



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Terence R. McAuliffe
Governor

December 15, 2016

Dear Retired Teacher:

Thank you for your years of dedication to teaching Virginia's children and your service to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

I am contacting you regarding a state policy of which you may not be aware. According to the *Code of Virginia*, certain retired teachers who choose to work in school divisions with critical shortage areas may continue, if eligible, to receive their Virginia Retirement System (VRS) allowance while also receiving compensation from the school division. This law incentivizes knowledgeable and experienced educators like you to return to the classroom and teach in schools that desperately require your expertise, insight, and talents.

Since I took office, K-12 education has been one of my Administration's highest priorities. However, while we have made tremendous progress on behalf of the Commonwealth's students, areas like Petersburg continue to struggle with high teacher turnover and shortages. There are currently 22 teaching vacancies in Petersburg City Public Schools, in a variety of grades and subjects.

With this in mind, I am writing to ask you to consider returning to the classroom, specifically in Petersburg. The students and schools of Petersburg need exactly the kind of experience and expertise you have to offer as a veteran teacher. If you are interested in exploring this possibility please contact Shelley Bazemore, Director of Human Resources, in Petersburg City Public Schools at shbazemore@petersburg.k12.va.us or 804-732-0510. Ms. Bazemore will gladly discuss whether you are eligible to participate in this program and address any specific questions you may have.

Thank you again for your many years of teaching service, and your consideration of this request on behalf of the students of Petersburg.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terence R. McAuliffe".

Terence R. McAuliffe