



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

March 15, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: VAESP Annual Principals Conference, June 30 – July 2, 2013

The Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals (VAESP) and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) extend an invitation to all principals, assistant principals, office support staff, and other professional educators to participate in the 2013 Annual Conference, “*Yes, We Can.*” The Conference will be held June 30 – July 2, 2013, at The Homestead in Hot Springs, Virginia. The purpose of the state conference is to develop and enhance the school administrators’ leadership skills, increase their understanding of current educational issues, and expand their knowledge base for success.

As in past years, **Title II, Part A, Funds** may be used to support attendance at this Conference. The Conference program addresses how administrators can lead their schools and communities through the ongoing, complex, and often difficult changes taking place in education. Attending the Conference will provide participants with opportunities to explore their leadership repertoire of strategies in order to best enhance their schools’ ability to achieve community support and student performance success.

As noted in the preliminary program synopsis available at www.vaesp.org (**Conferences**), the Conference will feature keynote speakers, author, and motivational speaker, **Dr. Crystal Kuykendall**, Author, **Stephen Peters**, (Do You Know Enough About Me to Teach Me), Professor, **Dr. Tamra Willis**, Mary Baldwin College, and Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction, **Dr. Patricia Wright**.

A pre-Conference Workshop (June 29, 2013) titled, “**The Environmental Institute**” will focus on Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience, Field Investigations Using a Schoolyard Outdoor Classroom, and Using the Environment Across the Curriculum. Visit www.vaesp.org (**Workshops**) for registration information. Additionally, breakout sessions are planned for a variety of topics along with **Virginia Department of Education** personnel providing updates on current relevant educational issues.

Attendees will have the opportunity to visit the Educational Exhibition featuring dozens of companies displaying products and services designed to assist administrators in their quest to provide the highest quality education for the children they serve.

The 2013 Annual Conference will officially begin on **Sunday, June 30, 2013**, and VAESP is looking forward to your participation in this beneficial professional development opportunity. If you have questions about the Conference or desire additional information, please visit the VAESP Web site or call VAESP at (804) 355-6791. If you and your staff would like to present at the Conference, you are invited to submit the **2013 Call for Presentations**, available at www.vaesp.org (**Conferences -> Exhibitors and Speakers**) which will be considered for inclusion in the Conference program. The Call for Presentations form must be completed and returned by **April 1, 2013**.

