

PRESS RELEASE

September 26, 2023

Contact: Robert Nomberg

Robert@virginialearns.org



VIRGINIA LEARNS EXPANDS HIGH-IMPACT TUTORING PROGRAM ACCELERATE VIRGINIA

Students from Fairfield Middle School in Henrico County will begin participating in Accelerate Virginia.

RICHMOND, VA – Today Virginia Learns announced that Fairfield Middle School in Henrico County will participate in its high-impact tutoring program *Accelerate Virginia*. Fairfield Middle School selected a group of students to receive tutoring in math with qualified tutors supported by Pearl’s tutoring platform. Tutors and students meet in person every other day throughout the first semester, and tutors will receive ongoing support through Deans for Impact.

“The latest Standards of Learning scores continue to make it abundantly clear that our Commonwealth’s students have experienced considerable setbacks in their learning progress. *Accelerate Virginia* offers a concrete, immediate opportunity to help Fairfield’s students develop the math skills and confidence they need to succeed in life. Virginia Learns is thrilled to partner with Fairfield Middle School to implement *Accelerate Virginia*, and we look forward to expanding this program in the future to reach more school divisions across the Commonwealth,” said **Robert Nomberg, president and CEO of Virginia Learns**.

“Fairfield Middle School is excited to participate in Virginia Learns’ high-impact tutoring program. Our students deserve the best resources available to assist in learning recovery and ensure they graduate life-ready. We are greatly looking forward to the progress they will make through their participation in *Accelerate Virginia*,” said **Gena Jones, Principal of Fairfield Middle School**.

“Deans for Impact exists to ensure every child in America is taught by a well-prepared teacher. We do this by redesigning learning opportunities for aspiring and early-career teachers. This is why we're so excited to partner with Virginia Learns to equip their *Accelerate Virginia* tutors with training resources that focus on instructional decision-making aligned to the practice experiences tutoring affords. This partnership holds promise for scaling and sustaining efforts to mobilize more aspiring teachers as tutors in Virginia,” said **Tracey Weinstein, Vice President of Program at Deans for Impact.**

“As a Richmond, Virginia-based company, Pearl is eager to support the work of a tutoring program located so close to home. Our platform was built by tutors for tutors, and we are confident that our tools will support the work of *Accelerate Virginia* and its partnership with Fairfield Middle School,” said **John Faila, Founder and CEO of Pearl.**

Virginia Learns is actively recruiting tutors to participate in its other public school partnerships, with a specific focus on college students who may pursue a future career in public education. Through *Accelerate Virginia*, tutors will gain a unique insight into the teaching profession and gain skillsets that will prepare them for a future in education. If you or someone you know is interested in participating, please visit virginialearns.org/acceleratevirginia to apply today.

About Virginia Learns

Virginia Learns is a nonpartisan nonprofit and statewide education operating foundation. Through aligned leadership, we inform and influence local and state decision-makers; amplify the voices of those most impacted by education policy decisions; and advance state and local partnerships that bring needed change and positive results. Virginia Learns is the only business group whose sole mission is to strengthen education. We accomplish this goal by creating a trusting and collaborative relationship with businesses, educators, and policymakers so we can create the workforce Virginia needs and set students up for success in school, work, and life. VirginiaLearns.org

###