL Events includes a searchable professional-development calendar of conferences, webinars and institutes that support the SOL program; and
- SOL Library contains catalogs of all SOL-related VDOE resources available to English, mathematics, science and history and social science teachers.

Teachers may use more than one email address to create multiple TeacherDirect subscriptions in order to receive weekly updates on school division, home and mobile accounts. The online subscription form is available in the [TeacherDirect section of the VDOE website](#).

VDOE will continue to communicate information to schools and school divisions through traditional means, including weekly Superintendent’s Memos posted on the VDOE website and emailed to division superintendents for distribution to appropriate staff.

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