

Stafford Public Schools Accomplishments and Achievements 2012-2013 and 2013- 2014

School & Academic Program Awards & Achievements

- CSDE Distinguished School Award to Stafford Middle School- Superior Performance on CMTs (one of only 52 schools in CT)
- Stafford Public Schools recognized in *Scholastic* magazine (August, 2013) for “Text Savvy Teaching”
- CABA Award of Excellence in Educational Communications, SES School Procedures Pamphlet
- Graduation Rate School Performance Index (SPI) Target Achieved

Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) Achievements

- 2013 Results Higher Than 2012 for Each of the Four Subtests
- Highest Ever Scores in Math and Reading
- Best Ever Results for Percentage of Students Achieving Goal on All Four Subtests
- Outperformed District Reference Group (DRG) F and State at Goal Averages in All Subtests (First Time Since 2009)
- Outperformed State and DRG Averages for 11th Consecutive Year in Math, Reading & Writing
- Ranked Top 3 in DRG F for 11th Consecutive Year in Math, Reading & Writing
- Maintained 90%+ Proficiency in Writing for 4th Consecutive Year
- School Performance Index (SPI) Targets Achieved, SHS

Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) Achievements

- Scored Above State and National Averages in Math and Writing Past 3 of 4 Years
- Averaged 15 Points Above State and 39 Points Above National Average in Writing (Which Highly Correlates to Academic Success in College)
- Scored Above State and National Averages in Critical Reading for 5th Consecutive Year

Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) Achievements

- Continuation of the Trend of Increasing Performances as Students Progress through the Grades
- For the 3rd Consecutive Year, Grade 8 Students Achieved at Least 80% Mastery on All Four Subtests
- Grade 7 Students Achieved 90% Mastery on Reading Assessment
- Improvement Shown in 11 of 15 Subtests in Cohort Comparisons With Double-Digit Percentage Growth on Five Assessments
- Students Achieved 80% Mastery on 8 Subtests (Tied Highest Ever)
- Achieved 75% or Greater on 10 Subtests (3rd Highest Ever)
- School Performance Index (SPI) Targets Achieved, SES and SMS

Choral Performance & Related Awards

- ≥ 80 First Graders Participated in Stafford WinterFest Parade, 2012
- Kindergarteners Performed Their First Musical, “Sounds a Little Fishy to Me”
- ≥ 200 Students (Kindergarteners and SHS Band) Participated in Premier of “A Birds’ Tale”, Original Music Commissioned through Collaborative Efforts of PTOs and Music Boosters
- 40 SMS Students Selected by Audition to Participate in Stage & Select Choirs, Travelling Annually and Competing Nationally
- Two Instrumental SMS Students Selected by Audition to Participate in Eastern Regional Middle School Orchestra
- SMS Stage Choir, 1st Place Honors/Rating of Superior, Music Showcase Festival, Virginia
- SMS Select Choir, 3rd Place Honors/Rating of Superior, Music Showcase Festival, Virginia
- SMS Stage & Select Choirs Performed the *National Anthem* for Stafford Girls’ Little League and the Springfield Falcon’s Professional Hockey Club
- SMS Stage Door Players Performed the Musical, “Annie” (Extremely Well Attended)
- Three Successful SHS Performances (in Addition to Preview for Senior Citizens and SES Students) of “Thoroughly Modern Millie”
- SHS Students Directed Shows Performed for SES (Fall 2013, “Elves & the Shoemaker” and “Lindsay Burns”)
- Sizable Monetary Donation from Music Department to SafeNet Ministries
- 11 SMS Students Selected to Audition (Band and Chorus) for Eastern Regional Middle School Music Festival
- Eighth Graders Marched with SHS Band at Big E Mardi Gras Parade & Performed Together at Two Football Games
- Six SMS and four SHS Students Selected through Competition to Participate in the All New England Music Festival, 2013 and 2014, Respectively
- 30 SHS Students Selected to Participate in the North Central Connecticut Conference (NCCC) Concert, Ellington, 2013
- One SHS Student Member of Springfield Youth Symphony
- 13 SHS Students Inducted into International Thespian Society, 2013
- Multiple Student Musical Performances (Elementary through High School) Throughout the Town, State, and Region (Including Numerous Sold-Out Performances)
- Music Department Students Made & Donated Numerous Blankets to Cancer Center at Lawrence Memorial Hospital

Visual Arts Performance & Related Achievements

- >200 Students Participated in Art Show at Stafford Public Library
- 80-100 Students Selected to Display Artwork, on a Rotating Basis, at the Pinney Building, Board of Education Meeting Room

- Student Artwork Published on *Artsonia* and *Square One* websites, through which Items May Be Purchased (e.g. Aprons, Ornaments, Mugs, Shirts, etc.)

Scholar-Athletes, All-Star Games & Tournament Participation and Awards

- Fifteen (15) of 17 Sports Teams Participated in the State Tournament
- Twelve (12) Class of 2013 Graduates are Playing College Sports
- School Scholar-Athlete Award Recipients (175+) High Honor/Honor Roll
- Girls Field Hockey, NCCC Champions, Ranked in Top 5 of Class S State Tournament
- Baseball, NCCC Champions, Ranked in Top 5 of Class S State Tournament
- Football Team, Vance Harris Football Officials Sportsmanship Award 2012
- Boys Basketball, Hale Ray Christmas Basketball Tournament Champions, 2nd Consecutive Year
- Unified Basketball, Invited to Play Half-Time Game of CT State Championship at Mohegan Sun (5000 Spectators)
- Multiple All-Conference, All-State Athlete and All-State Academic Award Winners

Post-Graduation Outcomes

- 47% of Graduates Accepted to Four-Year Post Secondary Institutions
- 33% of Graduates Accepted to/Attending Two-Year Post Secondary Institutions
- 5% Graduates Accepted to Post-Secondary Technical School/College
- 16% of Graduates Gainfully Employed
- 1% of Graduates Enrolled in the Military
- 3% of Graduates-Other
- Improved Graduation Rate (Drop-Out Rate Reduction): **Overall:** 74.4% in 2011 to 87.9% in 2012 and 87.4% in 2013

Board of Education & Staff Awards and Nominations

- Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors Distinguished Service Award (2013): Mr. Damian Frassinelli
- UConn Neag School of Education Alumni Outstanding School Educator Award: Mrs. Sandi Bidwell
- Discovery Education Network Award Finalist (one of 12): Ms. Lynn Reedy
- “Supporting Young Artists as Independent Creators” Published in The Learner-Directed Classroom: Developing Creative Thinking Skills Through Art (Teachers College Press, 2012): Mrs. Tannis Longmore

Successful Teacher Education and Mentoring (TEAM) Program

- 100% Success Rate for Passing TEAM Modules for 3rd Consecutive Year

Recipient of Competitive Grants & Corporate Donations

- Digital Sign: Corporate and private donations \$29,185

- 3M Corporation- Supplies and technology \$6,419
- Recipient of Competitive Grant Awards
 - o Common Core Technology Grant \$572,962
 - o Recipient of PASS Program Grant for 7th Consecutive Year \$188,252
 - o Distance Learning Grant \$68,036

Connections Beyond the Classroom

- Distance Learning Experiences (Grades 1- 5): Collaborative Projects with Classes Around the United States; NASA: Robotics in Space Program, Transcontinental Railroad Museum, and Yellowstone National Park Rangers
- Discovery Education Webinars (Grades 2- 12)
- Monthly On-line Technology Professional Development Program, “PD in Pajamas”, Now Includes Educators from Across the Nation

Expansion of Academic & Behavioral Interventions for Students

- Implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten
- Successful Implementation of “Read-At-Home” Program, SVS
- Implementation of New Version of the Web-Based *Lexia* Program
- Implementation of a New Web-based Universal Benchmark Assessment System (STAR), Aligned to Expectations of Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
- Promotion of Numerous Students through Expanded Credit Recovery Options

Collaborative Accomplishments

- In Collaboration with Community/Partners in Education (PIE): Community Sign Project
- In Collaboration with Stafford Energy Advisory Committee: Solar Projects/Multiple Grant Application Submissions
- Organized by School District Teachers of Music, Western Connecticut State University Jazz Orchestra Performed for Community at SHS

Other Accomplishments and Achievements

- Maintenance of National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Accreditation Status through 2018, WSS
- Two (2) Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) Dream Big! Student Award Winners 2013, Grade One, WSS
- One of Two Prudential Spirit of Community Award Recipients
- Implementation of *PowerSchool*, New Student Information System
- National Conference Presenter, Technology Integration Specialist, Ms. Lynn Reedy: “Florida Educational Technology” and “Technology in Education”
- Unified Leadership Summit (Wesleyan University) Conference Presenter: Director of Athletics & Recreation, Mr. Damian Frassinelli
- Successful Implementation of Google Apps for Educators, Including Transition to Gmail, and Establishment of Google Accounts for SHS Students

- Numerous Upgrades and Enhancements to District's Network and Infrastructure: 45 Wireless Access Points Added (SHS), Expanded Wireless Access (WS & SV), Dramatically Expanded Back-up and **Useable Storage** (96 Terabytes), and Improved Disaster Recovery System
- Deployment of Remote Software for Technology Repairs
- Overhaul of Entire Backup Scheme for Server Data to Improve Reliability and Redundancy for Data Restoration and Server Failures
- Institution of Regional Printing to Replace Individual Desktop Printers
- Upgraded Filtering System to Improve Monitoring of Internet Activity
- Modification of Elementary Report Card for Math to Reflect Common Core State Standards
- Creation of Unified Art and Personal Finance Courses at Stafford High School
- Increased "Flipped Classrooms" Via the Use of *Edmodo*
- SMS Students Developed Technology Tutorials (Google Apps and Calendar) for Use by Staff
- Implementation of CSDE-Approved/BOE-Adopted New Educator Evaluation Plan: *Stafford Public Schools' Professional Learning and Evaluation Plan*
- Implementation of New Common Core Writing Program (K- 5)
- Adoption of Textbooks for AP Biology, Pre-Calculus, American Government, Psychology, and Geography (SHS)