

# CONNECTION

Sussex County Public Schools

# HOME & SCHOOL

Volume 17, Issue 2  
June 2017

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- SCPS Recognizes Our 600 Club Students
- Safety Patrol Stop Impostors at SCES!
- Informational Fiesta
- Student Spotlight: SCHS Student Recognition
- The Virginia School Board Conference: A Student Liaison Experience
- FCCLA Scholarship Recipient
- SCHS Visits The General Assembly
- SCMS Celebrates College Awareness Week!
- Graduation 2017
- Teachers of the Year
- Teachers of the Year
- SCES Students Enjoy PBS Coding
- SVRTC 2017 Technology Awards
- SCHS Robotics Competition
- SCPS Social Events Keep Students Happy
- Top Science Fair Winners Recognized
- 14-2 Big Shout Out!
- 2017-18 Proposed Expenditures

Articles submitted by individual schools

## SCPS Recognizes Our 600 Club Students



*Pictured from left to right: Superintendent Dr. Jarrett, Danyael Colendrino, Jaden Nowell, Imani Julbe, Trevion Rose, Talea Patterson, Chelsey Jessup, Shaela Motton and Brandon Edmonds and School Board Chairman Mr. Eddie Morris. Not pictured: Kristian Barfield, Kyla Fields, Nicholas Wolford, Jeremy Rowley, Janyus Hill and Joshua Cosby*

Each year all across the state of Virginia, students take Standards of Learning Assessments. Although many students perform well on the assessments, very few earn the coveted perfect score of 600! This year, Sussex County Public Schools honored fourteen (14) scholars who earned a PERFECT SCORE of 600 on various SOL assessments. These students were recognized for their achievements at the December 2016 school board meeting. Please congratulate these scholars as you see them in our community and in our schools. GO Tigers GO!



## 14-2 Big Shout Out!

Coach Montgomery and our SCHS Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Team finished their 2016-17 regular season with a 14-2 record. The team finished the year as the district JV Boys Basketball champions.

We want to congratulate and recognize all of the players, coaching staff, trainers, and principals for a job well done. Thank you to the SCHS



Cheerleading Squad, Sponsors, and the FANS for your support! Our entire community is proud of each and every one of you!

Thank you,  
SCPS Faculty, Staff, and Administration

## Mission Statement

### *Educating Tomorrow's Leaders*

We believe that all students can learn. The mission of Sussex County Public Schools is to provide a safe and secure learning environment where all students develop into knowledgeable and productive citizens. Sussex County Public Schools will provide the necessary instructional resources, learning opportunities and leadership for students to reach their highest educational potential to be our leaders of tomorrow.

## Division's 2016-2017 Guiding Principles

- Intentionally Increasing Student Achievement
- Teacher Support
- Principal Instructional Leadership Support
- Community Outreach/Partnerships

*Educating  
Tomorrow's  
Leaders*



**Sussex County Public Schools**

## School Board



**Courthouse District**  
M. E. Morris, Jr., Chair  
15032 Beaver Dam Road  
Waverly, VA 23890-4108



**Stony Creek District**  
Linda J. Skipper  
10005 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882-3100



**Blackwater District**  
Laurie S. Latham  
Post Office Box 1157  
Waverly, VA 23890-1157



**Henry District**  
Terry A. Massenburg  
13200 Comans Well Road  
Stony Creek, VA 23882



**Wakefield District**  
Gloria S. Holloman, Vice-Chair  
9100 Birch Island Road  
Wakefield, VA 23888-2889



**Waverly District**  
Doris Coleman Hamlin  
235 Dogwood Street  
Waverly, VA 23890-5025

*Educating  
Tomorrow's  
Leaders*



**Sussex County Public Schools**

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents and Community,

As I pen this message, I am overwhelmed by how quickly time has flown and by the magnitude of success that our schools have realized this year. I am grateful for the daily student interactions, conversations with parents, meetings with administrators and teachers, and collaboration with our School Board and community as a whole. I am appreciative of those educational partners and alumni who are committed to furthering the mission of Sussex County Public Schools. I can say with confidence that every success that we have experienced has been done TOGETHER. Every opportunity to learn lessons has been embraced with a mindset of growth and progressive moment.



**Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Jr.**  
*Superintendent*

At the beginning of the school term, we spoke extensively about the instincts of a true leader. During convocation, everyone in attendance was challenged to reach their highest potential. With these thoughts in mind, we were challenged to keep the main thing as our point of focus... advancement of our students and our county. I take this time to commend everyone for their dedication and commitment to this great work.

To the class of 2017, I commend you on your many achievements and accomplishments. I am confident that you have the tools that you need to be successful. Surround yourself with those who can expand your wisdom and understanding, as well as those who can expose you to all of the wonderful opportunities to which you are afforded. As you propel into this next phase of your life, remember that you are always welcome to come back home to share your gifts and talents. As much is given, so is the requirement to give back.

*"Others can inspire you, but ultimately the only thing that empowers you is what lies within you and learning how to better utilize what you've been given."*

T.D. Jakes, [Instinct: The Power to Unleash Your Inborn Drive](#)

Sincerely,

Dr. Arthur L. Jarrett, Jr.  
Division Superintendent

# Sussex County Public Schools – Informational Fiesta

["ESCUELAS DEL CONDADO DE SUSSEX- FIESTA INFORMATIVA"  
"PRESTANDO APOYO A NUESTRA COMUNIDAD DE ELL"]

On Friday, December 2, 2016, the ESL Team of Sussex County Public Schools hosted our third annual ELL Parental Engagement Workshop. This was a wonderful opportunity for the families of our ELL students to engage in dialogue on best practices that foster student success. Agenda topics included the following: the new ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessment, strategies for helping children at home and identifying support within the school division. In addition, families had opportunities to have one-on-one conferences with ESL teachers to discuss their students' academic progress. At the conclusion of the Information Fiesta, all attendees celebrated and enjoyed Mexican, Hondurans and American cuisine. Each family prepared their favorite dish and shared it with all in attendance. It was truly a delightful experience!



Dr. Johnson would like to thank all who supported this initiative: Dr. Arthur Jarrett, Mr. Julius Hamlin, Mrs. Barbara Blount, Mrs. Adriene Stephenson, Mr. Richard Butts, Karen Bailey-King (Co-Op Student), and Ms. Nancy Harrell. Special thanks are especially extended to Ms. Winnie Senty (ESL support teacher serving the elementary school) and Mr. Nestor Llamas (ESL support teacher serving the middle and high schools).



Pictured from left to right: Mrs. Rawlings, Mrs. Drake, and Mrs. Morris add humor to the 100th Day of School!

## Safety Patrol Stop Impostors at SCES!

The 2nd Grade team has traditionally celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up as 100 year old ladies. The safety patrol team at SCES are responsible for monitoring hallway traffic, checking visitors for identification badges, and discouraging both fast and slow moving traffic. In this instance the 2nd grade team was cited for moving too slow and distracting others! Lol...

## Central Office Directory

Arthur Jarrett, Jr., Ed.D.  
Superintendent

Julius Hamlin  
Director of Instruction

John Broderick  
Director of Finance &  
Business Operations

Adriene Stephenson  
Director of Human Resources

Melissa Johnson, Ed.D.  
Coordinator of Pupil Personnel

William Bain  
Coordinator of Technology

Jerry Parham  
Coordinator of Operations

Barbara Blount  
Federal Programs Specialist

Ahnjayla Hunter  
Special Education Specialist

Timothy Mays  
Instructional Technology Specialist

Leatha Baker  
Data Specialist

Linda Person  
Executive Secretary

## Schools

### Sussex Central High School

Alvina Matthews, Principal  
Anthony Elliott, Assistant Principal  
21394 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-245-6051

### Sussex Central Middle School

Jennifer Tindle, Ed.D., Principal  
Norris Evans, Assistant Principal  
21356 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-246-2251

### Sussex Central Elementary School

Lorraine Davis, Ed.D., Principal  
Morris Taylor, Assistant Principal  
21392 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-246-8960

## Home & School Connection

21302 Sussex Drive  
Stony Creek, VA 23882  
Phone: 434-246-1099  
Fax: 434-246-8214  
www.sussex.k12.va.us

# Student Spotlight: SCHS Student Recognition



Each year Dr. Arthur Jarrett requests the support of a senior student leader to serve as the student liaison to the school board. Mrs. Alvina Matthews, Principal, and her administrative team then makes a recommendation to the central office. This is when Mrs. Barbara Blount, SCPS Coordinator of Federal Programs begins her annual mentoring process.

This year, Dr Jarrett asked that a junior class alternate also be selected. With the help of Mrs. Barbara Blount, SCPS would like to introduce you to the 2016-17 student liaison and alternate student liaison Mr. Brandon Lord and Ms. Rebekah Shabazz.

**Brandon Lord** is a 17 year old senior at the high school. Most of his accomplishments have come in the latter years of his high school career. In only his second year in JROTC he was promoted from Corporal to

Command Sergeant Major even though most cadets cannot reach that rank until their fourth year and there is only one of those a year. Throughout high school, Brandon has participated in several community service events; passing out water at the Ukrop's 10k run, manning the funnel cake stand at several football games and events, and the Fall Festival at the SCES this past October. Committed to whatever he is involved in, Brandon gives his all and tries as hard as he can until he achieves his goal. After high school, he would like to join the Army and study abroad to eventually become a lawyer. He knows that the position of School Board Liaison and representing the entire student body is a huge responsibility and is honored that he was chosen for this task.

**Rebekah Shabazz** is a 16 year old junior at the high school and has been chosen to serve as our Alternate Representative to the Board. She enjoys playing volleyball and being a part of the team. She is also a member of ECMC Scholars program, history club, yearbook club, the robotics team, Project Discovery, SCA, and JROTC. She enjoys assisting her instructors and her principal with special projects. Rebekah is the second oldest of 6 children. She enjoys reading, shopping, hanging out with friends, and of course- eating. Her main goal in life is to be successful with her career, family life, and just with herself. She has bright dreams that she hopes to accomplish as she prospers into adulthood.

---

## The Virginia School Board Conference: A Student Liaison Experience

Since we have returned from our Thanksgiving holiday, a lot has taken place and been planned. Let's start off with the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) conference that Rebekah and I attended on November 17th. Not only did we get a variety of complimentary items from the vendors, but the conference experience was extremely eye-opening. We engaged in discussions centered on schools with population issues and concerns. The challenges of large school districts having over one thousand students in the graduating class and over three thousand in the high school, helped us to put our concerns in perspective and realized how fortunate we are in many ways.

**Brandon Lord**, Student Representative  
Sussex County School Board



Waking up at 5 a.m. is not something I enjoy, but I would do it all over again for the VSBA conference. From the moment we arrived, the conference was an eye-opening experience. They had vendors that showed unusual careers. I enjoyed the guest speaker, Steve Pemberton during the general session. Pemberton is a corporate executive, a youth advocate, a board member, and an author. Steve Pemberton taught me something that will always stick with me: "You are the writer of your own story". He conquered all of the hate and his troubles, so that he could be successful. My favorite part of the conference was the Student Representative meeting. It was interesting and enlightening to hear what other Virginia schools are going through and how Student Representatives plan to help. Thank you, Mr. Morris, other members of the board and Dr. Jarrett for allowing us to have this experience. With this opportunity, I have learned that you don't have to wait until you're older to make a difference.

**Rebekah Shabazz**, Alternate Student Representative  
Sussex County School Board



# FCCLA Scholarship Recipient



December 13, 2016 – Sussex Central High School member, Maya Gibbons, of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) participated in Dosomething.org's Acts of Kindness Challenge. Over 3900 students participated and out of 16,655 Mirror Messages posted throughout the duration of the Acts of Kindness Campaign, our very own Maya Gibbons won the top prize of \$1,500.00!

FCCLA members and Family and Consumer Science (FACS) students were given the opportunity to participate by posting positive notes on bathroom mirrors to improve their fellow student's self-esteem in the Acts of Kindness Challenge.

Members of Sussex Central High School's FCCLA Chapter competed against other students throughout the nation, by creating and posting encouraging notes in a public bathroom (like at school!) to brighten someone's day and motivate them to be positive to others. After posting positive notes on a mirror, FCCLA members and FACS students took a selfie of their kind and encouraging words.

In addition to improving someone's self-esteem, students who participate in the Acts of Kindness Challenge are eligible for a chance to win a \$100 gift card or a \$1,500 scholarship. DoSomething leverages communications technologies to enable young people to convert their ideas and energy into positive action. We inspire, empower and celebrate a generation of doers: young people who recognize the need to do something, believe in their ability to get it done, and then take action. Winners of the DoSomething Scholarships receive \$1,500 for the Mirror Messages Campaign, November 1 to 30, 2016 to fund the costs of higher education.

FCCLA is The Ultimate Leadership Experience for students enrolled in Family and Consumer Sciences across the nation. It is the only national in-school organization with the family as its central focus. Participation in state and national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

---

## SCHS Visits The General Assembly

Juniors and seniors from The Improvement Association/ Project Discovery and the Educational Credit Management Corporation (ECMC) Scholars Program at Sussex Central High School visited the Virginia General Assembly on February 2, 2017. The group met with Delegate Roslyn Tyler of the 75th District. Students shared the benefits of their programs and expressed



*Pictured Above: Sussex Central High School students' visit to the General Assembly to meet with Delegate Rosalyn Tyler.*

their gratitude to Delegate Tyler for her support. They also asked Delegate Tyler to encourage other legislators to continue to allocate full-funding for Project Discovery in the state's budget. GO Tigers GO!



## SCMS Celebrates College Awareness Week!



SCMS held a college awareness week, to help develop the mindset of attending college. Each day featured a specific theme in which faculty/staff and students participated. Students were provided the opportunity to hear about their teachers' college experiences, including living on campus, balancing work with social life and narrowing down a program of study. Students were also given the opportunity to win prizes by participating in college-trivia. The week was a huge success!





2017 Valedictorian – Kayla Deaver



Monique A. J. Smith



2017 Salutatorian – Jasmine Lord

## 58<sup>th</sup> Commencement Exercises

Sussex Central High School held its 58th Commencement Exercises on Friday, June 9, 2017. Seventy one graduates of which thirty-four were honor graduates participated in this long awaited event. Mr. Julius Hamlin served as the Master of Ceremony for this wonderful occasion. The enthusiastic audience was welcomed by Brandon Lord, Senior Class President. The Valedictorian, Kayla Deaver, and Salutatorian, Jasmine Lord, also offered heartfelt messages and words of encouragement to their classmates. They also gave accolades

to their parents, classmates and school staff members for preparing them with the experiences needed to be successful beyond high school. Mrs. Monique A. J. Smith., founder of Seeds of Empowerment, LLC and 1986 graduate of Sussex Central High School, served as the keynote speaker. She delivered an inspiring charge to the Class of 2017 to "Put Your Stamp on It" by letting people know that they are from Sussex County. It was truly a night that the graduates will remember forever.



*Congratulations to  
The Class of 2017!!!*

# 2016-2017 *Teachers of the Year*



**Ms. Maria Colendrino**  
Sussex Central  
Elementary School

**Ms. Maria Colendrino** is a native of the Philippines. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Education with Social Science Specialization from Philippine Normal University in Manila and later a Master's Degree in Education at Virginia State University. As a third grade teacher, she serves team's Co-Chairperson, and member of the Sussex Central Elementary School Leadership Team. Ms. Colendrino was recognized as "Teacher of the Year" in 2010 and 2013 and was selected "Technology Teacher of the Year" in 2012 and 2015. This is her third year attending a Professional development workshop on

Innovative Mathematics Partnership for Rural Elementary Schools (IMPRES) which is a partnership project of Longwood University's Institute for Teaching through Technology and Innovative Practices (ITTIP) and Virginia State University. She serves as the Teacher Coordinator for Prince George Electric Cooperative "Round-Up for Education" program for 3 years. The program help local teachers purchase supplies and educational materials for their students. Ms. Colendrino has devoted the past 23 years to enriching the lives of the students and hopes to continue to foster a passion for lifelong learning.



**Miss Lakisha Marshburn**  
Sussex Central  
Elementary School

**Miss Lakisha Marshburn** is currently a Kindergarten Teacher at Sussex Central Elementary School. She received her education from Norfolk City Public School Division and graduated from Bayside High School in Virginia Beach, VA. After high school she quickly developed a love for making a lasting imprint on the future and decided to pursue a degree in Elementary Education. She completed the program at Virginia Union University in Richmond, VA in 2001. There, she developed her teaching philosophy which fueled her mission: To stimulate learners as thinkers,

that will instill in them a continuous learning process. During her tenure at Sussex County Public Schools, Miss Marshburn has served as a grade level chairperson, assistant chairperson, coordinated the afterschool program, served on the Parent Teacher Student Association, as well as other committees within the school. Each school, year she works very hard to propel and excel students to the next level. Miss Marshburn strives to provide an education that empowers a child and help him or her to make positive contribution to our world.



**Dr. Lisa Hill Winfield**  
Sussex Central  
Elementary School

**Dr. Lisa Hill Winfield** was born and reared in Sussex County. Her parents are Mrs. Thelma Hill and the late Mr. Floyd Hill. Dr. Winfield and her husband David Winfield reside in Jarratt, Virginia. They have a daughter, Davida Stevenson, son-in-law, Enos Stevenson III, and one granddaughter, Elise Stevenson. She has been and educator for several years serving with Sussex County Public Schools and Petersburg City Public School System. Dr. Winfield received her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Norfolk State University. She earned her Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and Doctoral of Education in Administration and Supervision from Virginia State University. She also holds a Division Superintendent's License. Some of the professional association memberships held by Dr. Winfield are: Notary Public for the Commonwealth of Virginia, The International Women's Leadership Association, Smart Beginnings Pre-School Advisory Council, Phi Delta Kappa, SEA, VEA and NEA member.

Dr. Winfield's educational employment history consist of: Pre-K Coordinator/Coach/ Family Engagement Coordinator, Science/ History Coach, Gifted Resource Instructor, Kindergarten, First, Second and Third Grade teacher, Elementary Principal and School Board Member. Professional Development leadership activities include: Field Trip Committee, School Wide Discipline Committee, Grade Level Science/History Committee, SOL Committee, and Curriculum Development Committee for Mathematics, Reading and Pre-K, VA Family Engagement Summit, Pre-School Initiative Plus-Implementation and Planning Professional Development, and VA Pre-School Initiative and Coach Training. Awards received by Dr. Winfield include: Teacher of the Month, Teacher of the Year, and Gifted Education Award from City of Petersburg Public Schools, SOL Achievement Award, Who's Who among Americans and VA School Board Association. Dr. Winfield's motto is: "Every Family, Every Teacher, Every Child, Every Day."

2016-2017 *Teachers of the Year*



**Mrs. Maia Johnson**  
Sussex Central Middle School

This is **Mrs. Maia Johnson's** fourth year as a School Counselor. For the past three years, she served as School Counselor at Sussex Central Elementary School. Before entering the school counseling arena, Mrs. Johnson taught 7th and 8th grade at an alternative school. She is a two-time graduate of Virginia State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Education degree in Counselor Education. She is a member of the Virginia School Counselor Association (VSCA), American School Counselor Association (ASCA), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Virginia State University's Alumni Association. This past October, she presented a breakout session at the VA School Counselor Association's Conference

in Hampton, VA; entitled, "I've Graduated, I Got the Job...Now What?" and will do so again this October. Mrs. Johnson's ultimate goal is to be a School Counseling Instructional Specialist for a school district and a professor in the Department of Counselor Education at Virginia State University. She just finished up her first year at Liberty University where she is working on her Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision. Mrs. Johnson & her husband ReShaud, who is also a School Counselor in Chesterfield County, have two beautiful children: Nyla who is 5 and Eian who is 2. Every day as a school counselor is an adventure for her. She is truly passionate about what she does and enjoys each day in the profession.



**Mrs. Demeatrice Garrett**  
Sussex Central High School

**Mrs. Demeatrice Garrett** is an honor graduate Sussex Central High School, a cum laude graduate from Saint Paul's College with a Bachelor of Art Degree in English Education, and a graduate of Virginia State University with a Master of Education degree. Nineteen years ago, Mrs. Garrett began her career in Sussex as a seventh grade English teacher at Sussex Central Middle School where she started the school's first student-created newspaper. She has served as the cheerleader coach for both the basketball and football teams. Mrs. Garrett has also taught eighth grade English. While teaching at the middle school, Mrs. Garrett wrote a grant that yielded the school \$18,000 to host a summer school program to motivate middle school students to read. That summer, Mrs. Garrett worked as coordinator of the "Explore Virginia Reading Program," and she was also Sussex Central Middle School's

summer lead teacher. Her middle school career also includes English Department chairperson, school mentor, and Drama Club sponsor. Mrs. Garrett is currently an English teacher at Sussex Central High School. Her hobbies include scrapbooking, writing, and shopping. Her future career aspiration is to become the founder of a nonprofit organization that benefits children in rural communities. When asked if she plans to remain a classroom teacher for the duration of her career, she responds, "Honestly, I don't know at this point. I'm going to follow my heart, and right now my heart is in the classroom. In closing she says, "I am surrounded by friends and family who love me, I have a rewarding career, and it is truly a blessing to have such a fulfilling life." Mrs. Garrett is married to her high school sweetheart, Rodney. They are the proud parents of their son Tyson.



# SCES Students Enjoy PBS Coding

Nineteen students from Sussex Central Elementary School participated in a Coding Camp sponsored by WHRO. Under the direction of Rosalie Rodriguez, Education Specialist at WHRO, the elementary students were introduced to coding using the PBS Kids ScratchJr application. Using an iPad, each student created fun stories with characters from PBS shows. They made their characters move, sing and dance using programming blocks. Mrs. Nowell, Mrs. Colendrino, Ms. Manning, Ms. K. Johnson and Mr. Mays all provided Ms. Rodriguez and the students with support during the beginning stages of the Coding Camp. By the end of the five day program, students were coding independently! On the last day of the camp, parents were invited in to watch their child present a personal coding project and receive door prizes. This was a fun, creative and amazing experience for our students!



## SVRTC 2017 Technology Awards

At the April 13, 2017 School Board Meeting, three outstanding educators were recognized for demonstrating exemplary use of technology to enhance student learning and academic achievement. The awards are recognized based on criteria established by the Southside Virginia Regional Technology Consortium (SVRTC).

The educators were congratulated by the Board and presented plaques by School Board Chair Mr. M. E. Morris and by Division Superintendent Dr. Arthur Jarrett. As division Winners, they were also presented plaques at the 11th Annual SVRTC Awards Banquet held on March 23, 2017 at Longwood University for their outstanding accomplishments.



(Left to right): Eric Byrd, Middle School Science Teacher & TLT - Division Instructional Support Award; Heath Bain, Coordinator of Technology - Division Technology Support Award; and Inez Hunter, Middle School Mathematics Teacher - Division Technology Teacher Award.

# SCHS Robotics Competition

On March 18th and 19th, SCHS Robotics Team 6021 participated in a First Robotics Competition at Churchland High School in Chesapeake Va. A Second Competition held on March 25th and 26th at Deep Run High School in Glenn Allen, Virginia. The team has received support from numerous individuals and other competing teams. SCHS Robotics team members and instructors enjoyed their second season and anticipate competing for awards again next year. Over the years, we have seen the developmental phases of assembly and ability. The team's coaches and students really improved with the design and engineering phase this season. In addition to advanced maneuvers, the 6021 robot now has the ability to climb ropes. Go Tigers!

Check for updates at  
<https://www.facebook.com/FRC-6021-196575417373052/#> or  
<https://twitter.com/frc6021>



# SCPS Social Events Keep Students Happy

## 2017 Mother and Son Celebration: My Mother... My Queen

The Student Council Association of Sussex Central Elementary School held its first Mother and Son Dance and it was an absolute SUCCESS! The celebration titled, My Mother... My Queen, took place on Friday, February 10, 2017 in the elementary school's cafeteria and gymnasium. Upon entering the building, the mothers and sons experienced a red carpet treatment and a warm welcome from event greeters. The lovely couples then proceeded to the gym where



they mingled with other mothers and sons who were all dressed in their very best attire. The queens looked amazing in their dresses and the sons were stunning in their suits. The event began with a greeting from our Director of Instruction, Mr. Hamlin, followed by a warm welcome from our principal, Dr. Davis, who also introduced the evening's speaker, Mr. Damon Peterson of Inner-Vision Education Center. Mr. Peterson shared insightful information that encouraged the mothers and their sons in the areas of respect, love, communication and many other pertinent points. After the words of encouragement, everyone

feasted on chicken, meatballs, string beans, macaroni and cheese and cake. The food was deliciously prepared by elementary cafeteria assistant, Mrs. Stephanie Yates. During the celebration, mothers and sons danced, laughed, posed for pictures and participated in raffles. Professional portraits were taken on the stage by Mrs. Nowell. The event was a total success thanks to the administrative staff, faculty members and parents that volunteered. It was chaired by Ms. Granderson and the rest of the dedicated members of the Student Council Association at Sussex Central Elementary School.

## 2017 Dads and Their Diamonds Dance

The Father Daughter Dance at Sussex Central Elementary School was an amazing night for both dads and their little diamonds (daughters) that they escorted to the dance. This elegant extravaganza took place on Friday, April 28, 2017 in the school's gymnasium. Upon entering the facility, dads and daughters were invited to take a professional photo to have



as a keepsake of the night's events. A delicious dinner was provided along with plenty of food, drinks and desserts for everyone. A highlight of the Daddy and Daughter Dance was an encouraging, motivational and heartfelt message to all the fathers present from our very own Director of Instruction, Mr. Julius Hamlin, who also escorted his little diamond to the dance. The event resumed with dads and their daughters dancing the night away. Dads and daughters also had the opportunity to participate in a "Soul Train" line and the "Mannequin Challenge". A gift bag full of treats

was presented to the winner of the daddy and daughter soul train line winners. Throughout the night, dads and daughters were given the microphone to send special shout-outs to one another. Special thanks to the Student Council Association for hosting this amazing event.



# SCPS Social Events Keep Students Happy (continued)

## 2017 JROTC Military Ball

The SCHS JROTC Cadets participated in our Annual JROTC Military Ball with Hopewell High School and Petersburg High School. This year the Tiger Battalion hosted the event and our Guest Speaker was COL (Ret) Greg Mason. The event was held at the Fort Lee Regimental Club on 7 April 2017.



## 2017 SCHS PROM

The Junior/Senior Prom was held on Friday, May 5, 2017 at the Golden Leaf Commons in Emporia, VA. This year's theme was Moroccan Magic. The student turnout was abundant! They all enjoyed themselves and partied the night away. When asked about her experience at prom, Zykeria Hudson - a junior- stated, "It was astounding and truly a night to remember." Thank you to all SCHS staff who helped make this night memorable for our students.



## Top Science Fair Winners Recognized

Sussex County Public School's parents and community partners are appreciated for their support which helped increase the popularity our 2017 division-wide Science Fair. Student participation and project entry submissions were at an all-time high. First place winners from each school were recognized on May 11, 2017 during the monthly school board meeting. Their award winning projects were on display for all to see.

# Special Notice

*Please be sure to inform your child's school of any address or phone number changes. We use 911 or physical addresses to map out bus routes. To keep parents and guardians informed, we use their postal addresses for newsletters and other mailings. Telephone numbers are used for Instant Alert messages to inform parents of emergencies, school closings and upcoming programs and activities.*

## 2017-18 Operating Budget (All Funds/Expense by Category \$18,969,301)

