The purpose of this email is to invite school divisions to participate in the Virginia Department of Education’s Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports (VTSS) Exploration and Installation series. This unique opportunity is open to all interested divisions not currently participating in a VTSS cohort.

The Exploration and Installation (E and I) series will be offered as an in-person series and as a self-paced virtual series. Outcomes of the E and I series includes developing a conceptual understanding of the VTSS framework, exploring critical components of VTSS implementation, and applying essential features of implementation to your school division.

The in-person events for the E and I series will be offered on February 20, 2020, March 19, 2020, and April 22, 2020, at the Holiday Inn-University Area in Charlottesville, Virginia. Lunch will be provided on training days, mileage will be reimbursed, and lodging will be provided. Limited space is available for the in-person opportunity and registration will take place on a first come, first served basis. In addition to attending the series, those divisions that participate in the in-person series will be assigned a systems coach to provide support during the exploration period. Upon completion of this series, school divisions will be ready to move forward with VTSS implementation and apply for participation in the 2020 VTSS cohort. The VTSS Exploration and Installation in-person registration site can be accessed by using the password vtssric.

The self-paced virtual E and I series will be available at the VTSS New Cohort Information webpage. The self-paced series guides school divisions through the exploration phase of VTSS. Upon completion of this four-session series, school divisions will be ready to move forward with VTSS implementation and apply for participation in the 2020 VTSS Cohort.

Participation in a VTSS Cohort requires completion of the Exploration and Installation series (in-person or self-paced virtual). The VTSS is a data-driven, decision-making framework for establishing the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional supports needed for a school to be an effective learning environment for all students. It includes strategies and tools for meaningful family and community engagement. We invite you to visit the VTSS Website to find out more about our mission, goals, and progress.

Participation in a VTSS cohort affords school divisions:

- An individualized VTSS implementation and professional development plan created in collaboration with each division leadership team;
- A minimum of four statewide/regional professional learning events per year for division leadership teams and school based teams;
- On-site technical assistance provided by assigned VTSS coaches (minimum one on-site visit per month);
- Systems coaching training (36 hours) for division leaders;
- Access to web-based professional learning modules and training; and
- Access to funding to support your implementation efforts.

For additional information and guidance on the formation of your team, please visit the VTSS New Cohort Information webpage.

In order to participate in the in-person or self-paced E and I series, you are required to complete the Statement of Commitment found on the VTSS New Cohort Information website. This statement outlines successful engagement in the process of exploring VTSS implementation in your division. All Statements of Commitment must be postmarked or received electronically no later than February 3, 2020. If you have questions or require further clarification, please contact Michael Gregory, VTSS Specialist, by email at Michael.Gregory@doe.virginia.gov, or by telephone at (804) 225-4543.