

## Feature Story

Congratulations to 16 division employees who have been named winners of the Superintendent's Star Award for Second Semester 2017-18.

A recognition reception was held on Thursday, May 24. Judges consider initiative, school spirit, creativity, commitment, and attitude to recognize those who are making a real difference in the lives of students. A total of 16 staff members -- out of 72 nominees -- were selected as top honorees for the Star Award recognition.

### Division-Wide Instructional Staff Award:

#### **Dawn Rountree**

Technology Teacher at Nansemond River High School

Nominated by parent Cheryl Hendricks



### Division-Wide Support Staff Award:

#### **Jovannie Copeland**

Bus Driver at Pioneer Elementary School

Nominated by teacher Jill Gwaltney and posing here with some of her bus students.



### Additional Instructional Staff Honorees



- Jennifer Conner, assistant principal at Nansemond Parkway Elementary School
- Karen Jones, a guidance counselor at Kilby Shores Elementary
- Rena Long, a music teacher at Oakland Elementary School
- Stephanie Morris, a special education teacher at Driver Elementary School
- Carol Payton, an art teacher at Driver Elementary School

- Karen Perkerson, a special education coach at Lakeland High School
- Yvette Pierce, a special education teacher at John F. Kennedy Middle School
- Lugonda Vann, student services liaison at the College & Career Academy at Pruden
- Melissa Zawodny, a literacy teacher at King's Fork Middle & John Yeates Middle schools

## Additional Support Staff Honorees



- Keba Baldwin, director of transportation
- Custodial Staff at Oakland Elementary (Patricia Artis, Angelia Gilchrist, Donald Gilchrist, and Valerie Powell)
- Kendra Holloway, a secretary at Oakland Elementary
- Sheila Uzzle Parker, a bus driver at Oakland Elementary
- Holly Wulfkehle, a teacher assistant at Oakland Elementary

## Video Feature

**Superintendent's 2-Minute Drill ...** Hear the latest from Dr. Deran Whitney, superintendent of Suffolk Public Schools as he discusses the budget, school safety, the new Suffolk Public Schools app and upcoming graduations. Watch it [here!](https://goo.gl/rwTu9V) (<https://goo.gl/rwTu9V>)

## News

### Summer Food Service Program - Open Site

Suffolk Public Schools is participating in the Summer Food Service program. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided, at a first come, first serve basis, at the sites listed below. **All locations will be closed on July 4, 2018.** For more information, contact Food & Nutrition Services at 925-5789.

- **Beginning on June 25 to July 26, 2018, Monday through Thursday:** Breakfast-9:05-9:30 AM; Lunch- 10:40-11:55 a.m. at Mack Benn Jr. Elementary School, 1253 Nansemond Parkway, Suffolk
- **Beginning on June 25 to August 2, 2018, Monday through Thursday:** Breakfast-8:00-8:30 AM; Snack- 10:00-10:30 a.m. at John F. Kennedy Middle School, 2325 E. Washington St., Suffolk

*To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (AD-3027), found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

**Graduation 2018 on YouTube ...** Suffolk Public Schools is providing **LIVE VIDEO STREAMING** of this year's graduation ceremonies from the Ted Constant Center in Norfolk. Any mobile device or computer with Internet connection should

be able to view the live stream. At the time of the ceremony on Saturday, June 9, go to the [graduation page of our website](http://graduation.spsk12.net/) (<http://graduation.spsk12.net/>). For more information, contact Bethanne Bradshaw at 925-6752.

- **Graduation ceremonies for Lakeland High School** will be held at **9 a.m. Saturday, June 9** at the Ted Constant Convocation Center in Norfolk. This event is for ticketed guests only. Call the school at 925-5790 for more information.
- **Graduation ceremonies for King's Fork High School** will be held at **12 noon Saturday, June 9** at the Ted Constant Convocation Center in Norfolk. This event is for ticketed guests only. Call the school at 923-5240 for more information.
- **Graduation ceremonies for Nansemond River High School** will be held at **3 p.m. Saturday, June 9** at the Ted Constant Convocation Center in Norfolk. This event is for ticketed guests only. Call the school at 923-4101 for more information.

**Parents: Don't Wait Until September! State law requires all rising sixth-graders** to have a tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap) booster shot prior to entry into the sixth-grade. **The Department of Education has advised there will be no grace period allowing school attendance for students who have not obtained the Tdap immunization.** Your child will not be able to start classes until the Tdap shot is verified. Therefore, it is important that your child have this immunization prior to entering school in September. Please review your child's shot record. We ask you to obtain the immunization for your child as soon as possible from your family doctor or local health department and provide a doctor's statement to the school nurse. There is no fee for immunizations obtained at the health department. If your child has had the Tdap immunization within the last five years, he or she does not need to repeat it, but the school must be provided with proof of the immunization from your doctor or local health department. Please send verification information to school as soon as the immunization is obtained. This information will become a part of your child's health folder. As you review your child's immunization record, please keep in mind that this immunization may be listed as T, Td, Dtap and/or Tdap. If you have questions concerning the immunization, please call your doctor or local health department (514-4700).

**The 14th Annual Youngstarz Basketball Camp** will be held at Nansemond River High School Monday, July 2 through Thursday, July 5 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The camp is for boys and girls currently in grades 2-7 (entering grades 3-8 next school year). The mission of the camp is to teach the fundamental skills needed to play in a game of basketball as well as skills to make you a better student and a better person. Space is limited to 60 attendees. Cost is \$130 per child. Students can bring their lunch or buy lunch. Contact Coach Ed Young at Nansemond River High School at [edwardyoung@spsk12.net](mailto:edwardyoung@spsk12.net) for more information.

**Suffolk Public Schools will soon begin its summer office hours.** The school division will follow a four-day work week, from Monday, June 18 through Thursday, August 16. All buildings will be closed on Fridays. Office hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

**The 2018-2019 Student Transportation Form is available online NOW** for currently enrolled students. This form will allow the Transportation Department to properly plan by knowing who is and who is not riding the school bus and where your child will need to be picked up. To access the [2018-19 Transportation Request Form](#), please visit <https://goo.gl/DB7mm2>. Please complete one form per student at each individual school. If you have any questions or concerns, email [kebabaldwin@spsk12.net](mailto:kebabaldwin@spsk12.net) or [annettemclamb@spsk12.net](mailto:annettemclamb@spsk12.net).

**Early Start Pre-Screening Applications Now Available ...** The Early Start program is for children who turn 4 years old by September 30, 2018 and who need an extra year to prepare for success in kindergarten. Children must be Suffolk residents. Prescreening applications are available on the Suffolk Public Schools website and in each elementary school. Screenings for both child and parent will take place in June. This screening will allow school officials to select children according to their needs. Appointment cards will be mailed to the home address. Eligibility criteria includes but not limited to these factors: Family income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (or below 350% for students with special needs or disabilities), family homelessness, parents/guardians lack high school diploma, and/or language and development assessment of child. Because Early Start classes are not located in each elementary school, school placement will be determined based on Early Start zoning. Transportation is provided. For questions regarding this program, contact Tomika Doleman at (757) 925-6760.

## Mark Your Calendars

**Pioneer Elementary School will host a Donuts with Dads event** on Tuesday, May 29 at 8:30 a.m. This breakfast will be free of charge. Contact the school for more information at 925-5782.

**Northern Shores Elementary School will have STEM Night** at Northern Shores on **Friday, June 1** at 6 p.m. Discover the fun of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math through hands-on activities for the entire family. For more information, contact the school at 923-4169.

**Creekside Elementary School will host their end of year awards** ceremonies on the days and times listed below. For more information, contact the school at 923-4251.

- **June 11-** 2nd grade 10 a.m.
- **June 12-** 1st grade 10 a.m., Kindergarten 6:30 p.m.
- **June 13-** 4th grade 10 a.m., 5th grade 6:30 p.m.
- **June 14-** 3rd grade 10 a.m.

## Hands on Learning

**Second-graders at Pioneer Elementary School** recently enjoyed a day of hands-on STEM activities to review math lessons. First, the students made spaghetti towers in a competition to see who could build the tallest structure able to stand on its own for at least 10 seconds. Next, they discussed plane shapes versus three dimensional solids as they first built the plane shape then the solid shape using toothpicks (the edges) and marshmallows (the vertices). For more information, contact the school 925-5782.



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