

**Superintendent's Report
Board of Education Meeting
August 14, 2018**

Good afternoon and welcome back. Employees have been busy all summer ordering instructional supplies, cleaning classrooms, preparing documents, updating curriculum and completing construction and maintenance projects.

This afternoon we will update you on our safety and security efforts. Jason Stoddard, our director of safety and security, will lead a presentation about many of the procedural changes implemented over the summer. Mike Heim, assistant superintendent of supporting services, plans to give a brief overview of the safety enhancements at some schools, including creating office vestibules at six schools and developing designs for vestibules at 15 others.

Our first School Safety Town Hall is August 29, starting at 6:30 p.m. at St. Charles High School. We are incorporating technology into the meeting to allow those that cannot attend to watch the forum live or submit questions online. The Town Hall follows the 2018-19 school year kickoff of the community-based School Safety Advisory Council on August 28. We are anxious to continue the work we started with this group last school year.

Today, we are launching a volunteer page on the CCPS website that provides guidance as well as training for our volunteers. New this year are more consistent guidelines and the requirement for volunteers to complete training and provide information for a background check prior to volunteering in our schools. Volunteers who must complete a background check include, but are not limited to mentors, tutors, non-paid coaches/sponsors, overnight and day trip chaperones, reading/math partners, and parent group organization officers such as PTO, boosters and team parents. The school system is paying for the cost of the background check and will notify parents through email and a phone call this afternoon about these enhanced procedures for volunteers.

CCPS has also retrained or trained returning and new substitutes. CCPS fingerprints new hires, substitutes and temporary employees and submits fingerprints to the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) which searches both the Maryland and FBI databases. Additionally, substitutes and new hires are undergoing an additional background check that uses their Social Security number to provide more information.

Tomorrow is the start of our annual Leadership Institute. At this three day conference for all of our school leaders, we will ask our administrators to pledge to #choose kind. The CCPS Kindness Campaign is the focus of the Leadership Institute and reinforces compassion, acceptance of differences, and empathy toward others. Our goal is to encourage students and staff when faced with a choice to choose respect and kindness. The institute provides professional development for our leaders as well as important messages about the significant role that leaders play in the success of our organization.

Welcome to the new school year. As always, thank you for your support of teaching and learning.