



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

December 5, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Computer Science – December 8-12, 2014

The Virginia Department of Education, along with the Secretary of Education, would like to celebrate TechTober by encouraging all school divisions to sign up for the Hour of Code which will take place December 8-12. To build a better awareness of the technology and computer science industry, classrooms around the Commonwealth can access free, easy online material or worksheets that teach students the basics of coding. Computer and non-computer activities can be found at www.code.org for every grade level and experience. Currently, over 50 school divisions are signed up to participate. To sign up a school or classroom, please go to www.hourofcode.org. There is also an application for one school in Virginia to win \$10,000 in technology or win a Skype chat with a celebrity such as Bill Gates or Twitter Founder, Jack Dorsey.

For more information, please contact Dr. Megan Healy, Virginia Director of STEM-H at megan.healy@governor.virginia.gov or 804-225-4807.

SRS/JWH/oml