

#SPSCreatesAchievers

School Board Meeting Thursday, November 9, 2023

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Suffolk Public Schools



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Good News Report

Communications & Community Engagement





Alumni Highlight: Where are they Now?

Nansemond River High School/PLTW Biomed Graduate

- Alysha Johnson, Sophomore, University of Virginia Double Major in Chemistry and Spanish
- Presented research on Alzheimer's Disease at the 12th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium at Vanderbilt Institute of Nanoscale Science and Engineering
- Actively working to improve diversity efforts in science;
 Recipient of the Advancing Science Grant for the National Organization for Professional Advanced Black Chemical Engineers and Chemists





Suffolk Public Schools Elementary Students Creatively Take A Stance Against Bullying



- Skylar Beckett 2nd Grade Elephant's Fork Elementary
- Zoe Booth 4th Grade Oakland Elementary
- Kayla Booth Pre-K Oakland Elementary
- Laila Watkins 3rd Grade Booker T. Washington Elementary



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King's Fork High School Recognizes Breast Cancer Awareness Month & Celebrates Breast Cancer Survivors



A special thank you goes to Ms. Shameka Council, a King's Fork High School teacher, the KFHS Watch D.O.G.S. Club, and the Suffolk Police Department for hosting the 5th annual Breast Cancer Survivor Ceremony at KFHS, celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness Month and breast cancer survivors in our community.

The Virginia Purple Star Designation is awarded to military-friendly schools that have demonstrated a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military.







Suffolk Public Schools Students Participate in the Amazon Future Engineers Robotics Camp



On Wednesday, Oct. 25, Amazon took its investment in computer science and STEM education to the next level with its Amazon Future Engineer (AFE) Robotics Camp. Amazon hosted local high school seniors from Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Hampton, York, Newport News, Portsmouth, and Norfolk at its robotics fulfillment center in Suffolk, ORF3. (Read more at suffolknewsherald.com)

Lakeland High School - Audrey Marie Howell
Nansemond River High School - Braedon Dennis
King's Fork High School - Ralph Anderson





John F. Kennedy Middle School Ceremonial Groundbreaking



Construction has officially begun on the new John F. Kennedy Middle School building. Doors are set to open in Fall 2026.



Athletic Wins

 Nansemond River High School Cheerleaders Advance to the State competition after winning the Region 5B Cheer Championship!

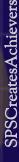




Athletic Wins

 Nansemond River High School Field Hockey Advance to the State Quarterfinals competition after winning the Region 5B Championship!



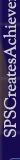




Athletic Wins

 Nansemond River High School Elijah Oliver is the winner of the 2023 Virginia Silver Gloves State Championship.





2023 Southeastern District Champions

- King's Fork High School Varsity Football Team (Undefeated 10-0 season)
- Nansemond River High School Varsity Field Hockey Team





Junior District Orchestra Members from Suffolk Public Schools

Junior District Orchestra *includes Portsmouth, Chesapeake and Isle of Wight*

Abigail Puentes, Director:

Lorelei McBrayer Col. Fred Cherry MS 7th grade Second Violin Alexander Nelson Col. Fred Cherry MS 7th grade Cello Imani Ferebee Col. Fred Cherry MS 7th grade Bass Ryan Ball Col. Fred Cherry MS 8th grade First Violin Ruby Joyner Col. Fred Cherry MS 8th grade Bass Melanie Fisher Col. Fred Cherry MS 8th grade Violin (alternate) Aleah Ward Col. Fred Cherry MS 8th grade Viola (alternate)



Chloe Rush Forest Glen MS 7th grade Second Violin Oliva Hickok Forest Glen MS 8th grade First Violin Aiden Knapp Forest Glen MS 8th grade Bass

Linda Hurwitz, Director:

Mackenzie Reynolds John Yeates MS 8th grade Second Violin





Virginia Music Educators (VMEA) Outstanding Administrator - Dr. Joleen Neighbours





Dr. Joseen Neighbours



- Angela Whitehead JYMS
- Jamie Hockaday CES
- Dr. Amanda Carmelitano KFHS
- Agither Jackson NSES
- Christy Fowler HES
- Jenifer Banks & Briana Overdiep OES
- Trenton Dusseau KFMS
- Kara Dorsey KFHS



Tencher Spotlight

Scott Dempski JYMS

Mr. Dempski, Mathematics Teacher, is committed to the ongoing enhancement of his teaching skills. He actively seeks ways to engage students in meaningful mathematical learning experiences. His leadership within the school is marked by a collaborative spirit and a dedication to push all students towards success in mathematics.

Angela Whitehead JYMS

Ms. Whitehead, Health and PE Teacher, is a deeply compassionate and nurturing educator who brightens her students' days with her caring approach. Her unwavering support extends to actively participating in various school activities, making her an invaluable asset to the school community.

Jamie Hockaday

Mrs. Hockaday, Music Teacher, has revitalize the talented music program at Creekside Elementary. Her dedication extends to helping high and middle school teachers and students prepare for district auditions. Mrs. Hockaday is a true team player, advocating for music division-wide and shining brightly at Creekside. Our heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Hockaday!

Dr. Amanda Carmelitano

Dr. Carmelitano, a distinguished educator and teacher leader in the King's Fork IB program, has taken on the role of sponsoring the Sister Cities Club this year. Her dedication is fostering global awareness and responsibility in her students. Thank you, Dr. Carmelitano, for your outstanding contributions

Agither Jackson NSES

In her first year at Suffolk Public Schools, Ms Jackson has proven to be an invaluable addition to the Early Childhood Special Education team. Her exceptional teamwork, dedication to nurturing young minds, and commitment to creating a safe, stimulating learning environment are truly inspiring, Ms. Jackson is a remarkable asset to the team.

Christy Fowler HES

Mrs. Fowler's diligent efforts to prioritize social studies instruction involve establishing dedicated PLCs for social studies planning and promoting data-driven teaching. Beyond her building, she contributes to the social studies curriculum development team and shared her expertise as a pre-service presenter. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Mrs. Fowler for her invaluable contributions.

Jenifer Banks & Briana Overdiep OES

Jenifer Banks and Briana Overdiep are a dynamic 5th-Grade Team that excels at fostering science discourse and gives students ample opportunities to explore and articulate scientific concepts. We commend these dedicated educators for empowering student voices to steer daily class discussions



Trenton Dusseau KFMS

Mr. Dusseau, CTE Teacher, brings an enthusiastic commitment to inspiring students with creative and innovative approaches to everyday decision-making. He provides students with opportunities to cultivate practical skills that can be applied in real-life situations. We are delighted to have him as a member of our CTE team.

Kara Dorsey KFHS

Ms. Dorsey, English Teacher, has cultivated a culture of collaboration in her classroom that fosters engaging discussions and respectful debates among students. We appreciate her dedication to not only teaching English standards but also guiding students in applying their knowledge to real-world contexts.







The College and Career Academy plans to use the grant money to fund new equipment and materials for CCAP, such as mannequins for the EMT program and special equipment for the EMT and Cosmetology courses.