



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**Department of Education**

**DATE:** September 15, 2017  
**TO:** Division Superintendents  
**FROM:** Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
**SUBJECT:** **Announcing the 2018 Children's Engineering Convention**

The Virginia Department of Education, in collaboration with the Virginia Children's Engineering Council and the Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association, is co-sponsoring the Children's Engineering Convention for grades K-5 teachers and administrators. The convention will be held at the [Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center](#), 110 Shenandoah Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia, February 8-9, 2018.

The Children's Engineering Convention special interest sessions will highlight best practices and classroom strategies that support instruction in grades K-5 through hands-on design, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. These instructional experiences will assist participants in preparing children to:

- explore how people create, use, and control technology;
- apply knowledge in mathematics, science, English, and history and social sciences in solving problems associated with technology; and
- use tools and materials to develop technological literacy and self-confidence.

You may access the [convention overview here](#) and [register](#) today.

If you have any questions regarding the convention, please contact the Convention Registrar, Teresa McCoy, at [teresas@vt.edu](mailto:teresas@vt.edu) or by telephone at (540) 231-8220.

If you have any questions regarding children's engineering, please contact Dr. Lynn Basham, Technology Education Specialist, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education at [cte@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:cte@doe.virginia.gov) or by telephone at (804) 225-2052.

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