

GREAT THINGS

are happening in

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

92.7 percent of FCPS students from the class of 2015 graduated on time, exceeding the state average of 90.5 percent. Approximately 74 percent of graduates attend post-secondary programs.

FCPS students outperformed their peers in Virginia and the nation on the SAT in 2015 with an average score of 1669, compared to the Virginia average of 1523 and the national average of 1462.

A record number of **237 FCPS students** were named **National Merit Scholarship** semifinalists for 2016.

87 percent of FCPS students who took ACT tests last year are ready for college-level coursework in English composition - compared to 77 percent of students in Virginia and 64 percent of students nationwide.

76 percent of FCPS students who took ACT tests last year are ready for college-level coursework in mathematics compared to 58 percent in Virginia and 42 percent nationwide.

FCPS students continue to pass the Virginia SOL tests at rates that exceed those of students across Virginia. In 2015, FCPS students posted four point overall gains in reading and two point overall gains in math from the prior year, surpassing those for all student groups in Virginia by four to six points.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses teach students the technical applications of many occupations while preparing them for higher education or entry-level employment, including information technology, practical nursing, construction technology, and more. **In 2014, students earned more than 17,000 industry certifications and licenses.**



INSTRUCTION

An ESOL pilot program was established at Stuart and Lee High Schools to help ESOL students be successful as they learn to understand, speak, read and write English.

FCPS is one of only five school divisions in the country named as a **Center for Excellence on Cybersecurity.**

Recruited Genesys Works, a non-profit organization, to Fairfax County. Genesys Works will provide paid internships for high school seniors at Genesys Works' client companies.

FCPS conducted major studies in the area of mathematics and reading to improve practices and outcomes. As a result, the school system developed a new design for elementary mathematics curriculum that has been implemented this year.



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DIVISION INITIATIVES

Portrait of a Graduate was designed as a framework for all students to become: a communicator; collaborator; global citizen; creative and critical thinker; and a goal-directed and resilient individual. It serves as a foundation for the **FCPS Strategic Plan**.

Full day Mondays were implemented to provide dedicated planning time for teachers and a uniform length of elementary school day. As a result, students have an additional 20 minutes of instructional time and 20 minutes of daily recess.

The School Board approved later start times for high schools citing research from the American Academy of Pediatrics that said school schedules should be aligned with the biological sleep rhythms of adolescents in order to improve their mental and physical health, academic performance, and safety.

FCPS began using new engagement strategies in preparation for the FY 2017 budget. The Superintendent established a Budget Task Force, comprised of community and employee stakeholders, to advise her in development of the FY 2017 budget. FCPS also initiated the use of a new online budget tool that lets stakeholders provide their recommendations on how to balance the budget.

Crisis Text, a confidential text messaging tool, was launched in partnership with County Government, the Community Services Board, and CrisisLink to help students and parents who need help with mental health or depression. Text messages can be sent to 703-527-4077.

Reforms made to the student disciplinary process regulation resulted in an increase in the use of restorative discipline conferences as an alternative to suspensions, a reduction in the number of out-of-school suspensions in high schools, a reduction in the average number of days students were suspended from school pending completion of the disciplinary process, and fewer recommendations for expulsion.

Project Momentum was established as a new model for assisting schools that were not meeting accreditation standards. It provides proven instruction for school improvement, along with systems of support.

FACILITIES

FCPS has 146 ENERGY STAR certified schools, more than any other school system in the country.

FCPS received a federal grant to build another elementary school at Fort Belvoir. The expansion will enable all elementary school-aged children of Fort Belvoir families to attend Fort Belvoir Elementary School as their base school when the expansion opens in the fall of 2016.

FCPS opened its first vertical school at Bailey's Upper Elementary. The new school was converted from a five-story office building to provide enrollment relief for the severely overcrowded Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences.

FCPS has realized \$4.5 million in energy savings as a result of the Cenergistic energy conservation and management program, which began in February 2014.

Injury prevention programs instituted in FCPS athletic programs are producing positive results, with a visible decrease in the number of injuries (16 percent) and concussions (28 to 36 percent) reported by student athletes.