



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
Department of Education

August 7, 2015

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: 2015 Rural and Low-Income Schools Program Symposium**

The Department of Education is pleased to announce the 2015 Title VI, Part B, Subpart 2, Rural and Low-Income Schools Program Symposium offered in collaboration with the Title III, Part A, Limited English Proficient (LEP) Program, and the Title I, Part C, Education of Migratory Children Program. This professional development opportunity will be held at the following site on the dates specified below:

Date and Time	Symposium Location and Lodging Information
Wednesday and Thursday September 23-24, 2015 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.*	The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center 110 Shenandoah Avenue Roanoke, Virginia 24016 (540) 985-5900

\*Note: Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

This symposium is open for practitioners and administrators employed in rural school divisions. **Family Engagement** will be presented by Ron Mirr, President of RM Consulting and the Center for Active Family Engagement (CAFÉ). The training will offer sessions on general family engagement strategies, motivating parents to participate meaningfully in the educational process, creating school environments that welcome parents, and engaging parents beyond the school Web page or parent portal.

**Registration:** Additional information including an online registration link and lodging details can be located at the following link: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/reg/rss/>. The Office of Continuing and Professional Education at Virginia Tech will manage online registration. **The deadline for registration is Wednesday, September 16, 2015.**

**Lodging Costs:** A limited block of hotel rooms available on a first-come, first-serve basis for those outside of a fifty-mile radius of the training location will be paid by the Department. The room cost will be master-billed to the Department upon departure. **Room reservations must be made by Monday, August 24, 2015. It is the responsibility of attendees to make their own reservations.** To reserve a room, call The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center at (540) 985-5900 and reference “Virginia Department of Education, Rural and Low-Income Schools Program Symposium.”

**Authorized Expenses:** Breakfast, lunch, and materials will be provided. Evening meals, parking, and travel costs are the responsibility of attendees. However, using the state approved rate, these allowable expenses may

be charged to the respective programs: Title I, Part A; Title I, Part C; Title II, Part A; Title III, Part A, or Title VI, Part B, Subpart 2.

**Cancellation:** If participants need to cancel their hotel reservations, please contact the hotel directly, as well as Christy Wallace no later than Wednesday, **September 16, 2015**, at [wallacec@vt.edu](mailto:wallacec@vt.edu) or (540) 231-6735.

Please direct your questions regarding this symposium to Judy Radford, Title III professional development coordinator, at [Judy.Radford@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Judy.Radford@doe.virginia.gov) or (804) 786-1692.

SRS/jr