



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

April 28, 2017

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Information Letter to Parents of Rising Sixth-Grade Students

The 2007 General Assembly passed legislation that requires the Virginia Department of Health to provide parents/guardians of rising sixth-grade girls with information on the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and the Human Papillomavirus Vaccine. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that girls 11-12 years old receive the vaccine. In 2011, the CDC provided additional recommendation that boys 11-12 years old also receive the HPV vaccine.

The Virginia Department of Health makes electronic copies of the HPV letter to parents/guardians of rising sixth-grade students available in English and Spanish from the following website

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/requirements/>

Effective April 1, 2017, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) will no longer provide print copies of the HPV letter for distribution to parents/guardians. School divisions must print copies of the HPV letter or provide the link to the letter on their website, in the student handbook or during orientation.

For additional information, please contact Tracy White, School Health Specialist by email at Tracy.White@doe.virginia.gov; telephone (804) 786-8671.

SRS/TW/nlc