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Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUPERINTENDENT'S EMAIL

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TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUPT'S EMAIL: 2020-2021 Co-Teaching Demonstration Sites

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) announces the selection of eleven new demonstration classrooms as part of the "Excellence in Co-Teaching Initiative." The Excellence in Co-Teaching Initiative is designed to increase the participation of students with disabilities in the general education classroom and provide effective instruction to give students access to the general curriculum. The new demonstration sites are:

- Region 1 Powhatan County – Flat Rock Elementary (Third Grade – all subjects)
- Region 1 Richmond City – Armstrong High (Earth Science)
- Region 2 Norfolk City – Easton Preschool (Pre-Kindergarten)
- Region 4 Loudoun County – Harmony Middle (Math 7)
- Region 5 Waynesboro County – Wenonah Elementary (Second Grade Reading)
- Region 6 Henry County – Laurel Park Middle (Math 7)
- Region 6 Roanoke County – Northside Middle (Math 8)
- Region 8 Cumberland County – Cumberland Elementary (Fourth Grade Reading)
- Region 8 Cumberland County – Cumberland Middle (English 6)
- Region 8 Lunenburg County – Lunenburg Middle (Reading 6)
- Region 8 Prince Edward County – Prince Edward Middle (English 6)

These demonstration sites reflect the diversity of Virginia schools, and the teams are busy co-planning, co-instructing, and co-assessing in face-to-face, virtual, and hybrid situations. Some have YouTube videos available for others to observe. Due to coronavirus restrictions, on-site classroom observations will not be available this year. However, the teams will be creating professional development resources that will be posted with the online trainings of the [Real Co-Teachers of Virginia](#) on TTAC Online. Currently, the Real Co-Teachers of Virginia demonstration videos and resources are among the most popular trainings on the website, with more than 55,000 unique page views over the last five years. Certificates are offered for webshop completion. The latest webshop resource, [Chalk It Up to Experience! Tips from Real Co-Teachers of Virginia \(August 2020\)](#) shares practical advice for effective co-teaching and practices critical to establishing strong collaborative relationships. In addition, the demonstration

site co-teachers will be glad to communicate with your co-teaching teams and share ideas and resources.

For virtual interaction with a demonstration site, contact your regional [Training and Technical Assistance Center](#) (TTAC). For additional information, Dr. Teresa Lee, Specialist, Office of Special Education Instructional Services, may be contacted by email at Teresa.Lee@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 371-8283.