



The Virginia Learner Equitable Access Platform (VA LEAP) is a statewide solution to managing and delivering high-quality curriculum, lessons and assessments to all divisions in Virginia. This system will serve as a central location or virtual hub where both teachers and students have access to a wide variety of instructional tools and resources. VA LEAP is also commonly referred to as a learning management system or LMS.

Today:

- Virtual Virginia creates, manages and delivers 81 high school credit-bearing courses.

What's to come:

- An increase to 90 high school credit-bearing courses in the 2020-2021 school year.
- An addition of 20 middle school courses available to all students who need Virtual Virginia as an educational option.
- Virtual Virginia is in the process of developing K-5 math, language arts, science, and social studies curricula for elementary teachers.

Access:

- While this free, robust curriculum repository is available to all teachers and students in Virginia, it is currently only able to be accessed by those students who are enrolled in the Virtual Virginia program or those who have access to a LMS.
- The majority of school divisions in Virginia do not have their own LMS and the divisions who have an LMS are not all using the same platform, making the distribution of curriculum developed through Virtual Virginia difficult.

Curriculum:

- A statewide system enables curriculum to be distributed easily to all school divisions for use by all students and teachers in Virginia.
- Evidence shows putting high-quality curriculum in the hands of teachers can have significant positive impacts on student achievement.
- Smaller, more rural divisions are teaching without access to high-quality curriculum, while other divisions are using curriculum not adequately aligned to state standards.
- A statewide LMS allows high-quality curriculum to be shared with school divisions who are currently without the necessary curricula to narrow achievement gaps and ensure all students are college and career ready.
- Leading the curriculum development will be school divisions with greater capacity to build quality content in addition to the quality content provided by Virtual Virginia.

Cost Savings:

- A statewide LMS will provide cost savings to school divisions already purchasing a LMS and over time will reduce the need for printed resources like textbooks.

Teacher Support:

- A statewide LMS would also support teacher collaboration.
- Teachers are finding more and more of their instructional materials online and through social media venues, such as, Facebook, Pinterest, or Teachers Pay Teachers. We are finding teachers are using these instructional materials in lieu of division provided texts.
- While teacher collaboration is encouraged, it is the role of the state to support teachers in finding high-quality materials.
- Moving to a statewide LMS will provide teachers with access to standards-based curricula while also encouraging the sharing and development of resources among teachers not confined to specific geographical boundaries.
- A statewide LMS will enable teachers to spend less time creating and curating curriculum and more time planning for instruction where individual learner pathways are created and easily monitored.

Tracking Progress:

- Student progress can be tracked through data monitoring tools provided by the system while also providing opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning using modern assessment tools (i.e. portfolios and performance assessments).



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A statewide LMS provides:

- **Equity**
 - Access to a free and vetted curriculum - regardless of instructional delivery method (online, blended, or face-to-face instruction)
 - Cost savings to localities
 - LMS would not have to be purchased locally
 - Reduce the need for printed resources including textbooks
- **Instructional Resources**
 - Ease in distribution - free and vetted curriculum content to all school divisions, teachers, and students
 - Ease in access - a statewide repository for all learning resources - from educational organizations, community and business partners, school divisions, teachers, and students
 - Opportunities for teacher collaboration - create, share, and improve instructional resources
 - Opportunities for individualized, differentiated learning opportunities and pathways for students
 - Opportunities for delivering modern assessments (i.e., performance assessments, portfolios)
- **Tools for Parental Involvement**
 - Ease in access to academic and achievement data - assignments, grades, and content for students and parents, anywhere and anytime
 - Ease in access to student academic records - records would follow students