



October 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians of Eighth-Grade Students,

A rapidly changing workforce requires school divisions to offer a variety of educational opportunities in order to equip students with the skill set necessary to be college and career ready upon graduation from high school. While the core programs offered at our comprehensive high schools provide an intense focus on communication, computation, scientific concepts and historical and geographic understanding, Chesterfield County Public Schools realizes the need to target special interests of students as well.

I hope you will take the opportunity to learn more about our extended course offerings by attending this year's Virtual Specialty Center Fair on Monday, October 26th. Due to the current restrictions on gathering together in large groups, we have prepared a presentation that will share about each of our specialty centers, their course curriculum pathways, their application requirements, and each of their Open Houses, which will be held in November. The link to this year's Virtual Specialty Center Fair presentation will be available at 6:30 p.m. and can be accessed in the "Specialty Centers" section under the "Schools" tab of the district's website.

The fair provides general information about the 12 specialty centers, two Governor's Schools and other special programming offered. You also can learn more about our specialty center offerings by visiting mychesterfieldschools.com/schools/specialty-centers/. Additional information regarding high school choices can be obtained through the middle school counselors. During class meetings, our middle school counselors will be sharing information with 8th graders about specialty centers and the upcoming Virtual Specialty Center Fair. If you or your student have questions, your child's counselor is available to personally discuss your student's academic options for the 2021-22 school year.

I encourage you to take some time to view the Specialty Center Fair presentation to find out about all of the program options that are available to our students. You will have the ability to view the presentation again later if you want to revisit some of the information. We have a lot to offer in Chesterfield County Public Schools, and we look forward to sharing information about our specialty centers, Governor's Schools and other special programming with you. As we look ahead, I am excited to join your family as your 8th grader learns about opportunities that are available in planning for high school. Best wishes for a rewarding and exciting eighth grade year!

Sincerely,

Mervin B. Daugherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent