



POQUOSON SCHOOLS SUPPORTING EDUCATORS



How Do You Want to Grow?

Check out these upcoming opportunities!

Issued January 2, 2024

Important Notes

PCPS will be having an adapted version of SPARK on Feb 7th.

- Each building will hold their own PD sessions
- Lunch will be provided
- Some division-level meetings will still occur; such as, Special Educ., Counselors, and Nurses

The VDOE has launched it's Virginia Licensure Online System (VALO) to help with the teacher licensure process and make renewals more user-friendly.

Professional Leave Directions

Requesting leave to attend a conference/PD event

Recording independent professional development in Vector Solutions

Guideline for entering leave in Frontline

Paid Opportunities



VDOE Scholarship Opportunity



Are you currently attending a Virginia accredited college or university to be a teacher or school counselor? You could be eligible for \$15,000 for the Spring semester.

Act fast- the deadline to be nominated and apply is January 19th! Reach out to Kelly Purdie to find out more!



CHOICE CoP Facilitator

Receive \$2000 for PD of your choice! Virginia Ed Strategies is currently seeking energetic, driven individuals to serve as CHOICE Community of Practice Facilitators. To be considered, candidates must have considerable knowledge and experience teaching HS math, science, computer science, or CTE courses in Virginia, supporting the growth of high school teachers, and effectively using both learning management systems and virtual meeting technologies.

- Want more info? Visit the [CHOICE program overview page](#)!
- Want to apply? Fill out [this application form](#)!



Continuing Education & Opportunities

→ **Canvas Training**

Educators can participate in training sessions each week via Canvas's Training Services Portal. To find any of the sessions listed below, first make sure you are logged into your Canvas account for your local school division. Click the Help button and select Training Services Portal. Select the Live Training Calendar to register. Upcoming 4 p.m. sessions include:
12/14: Course Communication Tools
12/18: Home Pages
12/19: Integrating Canvas and Google
12/20: Templates and Blueprints for Canvas Admins

→ **VCTM Annual Conference**

The Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics will host their annual conference "Math Adventures" to be held June, 17-18 in Williamsburg. Those interested in sharing their expertise with colleagues from across the Commonwealth should submit proposals by November 4. Early bird registration is open until March 1. Conference updates will be posted on the [VCTM](#) webpage.

→ **Technology Credentials**

Four credential opportunities are available, with two tracks for teachers and other education personnel and two tracks for technology/infrastructure personnel. Each will include a series of webinars and a brief online course. Participants who successfully complete a track will earn a certificate and digital badge worth five hours of professional learning. [Register](#) for the webinar series.

→ **Blueprints for Better Blending Conference**

Virtual Virginia and VSTE are gearing up for our fourth annual free, one-day (February 17th) Blended Learning Conference for public school educators nationwide. With topics in both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, "Blueprints for Better Blending" will highlight some of the amazing things teachers and leaders are doing to improve instruction. Presentation proposals are currently being accepted for the conference. Visit the [website](#) for more details about the conference and to submit a presentation proposal.

→ **CodeVA**

Check out the fall PD offered by Code Virginia. [These free courses](#) are excellent ways to build your toolbox for all things computer science. CodeVA also shares all of their materials. You can view it all online in [their Google Drive](#) (open access is already granted!)

→ **Virtual Virginia's Prof. Learning Program**

Get empowered to explore new instructional practices and the flexibility to achieve more - all at your own pace. Virtual Virginia offers online professional learning opportunities for all VA public School educators at no cost.

Check out [their website](#) and select from dozens of options!



Virginia College & University Programs

→ **James Madison University**

James Madison University is accepting applications for a fully online M.Ed. in Literacy Education that leads to Reading Specialist Endorsement. [Apply](#) or visit the [Literacy Program website](#) for more information. Contact [Dr. Mark Lewis](#) with questions.

→ **Longwood Programs**

Provisionally licensed teachers and teachers seeking recertification points – Longwood offers a variety of online [courses](#) for licensure requirements and professional development. Available courses include Foundations of Education, Classroom and Behavior Management, Reading and Writing Instruction in the Content Areas, Human Growth and Development, and more!

→ **Marymount University**

Marymount University's School of Education [online](#) Special Education Certificate program is designed for individuals who are passionate about working with students with disabilities and want to gain the skills to succeed. As a Program graduate, you will be well-prepared to work with students with disabilities in various settings. For more information contact [Dr. Nicci T. Dowd](#).

Also available is a fully online and asynchronous M.Ed. in Administration and Supervision. Contact [Dr. Marcia Baldanza](#) for more information.

→ **William & Mary Special Education Programs**

William & Mary is offering a 25% discount for those interested in obtaining a Special Education certificate (K-6 & 6-12) and/or Master in Education in Special Education. Questions? Get course descriptions from Kelly Purdie or Heather Worthen or reach out to W&M directly by contacting Dot Osborne at dsosbo@wm.edu

→ **University of Lynchburg**

The University of Lynchburg is offering VDOE approved asynchronous online programs in:

- SpEd General Curriculum
- SpEd Adapted Curriculum
- Early Childhood Special Education

Interested? Reach out to Andrew Bruce, department chair of Special Education bruce.aa@lynchburg.edu

→ **Shenandoah University**

Shenandoah University now offers a synchronous Master of Science in Education Administration and Professional Studies Certificate in Administration & Supervision program. Take the next step in your educational career and register now for a virtual information session! [Next session](#) is January 25 at 6 p.m.



Professional Articles



5 Strategies to Build Family Engagement

Family involvement in students' education has been consistently demonstrated to have a positive impact on student attendance, grades, behavior and social skills. In increasingly diverse communities, building school and classroom environments...



Considering Student Needs for Assistive Technology

To assist IEP teams with considering student needs for assistive technology (AT), the Virginia Assistive Technology, Tools, and Strategies (VATTS) Consideration Guide and Resources is now available. These resources will help IEP teams increase consistency and comprehensiveness...



Cultivating an Integrated System of Support for Behavior: A 5-Article Series

We've spent the last month creating a five-article series that focuses on supporting student behavior, which begins with teachers co-creating positive classroom communities for learning where all students experience a sense of belonging and family engagement...



Math News You Can Use

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! A new school year means updates are available in the area of mathematics. Below are a few that are noteworthy. ****NEW**** 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning were approved by the Virginia Board of Education...



Testing vs. Teaching Questions

Reading a book with your class should be an engaging and immersive experience. One storybook strategy we often draw attention to is questioning, since it is something that should occur before, during and after reading activities. Traditional questions are often aimed at...



Try These VESOL Lesson Plans that Promote Cross-Content Instruction

If you use the Virginia Essentialized Standards of Learning (VESOL) in your daily instruction, then it is likely that you are tasked with teaching multiple content areas to your class. Perhaps you are responsible for teaching Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies...

