

SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT

NOVEMBER 2024



STAFFORD
MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



SSMA CELEBRATES UNITY DAY

The Stafford Stem Magnet Academy celebrated Unity Day on October 16th by wearing orange to send a visible message of building CommUNITY through kindness, acceptance, and inclusion to prevent bullying. Unity Day is celebrated in October with orange. It is a color that is associated with safety and visibility—a color described as warm and inviting and identifies with the autumn season.

For years, bullying was justified as, “Being a part of childhood,” or “Making kids tougher,” but the goal of Unity Day is to bring together youth, parents, educators, businesses, and community members across the nation to emphasize bullying is not acceptable—that all students deserve to be safe in school, online, and in the community. The event provides a catalyst for everyone to come together with a statement that our actions matter not only on one day, but every day. A student shared that he wished Unity Day could be every day. So that every day everyone would be nicer to him and each other.”

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

NOV 11

Board Meeting

NOV 21

Parent University Event

NOV 22

Early Dismissal (1/2 Flex Day)

NOV 25-29

Thanksgiving Break

DEC 9

Board Meeting

DEC 16-19

Finals Week (SMA/SMS/
SHS)

DEC 20

Early Dismissal (All Schools)

DEC 23-JAN 3

Winter Break



Congratulations to the best band in the land!

The Stafford Mighty Spartan Band made history by advancing to the UIL State Marching Contest! This is the first time this has happened in the school's history. **The band will perform at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 2 PM .**

They also competed at the Blinn Marching Festival where they won best 4A in prelims and advanced to finals where they won 1st place over the other bands! We are very proud of this accomplishment. Special thanks to all of the band directors and students! Way to go Spartans!



All Stafford MSD Schools are recruiting volunteers. Please contact your child's campus' front office for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTEND COLLEGE FAIR

Collaborative efforts with FBISD allowed our Stafford High School students, Juniors and Seniors, to attend the FBISD College Fair, exposing our students to one of the largest area College Fairs this season.

Students had first-hand access to college representatives from their safe, reach, and dream lists of colleges and universities as well as military branches. They also explored local community and state-wide scholarship opportunities.

It was wonderful to see parents join their children to attend the October 9th College Fair which took place at Marshall High School.



Families Helping Families will do food distribution November 23rd at the Stafford HS Stadium. The event brings over 400 volunteers from the area including the Houston Dynamo. Over 600 SMSD families eligible to receive food items.

Families Helping Families is a Non-Profit Organization created to provide food to families in need during the Thanksgiving holiday. FHF has delivered groceries to more than 3,800 families since 2013!



Stafford Elementary is helping our students make good decisions! Every month students attend the CHAMPS Store where parent volunteers along with school staff serve our student customers. The students earn champ bucks for showing good behavior and making good choices! These earned bucks buy them toys and favorite trinkets! Parents who wish to volunteer for these monthly events, please contact toni.williams@staffordmsd.org.



Stafford Elementary celebrated a Teacher Fall Appreciation Week the last week of October! Teaching has become a very demanding career and at Stafford Elementary we want to show our teachers love and appreciation for all they do!

Besides the treats provided through various sources and donations, our teachers enjoyed each other's camaraderie and the tokens of appreciation from many of their students.



THE STAFFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNUAL HISPANIC HERITAGE PROGRAM WAS A SUCCESS!

Mr. Zepeda and the Spanish Club made an outstanding show that included awesome performances filled with historical facts, poetry, a skit and a dance including the Macarena!



National Stem Day is November 8th

National STEM Day is set to be celebrated throughout SMSD for the third consecutive year!

This exciting event is dedicated to engaging students in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The primary objective of National STEM Day is to spark interest and enthusiasm among students for STEM subjects. By participating in hands-on activities, interactive workshops, and inspiring presentations, students have the opportunity to explore the vast and fascinating world of STEM.



Manuel Hinojosa
Board President



Ash Hamirani
Board Vice-President



Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste
Board Secretary



SMSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Joyce Wilkins
Trustee



Suzette Thompson
Trustee



Patricia Soza-Montelongo
Trustee



Adam Sanchez
Trustee

The SMSD Board of Trustees meets monthly on the second Monday in the Leonard Scarcella Administration Building. Meeting agendas, information about each agenda item and past meeting videos are linked to the district website at www.staffordmsd.org.

The Board consists of seven members elected by the City of Stafford community to serve for terms of three years each.



Greg Jerkins has returned to the Stafford MSD family as the new Director of Maintenance and Operations. When asked, “How does it feel to be back at Stafford MSD?”, Greg responded, “There’s NO place like home!” After serving 7 years as the Transportation Supervisor for Stafford MSD, he left in 2021 to pursue outside interests. Greg expresses he still feels right at home as he walks the SMSD complex. He takes great pleasure in greeting faculty and administrators that have remained on staff and also embraces the opportunity to become acquainted with some of the newer faces on campus.

As a graduate of Texas A&M University, Greg brings with him 27+ years of professional experience- with most of it being gained while working within Network Operations for several Telecommunications companies. His career shift was unscripted, but Greg has been able to leverage his previous engineering and management experience in a manner that has helped improve operational success within the arena of School Bus Transportation. He endeavors to continue this trend as he works to serve the district in his new role.

THE COMMUNITY CENTER IS NOW OPEN

We are thrilled to invite you to visit the brand new Stafford Community Center at 1625 Staffordshire Road! After months of hard work and dedication, we've transformed the former district administration building into a state-of-the-art facility designed for various events and activities.

See the incredible transformation firsthand and discover all the center offers. With modern meeting rooms in various sizes, a top-notch workout room with affordable memberships, and versatile spaces for any event, the Stafford Community Center is built with our community in mind. Whether

you're planning a baby shower, a small wedding, a birthday party, a training event, a craft show, or any special occasion, our flexible meeting rooms allow us to host multiple events simultaneously, ensuring your needs are met. Don't just take our word for it—bring your family and friends to celebrate this exciting milestone with us and explore all the possibilities!

For additional information, you may email smsdcommunitycentermanager@gmail.com or visit our website at www.staffordmsd.org/meet-stafford/stafford-msd-community-center.



Community Center Rooms

Room Rental Fees

Business Hours

ROOM RENTAL/HOUR - Monday through Thursday until 4:00 p.m. **TWO-HOUR MINIMUM REQUIRED**	
--Community Room 1 (21)	\$25/hr
--Community Room 2 (24)	\$25/hr
--Community Room 3 (40)	\$30/hr
--Community Room 4 (27)	\$25/hr
--Community Room 5 (75)	\$40/hr
All Five (5) Community Rooms* (187) *Four (4hr) Minimum	\$200/hr
FEES	
Cleaning Flat Fee	\$25
Non-Refundable Application Fee	\$25

Layout



Room Rental Fees

After Hours

ROOM RENTAL/HOUR - After 4:00 p.m. Weekdays, Friday, Saturday and Sunday **TWO HOUR MINIMUM REQUIRED**	
--Community Room 1 (21)	\$35/hr
--Community Room 2 (24)	\$35/hr
--Community Room 3 (40)	\$40/hr
--Community Room 4 (27)	\$35/hr
--Community Room 5 (75)	\$50/hr
All Five (5) Community Rooms* (187) *Four (4hr) Minimum	\$250/hr
FEES	
Cleaning Flat Fee	\$25
Non-Refundable Application Fee	\$25
On-Site Officer Security Fee	TBD

Room Rental Guidelines

- Rooms are available by reservation only. Hours of use to be approved by district with application approval based on staff and facility availability.
- Must be 25 or older to reserve and present during the entire rental period.
- Any changes to contract holder must be in writing.
- Event attendees can be any age. Contract holder must be present at all times.
- Children under the age of 16 must have adult supervision at all times.
- Community Center Members and Non-Profit Organizations receive a \$5/hr discount off posted rates.
- Community Center to remain open for Gym Members during regular business hours. Gym is not included in a full facility rental. Four (4) hour minimum rental.
- Security required for events after 4:00 p.m. Weekdays, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Fee contingent upon officer rates and will be reimbursed by contract holder.



CONTACT US:

✉ Reserve.SMSDCC@gmail.com



Stafford MSD Community Center

Mission Statement

The Stafford MSD Community Center will foster inclusive community participation by providing an environmentally sound facility for arts, education, recreation, celebration, and locally-based human services in order to increase opportunity for personal and collective growth in our community.



Hours of Operation

COMMON AREA & GYM	OPEN	CLOSE
Sunday	8:00am	3:00pm
Monday	CLOSED	
Tuesday	7:00am	8:00pm
Wednesday	7:00am	8:00pm
Thursday	7:00am	8:00pm
Friday	7:00am	8:00pm
Saturday	8:00am	6:00pm



Membership Fees

	Residents	Non-Residents	SMSD/City Employees	Seniors	Family (4)	Add'l Fam
Annual Membership Fee*	\$150	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$350	\$75
One-Time Application Fee	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	N/A
Day Pass (Gym Facilities)	\$8	\$10	\$8	\$5	N/A	N/A

Membership Guidelines

- Proof of age and residency/employment are required for each person at enrollment.
- Annual Fee charged with monthly bank draft.
- Membership Cards \$10; App use is free.
- Day passes are not available for those under the age of 18.
- Must be 16 or older to use the gym facilities and be accompanied by an adult.

*Community Center Membership is a one-year contract, then month-to-month. Cancellation prior to end of one-year contract must be paid in full. Cancellation must be made in writing with at least 30 days notice.

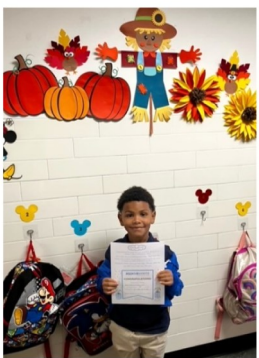


*Total Occupants = 222

RED RIBBON WEEK AT SMSD

Stafford MSD celebrated Red Ribbon Week the last week of October. The activities began with the Stafford Early Childhood Center students up to the Stafford High School students who also enjoyed parental engagement. Celebrating Red Ribbon Week with early childhood students helps instill the importance of making healthy, drug-free choices from a young age. By introducing these concepts early we set a foundation for lifelong awareness.

At the high school level, students were able to celebrate with a college programming spin. Students were able to dress up in their dream career field attire, put “a cap on drugs” by wearing their favorite cap, and were able to attend a UT Austin College Application Workshop where they could receive pizza and drinks while getting help with college plans. The event brought in parents to as the week ended with a Parent & Student College Application Workshop.



Congratulations to Kinder student Jai Finch-Sheen for being the first recipient of the **Nothing Bundt Cakes** Reading Reward Program at the **Stafford Early Childhood Center**.

Jai read over 400 minutes with his parents!



Kinder teachers, Johanna Chesser & LaToya Davis, collaborated with PreK3 teacher, Edrick Jackson, to coordinate a fun-filled STEM Challenge rotation for all students. Students had a blast with hands-on activities, including creating slime, building skeletons using Play-Doh and Q-tips, sparking creativity and curiosity in science.



Congratulations
to our Tennis Team
District Champions!



Stafford High and Stafford Elementary are partnering with **Big Brothers Big Sisters** this fall. The program will allow 10th and 11th grade students to mentor 3rd to 5th grades students. For more information please contact Ms. Prince at vprince@staffordmsd.org.



STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1633 STAFFORDSHIRE ROAD
STAFFORD, TEXAS 77477

WWW.STAFFORDMSD.ORG



FACEBOOK.COM/SMSD82

2024-2025

Open Enrollment

STEM MAGNET ACADEMY

STEM Magnet Academy enrollment opens
October 4, 2023

Scan QR code and Apply Today!



Parent University Conference 2024

Open to ALL Spartan parents and community members.

STRONGER CONNECTIONS

Join us for an evening of insightful information to help you on your parenting journey which will help foster stronger connections between parents, educators and the community.

- ✓ Enhancing Parental Engagement
- ✓ Empowering Parents with Knowledge
- ✓ Building a Stronger Parent-School Partnership

• SNACKS
• PRIZES
• GIVEAWAYS
• STUDENT PERFORMANCES

THURS
21
NOV
5:30-8:00 PM

Stafford Middle School
1424 Constitution Ave
Stafford, TX 77477



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.STAFFORDMSD.ORG