

January 6, 2017

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: A Model Exit Questionnaire for Teachers in Virginia

The 2016 Virginia General Assembly passed Senate Bill 360, requesting the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop and provide to local school divisions a model exit questionnaire for teachers. Attached is the Model Teacher Exit Questionnaire for Virginia School Divisions.

The Department of Education convened a group of stakeholders to review the legislation, research, and exit questionnaires from other states and school divisions to provide suggestions on the content and format of Virginia's model exit questionnaire. These individuals represented the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals, Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals, Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, Virginia Association of School Superintendents, the Virginia School Boards Association, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, Virginia Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, Virginia Education Association, the Federation of Teachers, school division human resources officers, teachers, and higher education.

I encourage you to use the Model Teacher Exit Questionnaire locally to collect information about teachers' experiences in your school division and factors that may have influenced their decisions to leave their positions. This information also should provide information about teaching and learning conditions in schools. Please do not hesitate to change the questionnaire format as you may want to collect the information electronically.

The Department of Education also is beginning work to post the questionnaire on our website as a pilot this year. Upon posting, I will notify you so that you may ask teachers retiring or leaving the profession also to complete the state survey.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, assistant superintendent for teacher education and licensure, by phone at (803) 371-2522 or by email at patty.pitts@doe.virginia.gov.

SRS/psp

Attachment:

A. Model Teacher Exit Questionnaire for Virginia School Divisions (Word)