



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

May 10, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virginia Health and Physical Activity Institute, July 14-17, 2013, James Madison University

The Virginia Departments of Health and Education, and the Virginia Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, extend an invitation to all administrators and teachers to attend the Healthy Kids, Healthy Virginia 2013 Health and Physical Activity Institute. The Institute will be held July 14-17, 2013, at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

This high-quality staff development provides opportunities for sharing effective teaching and learning practices that improve the health and educational performance of children through better health, nutrition, and physical education instruction in Virginia's schools. The 2013 Institute will feature several nationally acclaimed educators and breakout sessions that will focus on health promotion and the prevention of chronic diseases, which are the most common, costly, and preventable health problems in the U.S. Sessions will include CPR/AED/basic first aid recertification and instructor trainer certification; healthy school environments; bullying prevention programs; nutrition; fitness; dance; adapted physical education; standards-based assessment; curriculum leadership; school employee wellness; differentiated instruction; technology; injury prevention; and other opportunities to build teacher capacity and instructional expertise in promoting effective teaching and learning for the *Standards of Learning for Health Education, Physical Education, and Driver Education*.

In addition to the highlighted keynote and concurrent sessions, there are several special events (<http://www.jmu.edu/kinesiology/hpainstitute/specialevents.html>) that require early arrivals on Sunday, July 14, 2013. These include an *Archery in Schools* and *Bike Smart Virginia* certification course for teachers; *The Link between Movement and Learning* workshop; a driver education workshop for teachers and supervisors; and a leadership track for health and physical education program supervisors and staff wellness coordinators.

James Madison University will also be offering three-credit, graduate-level courses: *Technology in Health and Physical Education*; *Assessment and Instructional Strategies in Adapted Physical Education*; and *Physiological Importance of Physical Education*. Information about these courses, special events, registration, and the Call for Presenters form is available online at <http://www.jmu.edu/kinesiology/hpainstitute/>.

If you need additional information about the 2013 Health and Physical Activity Institute, please contact Vanessa Wigand, principal specialist for health, physical, and driver education, Office of Science and Health Education, by e-mail at Vanessa.Wigand@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-3300; or Dr. Jacqueline Williams, professor, James Madison University, by e-mail at williaja@jmu.edu or by telephone at (540) 568-6957.

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