



Office of the Superintendent

April 30, 2021

Dear SCPS Families and Staff,

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. The 4th quarter is now underway, and the end of the 2020-2021 school year is drawing near. It has been a very interesting year, and I want to thank everyone for their continued support and willingness to accept the changes we needed to make to provide instruction in a safe teaching and learning environment. I wish I could tell you that COVID-19 will be gone by August 2021, but that would most likely be wishful thinking. Hopefully, we all recognize that through our sacrifices and adapting to necessary change, we have been able to bring back more than 16,000 students into the classroom. These changes have also allowed us to continue with extracurricular activities. I am glad to also report that the first two weeks of our four day in-person schedule has been very successful.

As we prepare for a five-day instructional week for the upcoming school year, we know we will have to continue to make necessary changes to support instruction and health. In my May 28th letter we will discuss in greater detail the instructional schedule and model for the 2021-2022 school year.

Schedule Change June 7th and 8th

Due to primary elections, school buildings will be closed on Tuesday, June 8. SCPS will provide synchronous, face-to-face instruction on Monday, June 7. This will be an X-Day for students. On Tuesday, June 8, students will participate in asynchronous instruction at home. The remainder of the week of June 7 remains regular synchronous, face-to-face instruction.

Summer Learning Opportunities

[We are pleased to announce the The Great Learning Adventure.](#) This summer learning opportunity consists of design challenges focusing on specific Mathematics and English standards using dynamic, engaging, and hands-on learning experiences.

There is no cost to participate; students are provided transportation, breakfast, and lunch each day. Students may attend The Great Learning Adventure, however, they may travel to another school if it is not offered at their base school. Students will be invited to participate in either Session 1 or Session 2 based on need.

Enrollment begins May 14 and your child's principal will provide details for registration soon. If you would like your child to participate, please reach out to your principal. [For more information regarding elementary, middle, or high school level programs, please visit the Great Learning Adventure website.](#)

Students with disabilities who are participating in The Great Learning Adventure will have access to their accommodations as outlined in their IEP or 504 plan. Additionally, if students with disabilities require recovery services, they will be outlined in the child's IEP and special education staff will be utilized during The Great Learning Adventure to implement these services. If these recovery services go beyond the hours of The Great Learning Adventure, arrangements will be made for these students to receive these services.

Extended school year (ESY) services for students with an IEP who qualify will also take place from July 6-July 23, for four days per week, and four hours per day. Programs will be placed at buildings throughout the school division, please follow up with your child's case manager if you have any questions.

Chromebooks

If your child was assigned an SCPS Chromebook, it does not need to be returned over the summer break *unless your child is withdrawing or graduating from SCPS*. We will again provide online programs this summer like Lexia, Dreambox, Read180, and ALEKS for students and want to ensure everyone has continued access to these learning resources.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration is open for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents and guardians are encouraged to [register their children now using the Online Registration system](#). After completing the online portion of registration, you will still need to complete and provide some documents in person with the registering school. [A list of all documents required for enrollment is available on our website](#). We are excited to welcome our newest students this fall. Kindergarten is an exciting time and we want every child to come to school ready to learn and have fun.

COVID Protocol

Recently we have experienced outbreaks of COVID-19 among our students that are traced back to social gatherings. We must continue to take this virus seriously and continue screening ourselves for symptoms each day. Be aware that symptoms of this virus are similar to those of allergies or the common cold. Do not come to school if you have any of the following symptoms, even if you think they may be related to another health issue:

- fever greater than 100.4° F in the last 24 hours
- chills, cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing
- fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

Further, if you have been exposed to anyone waiting on the results from a COVID test, or have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive to COVID, do not come to school. **It is critical for the health of our students and our staff that you continue to screen yourself for these symptoms and any possible exposure before sending your child to school.** You must also continue wearing a mask while on school property and follow the appropriate physical distancing requirements. We continue to monitor the health mitigation guidance from the CDC and VDH along with the Governor's Executive Orders and we will continue to make necessary changes.

Teacher and Principal of the Year

The past few months we have been honoring our teachers of the year at each school during the school board meetings. We are remarkably fortunate to have a very passionate and professional teaching staff throughout the school division. [I invite you to watch our five-part video series recognizing all of our school-based teacher and principal of the year nominees on the SCPS YouTube channel](#). I am very pleased to announce that our division-wide teacher of the year is Ms. Nina Passmore of Rocky Run Elementary School and our Principal of the Year is Mrs. Keana Butler at Park Ridge Elementary School.

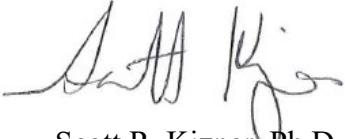
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Again, I want to thank all of you for your continued support. I want to especially thank all of the Stafford County Public Schools staff for their great work in preparing and implementing a four-day, on-site instructional week. Everyone have a great weekend and stay safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott R. Kizner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" and last name "Kizner" clearly distinguishable.

Scott R. Kizner, Ph.D.

Superintendent