

SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT

JANUARY 2025



MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

JAN 6

Spring Semester Begins

JAN 13

Board Meeting

JAN 17

Early Dismissal

JAN 20

Martin Luther King Jr.
Day Holiday

FEB 7

Early Dismissal

FEB 10

Board Meeting

FEB 14

Early Dismissal

FEB 17

Presidents' Day Holiday

MAR 10-14

Spring Break



STAFFORD STUDENTS MEET NASA ASTRONAUT

Stafford Stem Magnet Academy and Stafford Middle School students were invited by the Houston Chapter of the Links, Incorporated to meet Dr. Jeanette Epps who is an astronaut and member of the NASA Space X Crew-8 Mission. The event was hosted at the new office of Commissioner Rodney Ellis in Harris County.

Students were able to meet Dr. Epps and learn about her experience in space. Dr. Epps served as a flight engineer aboard the orbiting laboratory for 8 months from March-October 2024. Students enjoyed the STEM career immersion experience.



SMSD Celebrates
School Board
Recognition Month!



STAFFORD
MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

January is Board Appreciation Month!

Join us in celebrating the dedication and hard work of our Stafford MSD Board of Trustees. These committed leaders work tirelessly to support our students, staff, and community, ensuring the success of every Spartan.

Stay tuned to our Facebook page ([FACEBOOK.COM/SMSD82](https://www.facebook.com/SMSD82)) for a featured board member throughout the month of January to read more about them. Thank you Board Members for all that you do to make a difference!

HAPPY
NEW YEAR!



W = Welcoming
E = Engaged

A = Accountable
R = Respectful
E = Excelling

One Team, One Mission

SMSD FAMILY FRIENDLY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

The Stafford MSD Family Friendly Schools Initiative is a vital program designed to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all families within our community. This initiative emphasizes the importance of both external and internal customer service, ensuring that every interaction within our schools and departments are positive, supportive, and responsive to the needs of students, parents, staff, and visitors alike.

By fostering a welcoming atmosphere, we make sure that parents and guardians feel involved and valued in their chil-

dren's education. Whether through clear communication, accessible resources, or responsive staff, our schools aim to build strong partnerships with the community.

The Family Friendly Schools Initiative is more than just good practice; it's a commitment to excellence in education. By prioritizing both external and internal customer service, Stafford MSD schools aim to create a nurturing environment where everyone feels valued and empowered. This ultimately leads to improved student outcomes, greater family involvement, and a stronger community.



ELK'S LODGE HOOP SHOOT

Our students at **Stafford Elementary** are both academically and athletically talented! We had quite a group of our students participate in the Elk's Lodge Hoop Shoot hosted at the **Stafford Early Childhood Center**! Thank you **Elk's Lodge** for always supporting our students!

Elk's Lodge Hoop Shoot - 2024

Way to Go Stafford Elementary Hoopers!



Stafford Elementary second graders made superb gains in their Reading scores and **Cycle Houston** generously donated bicycles to acknowledge these students' efforts. We are grateful to this wonderful organization for donating 180 bicycles and helmets. The grand give away happened on December 14th at 9 am. Our team of teachers and other volunteers made the distribution possible!



Thank you to the International Bible Church in Stafford for blessing our students with gift cards for Christmas!



The **Stafford High School Varsity Golf Boys** played their first tournament at Aldine FM Law. The boys placed 1st Place with **Angel Martinez** named Best of the Day. Spartan Boys and Girls Golf return to action in January.



Last Semester the **Stafford High School Varsity Golf Girls** played against 10 other schools at the Aldine FM Law Golf Tournament. The girls team finished in 1st Place with **Elisa Soto** and **Emilee Kim** as First Place overall.



Stafford Students competed in various academic UIL events including spelling, science, current events, social studies and journalism.

Jadyn Williams placed 1st Place in Ready Writing and 10th in Literary Criticism. **Michaela Buskirk** placed 3rd Place in Ready Writing. The Stafford Team placed 2nd in Social Studies with **Brennan Kelley** and **Randell Anderson** placing 8th overall.



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.

HOLIDAY ON THE PLAZA

The **Stafford MSD Holiday in the Plaza** event was a heartwarming success, with around 300 attendees coming together to celebrate the season! The event featured a unique holiday tree designed by **SMSD welding teacher Mr. Frank Allderete** and his students. Entertainment was provided by the elementary choir, led by **Mr. Misael Pineda**, and a beautiful solo by **Ms. Nikka Giddings**, both proud SMSD graduates, JROTC students led by **Maj. Patrick**, Stafford Middle and High school cheerleaders, and **Ms. Tanesha Plummer**, who provided face painting.

A special thanks to our valued partners and sponsors: **Vineyard Church**, **Starbucks** on Independence and Murphy Road, the **Suburban Houston-Fort Bend Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**, **The International Bible Church**, and the **Stafford Fire Department**—thank you for your contributions to making this a memorable event.





Celebrating another year with our
Head Start Partners!



SECC Academic Highlight showcasing
student work from Robotics projects
to seasons to community helpers.



Our children are recognized for
Outstanding Character



Students wrapped gifts to be
donated to **The Children's Hospital**

Stafford Early Childhood Center Winter Snapshots



Visit and Pictures with Santa



The Orthodox Church gifted a
generous monetary donation to PTO



Texas Council of Teachers of English
Language Arts selected our very own
Ms. Davis as Elem. Teacher of the Year



Our Annual Jingle Jam's theme was
"Holidays Around the World"



**BY
DEC
15TH**

SCHOLASTIC ESPORTS AWARDS



ADMIN OF YEAR



DR. LAKENYA PERRY-ALLEN

COACH OF THE YEAR

BEST JERSEY DESIGN

SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

STUDENT OF YEAR



Colt Berry
Stafford High



BRENNAN KELLEY



LEARN MORE AT **SCHOLASTICESPORTSAWARDS.com**



Congratulations!

Our awesome **Stafford High School E-Sports** team, led by **Coach Colt Berry**, has been nominated across five categories in the prestigious Scholastic E-Sports Awards! This nationally acclaimed event takes place each year and celebrates excellence and innovation in e-sports.

Scholastic Esports AWARDS

[illegible]**STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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