



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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December 17, 2009

The Honorable John A. Cosgrove Virginia House of Delegates P.O. Box 15483 Chesapeake, Virginia 23328

Dear Delegate Cosgrove:

In response to House Joint Resolutions 651 and 652, the Department of Education surveyed school divisions asking for information about Project Lead the Way programs in high schools and about the use of existing intervention, remediation, and at-risk funding to hire K-8 mathematics specialists to enhance student achievement. The summary enclosed with this letter provides information on the questions asked in the survey about these two resolutions and on the school division responses to these questions.

Eighty-five school divisions responded to the survey administered this summer. Currently, 14 percent of the responding school divisions are participating in Project Lead the Way, with 40 percent of the responding school divisions planning to participate in the program over the next three years.

Currently, 44 percent of the responding school divisions reported employing mathematics specialists for K-8 students needing additional assistance in mathematics. These positions are funded through existing intervention, remediation, and at-risk funds as well as other federal, state, and local funds.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Michelle M. Vucci, director of policy, at (804) 371-0558 or <u>Michelle.Vucci@doe.virginia.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

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Patricia I. Wright

PIW/MMV/jcj Enclosure

Data Collection - General Assembly Reporting Requirements (Resolutions)

<u>Introduction</u>: The 2009 General Assembly passed <u>HJR 651</u> requiring the Department to provide a progress report on the number of school divisions that are considering implementing a Project Lead the Way program and <u>HJR 652</u> requiring a progress report on the number of school divisions that are considering using existing intervention, remediation, and at-risk funding to employ K-8 mathematics specialists to improve the performance of low-achieving students.

1. <u>HJ651, Project Lead the Way</u>. Will your school division participate in this project for the 2009-2010 school year?

	Percent of All School Division Responses Received	
Yes	14%	
No	86%	

If no, does your school division plan to participate in this program at some point in the next three years (up to 2011-2012 school year)?

	Percent of All School Division Responses Received	
Yes	40%	
No	60%	

2. <u>HJ652, K-8 Mathematics Specialists.</u> Will your school division employ K-8 Mathematics Specialists for the 2009-2010 school year?

	Percent of All School Division Responses Received	
Yes	44%	
No	56%	

If yes, how will these positions be funded?

	Percent of Responding School Divisions That Employ Mathematics Specialists
State funding from existing intervention,	
remediation, and at-risk funding	18%
Other State Funds	12%
Federal Funds	25%
Local Funds	29%
Other	16%