

5 Things

You Need to Know! the Virginia Principal - May, 2020

Hey Jim,



The LEAD

I hope you are doing well during this time of uncertainty. Although we are navigating through uncharted waters, it is essential to remember that these difficult times will not last. This too shall pass! You are not alone. We are all feeling the pain. The silver lining to this strenuous situation is soon we will be back in our buildings, greeting our students and staff. More importantly, doing what we love to do, preparing the future to change the world.

Here are a few suggestions to ease discomfort. As we continue to lead our schools and take care of our families, don't forget to take care of yourself. You must make time to care of your well-being. Develop a schedule to ensure you are okay. Seek support from friends and family to assist you during this time of transition. Embark on new endeavors or hobbies. This is a perfect time to take a virtual cooking class or learn how to crochet. Enjoy virtual game night with friends via Zoom. Relationships and connections are more important now than ever before. Be patient and find ways to mediate and debunk stress. YouTube, Headspace, Calm.com are a few resources to provide you with handling stress.

Lastly, we cannot allow the pandemic to break our spirit and our love for children. No matter how dark things may seem, we must trust that the darkness will soon disappear. None of us can control what is currently happening, however, we can control our thoughts, actions, and motivations. We will rise above our current situation. "Sometimes, the Real Superheroes live in the hearts of small children fighting big battles."

Jamill R. Jones, Ed.D.
VAESP President-Elect
Principal, Churchland Elementary
Portsmouth Public Schools



Eventually, schools will reopen. Here's how principals can prepare!

Education DIVE

With schools across the country shuttered to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the academic year has been turned on its head. No one knows what the impact of the prolonged closures will be, but the data we do have isn't promising. Researchers from Cornell University studied the long-term effects of repeated school closures in Argentina during the 1980s and '90s. Students who lost an average of 88 days of classroom instruction went on to earn less in their 30s and 40s. They were more likely to be unemployed and less likely to be in a skilled profession. [READ MORE](#)



Calendar Check

Good morning! The virtual classroom presents many new challenges for teachers, families and educators.

Ensuring equity and access for all students has been even more at the forefront since the moment we knew schools were going virtual due to COVID-19. We've enlisted an expert panel next **Wednesday afternoon, May 13** to field your questions and give practical insights into some of the major challenges district and school-level educators are facing including (but not limited to):

- **Narrowing the digital divide in the virtual classroom**
- **Blended learning and the virtual classroom for the '20-'21 school year**
- **Asset-based vs. deficiency-oriented mindset**

When: **Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 2-3 PM EDT**

[Register Here](#)

About the Panel:

Kevin Taylor (M.EdA, M.A. Multicultural Instruction):

Currently serves as Director for the Pacific Charter Institute. Former high school English and Social Studies teacher, middle school principal (founding), high school principal, and

Assoc. Superintendent of Schools in Oakland USD, (CA) where he oversaw 17 high schools, and later served as Chief Academic Officer

Nicole Anderson (M.EdL): Former teacher and principal at Vallejo City USD (CA), and current educational equity expert and advisor to educators throughout California and the nation as founder and CEO of Nicole Anderson and Associates Consulting, LLC

Lauren Vargas (M.EdL): Former Philadelphia TOTY and current Director of Instructional Coaching at EdConnective

Will Morris (M.Ed): Former teacher in Chicago, research-practitioner, founder and CEO of EdConnective

Unable to join? Please [register](#) and we will share a recording after the session.

Branch Feagans, M.Ed, EdConnective

804.258.6675



You PD'D? Istation, a national leader in educational technology and longtime Corporate Partner of VAESP, has been serving the needs of school districts, charter schools, and students in all 50 states and several countries for over 20 years!

In this trying time, Istation is ready to expand services to all K-8 students in Virginia by offering free licenses for our home-based curriculum solution **until June 30**. Our programs are designed to adapt to individual learning differences and will allow students to work on instruction at their level and pace.

Home access for Istation in Reading (PK-8), Math (PK-5), and Spanish (PK-5) will readily support students, parents, and teachers on a single platform during school closures over the coming weeks and months.

- **For students:** Istation offers personalized, digital curriculum that Istation has customized to each students' needs and available on almost any home device. Additionally, students will have access to Ipractice, which offers hundreds of learning activities, including digital books, printable books, literacy and math games, and more. Students can access the home curriculum on PCs, Macs, laptops, or tablet devices, including Android tablets, iPads, and Amazon Fire Devices.
- **For parents:** Istation will provide access to its Parent Portal, which allows parents to monitor their children's progress and provides instructional activities and lessons tailored for parents that correlate to the skills that their children are currently working on. The Parent Portal; can be accessed on any device with a browser, such as a smartphone, tablet, or PC.
- **For teachers:** Istation offers the ability for teachers to assign instructional and practice activities to a whole class, small groups of students, or individuals. Also, teachers can monitor their students' progress remotely and guide assignments to fit emerging needs.

Operationally, Istation is well equipped to enroll districts and students in-home access to Istation's digital curriculum. Because of our history with multiple statewide implementations, Istation can register hundreds and roster millions of students in a very brief time. We would recommend using a two-pronged approach to enrollment:

For districts already using the Istation curriculum: Istation would activate the home subscription for all products (Reading, Math, and Spanish), and the very same login parameters would apply. Because Istation has district-, campus- and classroom-level data available for current subscribers, this activation and communication could quickly be accomplished, and activation would be near immediate.

For districts that are not currently using the Istation curriculum: Istation will work with your data and technology team to enroll students through a system upload or through your third-party Single-Sign-On provider to ensure all students access. Also, we would work to activate the parent login and student home-login information, so that the districts could quickly issue activation instructions to parents.

As your partner in education, we look forward to supporting you during this challenging time.

For more information, contact:

Chris Blevins, Senior Vice President - National Sales, Istation

Office: 214-572-4616

Cell: 972-533-0657

cblevins@istation.com

About Istation

Istation's award-winning, pre-K through 8 programs focus on the seven essentials for personalized learning; adaptive curriculum, formative assessments, personalized data profiles, customized professional development, teacher resources, home school connection, and proven results.

To preview Istation's product offerings (Reading, Math, Reading en Espanol), please use the link below to the e-brochures:

<http://info.istation.com/products>

CONFIDENTIALITY / PROPRIETARY NOTICE:

The information contained in this e-mail, including any attachment(s), is confidential information that may be privileged and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or if you received this message in error, then any direct or indirect disclosure, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify Istation by calling 866-

883-7323 immediately and by sending a return e-mail; delete this message; and destroy all copies, including attachments.



Community Chatter

To help keep you and your staff connected, Horace Mann is offering a

“Wednesday Webinar” series of no-cost virtual workshops over the next several weeks on topics important to educators. Topics will include student loan forgiveness, DonorsChoose funding, retirement planning and more. Plus, teachers who join a webinar will learn how to enter Horace Mann’s \$10,000 DonorsChoose sweepstakes!

<https://www.horacemann.com/webinars/>

Questions, Contact **Vickie Bertetto**, 217-788-8507



Our Corporate Partners



Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals | 1805 Chantilly Street, Richmond, VA 23230

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by vaesp1jim@gmail.com in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!