



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

December 5, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: Survey of Alternative Education for Suspended and Expelled Students**

The Virginia Department of Education is assisting with a study of alternative education options in Virginia that is being conducted by the Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis.

The purpose of the study is to collect information for use by the Department, the Secretary of Education and the Commission on Youth in their ongoing assessments of the needs of schools in serving students who have been suspended or expelled.

This survey seeks to determine how many divisions currently provide educational material and/or services to students who are suspended or expelled from school, to identify various challenges divisions face in serving these youth, and to identify the costs associated with providing alternative education. It focuses on the provision of educational material and/or services to suspended and expelled youth during the 2013-2014 academic year.

The survey may be accessed using the link: [Survey of Alternative Education Programs in Virginia](#). A printable version of the survey is attached for your convenience, although the Institute has requested that all survey responses be submitted online. Responses must be submitted by January 16, 2015.

In your responses, please do not provide personally identifiable student information. This includes counts and percentages where there are fewer than ten students in a group.

Questions regarding the survey content should be directed by e-mail to [aepsurvey@gmail.com](mailto:aepsurvey@gmail.com) or you may contact Mitchell Cole at the Commonwealth Institute at (804) 396-2051, extension 109. Thank you very much for your participation.

SRS/SBW/kfg

Attachment:

- A. [Survey of Alternative Education Programs in Virginia](#) (PDF)