

Guide to VDOE Website Design Elements

May 2014

The screenshot shows the VDOE website homepage. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'Virginia.gov', 'Agencies', and 'Governor'. The main header includes the Virginia Department of Education logo and a 'Text Size' selector. A left-hand navigation menu lists various topics such as 'VDOE Home', 'About VDOE', 'Board of Education', 'News', 'For Public Education Administrators', 'For Students & Parents', 'Education Directories', 'Standards of Learning (SOL) & Testing', 'Instruction', 'Special Education', 'Student & School Support', 'Teaching in Virginia', 'Federal Programs', 'Statistics & Reports', 'Information Management', and 'School Finance'. The main content area is titled 'VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ONLINE' and features several articles, including 'In the Classroom with Virginia's 2014 Teacher of the Year' and 'New Released SOL Test Items Available'. A 'NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS' section lists recent events. A 'DIVISION INNOVATION' section highlights 'CPS HEARTBEATS' at Chesapeake Public Schools. A right-hand sidebar contains 'Quick Links' to various resources and a 'Teacher Direct' link. The footer includes copyright information and links for 'View VDOE's Expenses', 'Staff Contacts', 'User Tips, Viewers & Hints', 'VDOE Webmaster', and 'Statement of Non-Discrimination'.

NAVIGATION TOOLS:

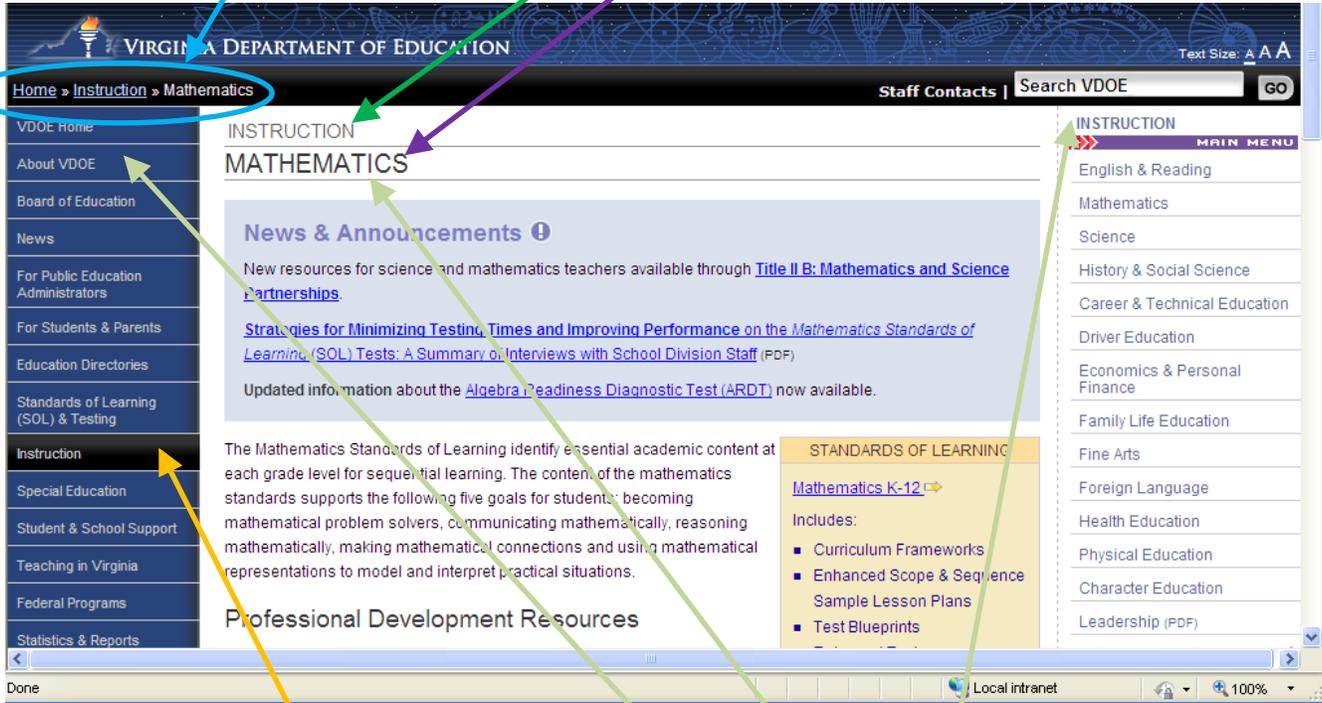
TOP-LEVEL/MAIN TOPICS — Everything on the VDOE website resides within one of these main topics. This menu is found on every webpage on the site.

QUICK LINKS — Rotating "quick links" to high interest content.

User Tips & Hints — A link is located at the bottom of every webpage for information about the design and where to find content more quickly.

NAVIGATION TOOLS:
BREADCRUMB MENU — From any page on the site, users can trace the topic path that led to the current page.

NAVIGATION TOOLS:
PAGE and SUBTOPIC TITLES — All webpages have a main title that is formatted the same way throughout the site



The topic currently in use is highlighted with a black background to provide visual context for users.

The titles of pages include links to the introductory page for the top-level/main topic that houses the page. These links are repeated at the top right-hand subtopic menu.

NAVIGATION TOOLS:
TOPIC MENU — Every top-level/main topic has a menu of subtopics.
Some subtopics have their own unique menus.

The screenshot shows the Virginia Department of Education website. The main content area is titled "SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR PARENTS". It includes a section "A Parent's Guide to Special Education" with a sub-section "Resolving Issues" and a "Resources" list. The right-hand side features a "SPECIAL EDUCATION" menu with various subtopics. Three colored circles highlight specific features: a purple circle around the top of the right-hand menu, a blue circle around the "Resources" section, and an orange circle around the "You May Also Be Interested In" section. Arrows point from these circles to a yellow box at the bottom.

- Right-hand menus include:**
- **Subtopics**
 - **Specific and important resources (blue background)**
 - **Links to related content residing in other sections of the site (beige background)**

NAVIGATION TOOLS:

SUBTOPIC MENU — This subtopic menu was created specifically for the Lessons from the Bay project. Even though it is part of the top-level/main topic of Instruction, as well as Science, it needs its own subtopic menu.

The Lessons from the Bay menu appears under links to the overarching top-level/main topic and subtopic as noted in the gray bars and matches the breadcrumbs.

The screenshot shows the Virginia Department of Education website. At the top, the navigation breadcrumb is "Home » Instruction » Science » Lessons from the Bay", which is circled in blue. Below this is a search bar and a "GO" button. On the left is a vertical menu with "Instruction" highlighted. On the right is a subtopic menu for "LESSONS FROM THE BAY", which is highlighted in yellow and contains links such as "Process Model", "About the Watershed: Instructional Framework", "Lesson Plans", "Project Action Guide", "Glossary of Wetland Terms", "Watershed Gallery of Images", "User Tips", and "Lessons from the Bay Site Map". The main content area is titled "SCIENCE LESSONS FROM THE BAY" and includes an "About this project" section with text and an image of a river landscape. At the bottom, there is a "Local intranet" browser indicator and a "100%" zoom level.

SEARCH BOXES — Each webpage includes a search box for information available on either the [Virginia Department of Education website](#) or on any of the many [Commonwealth of Virginia websites](#).

The screenshot shows the Virginia Department of Education website. At the top right, there is a search box labeled "Search Virginia.Gov" circled in purple. Below it, a smaller search box is circled in blue. On the right side, a vertical menu is visible, with a section titled "You May Also Be Interested In:" circled in green. This section contains links to "Standards of Learning (SOL)", "For Students & Parents", "Code of Virginia", "State records management - Library of Virginia", "VDOE Strategic Plan Full Report", and "VDOE Strategic Plan Report Menu". Below this menu, a link to "Information on this page is provided by the Office of Board Relations" is circled in green, with a sub-link to "Staff Contacts". The main content area displays the "BOARD OF EDUCATION" and "BOARD MEMBERS" section, featuring three members: Christian N. Braunlich, Winsome E. Sears, and Diane T. Atkinson. Each member's profile includes a photo, name, title, appointment and expiration dates, address, email, and a brief biography. A vertical navigation menu is on the left side of the page.

PAGE OWNERSHIP & CONTACT INFORMATION — This location on almost every page of the site is used to provide links for users to find out the division or office that is responsible for the content on the page, more about the division/office and a link to the staff directory.

Consistent placement of this information throughout the site assures users that they can quickly access appropriate department staff.

NAVIGATION TOOLS:

PAGE MENUS — When the content of a page is lengthy or contains a number of subheads, a menu just for the page available to aid users in quickly jumping down the page to the specific subhead.

The screenshot displays the Virginia Department of Education website. The main content area is titled "FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS" and features a "News & Announcements" section with a subhead "Don't Take a Vacation from Learning". Below this, a "ON THIS PAGE" menu is highlighted with a blue circle and an arrow pointing to the text above. The menu includes links for "Using this website", "Education Terminology", "School Enrollment", "Military Families", "Testing & SOL", "Special Education", "Graduation Requirements", "Student Records", and "Other Resources". The page also includes a sidebar with navigation links, a search bar, and contact information for the VDOE offices.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Home » For Students & Parents

Staff Contacts | Search VDOE

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MAIN MENU

News & Announcements

Don't Take a Vacation from Learning

To get a jump start on the next school year, encourage your child check out the resources available through [Virginia is for Lovers ... of Summer Learning](#). Discover fun activities and resources related to reading, mathematics, science and history that can involve the whole family. Download a PDF version of the Summer Learning [flyer](#) or [bookmark](#).

ON THIS PAGE

- Using this website
- Education Terminology
- School Enrollment
- Military Families
- Testing & SOL
- Special Education
- Graduation Requirements
- Student Records
- Other Resources

Using this website

- Tips & Hints on Using this website
- Virginia Department of Education and Education Directories – Contact information for VDOE, Virginia Public School Divisions and Public Schools
- Search this site by using the "Search VDOE" feature located at the top right of each page

Education Terminology

- Glossary of Terms Related to Public Education in Virginia (PDF)

School Enrollment

- Enrollment in Virginia Public Schools
- Virginia School Entrance Laws
- School Entrance Physical Exam Form (PDF) and Instructions (PDF)
- School readiness describes the capabilities of children, families, schools and communities that promote student success in kindergarten and beyond. Each component plays an essential role in the development of school readiness.

Information for Military Families

- Military Families

Testing, Standards of Learning (SOL) & Achievement

The Standards of Learning (SOL) for Virginia Public Schools describe student learning and achievement expectations in grades K-12 in English, mathematics, science, history/social science,

Learn more about the more rigorous mathematics SOLs and technology enhanced

Mailing Address:
PO Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218

Physical Address:
James Monroe Building
101 N. 14th Street
Richmond, VA 23219

[Map & directions to VDOE offices](#)

To report technical problems with this website, contact the VDOE [webmaster](#).

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Home » For Public Education Administrators

Staff Contacts | Search VDOE

VDOE Home
About VDOE
Board of Education
News
For Public Education Administrators
For Students & Parents
Education Directories
Standards of Learning (SOL) & Testing
Instruction
Special Education
Student & School Support
Teaching in Virginia
Federal Programs

FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS

News & Announcements

August 1 is the deadline for divisions to apply for planning grants of up to \$50 thousand for the establishment of year-round school programs. See [Year-Round Schools](#) for instructions and application.

Weekly memoranda from Superintendent of Public Instruction Patrick Wright are the means by which the Virginia Department of Education communicates official information to the commonwealth's school divisions. Superintendent's memoranda are posted on Fridays.

This Week's SUPERINTENDENT'S MEMOS

July 5, 2013

- MEMO #178-13
[2013 General Assembly Revisions to the Standards of Quality](#)
- MEMO #177-13
[Year-Round School Planning Grant Application and Instructions](#)

FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS

MAIN MENU

- Superintendent's Memos
- Principals' Memos

You May Also Be Interested In:

- Virginia Index of Performance Incentive Program
- 2012 General Assembly - Legislative Tracking Reports
- Board of Education Meetings
- Standards of Learning (SOL)
- Standards of Accreditation
- Technology in Education
- Instruction
- Testing & Accountability

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS —
When it is important for users to be made aware of new or updated information, deadlines or important requirements, a blue-background box alerts users and points to the related content.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT —
A green-shaded box is used when an announcement involves a professional development opportunity for educators.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Home » Student & School Support

Staff Contacts | Search VDOE

VDOE Home
About VDOE
Board of Education
News
For Public Education Administrators
For Students & Parents
Education Directories
Standards of Learning (SOL) & Testing
Instruction
Special Education
Student & School Support
Teaching in Virginia
Federal Programs

STUDENT & SCHOOL SUPPORT

Professional Development

Virginia e-Learning Backpack Initiative Summer Institute, August 12-13

To assist school divisions as they transition to tablet computers and digital content, VDOE will conduct a summer institute on August 12-13, 2013, at the Richmond Marriott Hotel to provide division personnel with information and strategies for successful implementation. This event is open to all school divisions. See elearningva.org for details.

VDOE and the commonwealth's public schools work in partnership to support and improve teaching and learning through a variety of programs and activities promoting the safety and well being of students. These efforts include:

- Improving instruction through effective reforms and best practices
- Promotion of wellness through good nutrition and physical activity and school-health programs
- Equipping children with knowledge and skills to make wise



STUDENT & SCHOOL SUPPORT

MAIN MENU

- School Counseling & Guidance
- School Improvement & Reform
- Student Assistance Programming
- Safety & Crisis Management
- Student Conduct & Discipline
- Prevention Strategies & Programs
- Health & Medical
- Student & Family Services
- Comprehensive Services Act for At Risk Youth & Families
- Facility Construction & Maintenance
- School Nutrition