May 29, 2020

Dear Families and Staff,

I hope you enjoyed our final week of the 2019-2020 school year. Together, we have accomplished many things, and I hope each of you takes away positive, memorable experiences.

Our seniors are truly a class of firsts. I never thought that they would end their K-12 journey in a virtual classroom, and I share their disappointment that traditional senior activities were missed as a result of the coronavirus. I am impressed by the resilience and grace of our young men and women who have accepted and excelled under an ever-changing world. I believe their actions while responding to COVID-19 have given them skills for working through difficult situations that will benefit them for the rest of their lives. Tomorrow morning, I will email each graduating senior a special video message that expresses the courage this class has readily demonstrated. I applaud each of our seniors and wish them tremendous success in their future endeavors.

The school board and I hope to address the return to school for the 2020-2021 school year with you by the end of June, depending on any guidance provided by Governor Northam and our Recovery Taskforce. At this time, we are carefully considering many scenarios to build remote, face-to-face, hybrid, and phased models for returning to school. Rest assured, I am committed to being as work and family friendly as possible. I will let you know what we plan for returning to school as soon as possible, allowing you time to build a support system and develop a plan for your family.

The COVID-19 situation remains very fluid; changes are made on a near daily basis. To keep you as informed as possible, I will send at least biweekly communication with my next letter delivered on Friday, June 12, 2020. If additional communication is necessary, I will provide information sooner.

As a reminder, on June 8, 2020, SCPS will revise the "Grab and Go" meal schedule. Families may receive meals on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays during the month of June. Due to school construction at Widewater Elementary School, the curbside pickup program will relocate to Shirley C. Heim Middle School effective Monday, June 8, 2020. SCPS will evaluate summer meal service again in July 2020, based on federal and state guidance.

I encourage everyone to maintain active minds over summer break. Please continue visiting the At-Home Learning resources, and take the time to read a few books on the summer reading lists developed by our librarians. These books are accessible through our online eBook site.

I want to thank all of the Stafford County Public Schools staff for their amazing professionalism and passion throughout the 2019-2020 school year. This has been a learning year for all of us, but we know that the best organizations address adversity by rising above it and seeking ways to continuously improve. I will always remember the positive partnership among staff, parents, and students as one of the many reasons Stafford County Public Schools is one of the best school divisions. Thank you for everything you have done as a teacher, parent, or support provider for our children.

I wish all of you a safe and healthy summer break.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Kizner, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Inspire • Empower • Excel