



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

May 30, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Leadership Symposium on Innovation in High Priority Schools, June 2014

Virginia Commonwealth University's (VCU) School of Education and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) extend an invitation to all school administrators, superintendents, school and business community leaders to participate in a one day leadership symposium, "*Innovation in High Priority Schools: Increasing Student Outcomes*". The Conference will be held June 25, 2014, at the VCU Student Commons in Richmond, Virginia from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The purpose of the leadership symposium is to explore innovative and evidence-based practices, policies, and model programs in priority schools.

The symposium will feature keynote speaker, **Dr. Pedro Noguera**, Professor of Education at New York University. Attendees will also have the opportunity to hear a panel discussion with state and national experts, breakout sessions featuring best practices and model programs for rural, suburban, and urban schools, family engagement and research bursts.

VCU and VDOE are looking forward to your participation in this beneficial professional development opportunity. If you have questions about the symposium or desire additional information, please visit the VCU Web site (<http://www.cpg.soe.vcu.edu/innovation>) or call VCU Center for Professional Growth at (804) 828-1322. Registration costs are \$75 and include Dr. Noguera's book as well as a light breakfast, lunch and parking. Registration can be complete online at <http://www.cpg.soe.vcu.edu/innovation/registration>.

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