



STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Office of the Superintendent

September 24, 2021

Dear SCPS Families and Staff,

It is hard to believe that we are already two months into the 2021-2022 school year. In just a few weeks, we will see the start of the holiday season. As a reminder, October 11 is a Professional Day for our staff. Students will not attend school or participate in asynchronous learning on this day.

We continue to make progress with our transportation challenges. Since July, 12 new drivers joined the SCPS team, 53 are in class, with another 72 offered letters of intent on Saturday. We continue to address this nationwide shortage with innovative ideas that maximize student instructional hours. Tuesday night, we will present more options for getting our students to school on time at the regularly scheduled School Board meeting. I applaud and thank our current drivers who are working tirelessly to transport our students. You do this every day with a positive attitude, ensuring our students start their day in good spirits.

We must remember that the pandemic is not over. Please remember to wear your mask while on school property, to include riding the bus. Wash your hands frequently and be sure to keep your children home if they appear ill. As a reminder, SCPS will offer voluntary COVID-19 vaccine clinics tomorrow at Stafford High School and October 2 at North Stafford High School for SCPS staff and families. [If you would like to be vaccinated at one of these clinics, please complete this registration form.](#) An SCPS staff member will reach out to you to confirm your attendance and provide further details.

SOL Test Results

The Virginia Department of Education recently released the annual Standards of Learning (SOL) test results and updated [School Quality Profile](#) reports. Because accreditation was waived for 2021-2022, SOL test data this year will serve as a tool to set a baseline for recovery and measure growth. SOL test results will help to make sure we know where students are in their learning right now so we can design a path to help them recover from the pandemic. The goal is for our schools to provide each child a unique plan to help them grow and recover from any unfinished learning. SOL results are just one of many data points that teachers and school leaders will use to support students' academic needs this year. If you have concerns regarding your child's academic progress, please contact your child's teacher to discuss a plan for his or her success.

Operation Warm

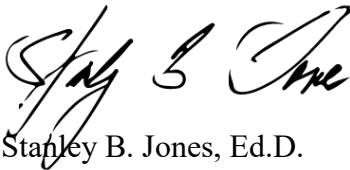
The school division is again partnering with Stafford County Fire & Rescue and the volunteer fire stations to conduct Operation Warm with the goal of providing 2,000 new winter coats to SCPS students in need. We understand that when students' physical needs are met, we are helping to minimize emotional distractions to learning. Parents who would like to request a coat for their child should reach out to the school counselor by Friday, October 1.

Panorama Survey

There are many good things happening in our schools, and we are excited to partner with you on your child's academic journey. As part of our commitment to your student's social-emotional development, we are currently completing the Panorama survey. Your student received a unique link to provide feedback, and we ask that you encourage your child to complete this survey by October 15.

As I visit our schools, I am continually inspired and encouraged by our staff and students. It is clear from my observations that our students are engaged and excited to be in school in person. Our faculty and staff are thrilled to be at work every day, tirelessly devoting their passion and energy to serve our community. Please join me in thanking all of our faculty and staff for their dedication, tenacity, and commitment. I encourage you to reach out and thank a teacher, bus driver, cafeteria worker, nurse, administrator, or any staff member who has positively impacted your family. Your support makes a big difference!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley B. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stanley B. Jones, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent