

Superintendent's Message
October 10, 2014

Dear Gloucester County Community:

Gloucester County Public Schools has gotten off to an excellent start in the 2014-2015 school year. I want to personally thank all faculty and staff, students, parents, and the entire community for your efforts as we continuously strive for excellence in all that we do. To that end, there have been some exciting things happening in the school district that I would like to share with the community at this time.

Our 2013-2014 accreditation ratings have been released by the Virginia Department of Education, and I am pleased to announce that six of our eight schools earned a rating of "Fully Accredited." We must now strive for even higher levels of excellence in order to meet our goal of having all schools earn full accreditation status. You may find detailed information on each school at our website (under Report Cards):

<http://gloucester.schooldesk.net/Departments/Assessment/SchoolReportCards/tabid/56510/Default.aspx>.

Mrs. Jennifer Worrell (Petsworth Elementary) has been selected as the Region III Teacher of the Year and will now compete at the State level (1 of 8 regions) for the Virginia Teacher of the Year award. Mrs. Worrell is the first teacher to receive this honor from Gloucester County. Also, we have other teachers and students who have received various awards and I want to take this time to also congratulate them on their efforts and accomplishments. Since my last message, we have added a new Principal at Peasley Middle School (Dr. Robert Parsons) and a new Assistant Principal (Mr. Cecil Avery) at Gloucester High School. In addition, we will be selecting a new Principal for Achilles Elementary School in the upcoming weeks as Mrs. Molly Broderson will be retiring at the end of October. We sincerely thank Mrs. Broderson for her service to Gloucester County Public Schools and wish her well in her retirement and future endeavors.

Construction of the new Page Middle School remains on target and we are excited about our scheduled opening in the fall of 2015. I am also pleased to announce that Gloucester County Public Schools has just received a security grant award from the Virginia Department of Education in the amount of a little more than \$98,000. These funds will be used to continue our security upgrades at our schools.

Finally, I encourage each of you to become involved in the development of our District Comprehensive Plan. Your participation, support and involvement in this process is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Our next meeting will be held from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22, 2014, in the Cafeteria of the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center (6099 T.C. Walker Rd., Gloucester, VA). In closing, I look forward to continuously working with all community stakeholders and I sincerely thank you for your time.

Walter R. Clemons, Ph.D.
Division Superintendent
Gloucester County Public Schools