



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

April 28, 2017

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virginia Health and Physical Activity Institute, July 9-12, 2017, James Madison University

The Virginia Department of Education and the [Virginia Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance](#) extend an invitation to all administrators and teachers to attend the [Healthy Kids, Healthy Virginia 2017 Health and Physical Activity Institute](#). The Institute will be held July 9-12, 2017, at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and provides opportunities for sharing effective teaching and learning practices that support the implementation of the 2015 *Standards of Learning*, and improve the health and educational performance of children in Virginia's schools.

The 2017 Institute will feature several nationally acclaimed educators, National and State Teachers of the Year, and a variety of engaging workshops, and general sessions that focus on:

- improving the quality of health and physical education instruction;
- building teacher capacity and instructional expertise through [new and innovative teaching and learning practices](#) for the 2015 *Standards of Learning* for [Health Education](#), [Physical Education](#), and [Driver Education](#);
- nutrition education and physical activity, alcohol and other drug education, social and emotional health, violence prevention and healthy relationships, safety and injury prevention, and healthy environment;
- lifetime fitness activities, employee wellness, active recess, and dance;
- life skills and cooperative learning;
- adapted physical education;
- family life education;
- standards-based assessment; and
- integrating technology and instruction.

In addition to the high-quality keynote and concurrent sessions, there are [several preconference workshops](#) that require early arrival on Saturday July 8th or Sunday, July 9th. These include CPR/AED/emergency first aid recertification and instructor trainer certification; National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM) Certified Personal Trainer teacher training; Archery, Fly Fishing and Bike Smart Virginia certification; 21st century software for connected educators to effectively use fitness, assessment, behavior, brain/body boosts videos, and rubric and survey modules; and Teaching the Prevention of Dating Violence, Domestic Abuse, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, and other Violent Crimes Against Students workshop.

James Madison University will also be offering a three-credit, graduate-level course: Technology in Health and Physical Education; and Blue Ridge Community College will be offering a three-credit, undergraduate course: Studies in Teaching School Health. Information about these [courses](#), [special events](#), [registration](#), and the [Call for Presenters form](#) are available online.

If you need additional information about the 2017 Virginia Health and Physical Activity Institute, please contact Vanessa Wigand, Principal Specialist for Health, Physical, and Driver Education, Office of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, by email at Vanessa.Wigand@doe.virginia.gov, or by telephone at

(804) 225-3300; or Dr. Jacqueline Williams, Professor, James Madison University, by email at williaja@jmu.edu.

SRS/VCW/rt

Links:

[Healthy Kids, Healthy Virginia 2017 Health and Physical Activity Institute](#) 

[2015 Health Standards of Learning](#)

[2015 Physical Education Standards of Learning](#)

[2015 Driver Education Standards of Learning](#)

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