

Sanford Creek Families,

Without question, the past two weeks have been difficult. Adherence to safety protocols by **all** the adults involved in our community has been vital to our ongoing efforts. I extend my sincere appreciation to staff and families for continuing to promote health and wellbeing on our campus. THANK YOU!! For those who have asked, SCE's daily staff absence rate in 2022 has been averaging around 9-10%.

This family email is lengthy – thank you for reading through to the end. **Please consider saving/bookmarking the links highlighted in yellow.** When guidance from the district is updated, these links will automatically update. During times where guidance is changing often, you need the most updated info in order to make decisions for your family. **Stay in touch with your child's teacher** (email, Talking Points, telephone, Remind, Dojo messaging app, notes in folders, etc.)

As always, thank you for your support.
Sincerely, Tiffany Rich, Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan 17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – No School
Jan 20-21	Virtual Academy Qtr. 3 Material Pick-Up (come by anytime – it's ready for you)
Jan 24	Welcome Back Tr 4 (In-Person and VA)
Jan 24	Track 3 Track Out Begins
Jan 24 - Feb 4	Extended Learning Camp for Track 3
Jan 24	<u>Virtual PTA Meeting, 6pm – Open to all</u>

Note: Jan 27, PDQ Family Night has been postponed until the Spring

Notice for Parents of Yellow School Bus Riders:

Due to driver shortages, we encourage families to check the status of your child's bus daily at www.wcpss.net/busupdate. In addition to checking the bus update page, you can also track your child's bus using the [Here Comes the Bus app](#).

Notice for Parents of Walkers in the PM:

Students who dismiss as a walker will be escorted by school staff out of the building and down the stairs to the crosswalks. Sanford Creek staff are trained to stop traffic and guide students across safely. **Effectively immediately, parents or guardians of walkers in grades K-1 must be present on the other end of the crosswalk to assume responsibility.** SCES staff will no longer wait with children on the sidewalk for an adult to show. **Walkers who do not have an adult present at the time students cross will return to campus to await pick-up.**

Respectfully, we ask that you not pull up on Granite Falls Blvd. and ask for your child to "hop in" from the sidewalk. This is not safe.

FASTER RESULTS FOR COVID-19 TESTING

If you have been exposed to or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, you can be tested at one of the free testing locations throughout Wake County. Radeas Labs, the provider for WakeGov testing sites, has been able to turn around testing results within 12 hours. [Find a free WakeGov COVID-19 testing site near you](#). Registration is required.

Radeas Labs is also partnering with [Baptist on Mission](#) to bring a new drive-thru testing site to Southbridge Fellowship Church. It operates Mondays - Fridays from 3:30 - 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. at [12621 Strickland Road, Raleigh](#). No cost and no appointment necessary.

View wcpss.net/WhenToReturn for requirements to return after a COVID-19 diagnosis, exposure, or symptoms.

Most recent updates:

- Boosters are not required for ages 5-17 to be considered up to date on recommended vaccinations.
- If exposed, you do not need to quarantine so long as you are up-to-date with recommended vaccinations and don't have symptoms.
- If you were diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 90 days and you have no symptoms, you do not need to quarantine. You must continue to wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure.
- For those living with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, the quarantine time is updated to reflect options for people up-to-date on recommended vaccinations.
- Everyone must continue to wear a mask when returning from 5-day quarantine. If you can't, stay home for another 5 days.

VOLUNTARY COVID-19 TESTING

Our school, in partnership with MAKO Medical, provides **COVID-19 testing for students and staff**. COVID-19 testing is an effective way to reduce transmission, especially when layered with other measures. Participation helps safeguard the entire school community and gives you information to help you keep your children healthy.

Participation in the program is voluntary. A parent or guardian must register any K-12 student under 18 years old in order for a COVID-19 test to be administered. **This [page on the WCPSS website](#) has additional FAQ's at the bottom.**

The testing is simple: MAKO Medical staff quickly and gently swab students' noses. They place all the swabs in a single tube (that's the pooling step). The samples in that tube are then tested as a single sample, using one test. If a positive test is received, everyone in the "pool" will return to school the next day to take another test to identify the person who tested positive for COVID-19. The entire testing process takes approximately 30-45 seconds. Testing occurs each Monday afternoon at 1:30pm. [Register here >](#)

COVID-19 VACCINE is now available for children ages 5+

Wake County Public Health encourages parents to protect their children aged 5-17 with the COVID-19 vaccine – it's safe, effective, and **available at no cost**. Visit <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines/kids> to find a vaccine near you.

PTA NEWS:

Sanford Creek Spirit Wear and Magnets

Check out the new design, colors offered, options of short & long sleeve, the new hooded sweatshirt, and discounts on past year Spirit Wear. www.SanfordCreekSpiritWear.com

Next Meeting: Monday, January 24 @ 6pm [Link to Meeting](#)