



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

March 1, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Bullying Prevention Training Opportunity

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is now accepting applications from school divisions interested in implementing the electronic subscription version of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP). The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program is an evidence-based, highly regarded bullying prevention program proven to be successful in reducing existing problems, preventing new problems, and improving peer relations and school climate when implemented with fidelity.

School divisions accepted for participation in this project must have the capacity to:

- Enlist five to ten elementary schools for OBPP implementation;
- Provide designated committee members with laptop computers during mandatory two-day training;
- Provide a wireless training facility;
- Administer baseline and two annual surveys to third through fifth graders electronically;
- Provide school leadership access to one required teleconference the week of March 11, 2013; and
- Meet additional criteria as set forth in the program application

Selected schools will receive:

- A three-year electronic subscription to all core and supplemental OBPP training materials;
- Training and 18 months of consulting from a certified OBPP trainer; and
- Online access to three administrations of the Olweus Bullying Questionnaire for all students in grades 3-5.

Special consideration will be given those divisions currently implementing evidence-based programming focusing on improvement of academic and behavioral practices or violence prevention such as Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports or Second Step.

The division level application is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DKRLZJD> and is open from March 1 through April 1, 4:30 p.m. Award announcements will be made on Monday, April 15. Committee trainings will take place from July through October 2013.

Additional announcements for VDH support of schoolwide bullying prevention efforts for schools currently implementing OBPP or schools considering implementation will be made in future Superintendent's Memoranda.

Questions should be directed to Mary Lib Morgan, bullying and youth violence prevention coordinator, Virginia Department of Health, at marylib.morgan@vdh.virginia.gov or (804) 864-7741 or to Wayne Barry, student services specialist, Virginia Department of Education, at Wayne.Barry@doe.virginia.gov or (804) 692-0396.

