



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

December 11, 2015

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Additional Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests Transitioned to TestNav™ 8 Test Delivery Software

As communicated to school divisions via [Superintendent's Memo No. 234-15](#), beginning with the spring 2017 test administration, the online Standards of Learning (SOL) tests typically administered in elementary schools (Grades 3 through 5 Reading and Mathematics, grade 5 Science, and Virginia Studies) will be administered via a new online test delivery software. This new test delivery software, TestNav™ 8, supports the use of additional devices (e.g., Google™ Chromebooks, Apple iPads®, Android™ tablets), including touch-screen devices while continuing to support the use of Microsoft Windows®-based and Mac OS®-based workstations for the delivery of online SOL tests.

The purpose of this memo is to announce that additional online SOL tests will be transitioned to the TestNav 8 test delivery software during the 2016-2017 school year. Beginning with the fall 2016 test administration, online SOL tests typically administered in middle schools (Grades 6 through 8 Reading and Mathematics, Grade 8 Science, and Civics & Economics) will be the first online SOL tests administered in TestNav 8.

For school divisions to become familiar with the TestNav 8 delivery system in advance of the fall 2016 test administration, the existing SOL practice item sets on the VDOE Web site will be made available in TestNav 8 during the 2015-2016 school year. These practice items will serve as an introduction to the new online navigation, online tools, item formatting, and overall functionality and appearance of TestNav 8. To allow school division staff to experience the technical changes and updated [system requirements of TestNav 8](#) prior to fall 2016, a TestNav 8 Infrastructure Test will be made available in the PearsonAccess Training Center along with a TestNav 8 System Check application. School divisions will be notified when the TestNav 8 practice items are available on the VDOE Web site and when the TestNav 8 Infrastructure Test and System Check are available for use.

Additional information regarding the implementation of TestNav 8, including a schedule for the implementation of the remaining SOL tests in TestNav 8, will be communicated as details become available. It is important for all school division staff to be aware that all online SOL tests will continue to be administered in the existing TestNav 7 delivery system during the 2015-2016 school year. If you have questions, please contact the student assessment staff by e-mail at student_assessment@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2102.

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