



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

May 1, 2015

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: English Co-teaching Academy: Addressing Non-fiction and Writing in the Co-taught Classroom

The Virginia Department of Education's Offices of Special Education Instructional Services and Humanities and Early Childhood are sponsoring an English Co-teaching Academy: Addressing Non-fiction and Writing in the Co-taught Classroom. The Academy is designed for school teams of English and special education teachers working together to enhance all student outcomes, especially students with disabilities. The focus will be on improving content understanding, pedagogical strategies, collaboration/co-teaching strategies, and networking. The Academy will be held July 14-15, 2015, at Wyndham Virginia Crossings Hotel & Conference Center, 1000 Virginia Center Pkwy., Glen Allen, Virginia 23059.

Middle and high school English and special education teachers in co-teaching teams are the primary audience for this program. The Department is seeking two-member teams from individual middle and high schools. Priority will be given to teachers who teach in schools that have not met their annual measurable objective (AMO) for students with disabilities in English. The Virginia Department of Education will assume the cost of lodging, and will provide reimbursement for travel and meals not provided by the Academy and furnish a \$100/day stipend to the participants.

For more detailed information regarding this Academy and how to register, please visit the Virginia Tech Conference planning Registration URL: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/reg/vdoe-ecta/>. If you have additional questions about the program, please contact Ms. Tracy Robertson, coordinator, English Instruction, by e-mail at Tracy.Robertson@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 786-2481; or Dr. Teresa Lee, instructional specialist, Special Education Instructional Services, at Teresa.Lee@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 371-8283.

SRS/tl/dj