



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

December 9, 2016

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: "Programs That Work" Awards for Mathematics, Science, and STEM**

The Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition (VMSC) invites you to nominate effective student and teacher education programs for its annual "Programs That Work" Awards. The VMSC is interested in reviewing and recognizing exemplary mathematics, science, and integrated science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs for which there is evidence of a positive impact on student or teacher learning. Proposals will be evaluated on the extent that applicants are able to:

1. represent innovative, exemplary programs that have proven effective with all students or teachers;
2. demonstrate the important mathematics, science, and STEM concepts, skills or processes students and teachers learned as a result of the programs; and
3. document impact on teaching and learning.

Application requirements and more information can be found at <http://www.vamsc.org/index.php/application/>. Virginia's public and private elementary and secondary schools, public school divisions, institutions of higher education, state agencies, and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations are invited to apply.

Applications are due on January 18, 2017, and will be evaluated on a competitive basis for programs that have been conducted during the past five years and have demonstrated positive results. Awardees will be recognized on February 15, 2017, at a reception in Richmond at the Library of Virginia. The VMSC will support the travel and lodging of award recipients for each program recognized.

For more information, contact the Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition by e-mail at [ptw@vamsc.org](mailto:ptw@vamsc.org).

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