



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

January 6, 2017

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Minority Educator Recruitment Event and Teachers of Color Summit

The Minority Educator Recruitment Pre-Summit, hosted by Virginia's Secretary of Education and the Virginia Department of Education on February 16, 2017 in Richmond, is being offered in collaboration with the Virginia Education Association's inaugural [Teachers of Color Summit & VTA-VEA Exhibition](#). The Pre-Summit is being offered as a pre-conference to VEA's full Teachers of Color Summit taking place February 16 – 18, 2017.

Like the rest of the country, Virginia is facing a rapidly-growing teacher shortage and a shrinking pool of candidates that is increasingly less diverse. VDOE is inviting interested school division Human Resource personnel to attend the conference and participate in the minority teacher recruitment fair. The [Minority Educator Recruitment Pre-Summit](#) is designed as an introduction to the teaching profession in Virginia for prospective educators. We are expecting nearly 150 emerging college graduates, primarily from Virginia's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), expected to earn their degrees in 2017 to participate in the Pre-Summit Recruitment event. Attendees will include students enrolled in educator preparation programs as well as students earning degrees in other majors.

Sessions will be held to highlight the following:

- The importance of diversity in Virginia's educator pipeline,
- Pathways to teacher licensure in Virginia,
- Supporting diversity in your school division, as well as
- Resources and guidance for prospective educators.

Attendees will also be afforded the opportunity to meet with school division Human Resource representatives from across the state to learn more about educator employment opportunities in Virginia. There is no charge for attendees of the Pre-Summit. Vendor space for school division Human Resource representatives is also offered at no cost on a first-come, first-served basis. Additional information, including a detailed agenda of the day's activities, as well as a link to register as a recruitment vendor, can be found at:

www.education.virginia.gov/edrecruit. When registering as a school division vendor please select the "HR Representative" option. Please note: vendor space is limited so please register early.

If you have questions or need any additional information please contact Ms. Leah D. Walker, Community and Minority Affairs Liaison for the Virginia Department of Education at 804-225-3304 or by email at Leah.Walker@doe.virginia.gov.

For more information on the Virginia Education Association's Teachers of Color Summit and to view the Summit's Agenda please visit: <https://www.regonline.com/teachersofcolorsummit>.

SRS/LDW/lj

Attachments:

- A. [Minority Educator Recruitment Pre-Summit Flyer for School Divisions](#) (PDF)

- B. [Minority Educator Recruitment Pre-Summit Flyer for College Students](#) (PDF)
- C. [VEA Teachers of Color Summit Flyer](#) (PDF)

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