Lend your Voice—Influence Changes!

There are lots of new items on the horizon for education and Secondary English. Make sure you have a voice in what is going on in your content:

County PGEP changes:

All meetings will take place from 4:15-5:15 p.m.

*April 30, 2012 - Fairfield District – Henrico HS Library

*May 14, 2012 - Brookland District - Hermitage HS Library May 16, 2012 - Tuckahoe District – Freeman HS Library

*May 21, 2012 - Three Chopt District – Deep Run HS Library

*May 23, 2012 - Varina District – Highland Springs HS Library

Pacing/Honors Curriculum Updates

*Need experienced middle and high school teachers (especially honors/AP)

*Dates: April 18 (4:30-6:30 p.m.), June 27, 28, July 2 (8:30-12:30)

*Teacher input and training day: July 3

Remember—You can not complain about things when your were given the opportunity to influence the outcome!

Reading Curriculum Development

*Need members who originally developed Teens Read and teachers who are familiar with and interested in structuring the resources

*Dates: May 16 (4:00-6:00 p.m.), July 9, July 10

*Teacher input and training day: August 6

English 6 and 12 Digital Mapping

*Need teachers who have taught the courses for several years

*Dates: May 30 (4:30-6:30 p.m.), July 11, July 12

*Teacher input and training day: August 7, 8

SOL Prep Sites to Investigate this Nine-Weeks

♦ You can print news stories and multiple choice items from the Achieve program or put them in School Space for all students: http://login.achieve3000.com/.

♦ Check out the Strategies for Reading Non-fiction exercises on SAS. Students can choose one of the passages in the program or you can put in your own. It is all short answer—not multiple choice—but the exercise teaches students to slow down and think about the reading: http://www.sascurriculumpathways.com/portal/Launch?id=1265

♦ If you just want them to get test practice—not reading comprehension, you can always use the released tests in I Q Poquoson : http://www.iq.poquoson.org/languagearts.htm

♦ You can also use the English Maven site (it is for lower levels, but you can pick some of the low or high advanced passages to get students just used to going back to the text to answer questions: http://www.englishmaven.org/Pages/Reading%20Comprehension.htm

Engaging English

Start Preparing Now for Next Year's SOL!

"Teachers must become facilitators in their classrooms because when students ask questions and find the answers for themselves, they get involved in their own learning."

In spring 2012, the Standards of Learning (SOL) reading tests will contain field test items that assess the 2010 *Reading SOL,* and beginning in the 2012-2013 academic year, the tests will assess the full implementation of the 2010 *Reading SOL.* In order to support student preparation for test questions that assess the new SOL, a set of practice items delivered via electronic Practice Assessment Tools (ePAT) has been developed for each reading test.

Each ePAT (grades 3-8 and end-of-course (EOC) Reading) will consist of 6-10 practice test questions. These practice questions will provide students an opportunity to become familiar with the types of test questions that will be administered to assess the 2010 *Reading SOL.* A *Reading Practice Item Guide*, which may be used by teachers or other adults to guide students through the practice items, has been developed for each ePAT. While the use of the guide with the

ePAT is not required, it is strongly encouraged, as it will help to ensure that students are familiar with the types of items they may encounter.

Some of the items field-tested in spring 2012 on the grades 3-8 and EOC reading online assessments will be "technology-enhanced." These items will not be multiple-choice and will require students to indicate their answers in other ways. The ePAT for these grade levels will include questions that allow students opportunities to practice answering these technology-enhanced items. The Technology Enhanced Practice Items (TEI) for all the reading test have been posted and are available at: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/practice_items/index.shtml
Students should be given practice with these items.

Please note that the practice items are samples only. They do not cover all

We have had the standards for two years, now let's use the resources as we plan for 2013.

reading content for the grade level or course, nor do they provide examples of all item types of functionality that may be found in the field test items.

Should you have any questions, please contact the student assessment staff by e-mail at Student_Assessmen@doe.virginia.gov or by phone at (804) 225-2102.

Important English Dates

April 18 (4:30-6:30 p.m.)	Pacing/Honors Curriculum Updates /Mapping
April 23-May	NWEA/MAPs Testing Window
May 16 (4:00-6:00 p.m.)	Reading Curriculum Development
May 30 (4:30-6:30 p.m.)	English 6 and 12 Digital Mapping
May 1	Achieve Post-test window begins
May 10 (8 a.m.)	AP Literature and Composition Exam
May 16 (8 a.m.)	AP Language and Composition Exam
May 7-June 8	SOL Testing Window
June 25-26	Achieve Data Meetings with Principals