Arlington
School Board
Meeting

June 23, 2022



Arlington Public Schools



Maintaining Safe, Healthy Learning Spaces

APS is committed to maintaining safe, healthy schools for all and is reviewing our COVID-19 mitigation measures to align with the current guidance from the CDC and VDH. APS will provide an update on the revised health and safety measures via School Talk on **Thursday, June 30**, prior to summer school.

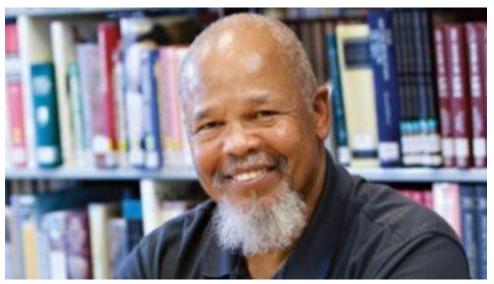
Considerations include:

- **Discontinuing contact tracing** and notifications for individual cases and the Test-to-Stay option unvaccinated individuals; focus on contact tracing for outbreaks.
- Continuing weekly optional surveillance testing in schools as a preventative measure for detecting asymptomatic positive cases among students and staff
- Revising student athlete COVID-19 testing requirements
- Reopening our schools and facilities to visitors
- Continuing to encourage masks when COVID community levels are moderate or high
- Encouraging daily health screening and staying home when ill



Celebrating the Life of Civil Rights Pioneer Ron Deskins





Former Arlington Public School student Ron Deskins passed away on June 16 at the age of 75.

Deskins was among four Black students who helped integrate Virginia schools in 1959 when he attended Stratford Junior High School (now Dorothy Hamm Middle School).

He later helped integrate Fairfax's fire department.



School Year 2021-22

YEAR END REPORT



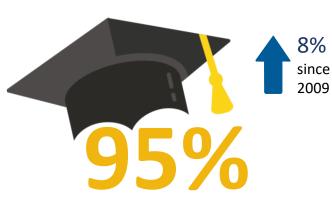
June 23, 2022





1,846 GraduatesClass of 2022

Preliminary estimate as of 6/21/22



Graduation Rate

For students in 3 comprehensive high schools



94%

On-Time Graduation Rate Highest Since 2008



INCREASE IN

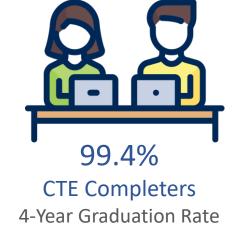
- Graduation Rates for Black and English Learner Students
- Advanced Diplomas earned by English Learners





82.5%

completed
College-Level Courses
(AP/IB/Dual Enrollment)



92%

of graduates plan to continue to post-secondary education



45% of APS Graduates awarded

\$67.5 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS

25% increase over 2021

8



All schools fully accredited 6th year in a row



Challenge Index 2022 Ranked APS Top 1-2% in Nation



85% of APS teachers Have Master's Degrees



NICHE Virginia #2 in Best School Districts #1 in Best Places to Teach



NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

APS students earned:

- 1 NMSC scholarship
- 21 NMSC semi-finalists



28 APS students accepted to Virginia music honors programs



SkillsUSA State Competition

APS students earned:

- 9 First Place
- 7 Second Place



APS Named one of **Best Communities** for Music Education (6th consecutive year)



10 APS students earned **POSSE Scholarships**



29 students accepted to **Summer Residential** Governor's School in Arts & World Languages



14 teachers earned **National Board** Certification

Overall 220+ National Board **Certified Teachers**

Ranked 2nd in VA for Board Certified **Teachers**

twice state average

REAL FOOD for KIDS

Kenmore student wins 1st place



15 student winners from APS



H-B Woodlawn student places 4th overall in Microbiology

NOVA Regional Science and Engineering Fair

APS students earned:

- 2 Grand Prize
- 13 First Place
- 14 Broadcom Masters nominations



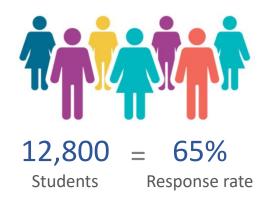
8% at APS is



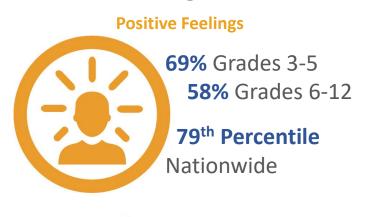




Social-Emotional Learning Survey



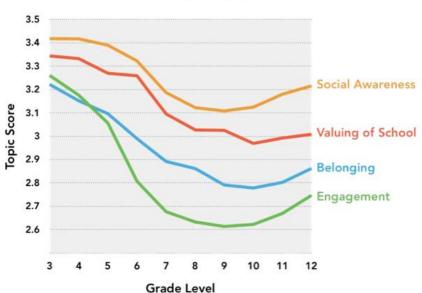
Positive Feelings and Growth Mindset are a Strength of APS students!



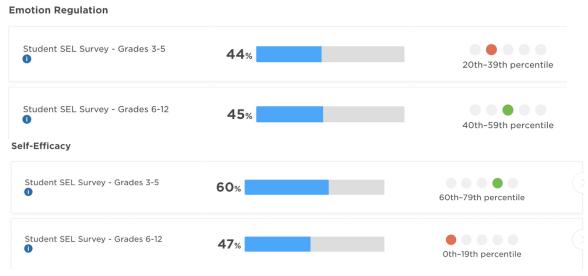
PANORAMA







APS SEL priorities for next year will focus on emotion regulation and self-efficacy.





Student Services

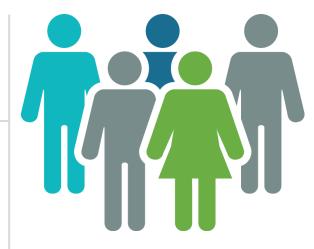


Secured **\$109,000** grant funding for ARP-Homeless Children and Youth





\$314,000 Amazon Right Now Needs gift cards to APS families in need



300 Student Services Staff participated in the PrePARE Crisis Prevention training to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the mental health needs of students and staff in the aftermath of a crisis.



4 Equity and Social Justice
trainings provided to
200+ staff on topics related to
LBGTQ+, Transgender,
Black Indigenous and
People of Color (BIPOC), and
Intergenerational Trauma



Youth Mental Health First-Aid
Training provided to nearly
60 people, including school staff
and parents/guardians, teaching
participants how to identify,
understand and respond to signs
of mental illness and substance
use in youth.



Continuing the Work: Student Well-Being



The student data collected this school year demonstrates the need for greater resources and stronger emphasis on student social-emotional learning and mental health support.

Key areas of focus will be:

- Restructuring the Office of School Support and Student Services to expand and strengthen services across all areas
- Using data to identify and deliver targeted mental health support services to students who need it
- Expanding the use of the Panorama SEL universal screener survey
- Delivering quarterly progress reports to identify and address gaps across all student groups
- Establishing a systematic approach to integrating SEL, restorative practices and trauma sensitive practices into all aspects of instruction and professional development
- Planning Fall SEL Evaluation by the Collaborative for Academics, Social Emotional Learning (CASEL)





Student Academic Progress

On March 25, APS launched an online dashboard that shows student progress in English Language Arts and Mathematics, beginning with the 2019-20 school year.

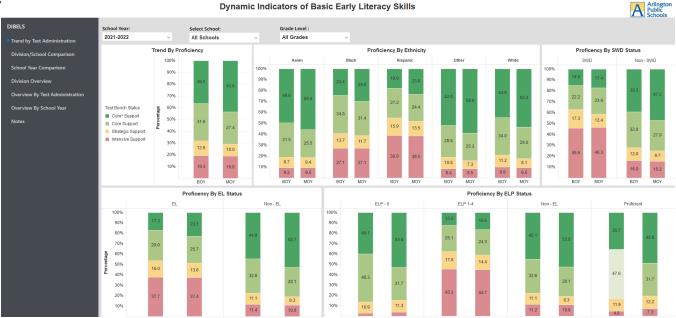
- Compiles academic data from the three primary division-wide assessments:
 - Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) (Grades K-5): Literacy screener used to determine student progress on early literacy skills, such as phonics, comprehension, fluency and other reading indicators.
 - Reading Inventory (Grades 6-9): Classroombased, adaptive assessment to evaluate students' reading performance.
 - Math Inventory 3.1 (Grades 2-8): Classroombased, computer-adaptive progress monitoring tool that measures math growth from Kindergarten through Algebra II.





DIBELS Takeaways

- Overall, students' proficiency has improved from beginning of year (BOY) 2021 to Midyear (MOY) 2022 assessments.
- For the current school year, the percentage of K-2 students performing in the "at risk/intensive support" range **decreased** from the beginning of year assessments to midyear, while the percentage of students performing in the "negligible risk/extension" range **increased**.
- The percentage of English Learners who are proficient (former ELs) or EL 6 who require intensive support is less than their non-EL peers.
- Students not showing improvement by midyear and students in the "at risk" range receive an intervention plan to help them progress.





Reading Inventory Takeaways

- Overall, proficiency has improved among students in grades 6-9 from Fall 2021 to Winter 2022 assessments.
- At middle school, the percentage of students performing in the "below basic" range **decreased**, and the percentage of students performing in the advanced range **increased** from beginning to midyear.
- This growth is also evident among the subgroups of grade 6-8 students (e.g. students with disabilities, English learners, and race/ethnicity).





Supporting Students in ELA



Identify students who need interventions



Implement individual intervention plans and monitor student progress.



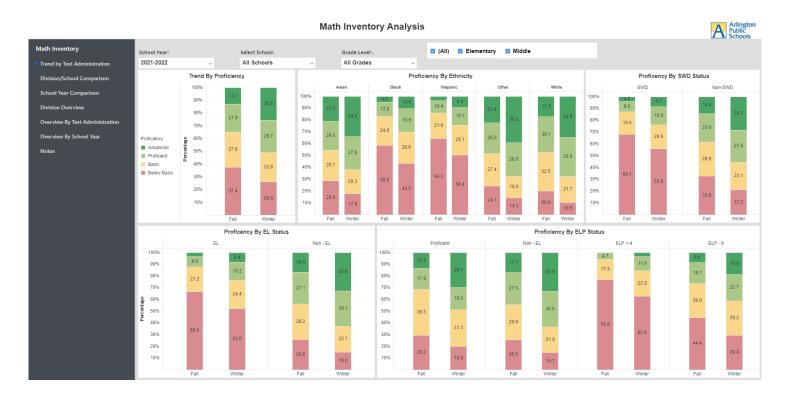


- Targeted small-group structured literacy lessons
- Targeted small-group instruction using 95% Group interventions
- Orton Gillingham methods for explicit and systematic interventions
- Weekly usage in Lexia CORE-5 or PowerUp and additional small group instruction to target specific needs; includes usage of teacher resources and instructional materials provided by Lexia
- Targeted instruction provided through middle school Reading Strategies courses



Mathematics Takeaways (Grades 2-8)

- On average, APS students demonstrated more than a half-year's worth of growth on the mid-year test, exceeding the annual growth goal.
- There was an overall improvement among students in grades 2-8.
- In every grade level, the percentage of students performing in the below basic range **decreased**, and the percentage of students performing in the advanced range **increased** during the midyear test.





Supporting Students in Mathematics



Identify students who need interventions



Implement individual intervention plans and monitor student progress.





- Targeted small-group instruction using researchbased best practices that incorporate models, multiple representations, and/or other math supports
- Targeted small-group instruction using Do The Math
- Targeted lessons assigned in Dreambox and additional small-group or one-on-one instruction to target specific area(s) of need
- Targeted instruction provided through a middle school Math Strategies course and/or through small group instruction



Other Academic Highlights

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



LETRS for Administrator training for all elementary school

administrators

112 PL opportunities provided to **4,668** staff



New K-5 ELA Resources including sustained PL Grant funding for Literacy Coaches

SCIENCE



Science teachers receive

Bay Watershed Education

Training Grant from

NOAA grant to support
sustainability practices

MATHEMATICS



Collaborated with Hampton City Public Schools to provide professional learning

Engaged in **book study** around modernizing mathematics



Professional Development



- EdTech: CyberSecurity Training for all ITCs
- EL: 81 sheltered content instruction trainings provided to 470 secondary teachers
- Gifted Services: 2,433 Professional Learning sessions; 55 teachers completed the Gifted Services Coaching Cycle
- Social Studies: 37 staff attending summer training in inquiry-based practices
- Special Education: 9226 hours of professional learning; 2757 staff completed Accessibility 101 course

WORLD LANGUAGES



DLI Task Force to strengthen Dual language Immersion; move to **Full Early Immersion**

New **ASL curriculum frameworks**

New resources funded for Spanish Language Arts, Spanish for Fluent Speakers, and French

SOCIAL STUDIES



Piloted VDOE-developed performance tasks in World Geography & History to be used to award verified credits next year



Received funding for **social studies resources** K-3 & 6-7

EARLY CHILDHOOD



PALS scores are higher in all areas over 2020-21

Pre-K enrollment trends
REBOUND since 2019

CAREER & TECH ED (CTE)



626 more course enrollments over 2020-21



Continuing the Work: Academics



The student data collected this school year demonstrates the need to continue our support of all learners in literacy and numeracy, with a specific focus on our English Learners, Students with Disabilities, Black and Hispanic/Latino students.

Key areas of focus will be:

- Provide more instructional staff and resources to advance literacy and math
 - Coaches and interventionists, as well as Student Support Coordinators and Behavior Specialists
- Deliver continuous enhancements to Tier 1 (core) instruction for all
- Expand professional learning to strengthen IEPs, improve instruction for ELs and enhance supports for all students
- Utilize and optimize new curriculum resources for Math and ELA to serve the needs of Students with Disabilities and English Learners (ELs)
- Evaluation of English Learner Strategic 5-Year Plan to ensure that ELs have meaningful access to the core curriculum







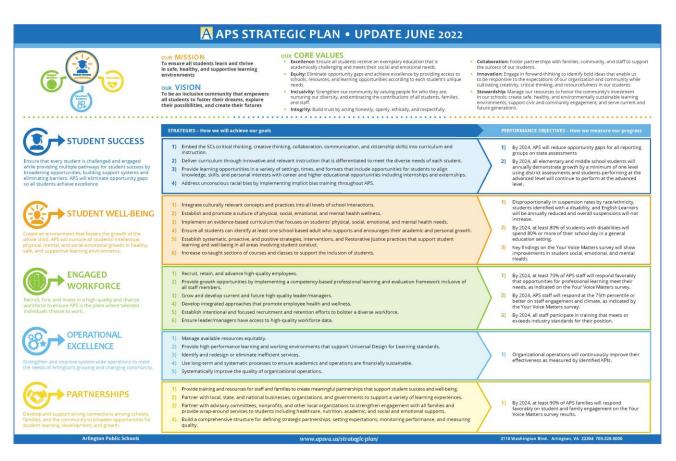
SCHOOL BOARD PRIORITY 2:

Advance 2018-24 Strategic Plan goals focusing on innovation and equity



Strategic Plan Tuning – Tuned Plan Effective July 1, 2022

- Tuned the 2018-24 Strategic Plan changes are effective July 1, 2022
- Revised Strategic Planning System
 Policy and Tuning Process
- Tuning occurs every other year during the six-year period
- Refined the performance objectives and strategies to strengthen plan implementation and monitoring





Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Equity Team Influencers

in every Elementary School; District-wide team redesign Surveyed 1000+ parents about equity goals





Community Conversations on Mental Health meets

monthly; averages 80 participants



First-ever **Equity Retreat**with School Board



Mental Health
Student Focus
Groups with 125
middle and high
school students



Equity PIP

Created to

Equity Policy

support

80 hours of one-on-one **tutoring** provided to students experiencing housing insecurity

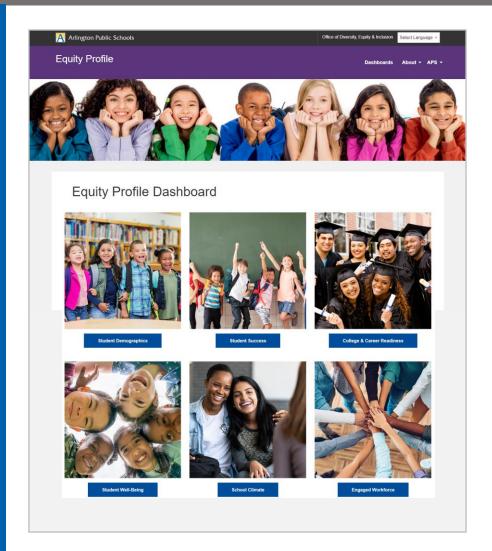


Summer Mailbox Books

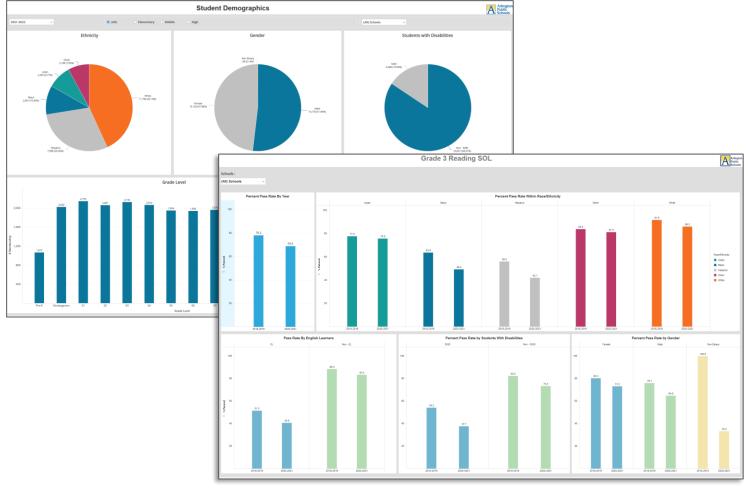
keep Title I students reading all summer



APS Equity Profile Dashboard



Launched June 10 – First ever for APS
Using data to help identify gaps, take action, and create an APS
experience where all students and staff can thrive



equityprofile.apsva.us



Continuing the Work: Innovation and Equity



APS is committed to meeting every child where they are by name and by need. The updated Strategic Plan and Equity Profile provide a framework and benchmarks for measuring progress and addressing barriers to success for all student groups.

Key areas of focus will be:

- Roll out the tuned Strategic Plan and report on progress at regular intervals and through monitoring reports
- Partner with Office of School Support to provide monthly equity-focused professional learning for Principals and template for all scales
- Complete the remaining sections of the Equity Profile to include more robust data
- Hold a series of community conversations and focus groups on equity and how the data is being used
- Report progress on an ongoing basis









Compensation Study

Compensation Study Goals:

- Remain competitive
- Provide steps to eligible employees

Highlights and Recommendations:

- Provide missed step increases for eligible employees
- Eliminate longevity steps
- Increase total number steps for each grade
- Step increases to range between 3% to 4%
- Average 7.3% salary increase for FY23 on scales E, P, and T
- Average 9.8% salary increase for scales A, C, D, G, M, and X
- Support staff starting hourly rates to increase to no less than \$15.68/hour
- Bus drivers are ranked the highest amongst neighboring jurisdictions
- Starting rates for all scales ranked near the top when compared to neighboring jurisdictions





Collective Bargaining



- School Board resolution to **allow collective bargaining** for three employee groups:
 - Licensed personnel
 - Support personnel
 - Administrative personnel
- Director, Labor Relations will guide the school division in negotiating:
 - Wages
 - Benefits
 - Terms and conditions of employment
- Planning FY2023; Implementation FY2024



Hiring & Retention



BASE Camp for new Teachers

- Supported over **236** new teachers
- 84 mentors trained to support
- **96** new teachers paired with teachers and coaches through VA-funded grant with JMU
- 94% approval rating for BASE camp



Earlier Staffing: Announced vacancies on April 1, 2022 to compete with regional partners

Early contracts- by May 6:

- 111 contracts offered
- 71 accepted



substitutes per month





First Employee Transfer Fair 400+ staff interviewed for vacancies



- HR staff attended 49 recruitment events
- 2 Support Staff Job Fairs yielded 81 applicants and 43 new hires
- 3 Teacher Job Fairs yielded 1,000+ applicants, 280 interviews, **71 new hires so far**



136 retirees served an average of 25.4 years in education



Continuing the Work: Investing in Employees



APS will continue working to ensure employees feel valued, heard and well-compensated, and providing opportunities for employees to have a voice in their compensation, benefits, and other areas most important to them.

Key areas of focus will be:

- Maintain compensation as a key priority, building on findings of the compensation study to ensure APS remains remains competitive and retains high quality staff
- Begin the collective bargaining process
- Provide more robust training and offer a wider array of professional learning opportunities for all staff

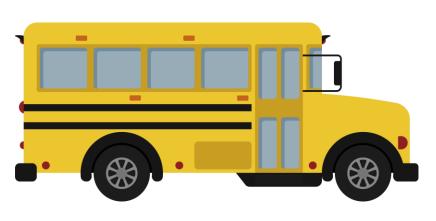








Improving Facilities and Transportation



- 3 electric school buses by Fall 2022
- 4 charging stations will be installed June 2022
- 10+ buses removed to lessen carbon footprint
- "Where's the Bus" app rollout for 2022-23
- New routes to align with new bell times



New swim and fitness schools increased rental revenue by 8%

Full return to community swim and high school athletics



Completed **59 MC/MM level projects**

- Playgrounds
- repainting and reflooring schools
- large HVAC component upgrades
- field improvements
- lighting upgrades
- Wakefield High School HVAC



- Solar Array installation at Abingdon Elementary completed
- Total APS Solar PV Capacity is 2.65
 MWDC at 8 schools
- Install two more PV arrays at Cardinal and Jefferson in 2022-23



Improving Operational Efficiency

Comprehensive study of start/end times held February-April 2022



- Decrease in bus route tiers from eight to five
- Addition of up to 10 minutes of instructional time to all levels
- Bell schedules will allow for instructional day to end by 3:50 pm,
- Cost savings of approximately \$1.9
 million through fewer drivers and
 attendant FTEs



Investing in the Future: Career Center Renovation

The renovated Arlington Career Center:

- Opens new school facility by Dec. 2025, parking garage and field by April 2027
- Provides facility on par with other APS high school facilities
- Expands curricular offerings not currently available to full-time ACC students
- Doubles career and technical classes for students enrolled at other high schools -300 seats offered, three times per day = 900 total
- Allows for growth of the Arlington Tech program
- Funding \$174.62 million





Prioritizing Safety and Security



SAFETY

- 45 Work Orders reviewed and addressed
- 69 AEDs inspected and certified for operation
- Transitioned to School Safety Coordinators
 (34) to comply with Department of Criminal Justice Services certification requirements
- Corrected 106 deficiencies for the fire alarm and sprinkler systems



SECURITY

- Completed 4,235 work requests
 ranging from key requests, public
 address system repairs, door/hardware
 changes, and OneCard access requests
- Upgraded building alarm systems to APS OneCard
- Reviewed over 193 hours of video footage for reasonable suspicion of behavior and policy violations

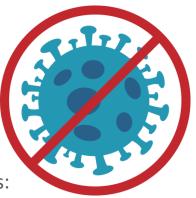
RISK

- Achieved the lowest manual determination rate in entire VACORP pool at 0.63
- Completed 28 serious vehicle accident, 3 general liability and 15 serious worker injury investigations
- Reviewed 14 unusual field trip requests and 42 contracts



EMERGENCY

- Distributed over **250,000 rapid tests** to students and employees
- Managed 6,065 student and
 1,492 employee cases
- Approved for over \$7 million in FEMA reimbursement to date
- Distributed COVID mitigation supplies:
 - 535,500 masks
 - 30,000 Disinfecting wipes
 - 5,000 Gallons of hand sanitizer





Improving Information Services







Processed **38,000 service requests** with 96% customer satisfaction rate



Implemented Mastery Connect assessment platform





- Received \$3.6M federal technology resource grant
- Lowered annual Oracle subscription fee for Cloud software

UPGRADES AND IMPROVEMENTS

- Completed Discovery Phase for ERP platform upgrade
- Transitioned the Synergy Student Information System (SIS) to a more secure environment
- Increased Internet service capacity
- Upgraded the authentication system
- Upgraded the wireless network
- Prepared for core router upgrade
- Upgraded telephone system to provide reliable access to emergency services
- Increased staff cybersecurity awareness



- Configured and distributed 15,000+ new devices
- Upgraded or repaired over 8,000 student devices



Continuing the Work



Keeping our schools safe and secure and improving operations remain priorities for the upcoming school year, as APS invests in technology and facilities enhancements and continues division-wide emergency training and drills.

Key areas of focus will be:

- Continue to enhance school safety and security, and provide training on safety plans, emergency response and community notification procedures
- Implement new bell schedules determined during the bell study
- Roll out new transportation notification tool –
 Where's the Bus





Congratulations to the Class of 2022





Congratulations to the Class of 2022













