



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

April 25, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: Mathematics Capstone Course**

The Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center (ARCC) is collaborating with the Department of Education to explore new technologies to provide services to educators across the Commonwealth. Due to the proliferation of multi-touch tablets, a version of the Mathematics Capstone Course is being developed for iTunes U. The iTunes U course will provide access to all of the original units as well as guidance for teachers for incorporating both problem-based teaching approaches as well as tablets and the unique resources they can provide. This course will be available on Virginia on iTunes U in fall 2014.

Originally developed as a cooperative effort with the University of Virginia's School of Continuing and Professional Studies Office of Mathematics, the units in the course encourage the use of real-world applications of mathematics knowledge and skills through strategies often described as problem-based learning.

The Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center is one of 15 regional centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education to support state education agencies as they undertake large-scale change initiatives. The ARCC serves the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

If you have questions, please contact Sara Marchio, special projects coordinator, in the Office of Digital Innovations and Outreach at (804) 786-0877 or via e-mail at [sara.marchio@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:sara.marchio@doe.virginia.gov).

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