

Facts at a Glance



Students

14,245
enrollment

(Sept. 2016)

18 schools

3 high

4 middle

11 elementary

74% graduates continue
to colleges and
technical schools

Advanced Studies
High School Courses **68**

87% on-time
graduation rate

47%

qualify for free /
reduced lunch

\$10,934
per pupil
expenditure

\$13.4 MILLION Scholarships earned by the Class of 2016

Black/African American: **56.6%**
White/Caucasian: **35%**
Multi-Ethnic: **5.8%** ... Asian: **1.8%**

3 high school specialty programs:
International Baccalaureate ...
Engineering ... Biomedical Sciences

2 to 1 student to
computer ratio

426 4-Year-Olds in Preschool Readiness
program

Partners-in-Education **106**

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9.4 Average years
of teaching experience

Starting salary **\$40,677**

\$137.1 MILLION
annual operating budget

844
Support Staff

Faculty

1,144 Licensed Professional Staff

Degrees earned beyond Bachelors

Masters **53%**

Certificate of
Advance Studies **3%**

Doctorate **1%**

Suffolk Public Schools

Recognizing Excellence

Suffolk students take a trip to Egypt ... Two Suffolk schools were among a limited number around the world piloting Google Expeditions, a new virtual reality platform offering immersive learning experiences to teachers and students. Suffolk schools were part of the first wave of



schools piloting the new learning tool in 2016. Wearing Google Cardboard 3-D viewers which hold cell phones, teachers guided students through 360-degree photo spheres for a virtual tour of

Egypt, among other destinations. Teachers used tablets to point out areas of interest on the tour. Like a “real world” field trip, teachers paced the experience and kept students learning and engaged.

Congratulations to 27 students from Suffolk Public Schools! The College Board recently announced its 2016 Advanced Placement (AP) Awards to 20 recent graduates and seven current seniors for their outstanding achievement on their Advanced Placement (AP) national exams. Since 2013, the number of Suffolk Public Schools’ students earning AP Scholar awards has increased by 33 percent.

Two Suffolk Teachers rise to the top ... Lakeland High School teacher India Meissel was elected vice president of National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) and is in line to become NCSS President in 2018-2019. Meissel currently serves on the board of the Virginia Council for Social Studies, whose mission is to provide leadership, service, and support for social studies educators. Oakland Elementary School’s physical education teacher Anne McCoy was named the Statewide Recreation Professional of the Year by the Virginia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (VAHPERD) for demonstrating excellence in her field.

John Yeates Middle School has been selected as one of 20 state-wide demonstration sites for the Virginia Department of Education’s Co-Teaching Initiative. As a demonstration site, the co-teaching partners will provide a model of best practices in a co-taught classroom. They will receive training and individualized technical assistance and support that represents more than \$10,000 in high-quality professional development, resources and teacher stipends.

School Selected for PBS KIDS Code-to-Learn After-School Camp ... What’s better than an afternoon snack in front of the television? For 20 students at Mack Benn, Jr. Elementary School, it was creating their own stories with their favorite PBS KIDS characters during Code-to-Learn After-School Camp. These first-, second- and third-graders served as “test pilots” for a new mobile app under development by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). “ScratchJr” is an introductory computer programming language that enables young children to create their own interactive stories and games.



Wolf Trap Institute for Early Childhood STEM Learning through the Arts provided a week-long school residency program at Booker T. Washington Elementary School. A visiting educator worked side-by-side with preschool teachers to lead a variety of integrated STEM+arts activities in the classroom. Based on classic children’s storybooks, students enjoyed acting like different characters, speaking the parts in different voices, and using their imaginations to act out the scenes in the story. The lessons reinforced basic math and science concepts, such as patterns, direction, size, shapes, speed, and sequences. As the children sang songs, acted out motions, or created art, they were learning to solve problems, work in teams, and understand different points of view.



Virginia’s First Lady kicked off the state’s Teacher Appreciation Week campaign at a Suffolk elementary school. The Virginia Lottery teamed up with Virginia Tourism Corporation and the Virginia PTA in support

of National Teacher Appreciation Week. The goal? To thank as many Virginia teachers as possible during a week which celebrates those who help shape the future of our children.

Five King’s Fork High School students competed in the 2016 Model NATO challenge at Virginia Wesleyan College. The role-playing exercise simulated real world issues faced by today’s North Atlantic Treaty (NATO) Alliance. A total of 28 Hampton Roads students served as “student diplomats” representing each NATO member nation. The Suffolk students represented the United States, Croatia, Hungary, Estonia, and Slovenia.