

## Superintendent's Memo #333-18



### COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

DATE: November 30, 2018  
TO: Division Superintendents  
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction  
**SUBJECT: Review of the Health Education Standards of Learning for Grades Nine and 10: Seeking Input from the School Community**

At the October 18, 2018, Board of Education meeting, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) was authorized to proceed with the review of the Health Education Standards of Learning for students in grades nine and ten to include mental health. *“Such health instruction shall incorporate standards that recognize the multiple dimensions of health by including mental health and the relationship of physical and mental health so as to enhance student understanding, attitudes, and behavior that promote health, well-being, and human dignity.”* It is anticipated that the review will be completed by August 2019.

An important part of this review process for the Health Education Standards of Learning is the solicitation of comments from teachers, administrators, curriculum supervisors, health educators, health education organizations, and other members of the public. Please inform personnel in your school division and other stakeholders that they may review and comment on the current standards at the [Health Education Standards of Learning](#) website. Comments will be received at [Instruction@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Instruction@doe.virginia.gov) from November 30, 2018 to January 11, 2019. The VDOE is also seeking individuals who are qualified and available to serve on a committee to review the *Health Education Standards of Learning* on February 28, 2019. Applicants must be teachers, principals, administrators, content specialists, or others who have expertise with the content areas and the standards.

Individuals who wish to serve on the 2019 Review of Grades 9 and 10 Health Education Standards of Learning committee must submit an application through the web-based process, *Instruction Committee Application System (ICAPS)*. The application will require a professional reference and division approval. Completed applications are due to the VDOE through ICAPS by January 17, 2019. Committee members selected on the basis of expertise, experience, and balanced regional representation will be notified by January 31, 2019.

Committee members who are not under contract or who take personal leave with a school division will receive an incentive for their participation, and all committee members may receive recertification points, pending the approval of their school division. The VDOE will cover expenses for mileage, meals, and lodging related to the review process following approved state guidelines.

If you have questions about the [Health Education Standards of Learning](#) review, please contact Vanessa Wigand, Coordinator for Health Education, Office of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, by email at [Vanessa.wigand@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Vanessa.wigand@doe.virginia.gov) or by telephone at (804) 225-3300.

JFL/VCW/dr

Attachment:

- A. [Schedule for Review of Health Education Standards of Learning](#)
- 

Links:

- [2015 Health Education Standards of Learning and Framework for Curriculum](#)
- [Instruction Committee Application Processing System \(ICAPS\)](#)