



#137-21

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #137-21**

DATE: May 21, 2021
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **Teacher-created Resources from 2020-2021 OER Mini-grants Published on #GoOpenVA**

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is pleased to recognize the work done by the winners of the 2020-2021 Mini-grants for [Openly Licensed Education Resources](#) (OER) and share the resources with all Virginia teachers. Despite the complications of the pandemic year, eight divisions and two cooperatives were able to develop and publish hundreds of new teacher-created resources on [#GoOpenVA](#), housed within OER Collections.

Resources were developed to meet the student needs, as described below. Many of the resources aim to align standards-based lessons with the 5 C's or to provide examples of student-centered instructional strategies.

The Projects

[Buchanan](#): Teachers focused on student engagement, cross-curricular literacy integration, and project-based learning.

[Chesapeake](#): The division brought together teachers to address K-5 STEAM resources and an eighth-grade Literacy Strategies Course.

[Hanover](#): Basing work off their own online course experiences, teachers developed lessons to support middle school content, ranging from Mathematics to Health and PE.

[Henrico](#): Teachers developed lessons in secondary Mathematics and Science content areas to include items within the areas of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry.

[Powhatan](#): Division initiatives supported teacher-created cross-curricular lessons, Health curriculum, and Driver's Education lessons with deeper learning goals.

[Stafford](#): Teachers focused on developing K-5 cross-curricular, literacy-based lessons.

[Virginia Beach](#): Leadership wanted to create long-term change and focused not only on the development of resources in various content areas (including a series in Social-Emotional Learning), but also the process of creating resources for #GoOpenVA.

[York](#): Noting a lack of World Language resources, teachers developed lessons for various World Languages in conjunction with ESL specialists, ending with all ADA-compliant lessons.

[Virginia Inquiry Collaborative](#): Extensive K-12 lessons created by teachers from various divisions (Albemarle, Charlottesville, Fairfax, Madison, Virginia Beach), with the expressed purpose of creating a more anti-racist, anti-biased, and culturally responsive curricula following the Inquiry Design Model (IDM).

[Performance Assessment Collaborative](#): Teachers from Middlesex, Poquoson, and West Point collaborated on writing performance tasks for grades 5-11.

Teachers are encouraged to use these resources or to adapt them to meet their students' needs. All resources on #GoOpenVA are openly licensed and can be freely edited without copyright concerns. By sharing your adaptations, you will be easing the burden on all teachers to individualize lessons for their students.

For more information

If you have any questions about the Mini-grants or #GoOpenVA and openly-licensed instructional resources, please contact Jean Weller at 804-225-2825 or

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