

# SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT

MAY 2025



## Mark Your calendar...

- MAY 9** Early Dismissal
- MAY 12** Board Meeting
- MAY 23** Early Dismissal
- MAY 26** Memorial Day Holiday
- MAY 27-29** Finals/Early Dismissal (HS,MS,MA)
- MAY 28** Graduation Ceremony
- MAY 30** Last Day of School/Early Dismissal
- JUNE 9** Board Meeting
- JUNE 4- JULY 2** Summer Learning Programs



## COHORT 2028 STAFFORD HS COMMITMENT CEREMONY

The Stafford Early College, Career, and P-Tech High School proudly hosted a memorable Commitment Ceremony honoring the students of Cohort 2028 and their families. This special event marked an important milestone as 9<sup>th</sup> grade students officially began their journey toward earning college credit while completing high school—demonstrating the drive, discipline, and determination that defines our dual credit program. Held under the theme “Decide, Commit, Prepare, Succeed,” the evening was a celebration of academic ambition and personal growth. Families gathered for dinner, followed by powerful messages from guest speakers who shared personal stories and words of encouragement. Each part of the program reflected the values and expectations of our school community—encouraging students to stay focused, embrace challenges, and lean into the support around them.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Commitment Agreement Signing, where each student signed an official agreement signifying their dedication to the dual credit program. With proud parents and guardians by their side, students pledged to uphold high academic standards, seek support when needed, and remain committed to their goals. **Director Ms. Nordt** shared, “Tonight is more than symbolic—it’s a promise. These students are choosing to take a bold step into their future, and we are here to walk with them every step of the way.” As Stafford Early College, Career, and P-Tech High School continues to provide high-quality academic pathways, events like this remind us of the power of partnership between schools, students, and families. We are excited to see the great things Cohort 2028 will achieve!



# Celebrating Our Future Leaders at SkillsUSA National Signing Day



SMSD is thrilled to celebrate a significant milestone for a talented student from the **Stafford Early College & Career High School** at the SkillsUSA National Signing Day! **John Kissoon** is set to continue his career path studies in Filmmaking at Sam Houston State University. John is also graduating with a Level 1 Workforce Certificate in Filmmaking: Film & Video Specialization from Houston Community College! As a mentor for the A/V quiz bowl team, he has showcased exceptional leadership and commitment, particularly at the SkillsUSA State Conference in April.

Surrounded by family, peers, and dedicated SkillsUSA advisors, we celebrated his accomplishment with a reception last. We wish him continued success in all his future endeavors. *"SkillsUSA's National Signing Day salutes students who express their commitment to a fulfilling and rewarding career in the skilled trades. It empowers the next generation,"* says SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis.

## SSMA UNVEILS NEW PLAYGROUND

Excitement filled the air as **Stafford STEM Magnet Academy** celebrated the grand opening of its brand new playground. The ribbon-cutting ceremony welcomed students, staff, and families to a bright and vibrant new space designed for outdoor learning, exploration and play. This isn't only a playground—it's a space where students will build friendships, take a break and enjoy the joy of being a kid.

This project was made possible through the incredible support of our PTO and dedicated community partners. We are so grateful for their generosity and teamwork.



## COME CELEBRATE STAFFORD UNIFIED DAY!

**Unified Day** at **Stafford MSD** is a joyful, inclusive celebration. It's a district-wide opportunity for students with disabilities to participate in fun, team-based athletic activities alongside their peers. The day is all about encouragement, unity, and celebrating every student's abilities.

**We're looking for adult volunteers and volunteer student "buddies" to support our athletes.** Buddies will be paired with student participants to cheer them on, play alongside them, and ensure everyone has an unforgettable experience.

Volunteer hours are 7:30 AM to 12 noon.

(Please note, this is an early release day for SMSD.)

Whether you can volunteer for a few hours or the whole time, your presence will make a difference. Let's show our Stafford pride and help every student feel like a champion!



**#PLAYUNIFIED**

**STAFFORD**  
MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**UNIFIED DAY**

**MAY 9TH, 2025**  
**9:00 AM- 11:30 AM**  
REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:30 AM

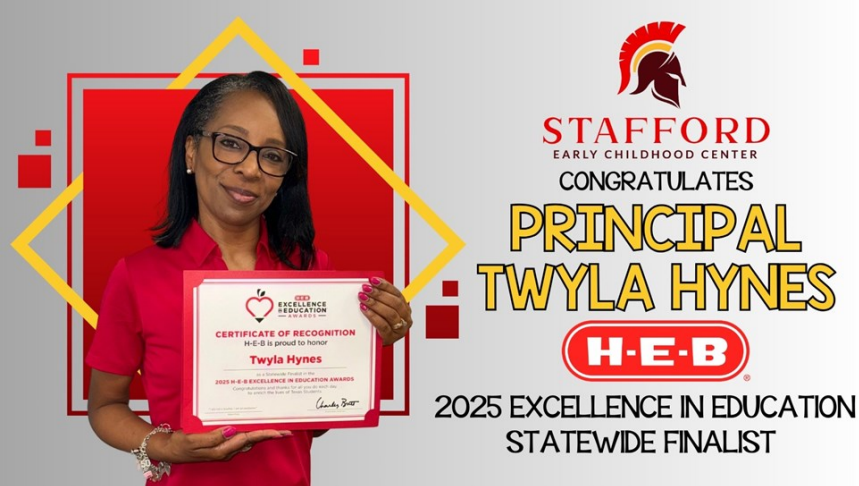
**STAFFORD HIGH SCHOOL**  
**SPARTAN STADIUM**  
RED N GOLD DRIVE

VARIOUS GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

 Special Olympics Unified Sports

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

EMAIL FOR MORE INFO:  
SNORRIS@STAFFORDMSD.ORG



Out of thousands of school leaders across Texas, **Mrs. Twyla Hynes** was selected as one of the **Top 50 Principals statewide**—a true testament to her unwavering commitment to the families and staff of Stafford Early Childhood Center. This prestigious honor recognizes educators who go above and beyond to make a lasting impact in education. We couldn't be more proud to see her leadership, passion, and vision recognized! We celebrate her hard work with student achievement and community engagement.

**INSPIRE | INNOVATE | IGNITE**

**JUNE 26, 2025** | **STAFFORD CIVIC CENTER** | **7:00AM - 3:30PM**  
Free for Registrants | 1415 Constitution Ave., Stafford, TX 77477 | Lunch Provided

**Additional Info**

SMSD is proud to present our first technology conference, the *InspirEd Tech Conference*! This free event is designed to bring together educators, administrators, and tech enthusiasts to explore the latest innovations, share best practices, and learn new tools to enhance teaching and learning in our schools.

For more information, visit [bit.ly/4aTpqsg](https://bit.ly/4aTpqsg)

**smart financial** **MAGIC SCHOOL** **Frost** **HUNTING** **Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc.** **Kelsey Seybold**

## SMSD'S FIRST TECH CONFERENCE

Stafford Municipal School District is thrilled to announce the launch of its first-ever technology conference, the **InspirEd Tech Conference**, set to take place on **June 26, 2025**. This groundbreaking event with the theme "Inspire, Innovate, Ignite", will bring together educators, technology specialists, and instructional leaders from multiple districts for a full day of collaboration, learning, and innovation.

The InspirEd Tech Conference is designed to empower K-12 educators with practical tools and fresh ideas for integrating technology into teaching and learning. With engaging breakout sessions, hands-on workshops, and inspiring panel speakers, the conference will showcase the incredible ways technology can enhance instruction, foster creativity, and support student success.

This inaugural event is not only a celebration of the district's commitment to innovation—it's also a unique opportunity for educators to connect, grow, and get inspired ahead of the new school year!

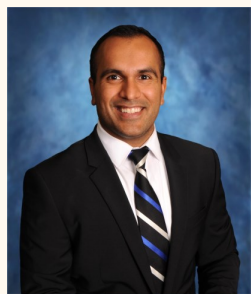
**STAFFORD**  
MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Thank You**  
TO OUR AMAZING  
**TEACHERS**  
WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU DO!

**Teacher Appreciation Week May 5-9**

## KICKSTART KIDS BELT CEREMONY SHOWCASES STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Stafford Middle School's gymnasium was packed wall-to-wall as students demonstrated martial arts techniques across all levels—from beginner belts to black belts—with skill and determination. Parents lined the gym walls and cheered from the hallways. Master G and his students will be recognized at the May 19 Board Meeting.



**Ash Hamirani**  
Board President



**Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste**  
Board Vice-President



**Patricia Soza-Montelongo**  
Board Secretary



## **SMSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



**Manuel Hinojosa**  
Trustee



**Joyce Wilkins**  
Trustee



**Suzette Thompson**  
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](http://www.staffordmsd.org).

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



## **MAY 2025 BOARD ELECTION UPDATE:** **ALL 3 TRUSTEES RAN UNOPPOSED**

SMSD proudly welcomed three returning members of the Board of Trustees as they were officially sworn in for new three-year terms: **Board President Ash Hamirani, Trustee Suzette Thompson, and Trustee Patricia Soza-Montelongo**. All three trustees ran unopposed—a strong reflection of the community's confidence in their leadership and commitment to Stafford MSD students and families.

We are also pleased to announce the election of new officers to the Stafford MSD School Board. They were voted into leadership roles for the 2025–2026 school year:

- **Ash Hamirani (President)**
- **Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste (Vice-President)**
- **Patricia Soza-Montelongo (Secretary)**

Together they bring a wealth of experience, dedication, and a shared commitment to supporting student success, academic excellence, and community engagement. We are confident their leadership will guide the district with integrity and vision. Please join us in congratulating our newly elected officers and thanking all board members for their ongoing service.



# SMSD SHINES AT HCC COMMENCEMENT-

## NEARLY 100 STUDENTS WALKED THE STAGE

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, 89 **Stafford MSD students** proudly walked the stage at **NRG Arena** as part of **Houston Community College's Spring 2025 Commencement Ceremony**—and what a moment it was! Our district had **three times more graduates** than neighboring school districts. The sea of black caps and gowns representing Stafford filled the arena with excitement and energy. We also beamed with pride as the **Chancellor of Houston Community College** delivered a special **shout-out to Stafford Municipal School District**, recognizing the district's strong commitment to student achievement and higher education.

This moment was made possible by the tireless dedication of **Director Debbie Nordt** and her outstanding team. Thanks to her leadership and personal mission to ensure that **"all students graduate college and career ready without remediation,"** SMSD continues to lead the way in early college success and postsecondary readiness. The students were also honored at the Stafford Civic Center in

a SMSD School Board Recognition Ceremony. Dr. Bostic, President Hinojosa and Dr. Michael Webster, the President of HCC Southwest College offered the students their congratulations. Congratulations to our Early College High School graduates! Your achievement today is not just a milestone—it's a powerful testament to what's possible when vision, effort, and belief come together.



**SMSD**  
**SUMMER**  
*Learning*

For Summer School and Programs Information Visit  
[www.staffordmsd.org/academics/stafford-learns/summer-programs](http://www.staffordmsd.org/academics/stafford-learns/summer-programs)



**PHASE II OF NON-RESIDENT TRANSFERS NOW OPEN!**

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*Through October 25th*

Please note that all forms and documentation will be completed online only



2025-2026

**STEM MAGNET ACADEMY**

**OPEN ENROLLMENT**

STEM Magnet Academy enrollment opens  
October 1, 2024

Scan QR code and Apply Today!

[stemmagnet@staffordmsd.org](http://stemmagnet@staffordmsd.org)

(281) 261-9200 ext. 3861

# Thank you To Our Wonderful Principals!



Twyla Hynes  
Early Childhood Center



Dr. Diana De La Rosa  
Stafford Elementary School



Marissa Vanson  
Stafford Middle School



Ginny Liang  
Stafford STEM Magnet



Raymond Root  
Stafford High School



## CELEBRATING ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER (AAPI) HERITAGE MONTH



During our May 12 Regular Board Meeting, we proudly recognized AAPI Heritage Month by honoring one of our own—**President Ash Hamirani, the first Asian American Trustee in Stafford MSD's history.** His leadership, commitment to equity, and dedication to our students continues to set a powerful example.

Stafford MSD proudly celebrates the rich cultures, histories, and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. This month, we honor the generations who have shaped our nation and recognize the diverse traditions, talents, and stories that enrich our schools and community. Let's celebrate unity, diversity, and the incredible impact of the AAPI community—this month and every month!



## STAFFORD MSD VIPS RECOGNITION BREAKFAST 2025

Stafford MSD proudly celebrated outstanding individuals, community members, and business partners for their incredible support in enriching our schools and providing vital resources. We are deeply grateful for our dynamic, caring volunteers and organizations whose strength and dedication help us continue building a brighter future for our students!

Thank you for being an essential part of our journey!



STAFFORD MSD  
VIPS RECOGNITION  
BREAKFAST 2025  
COMMUNITY STRONG: A TRIBUTE TO  
OUR VOLUNTEERS & PARTNERS



# SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY



MAY 2, 2025

# HEALTHY SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS

No cost for kids 18 and younger and enrolled students up to 21 years old with disabilities.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

SMSD is a participating Summer Meals site. Contact us for no cost meals for Texas students 18 years or younger and/or Enrolled Texas students up to the age of 21 with disabilities. No application/registration required.



## STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1633 STAFFORDSHIRE ROAD  
STAFFORD, TEXAS 77477

[WWW.STAFFORDMSD.ORG](http://WWW.STAFFORDMSD.ORG)



[FACEBOOK.COM/SMSD82](https://FACEBOOK.COM/SMSD82)

# WE ARE Hiring!!

For the 2025-2026 School Year



## Come and Join "The Best Little School District in Texas"

SMSD is looking for bright, enthusiastic, dedicated professionals to join our team! If you are interested in joining a dynamic group of people, please attend our job fair! See details below.

June 18, 2025  
3:00 - 6:00 PM

Leonard Scarella  
Administration Building  
1633 Staffordshire Road  
Stafford, TX 7477

[www.staffordmsd.org](http://www.staffordmsd.org)

# 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.

Wednesday, June 4, 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!



A Great Education  
STARTS HERE



SCAN ME  
TO RSVP



Scan  
to  
Register



Follow us on Social Media



281-261-9200



[TAHR@staffordmsd.org](mailto:TAHR@staffordmsd.org)