



The Edwardian

Prince Edward County Public Schools

Volume 4, Issue 1

35 Eagle Drive, Farmville, Virginia 23901

August 2009

www.pecps.k12.va.us

Dr. Patricia Watkins leaves PECPS; Stanley O. Jones will serve as interim leader

*A farewell message
from Dr. Watkins*

Dear Parents, Teachers and Staff:

As I am about to leave, I would like to thank the Prince Edward County and Farmville community for your support of our schools during my tenure as superintendent. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your superintendent of schools over the past three years.

As I reflect upon my tenure as superintendent of schools, I am profoundly grateful to have worked with so many passionate, committed and devoted individuals—both within the school system and across this wonderful community.



During the past three years, the work of the schools has been productive, interesting, at times challenging, but at all times rewarding. Among the most pressing challenges is the constant striving to widen the circle of educational excellence, to broaden the engagement of the community and to deepen the fundamental importance of education as the underlying means to improving the future of every child in Prince Edward County Public Schools.

I am happy to report that efforts to address these challenges are well under way. The high school has expanded its AP program as well as opportunities for students in the Career and Technical Education program. The middle school has expanded Algebra I to all 8th grade students and, at the same time, is now also offering foreign languages at the 5th, 6th and 7th grade levels. Finally, the elementary school has introduced instructional technology in the classroom.

Without a doubt, our accomplishments are the result of the dedication, hard work and timeless efforts of school faculty and staff, parents, students and the community. The work must continue, and educating our children must be our number one priority.

I am fortunate to have been a part of these efforts on behalf of the Prince Edward County School Board. I leave with a debt of thanks to all. Thank you for your support in making Prince Edward County Public Schools a school system of high expectations for all children.

With respect and appreciation, I thank you once again for the opportunity to have served as your superintendent.

Sincerely,
Patricia Watkins, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Greetings from Mr. Jones

Dear Parents, Teachers, Staff and Prince Edward County Community:

Hello, I am Stanley Jones and I am so excited to be here as interim superintendent of Prince Edward County Public Schools. I am grateful to the Prince Edward County School Board for giving me an opportunity to serve the citizens of this great and historical community.

During the next six months, I will meet with students, parents, teachers, administrators, staff members and community leaders. I will also reach out to faith-based organizations, businesses, and other community organizations as we work together setting the stage to take Prince Edward County Public Schools to its next level of greatness. I will rely on these individuals and groups to share their thoughts and ideas with us on how to make our school learning communities better.



What we do is dictated in the Prince Edward County Public Schools' vision: "To become a high performing school division that prepares a diverse population with 21st century skills to become life-long learners who are responsible and productive citizens in a global society."

While focusing on our vision, we will continue the implementation of the initiatives you started during the past several years. Below are the initiatives we will continue to implement and improve:

- **AVID** is an international grades 4 - 12 college readiness system that helps students go to college.
- **Classroom Walkthrough.** The objectives of this process are to develop a positive school culture, to support a professional learning community, to increase student achievement and to empower teachers in the school decision-making process.
- **Failure is NOT an Option.** This model is founded on the belief that ALL children can achieve at least grade-level proficiency.
- **I CAN LEARN Math.** An Interactive Computer Aided Natural Learning software system.
- **Benchmark Assessments.** Used every six weeks to measure how much students know and are able to do in the core content areas of math, science, history and social sciences, and English.
- **Project Adventure.** A structured, research-based intervention that not only contributes to the amelioration of serious behavior disorders in children and youth, but develops skills for understanding that long-term behavioral change is both desirable and achievable.
- **Read 180** is an intensive reading intervention program.
- **Strengthen the focus of math and science** at the elementary school. An accelerated math program designed to create excitement for learning math.
- **Technology** use increases in PECPS Classrooms. Interactive boards are being installed in many of the classrooms. Teachers and students can create, record, and review content with the touch of a finger or special pen.

The mere size and scope of our initiatives would indicate the "plate is full" or the "cup runneth over." I believe on the other hand, if we focus on what makes our profession great and think "outside the box," we will find that great teachers rise to the occasion.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity and ask for your support and encouragement as we prepare for what promises to be a great school-year.

Sincerely,
Stanley O. Jones
Interim Superintendent

School opens August 19
Open House for all schools Monday, August 17,
2:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Prince Edward County Elementary School

1666 Zion Hill Road, Farmville, VA 23901

Phone (434) 315-2110, Fax 434-392-1583

PECES Information

PECES Phone Extensions
Call 315-2100, then ;

Nurse	
Ms. Reames	3127
Guidance	
Ms Arieti	3128
Mr. Baker	3130
Registrar	3123
Psychologist	
Ms. Lynch	3129
Speech Pathologist	
Ms. Eiban	3131
Interim Principal	
Mr. Kane	3124
Assistant Principal	
Ms. Robertson	3125
Cafeteria	392-8021



Rodney D. Kane,
Interim Principal



Angela Robertson,
Assistant Principal

Mr. Kane is a graduate of Cedarville College with a B.A. in Health and Physical Education. He also earned two Master Degrees from Lynchburg College in the areas of Special Education and Educational Leadership. He has been in education for 23 years.

Mr. Kane has been selected to Who's Who Among American Teachers and as Dogwood District Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year. Mr. Kane and his wife Rhonda, who teaches reading at Appomattox Primary School, have two daughters in college. Nicole is a senior Education major and Morgan is a sophomore majoring in Communications and Marketing. Mr. Kane is an avid golfer, as you can tell by his license plate GOLF4VR.

Mr. Kane loved his first year at Prince Edward Elementary and is looking forward to working with the great staff at PECES as interim principal. His main goal is to make a difference in the life of each student. He and the entire staff plan to give their best effort everyday to make Prince Edward County Elementary School the BEST !!!!!

Ms. Robertson is starting her fifth year as Assistant Principal at PECES after teaching Technology Education at PECMS. This will be her tenth year in the Prince Edward County Schools. She is a graduate of Saint Paul's College and completed her graduate school coursework at Virginia State, earning a degree in Administration. She is the Testing Coordinator for Prince Edward County Elementary School.

Ms. Robertson lives in Nottoway County. She has three daughters and two grandsons. She enjoys reading and dancing. Her favorite sport is basketball. Ms. Robertson's goal is to make a difference in our children's lives at Prince Edward County Elementary School.

Important PECES Dates

- August 17 -
Open House
2 p.m.-7 p.m.
- August 19 -
1st Day of School
- September 7 -
Labor Day - No School
- September 3 -
PTA Meeting
- October 28-29
School Picture Days

Student Attendance: Key to Academic Success

Our goal is for your child to be successful. In order to teach your children, they have to be in the classroom. Students need to be in school all day, every day, to receive every minute of instruction possible. When a child misses instruction, it is time that can never be made up.

We encourage you to have your child in school every day. School starts promptly at 8:30 a.m. and does not end until 3:10 p.m. Every minute of the school day is precious instructional time. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Daily Schedule

- 8:05—8:30—Breakfast**
- 8:30—Tardy Bell/Morning Announcements**
- 8:35—Morning Instruction Begins**
- 10:45—1:15 Lunch Periods @ 30 minute intervals**
- 3:10 - End of Instructional Day**

Note: Prince Edward County Elementary School cannot accept students until 7:45 each morning. All entrances will remain locked until 7:45 a.m.

PECES Implements Team Teaching for Grades 3 and 4

Third and fourth grade students will be on teams this year for their core instruction. The third graders will have one teacher for Reading and Social Studies and then switch to another teacher for Science and Math. The fourth grade teams will be comprised of three teacher teams, each teaching a specific subject (Reading, Math, Social Studies/Science) to deliver the core curriculum. The teachers will be able to concentrate their expertise in one or two subjects rather than four different subjects. The goal is to improve instruction, student learning, and ultimately student achievement.

The Edwardian

*is published twice a year
by the
Prince Edward County
Public Schools*

*Its purpose is to keep
the community informed
of division initiatives
and school events.*

**Interim Superintendent
Stanley O. Jones**

**Editor
Kathryn Orth**

The Advantages of Buying Breakfast and Lunch at Prince Edward County Schools

School lunches are NUTRITIOUS. School lunches provide children with 1/3 of their Recommended Dietary Allowances for calories, protein, vitamins A&C, calcium, iron and fiber. School lunches are also low in fat and saturated fat.

School breakfast and lunch are CONVENIENT. Families with hectic schedules may find it difficult to prepare nutritious meals for their children to take to school

every day. School breakfast and lunches offer children a VARIETY OF FOOD CHOICES. Children have several entrees to choose from daily. We offer a variety of milk options, including fat-free, low-fat and reduced-fat milk.

School breakfast and lunches are INEXPENSIVE. An elementary breakfast costs .60 and a secondary breakfast costs .75. Lunch costs \$1.50 for all three schools.

Those who qualify for free or reduced lunch also qualify for free and reduced breakfast. Compare the costs of a lunch brought from home with the cost of a school lunch and you will see that the school lunch is a bargain. Estimated lunch from home is \$3.50 compared to \$1.50 lunch purchased at school.

BREAKFAST is the most important meal of the day. It "breaks" the night's "fast" and replaces the energy reserves our body used overnight. Recent studies have revealed that students who don't miss breakfast have improved test scores, increased attention span, and reduced absenteeism. Break-

fast is served in all of our schools: encourage your children to take advantage of this valuable meal.

Visit your child's school cafeteria and you're likely to find items like whole-wheat, reduced-fat cheese pizza; a large variety of fruits and vegetables; fat free milk. Today's school meals inspire children to eat more often from the "Food Groups" because they offer a variety of fresh fruits, whole grains, vegetables, and low fat milk choices. Encourage your children to choose milk with their lunch to get the calcium they need. From children to parents to teachers, everyone benefits when students eat school meals.

PECMS Information

Prince Edward County Middle School

35 Eagle Drive, Farmville, VA 23901

(434) 315-2120

PECMS ADMINISTRATORS

Lucy Carson - Principal - Ext. 3223

Julia Britt - Assistant Principal - Ext. 3225

Maurice Smith -Assistant Principal - Ext. 3224

Nurse

Phyllis Breil - Ext. 3230

Librarian

Leola Entzminger -
Ext. 3228

Guidance

Linda Burden - Ext. 3227
Angeles Christian -
Ext. 3236

Daily schedule:

Bus Arrival - 7:50

Breakfast - 7:50

School begins - 8:05

School ends - 3:10

Students Entering 6th Grade Need Tdap Booster

During the 2006 General Assembly, Virginia passed a new law which requires all sixth grade students to have a Tdap booster shot prior to entry to school. The Tdap vaccine protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. Tetanus, also called lock-jaw, causes painful tightening of the muscles, usually all over the body. It can also lead to locking of the jaw so the sick person cannot open his mouth or swallow. Diphtheria is a serious disease that causes a thick covering in the back of the throat and can lead to breathing problems, paralysis, heart failure, and even death. Pertussis, also called whooping cough, causes coughing spells so bad it is often hard to eat, drink, or breathe and can last for weeks.

A message from the Principal

Welcome students, parents, faculty and staff!

I am thrilled to be the principal of Prince Edward County Middle School and am looking forward to another successful school year. We will continue to promote academic rigor in our classrooms and team work among our students, staff and parents. Our goal is to make our school safe and conducive for teaching and learning at the highest level, as we provide the students with opportunities to grow as critical thinkers, problem solvers and team players in a global society. I look forward to the year ahead and I will give you my best effort this year, and will not accept anything less than the students' best effort. Our school motto for this year is; "WE EXPECT THE BEST!"

Lucy Carson, Principal

100% passing SOLs in Geometry

During the 2008-2009 school year, 100 percent of the Prince Edward County Middle School students taking geometry passed the SOL test. In addition, 97 percent of the students taking Algebra I passed. Congratulations to those hard working students and teachers for their ongoing effort toward SOL achievement!

New assistant principal

Mr. Maurice Smith is the new Assistant Principal at the Middle School. Mr. Smith has served as an administrator at Spotsylvania High School since 2007. Previous to his administrative work, he was a 7th grade teacher at New Kent Middle School for 4 years. His career began as a 6th/8th grade teacher at Prince Edward Middle School.

Mr. Smith was raised in Fredericksburg, Virginia when he graduated from Courtland High School in 1988. Mr. Smith earned his Bachelors degree in Government at William & Mary in 1992. At William & Mary, he started four years for the Tribe soccer team. He later coached at Western Illinois University (1995) and Hampden Sydney (2001). He completed his Masters Degree in Sport Management in 1997 and is currently, working on his Doctorate in Educational Administration at George Washington University.

He is married to Chrissandra. They have three boys, Myles, Christian, and Noah. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, reading, and playing soccer.

Join the PTA!

A registration table will be available at open house. All parents and teachers are encouraged and invited to enroll!

PECMS Sports Schedules

FOOTBALL

Aug. TBA	Park View (jamboree)	Away	TBA
Sept. 2	Park View	Away	6:30
Sept. 9	BYE		
Sept. 16	Halifax	Home	5:30
Sept. 23	Lunenburg	Away	6:30
Sept. 30	Russell	Away	5:30
Oct. 7	Bluestone	Home	6:00
Oct. 14	Nottoway	Away	6:00
Oct. 22	Appomattox	Home	5:30

SOCCER

Sept. 10	Powhatan	Home	4:30
Sept. 15	Central	Away	4:30
Sept. 17	Park View	Home	4:30
Sept. 22	Halifax	Home	4:30
Sept. 24	Blueston	Away	4:30
Sept. 29	Powhatan	Away	4:30
Oct. 1	Central	Home	4:30
Oct. 6	Park View	Away	4:30
Oct. 8	Halifax	Away	4:30
Oct. 13	Bluestone	Home	4:30

VOLLEYBALL

Sept. 10	Powhatan	Home	4:30
Sept. 15	Central	Away	4:30
Sept. 17	Amelia	Home	4:30
Sept. 22	Halifax	Home	4:30
Sept. 24	Wyatt	Away	4:30
Sept. 29	Powhatan	Away	4:30
Oct. 1	Central	Home	4:30
Oct. 6	Park View	Away	4:30
Oct. 13	Bluestone	Home	4:30
Oct. 15	Nottoway	Away	4:30

SSMSC TOURNAMENT on SATURDAY, OCT. 24
@ East winner starting at 10:00
#2 West vs #1 East
#2 East vs #1 West
Championship

PECHS Information

Prince Edward County High School

1482 Zion Hill Road

Farmville, VA 23901

(434) 315-2130

Prince Edward County Career and Technical Center

1419 Zion Hill Road

Farmville, VA 23901

(434) 315-2140

Administrators

Odessa H. Pride, Principal (Extension 3322)

Erenest E. Miller, Assistant Principal (Extension 3324)

Allie C. Yarbrough, Assistant Principal (Extension 3323)

Janice G. Page, Coordinator of Career and Technical, Adult, & Continuing Education (Extension 3422)

Daniel C. Soderholm, Athletic Director and Director of Student Activities (Extension 3340)

Guidance Counselors

Avis Gresby, Director of Guidance (Extension 3333)

TBA (Extension 3336)

TBA (Extension 3334)

Registrar

Patricia Holcomb (Extension 3332)

Nurse

Katherine Barron (Extension 3330)

Media Specialist

Nancy Currie (Extension 3345)

Department Chairs

Karen Parton, Business and Information Technology

Gwendolyn McQuaige-Hicks, English

Karl Willke, Fine Arts

Lisa Simon, Foreign Language

Emily Camden, Agriculture

Marjorie Finch, Health Occupations

James Scott, Health and Physical Education

Kathryn Orth, Journalism

Lt. Col. Edward Gray, Air Force Junior Reserve

Officers Training Corps

Noel Cabautan, Mathematics

Sarah Fulcher, Science

Sarah Moore, Social Studies

Maida Wood-Davis, Special Education

Donald McClelland, Family and Consumer Sciences

Robert Zava, Trades and Industrial Occupations

Parking Passes

Vehicles that are parked on Prince Edward County Schools property are done so at the risk of the owner. Students must purchase a parking decal for \$10.00 and adhere to the following regulations:

- Display the parking decal on the rearview mirror of the vehicle after parking in the designated area
- Do not return to vehicles during day unless permission is given by administration.
- Depart from vehicles, immediately, upon arrival at school.
- Maintain 10 miles per hour on school grounds

The privilege to park on school grounds will be taken away if the student does not adhere to specific rules. The School Resource Officer-monitors the parking lots on a daily basis.

Programs In School

English/Honors Humanities, Math, Science, Social Studies/Honors Humanities

AVID, Freshman Advisory, and Project Adventure

Advanced Placement-English Literature (Grade 12), English Language and Composition (Grade 11), Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, Statistics, VA/US History

Dual Enrollment-English 111-112, Survey of British Lit, Government, Criminal Justice, CIS, Word Processing, Electronics, CAD, Nurse's Aid, EMT

AP/Expansion 2009

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are designed as college level courses for high school students. After students complete rigorous course requirements, they take an end of the year test in May. Students can earn scores from "1" to "5", with "5" being the highest. Typically, colleges accept for course credit student scores of "3" or higher on examinations. **AP coursework is viewed favorably by colleges.** AP classes offered at the high school are **English Literature** (Level 12), **Calculus**, and **Biology**.

Freshman Advisory

All entering freshmen are enrolled in **AVID**, **Freshman Advisory**, or **Project Adventure**, which alternate with Health and PE I. Purposes of the programs include the following: monitoring academic achievement, fostering communication between the home, school, and community, preparing students for life transitions, promoting character development, and encouraging supportive peer relationships and practicing conflict resolution.

AVID students start in the middle school and are capable of completing a college preparatory path with much support from their parents and school. The AVID program provides students the opportunity to develop to their fullest potential academically. College potential, desire and determination, and family support are crucial components. **AVID 10** is also offered in Grade 10.

Project Adventure is a model for empowering youth to experience, desire, create, and maintain respectful communities (home and school). Project Adventure uses a structured, research-based intervention called *Behavior Management Through Adventure* that develops the skills for understanding that long-term behavioral change is both desirable and achievable. This intervention ultimately improves the developmental and academic outcomes for youth.

After School Programs

Extra Curricular Activities, Clubs, and Tutoring in Core Areas

Fees

Locker-\$2.00

Parking Decal - \$10.00

Individual Games-\$5.00

Family Athletic Passes-\$80.00

Student Athletic Passes-\$20.00

Class Dues: Freshmen-\$15.00

Sophomores-\$25.00

Juniors-\$35.00

Seniors-\$60.00

Lunch schedule

Three lunches:

11:27-11:55

12:03-12:31

1:06-1:34

**School Picture Day
and Make-up Day
for Senior Portraits
August 28**