

SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT

MARCH 2025



SMSD CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Students at our SMSD campuses took the lead in honoring Black History Month with inspiring programs showcasing the contributions of Black Americans throughout history. **Stafford Elementary** celebrated by integrating Black History into social studies lessons with special materials throughout the month of February. Ms. Holmes, the SES school counselor, read Black History Facts daily via morning announcements. Additionally, a door decorating competition brought extra excitement, allowing students and staff to display their creativity. The Black History committee, led by Mr. Martin, titled the celebration “Our Story.” The month’s event concluded with a program that took attendees on a captivating journey through decades of music genres, historical figures, and key events. Students delivered speeches as historical figures, performed dances, and sang powerful songs. Teachers dressed in African attire, adding to the cultural richness of the event.

The programs through all SMSD campuses featured students of various nationalities and aimed to educate students about historical events from the 1900s while making connections to our present year, 2025. Campus foyers were decorated with student artwork, African country-colored fans, and historical figures posters. Students at **Stafford Middle School** were able to watch a play about 21st century black history and an inaugural performance by the Certified Spartan Steppas, acknowledging the history of stepping.



STEM MAGNET ACADEMY BECOMES NATIONALLY CERTIFIED!



We are thrilled to announce that **Stafford STEM Magnet Academy** has officially become a Nationally Certified STEM Campus! This incredible achievement is the result of a year-long journey, with six dedicated educators earning their National STEM Certification, reinforcing our commitment to innovation and excellence in STEM education. But that's not all—six outstanding students have been awarded academic letterman jackets for maintaining a 4.0 GPA! Their dedication and hard work exemplify the excellence we strive for every day.

Thanks to our STEM Director Dr. Lakenya Perry-Allen, Ms. Ginny Liang (Principal) and all the staff of SSMA for their leadership. Congratulations to our certified educators and high-achieving students—you make us Stafford Proud!

Ms. Ginny Liang Named Principal of the Year

Ms. Ginny Liang, Principal of Stafford STEM Magnet Academy (SSMA) has been named Region 4 Principal of the Year! Ms. Liang has led the school to an "A" accountability rating since its inception four years ago. Under her leadership, the SSMA currently ranks #2 in the Houston area and #4 in the state for high academic achievement (per Children at Risk Indicators). Ms. Liang's dedication to excellence has earned her this honor, proudly representing SMSD.



Congratulations Stafford STEM Magnet Academy!

We are thrilled to celebrate SSMA for being recognized by Children At Risk as a top-rated elementary and middle school! This honor reflects the dedication, innovation, and excellence of our STEM-focused curriculum and hardworking administration, who work tirelessly to provide students with hands-on, high-quality learning experiences. Thank you students, teachers, and families for your commitment. This is just the beginning to a brighter future of STEM at SMSD!



MARK YOUR calendar...

MAR 10-14	Spring Break	MAY 23	Early Dismissal
APR 14	Board Meeting	MAY 26	Memorial Day Holiday
APR 18	Good Friday Holiday	MAY 27-29	Finals/Early Dismissal (SHS, SMS, SMA)
MAY 9	Early Dismissal	MAY 30	Last Day of School/Early Dismissal
MAY 12	Board Meeting	MAY 31	Graduation Ceremony





SECC Kicks Off Rodeo Season with Texas Fun!

At **Stafford Early Childhood Center** we believe in making learning come alive, and what better way to do that than by kicking off Rodeo season with a week full of fun, hands-on learning, and unforgettable experiences! Students explored curriculum-aligned topics that connected to farm life, Texas history, and Black history, reinforcing classroom learning in the most engaging way. Representatives from the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo visited campus to teach students about Agventure, introducing them to the importance of agriculture in Texas. Students also had the opportunity to meet the rodeo's beloved cow, Miss Moo.

No Texas celebration would be complete without a little friendly competition! Our Chili Cook-Off had staff enjoying the flavors of the Lone Star State.

The highlight of the week was a special visit from the Beast Mode Trail Riders, who gave students their first-ever horseback rides! For many of our students, this was their first time seeing and interacting with horses up close, making it a memorable and educational experience tied to discussions on Texas Independence and Black cowboy history.

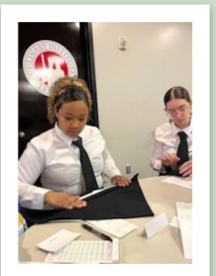
Stafford Early College & P-Tech High School Students Excel at SkillsUSA Competition



Students from **Stafford Early College and P-Tech High School** demonstrated exceptional skills and leadership at the recent SkillsUSA district competitions, bringing home multiple medals and qualifying for the upcoming state contest. The State Competition will take place April 2-5, 2025, in Corpus Christi—with winners advancing to the National Leadership and Skills Conference later this year.

Stafford Early College High School's SkillsUSA chapter, under the guidance of advisors: Mr. Alderete, Mr. Cruz, Ms. Green, Mr. Joseph, Mrs. MacCrimmon, Chef Martino and Chef Mora, Ms. Reyna, Mrs. Tims, Mr. Vivar and Ms. Wallace, saw remarkable success across various categories, showcasing the school's commitment to Career and Technical Education. ***This is the largest group of students to advance to state in the history of the district.***

"We are incredibly proud of our students' achievements," said Ms. Nordt, the Director of Stafford Early College and P-Tech High School. "Their success is a testament to their hard work, the dedication of our SkillsUSA advisors, and the quality of our career and technical education programs."





Manuel Hinojosa
Board President



Ash Hamirani
Board Vice-President



Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste
Board Secretary



SMSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Joyce Wilkins
Trustee



Suzette Thompson
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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.

STAFFORD EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER LEADERSHIP SHINES AT TABSE



The **SECC** leadership team had the honor of presenting at the 40th Texas Alliance of Black School Educators (TABSE) Conference in Galveston, TX. Their session, "Cultivating Partnerships," highlighted the power of collaboration. They proudly represented SECC and SMSD while also forging new partnerships that benefit students, parents and staff for years to come.

Beyond presenting, the conference was a time for celebration and recognition. They joined in honoring **Dr. Robert Bostic**, named **TABSE Superintendent of the Year**, a well-deserved recognition of his visionary leadership and commitment to educational excellence. Additionally, they witnessed a historic moment as **Dr. Dawn DuBose** was sworn in as **TABSE President-Elect**.

Adding to the excitement, Fox26 News reporter Damali Keith covered the event, moved by the impact and mission of TABSE in advocating for students and educators. Several SMSD staff members also serve on state committees, including Principal Hynes, A. Atkinson, C. Butler, T. Fondal, and K. Grant. TABSE provides a platform of influence, ensuring that educators can advocate and shape the future of education for all students.



MEET OUR CHIEF OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Dawn DuBose has been serving as SMSD Chief of Schools for the last 6 years and in education for 33 years. Her prior roles include Leadership Development Officer in Houston ISD, Principal, Regional Parent Assistance Manager, Asst. Principal, Counselor and Teacher. Currently, her role encompasses a broad range of responsibilities aimed at effective leadership and two-way communication with direct reports—District Principals, Athletics, Fine Arts, College & Career Programs, Technology, Extended Day, Counselors, and Health/Medical Services, School Nurses—for effective organizational standards. She works closely with district leadership to prioritize academic and student services. Another cornerstone of Dr. DuBose's leadership is fostering relationships with parents and community members. She regularly works with parents and stakeholders who have concerns, and ensures that principals and student service directors are part of the collaborative process to find solutions.



Additionally, Dr. DuBose collaborates with various city officials, including the police and fire department to ensure the district's emergency plans are comprehensive and up to date. Her focus on maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment extends to her chairing key committees such as the District Advisory Committee, School Health Advisory Committee, and the District-Wide Safety and Security Committee. She also spearheads such initiatives as: Family Friendly Schools, VIPs Recognition for volunteers and business partners, and the District-Wide Bowties and Pearls Empowerment Event for students. Dr. DuBose's leadership style emphasizes transparency, collaboration, and continuous improvement. Under Dr. DuBose's leadership, Stafford MSD is not only poised to meet the needs of its students and staff but is also building a strong foundation for future educational success and collaboration.

A flyer for SMSD Campus Tours. The top left features the Stafford Municipal School District logo. The main title 'SMSD CAMPUS TOURS' is in large, bold, white letters on a red background. Below the title are three circular images: a person working on a laptop, a person in a lab coat, and a person in a hard hat. The text 'Explore Our Campus!' is written in a script font. Below this, it says 'Join us for a guided tour of Stafford Municipal School District and experience our vibrant learning environment firsthand. See our innovative classrooms, meet our dedicated staff, and discover what makes our community special.' The date and time are 'Friday, March 28, 2025 9:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.' The location is 'Stafford Municipal School District 1633 Staffordshire, Stafford, TX 77477'. A red circular badge says 'Parent & Student Presentations, District Swag & Light Refreshments'. At the bottom, it says 'A Great Education STARTS HERE' next to a QR code and the text 'SCAN ME TO RSVP'.

STAFFORD
MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SMSD CAMPUS TOURS

Explore Our Campus!

Join us for a guided tour of Stafford Municipal School District and experience our vibrant learning environment firsthand. See our innovative classrooms, meet our dedicated staff, and discover what makes our community special.

**Friday, March 28, 2025
9:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.**

Stafford Municipal School District
1633 Staffordshire, Stafford, TX 77477

We can't wait to welcome you!

Parent & Student
Presentations,
District Swag
&
Light Refreshments

**A Great Education
STARTS HERE**

SCAN ME
TO RSVP

Book the Stafford Community Center!

Discover all the center offers—modern meeting rooms in various sizes and versatile spaces for any event. Whether you're planning a baby shower, a small wedding, a birthday party, or graduation, let's celebrate this exciting milestone and book with us today!

For room rental fees and more information email our center managers, **Adrian Herrera (Alumni)** and **Mrs. Moak (Retired SMSD teacher)** at smsdcommunitycentermanager@gmail.com or visit www.staffordmsd.org/meet-stafford/stafford-msd-community-center



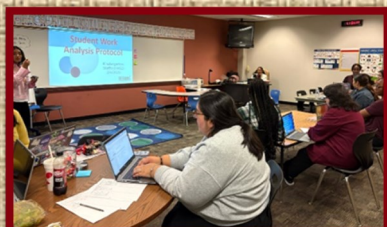
STAFFORD EARLY COLLEGE STUDENTS SHINE AT TAFE COMPETITIONS



Stafford MSD proudly recognizes seven exceptional students from Stafford Early College High School who recently competed at the TAFE area conference, Olivia George (11), Landry Wallace (10), Joshua Bolden (10), Makayla Brown (10), Anna Burden (12), Madeline Lehr (11), and Damaris Zuniga (11). Their dedication and hard work exemplify the spirit of future educators in Texas.

We extend special congratulations to Madeline Lehr and Landry Wallace for their impressive performance at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit State Conference held in Galveston this February. Both students placed in the top 10 in the Varsity Interactive Bulletin Board contest, earning them the opportunity to compete in the prestigious Educators Rising National Conference scheduled for June in Orlando, Florida.

We commend all participating students for their commitment to excellence. "I am extremely proud of the hard-work, dedication, creativity and perseverance these outstanding young men and women have poured into making this year a success!" ~Ms. Catherine Wallace, TAFE Teacher Leader



SECC teachers participated in a Data Analysis session with Region IV



Our little STEMists learned about STEM Career of the Month- Cardiologist



Thank you Karyn Parsons (Hillary-Fresh Prince) for your donation



Our Girl Scouts learned about Engineering Design with Home Depot



Thank you SHS mentors for supporting our classrooms



Thank you AKA Mu Kappa Omega Chapter for the generous donation



We're still harvesting food from our SECC Garden!





Service Day at Stafford Early Childhood Center: *Thank you City Rise, Attack Poverty and Girl Scouts!*

For National Service Day, Girl Scout Troop #158994, City Rise and Attack Poverty came together to beautify our campus. From cultivating and landscaping our Reading Garden to painting and organizing, it was an unforgettable day at SECC.

Thank you for making a real difference and showing up with servant hearts and willing hands. Your dedication and love for our students and schools do not go unnoticed—your acts of kindness create lasting change! We love our volunteers!



STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1633 STAFFORDSHIRE ROAD
STAFFORD, TEXAS 77477

WWW.STAFFORDMSD.ORG



2025-2026

STAFFORD MSD STEM MAGNET

STEM MAGNET ACADEMY

OPEN ENROLLMENT

STEM Magnet Academy enrollment opens October 1, 2024

Scan QR code and Apply Today!



(281) 261-9200 ext. 3851

stemmagnet@staffordmsd.org



SMSD is proud to partner with **Sole Loved**, an organization that is dedicated to providing shoes to children in need. The **Stafford Early Childhood Center** (SECC) is also excited about the budding partnership with **The Fort Bend Church** that will strengthen family engagement, support our young learners, and enhance our school community. This collaboration, with guidance from **Loving Houston**, will help foster meaningful connections between our school and faith-based partners who are committed to serving our students, families, and staff.

We look forward to the positive impact these partnerships will bring as we work together to build a brighter future for our children!