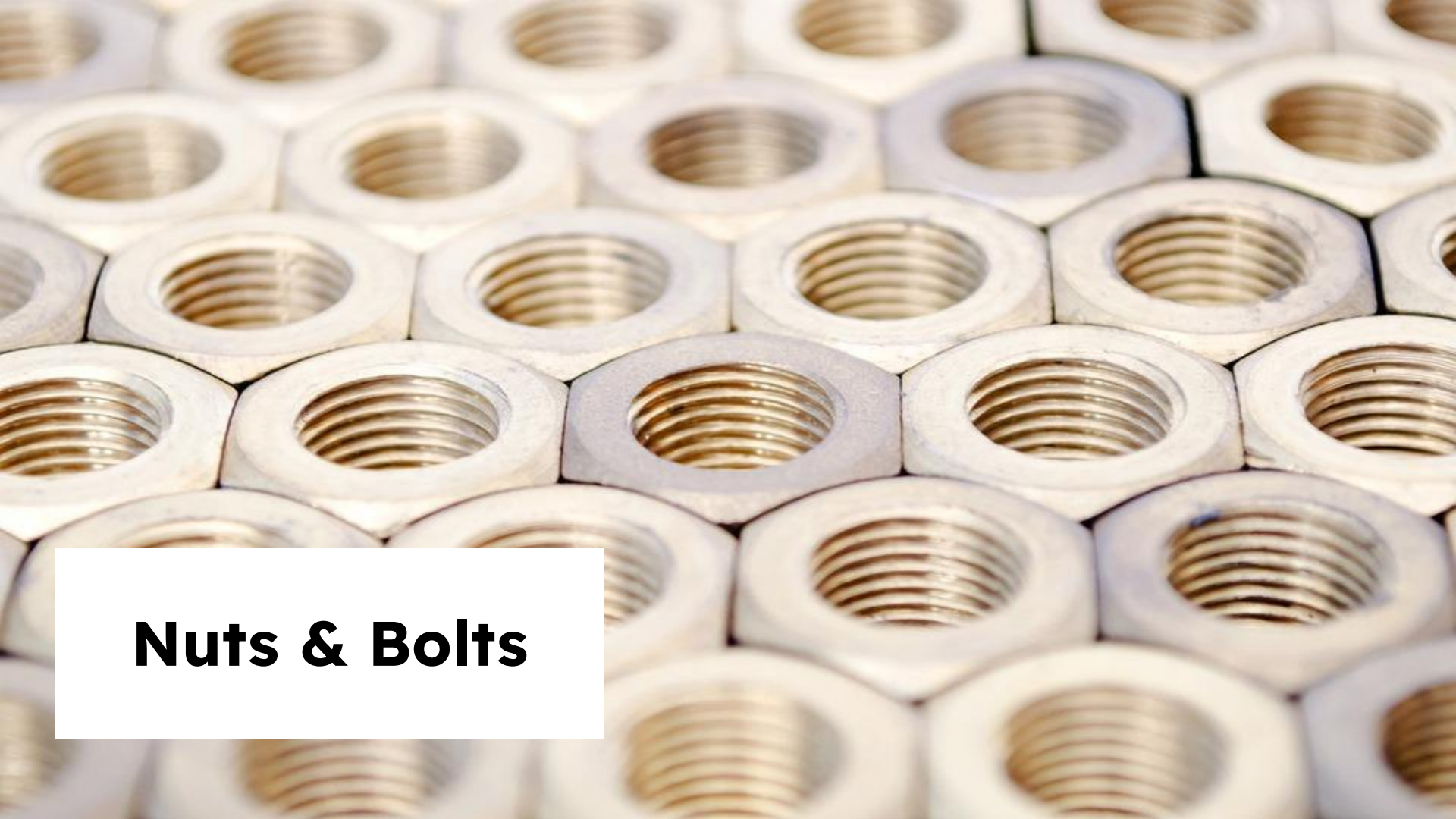


Welcome to Cooper!

We are so excited for the 2024-2025 school year.





Nuts & Bolts

PTO Executive Board

- ❖ **Heather Murphy Capps - President**
- ❖ **Jennifer Schuette - 1st VP (Membership)**
- ❖ **Julia Lookabill - 2nd VP (Fundraising)**
- ❖ **Kaha Hashi - Corresponding Secretary**
- ❖ **Jenny Peoples - Recording Secretary**
- ❖ **Kelly Hare - Treasurer**
- ❖ **Amy Bailey - Parliamentarian**

Visit

<https://cooperpto.org/>



PTO

Please join the PTO and partner with us as we:

Support our students:

- Software licenses
- After School Activities support
- Post SOL-testing treat days

Support our staff:

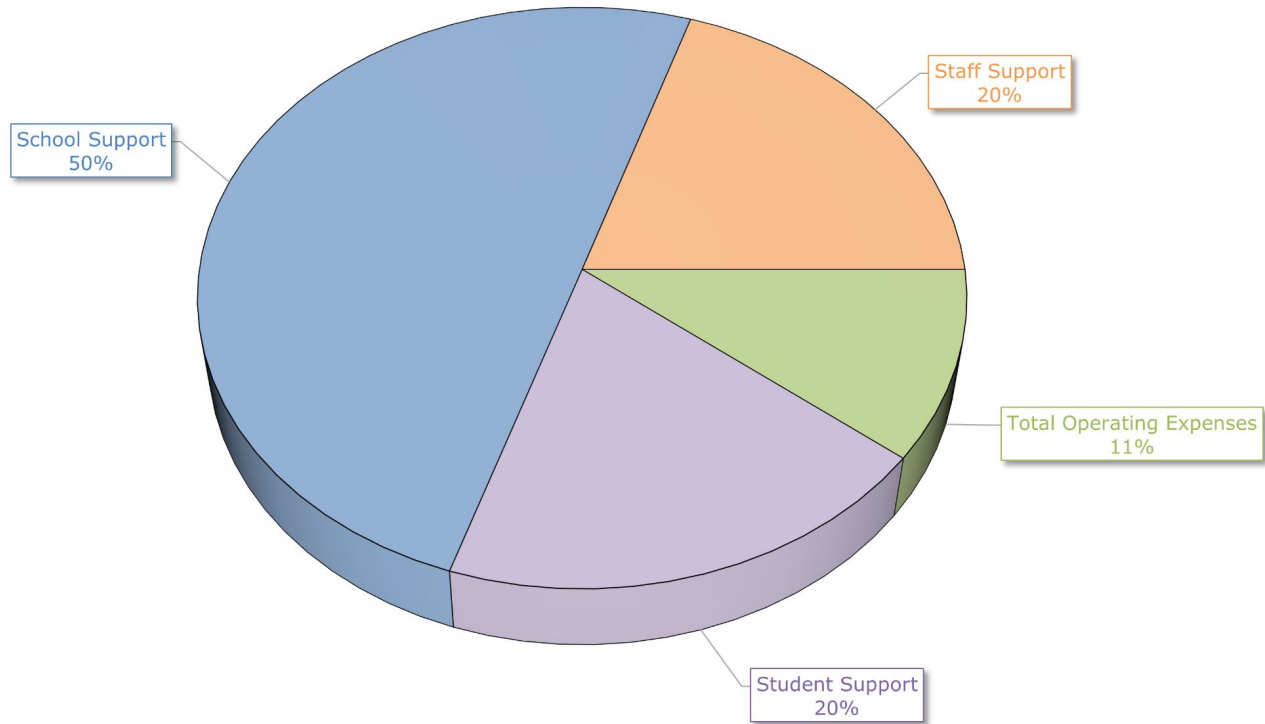
- Teacher appreciation week
- Professional development opportunities
- After School Activities assistance

Support our school:

- Purchase of furniture
- Beautification of our new spaces



2023-24 PTO EXPENSES



Join the PTO!

Please consider joining the PTO if you have not already:

1. PTO Membership: \$25 per family
2. Annual Fundraiser Donation: \$125 suggested per student

How to join the PTO:

1. Scan the QR code
2. Visit <https://cooperpto.org/> and

Click Here to Join The PTO
Online Today!



Welcome!

<p>Lisa Barrow Principal</p>	<p>Dana Scabis Director of Student Services</p>	<p>Maureen McLoughlin 7th grade Assistant Principal</p>	<p>Kyle Laspe 8th grade Assistant Principal</p>
<p>Leah Lemon Special Education Department Chair</p>	<p>Heather Dorman School Based Technology Specialist (SBTS)</p>	<p>Kevin Dabbondanza Technology Support Specialist (TSSPEC)</p>	<p>Courtney Kaden Instructional Coach</p>
<p>Sarah Reeser Advanced Academics Resource Teacher</p>	<p>Brian Klena After School Program Specialist</p>	<p>Jimmy Kaden Athletic Coordinator</p>	<p>Officer Mike Hunter School Resource Officer (SRO)</p>

Student Services

Keyosha Lewis

7th grade counselor
Last Names A-K

Michele Saint Germain

7th grade counselor
Last Names L-Z

Laura Wiley

8th grade counselor
Last Names A-K

Jill Donnelly

8th grade counselor
Last Names L-Z

Kaelyn Serrao

Full Time Social Worker

Heather Miller

Part Time Psychologist

Coming soon!

Registrar, Student Information Assistant (SIA)



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Great Falls Mural





World Language Classroom

We have new spaces opening.



Courtyard

2nd Engineering Classroom



Media Studio



Fitness Studio



Chorus Classroom



PE Vestibule

We anticipate additional spaces opening this school year.

VDOT 495 Next

- Georgetown Pike work
- Weekend of August 16
- Opening bridge 5am on the first day of school
- Check traffic, anticipate challenges



Scan to sign-up for
[495 Next project updates](#)

Transportation

- Pick-up and drop-off times will be posted in ParentVUE
- Arrive 10 minutes early to the bus stop the first week
- Students will be assigned seats on the bus
- Cell phones are permitted on buses and headphones are encouraged
- Students Rights & Responsibilities (SR&R) applies
- Students can check SIS for their bus number **and** receive an email from Mrs. Kaden to their FCPS email on Friday.



Area IV Transportation: (703) 249 7100

Kiss & Ride

Kiss & Ride is located in the back of the school building.

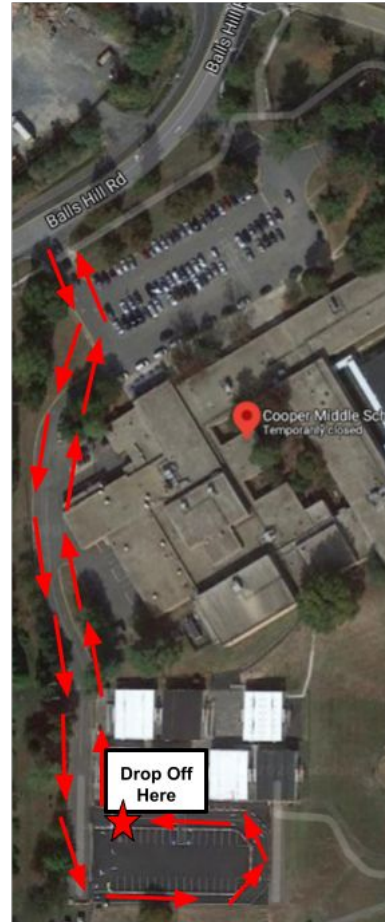
AM Arrival

- Students may be dropped off at Kiss & Ride at 7:00 AM, no earlier.
- They should follow the designated path to the school and report to one of the following locations:
 - 7th graders to Gym 1
 - 8th graders to Gym 2
 - Cafeteria for those purchasing breakfast

PM Dismissal

- Students will be dismissed at 2:15.
- Teachers and staff will help students locate their vehicle.

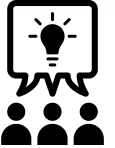
Please do not drop-off or pick-up students at locations other than Kiss & Ride as it presents a safety concerns for students.



Block Schedule

Odd	Even	Start Time	End Time
Block 1	Block 2	7:30	8:56
Block 3	Block 4	9:00	10:26
Block 5	Block 6	(10:30)	(12:45)
Class, Recess, Lunch	Class, Recess, Lunch	Students will have Block 5 or 6, recess, and lunch during this time. Block 5 teachers will inform students of which lunch/ recess on odd days. Block 6 teachers will inform students of which lunch/ recess on even days.	
Block 7	Block 8	12:49	2:15

Block 4



Embedded time in middle & high schools to support social-emotional learning

Advisory (9:00 - 9:30)

Block 4 Advisory will focus on relationships, community, resilience, and empowerment:

- Connections with a caring adult and peers
- Engagement
- Relevance (real-life)
- Sense of belonging, affirming identities
- Elevating student voice
- Planning for the future
- Skill development in organization and executive functioning

QST (9:34 - 10:25)

QST is Quiet Structured Time designed for:

- Homework completion
- Studying for upcoming assessments
- Testing Center
- Time to meet with teachers for support
- Intervention/enrichment opportunities
- Library

Student will remain in Advisory for the entirety of block 4 for the first three weeks of school. Then, students will be assigned to a QST.

Backpacks

Students will utilize backpacks in lieu of lockers.

Rolling backpacks are discouraged as they present a safety concern in hallways.



Students should identify a system for odd/ even days and what materials to bring with them each day.

Most instructional materials will be available in Schoology. Students may want to wait a few days into school before determining their system for organizing school work.

Supply List



7th Grade Supply List

The recommended and required supply list for current Cooper 7th graders.



8th Grade Supply List

The recommended and required supply list for current Cooper 8th graders.

<https://cooperms.fcps.edu/academics/school-supply-list>

eHallPass

- Electronic hall pass system used anytime a student is leaving the classroom (restroom, water fountain, etc.)
- Way to support student safety as well as time in classrooms



Lunch

- Lunch is during either 5th or 6th block
- Breakfast costs \$1.75
- Lunch costs \$3.50
- Parents can fund lunch accounts through MySchoolBucks. The balance from previous school years carries over.
- Student PIN Numbers are emailed to parents
- Menus are available on *nutrislice*
- Please label lunch boxes and water bottles



Cell Phones, AirPods & Accessories

- FCPS cell policy for secondary schools
- Phones, headphones, and accessories should be **silenced** and **placed in backpacks** during the school day from 7:30 AM-2:15 PM.
- If students need to contact their parent/ guardian during the day, they can use the phone in the front office.
- Students may use cell phones after school and on bus as long as used appropriately.



Social Media

- Middle schoolers crave connections
- Parental monitoring
 - It takes more than kindness
 - Curiosity, Connection, and Coaching
- SnapChat (and others)
- Connection to SR&R - Digital Dilemmas
- Time of vulnerability and opportunity



After School Programs



After School Program Specialist: Brian Klena

- After School Activities begin September 11th and run through the end of May.
- After School days are **Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.**
 - A Session: 2:30-3:30 (Pick-up is Kiss & Ride only)
 - B Session: 3:30 - 4:30 (Pick-up is Kiss & Ride and Late Buses)
- Late buses will start to show up around 4:30PM.
- All students will be enrolled in the After School Activities group in Schoology, and there will a Google Form posted for new club ideas.
- A snack is provided every late day.

After School Programs

Cooper offers a mix of activities. Some are for fun, some are competitive, and others are for extra help with schoolwork. Here are some and many more!!

Clubs

- Model UN
- Homework Help
- Open Library
- Debate Club
- Writing Center
- Drama
- Art Experiences
- Ambassador Club
- SCA
- Math Counts
- Gardening
- And more!

Sports

- Cross Country - Fall
- Track - Spring



Middle School Sports

Middle School Sports will begin when After School Activities begin around September 11th.

- Fall: Cross country
- Spring: Track
- Additional Sports: To Be Announced

Cooper's Athletic
Coordinator:

Jimmy Kaden
jtkaden@fcps.edu

Middle School Sports

How to register for MS Sports:

1. Family must complete the FCPS MS Athletics Registration Google Form
2. Family must complete and turn in the MS Athletics Physical Form (form must be dated after May 1, 2024)
3. Family must complete and turn in the Emergency Care Form

All forms must be turned in to Cooper's Main Office before students will be eligible to practice.

Additional details will be shared with students & families through Schoology and weekly News You Choose emails.

**Team
Store -
Coming
Soon!**



A close-up photograph of school supplies. In the foreground, a yellow folder is partially visible on the left. Below it, several notebooks are stacked. One notebook has a drawing of a person's face with glasses and the handwritten text "# Belajar itu penting". Another notebook shows a drawing of a bicycle wheel. Three pens (green, blue, and purple) and a silver pen are lying on the notebooks. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the yellow folder and the stack of books.

Instruction

Instructional Updates

Virginia Department of Education (VDOE):

- Implementation of 2023 standards for English and math
- “Crosswalk” year for Social Studies
- Implementation of Virginia Literacy Act

FCPS:

- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
- Honors Framework



Grading & Reporting

Updates to the FCPS
Secondary Grading &
Reporting policies for middle
and high schools to create
transparency and alignment.

A	100-93	C	76-73
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
B	86-83	D	66-63
B-	82-80	D-	62-60
C+	79-77	F	59-50

Grading & Reporting

Traditional Gradebook	Rolling Gradebook
Quarter grades are solidified	Quarter grades are snapshots
Mastery must take place within the quarter	Allows for more opportunities for students to demonstrate mastery or understanding
Final grade is an average of quarter grades	Final grades are an average of all grades

Grading & Reporting

Each class will provide a syllabus with specific course information (teacher contact, pacing of instruction, class materials, etc.)

Common Grading and Reporting information will include:

- gradebook weighting,
- policies related to reassessments, late work, make-up work,
- and information related to Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Please review these documents as they are sent home and posted in Schoology.

Required Template for Syllabi SY 24-25

FCPS Grading Scale			
A	100-93	C	76-71
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
B	86-83	D	66-63
B-	82-80	D-	62-60
C+	79-77	F	59-50

Gradebook Type

This class uses a rolling gradebook, which determines final grades by combining all assignments and assessments. It is not an average of quarter marks. The grade posted at the end of each quarter is a snapshot of a student's current progress in this course.

Gradebook Weighting

Category	Definition	Weight	Examples of category assignments:
Summative Assessments (Product)	Assessments that measure mastery of standards. Assignments in this category are eligible for reassessment.	70%	Projects, performance assessments, major writing assignments, presentations, labs, tests
Formative Assessments (Process)	Assignments that provide students with feedback on their learning or allow students to practice content, allow students to understand areas for improvement while learning in progress prior to a summative assessment	20%	Quizzes, classwork, exit tickets
Formative Review	Assignments designed for independent student practice, can be graded for	10%	Homework, exit tickets

Use of the Zero

Students who make a reasonable attempt at completing an assignment will receive a minimum of a 50%. A "reasonable attempt" occurs when a student submits an assignment with some evidence that an attempt was made to demonstrate knowledge. If a student does not make a "reasonable attempt" to show evidence of their learning, a zero may be entered into the gradebook.

Late work

For summative assignments, late work will be accepted within two weeks of the due date with a maximum 10% penalty. For formative and **highlighted** assignments, late work is not accepted, a code of **No Longer Accepted (N/A)** will be entered in the gradebook.

Make-up work

Students are fully responsible for completing any missed assignments. Each day of absence affords at least one school day of make-up work opportunity. The period of time allowed to make-up work may be extended at the discretion of the teacher/team. Students should check Schoology and read the post that matches the date of their absence(s) to stay informed of what work was assigned during their absence.

- **Long-term Excused Absence:** Long-term illness, hospitalization, death in immediate family, unusual circumstances approved by the principal; Make-up work is graded by the class teacher (or the homeschool instructor); grades are recorded in the gradebook without penalty to students.
- **Unexcused absence:** Unexcused absences do not mandate course failure. Students may choose to make up work following unexcused absences and teachers may help the student/parent/

- how to show your work, and
- how to cite or explain their use of AI.

In general, students should not enter any of the following information into AI Tools:

- personal information (name, date of birth, etc.)
- education records (grades, transcripts, etc.), and
- work that belongs to others.

You can search the **FCPS Digital Ecosystem Library** (DEL) using "AI" (in quotes) to see which AI tool features are approved for use on FCPS devices or networks. The DEL provides information on approved audiences for each tool. We may use these tools as appropriate in this course. Your use of AI must comply with the **Student Rights and Responsibilities (SR&R)**. This includes the Acceptable Use Policy in Appendix A of the SR&R.

Personal devices may enable access to other AI tools (not approved in the DEL).

- Use of other AI tools will not be required in this class.
- Parents / Caregivers decide what access to AI tools is appropriate on personal devices.
- Parents and students are encouraged to read the AI tool's terms of service and privacy policies.

Find out what kind of information the AI tool can collect, use, and store and what age students must be to use the tool. Check whether you retain rights to your data, the ability to delete your data, and the ability to opt out of data sharing. Be aware that some AI tools may keep the information you enter and use it without permission. You might not keep all of your work.

- Be careful with any information you give on AI tools.

es and show the most of summative assessments, %). Students who wish to his might include steps like

hed using rubrics and ents like

computer programming and data. There are editors, decisions, and/or generate you to use AI on any part of an P how students should explain their use of registry. You should be able to AI tools can produce false information es. Make sure it fits the needs of the v submit. Students should not use AI on

your teacher;



Technology

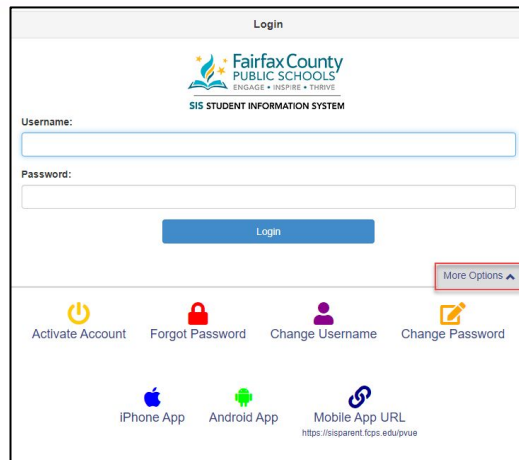
SIS Parent VUE

What is available in SIS?

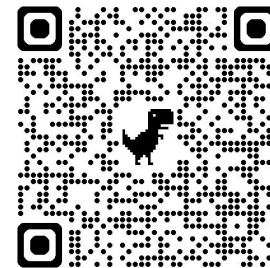
- Attendance
- Class Schedule
- Course History
- Grade Book
- Report Card
- Test History
- My Account >Settings for Weekly Progress Reports

*Some modules will not be available at all times depending on the time in the school year. (ex: Grade Book or Class Schedule)

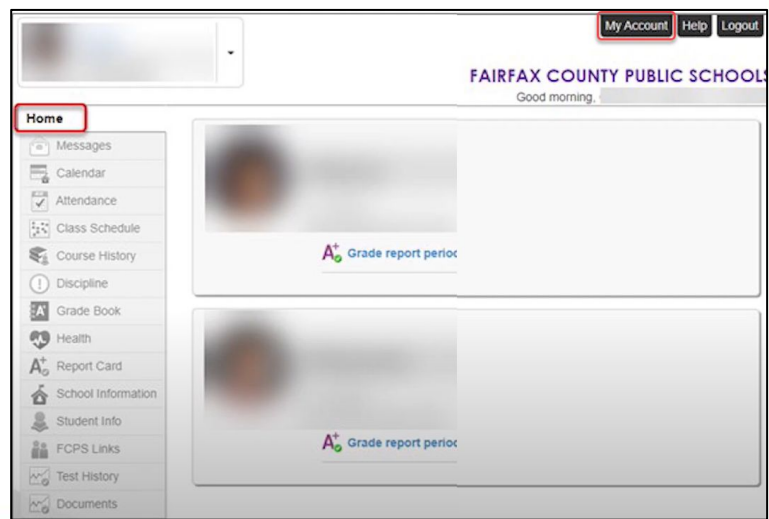
Click [here](#) to learn more about SIS ParentVue.



The screenshot shows the login interface for the SIS Student Information System. At the top, it says "Login" and features the Fairfax County Public Schools logo with the tagline "ENGAGE • INSPIRE • THRIVE". Below the logo are two input fields for "Username:" and "Password:". A blue "Login" button is centered below the fields. To the right of the button is a "More Options" link with a dropdown arrow. At the bottom, there are four icons with labels: "Activate Account" (power icon), "Forgot Password" (lock icon), "Change Username" (person icon), and "Change Password" (pencil icon). Below these are links for "iPhone App" (Apple logo), "Android App" (Android logo), and "Mobile App URL" (link icon) with the URL <https://sisparent.fcps.edu/vue>.



Log in to SIS at:
<https://sisparent.fcps.edu/>



The screenshot shows the home dashboard of the SIS Parent VUE system. At the top right, there are links for "My Account", "Help", and "Logout". Below these is the Fairfax County Public Schools logo and the text "Good morning, [blurred name]". On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with a "Home" button highlighted in red. The menu items include: Messages, Calendar, Attendance, Class Schedule, Course History, Discipline, Grade Book, Health, Report Card, School Information, Student Info, FCPS Links, Test History, and Documents. The main content area on the right features two large, blurred rectangular panels, each with a small "A+" icon and the text "Grade report period" below it.

FCPSOn Lightspeed

- Tool used to support on-task learning
- Lightspeed can be used on FCPS owned devices
- Parents sign up through [FCPS website](#) to receive weekly reports on usage and websites visited
- Parents can also subscribe for an additional service - no internet use during dinner/bedtime.
- FCPS will implement this in the fall for teachers to monitor usage during class time



FCPSOn Laptops

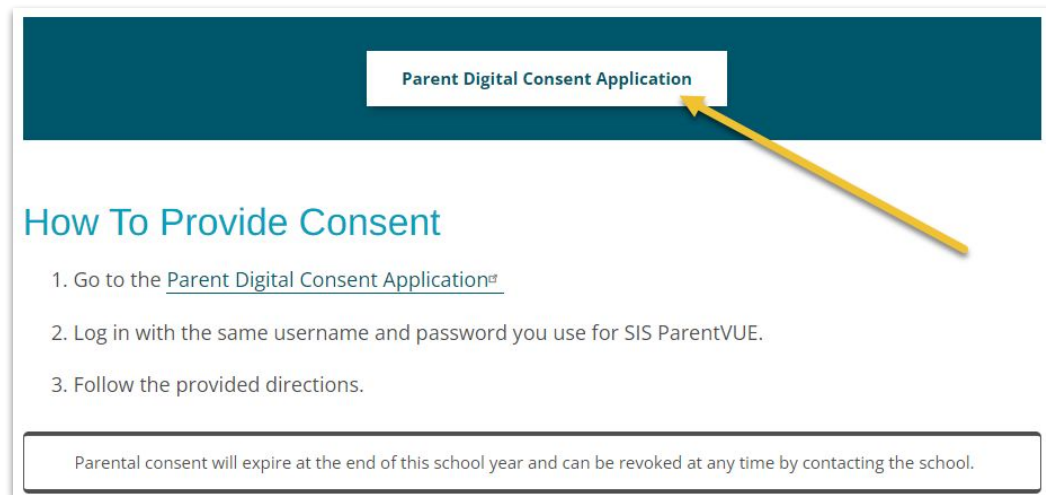
This year, students will be issued Chromebooks.

- improved 14” display screen
- much faster start-up and website load times
- lightweight and higher durability form and keyboard
- extended life battery to easily last the school day
- durable Gumdrops case

Laptops will be distributed to students during the first two days of school.



Parent Digital Consent (PDC)

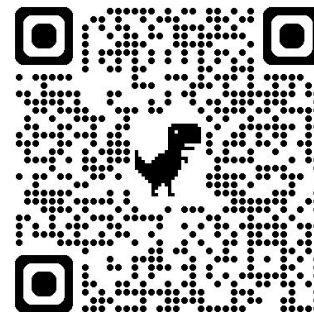


Parent Digital Consent Application

How To Provide Consent

1. Go to the [Parent Digital Consent Application](#)
2. Log in with the same username and password you use for SIS ParentVUE.
3. Follow the provided directions.

Parental consent will expire at the end of this school year and can be revoked at any time by contacting the school.

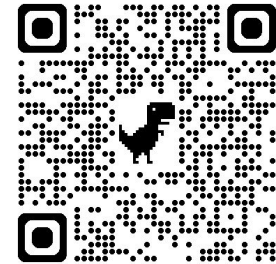
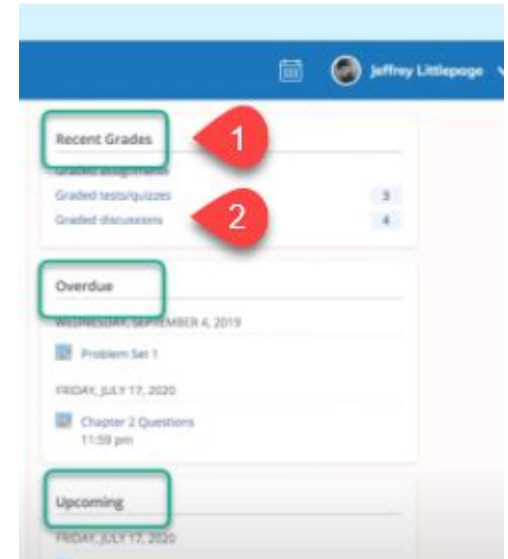
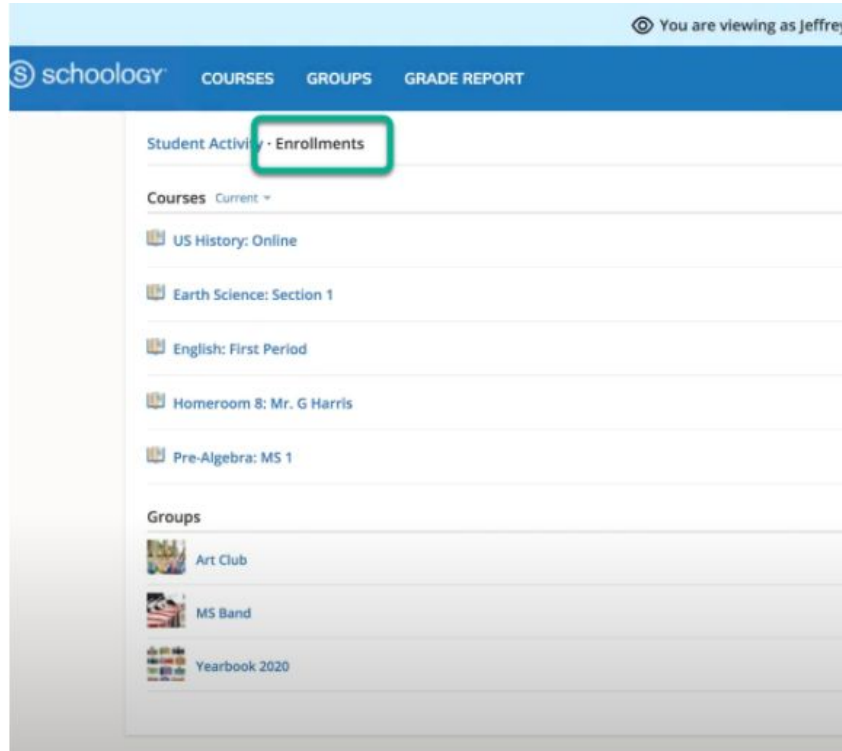


Families can log in to the [PDC](#) using their ParentVUE credentials to complete consent the **Digital Resource Consent** as well as many other forms and opt-outs for their child. Consent needs to be given annually for students to use some of the approved FCPS digital tools.

Schoology Parent View



<https://lms.fcps.edu>



Learn more about the Schoology Parent View at <https://www.fcps.edu/schoology/parents/welcome>



Important Dates

Open House

OPEN TO STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Suggested time slots for parking availability and space within the building.

1:00-2:00 pm Last names A-I

2:00-3:00 pm Last names J-R

3:00-4:00 pm Last names S-Z

*Clinic will be open for medication drop-off.



**COOPER MS
OPEN HOUSE**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 15TH
1:00-4:00 PM**



- ✔ Meet Cooper Staff
- ✔ Tour the building and walk your schedule
- ✔ Join the PTO and purchase spirit wear

Please note: Laptop distribution will happen on the first two days of school.

Student Orientation

STUDENT ONLY EVENT



<https://bit.ly/3WhWhzX>

Friday, August 16th from 9-11 AM

- All 7th graders and new-to-Cooper 8th graders are invited.
- Students will walk their odd/even day schedule and meet their teachers.
- Bus transportation will be provided from the main ES feeder schools, there is **no parent drop off or kiss/ride.**
- Students will receive an email (FCPSschools.net) from Mrs. Kaden on Thursday 8/15 with their block 1 teacher. Additional communication will be sent to parents through the email provided on the RSVP Google Form.
- **Please RSVP for a seat on the bus, so we can ensure seats for everyone who would like to attend.**

Important Dates

August 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student schedules available in SIS• Open House for students & families from 1-4 PM
August 16	Orientation for 7th graders & new-to-Cooper 8th graders from 9-11 AM
August 19	First day of school
Aug 30-Sept 2	Labor Day Holiday (No school)
September 5	Back to School Night from 6:30-8:30 PM
September 11	After School Programming & MS Sports begins

Open House - 8/15

- Student schedules will be **printed**

Orientation - 8/16

- Students should check their FCPS email Thursday afternoon for their block 1 teacher

First day of school - 8/19

- Students should check their FCPS email Friday afternoon for block 1 teacher and bus number



Questions from Parents during Pathfinder Events

After-School Activities:

- Students are welcome to stay after school on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday when there are late buses. There is usually a Homework Help activity during each session. Students must be supervised by a teacher or staff member after school (in an after school activity or stay with a teacher for office hours).
- Students sign up for after school activities each day they intend to stay. Complete list posted in Schoology > After School Activities Group.
 - Parents need to sign the After School Permission form once per year (shared in NYC and Brian Klena has it in the back!)
- All the forms needed to be completed for MS Sports will be shared with families in the upcoming weeks.
 - Cross Country and Track are the sports being offered right now. Additional offerings is under consideration through FCPS.
- If students stay for a B session, they must also sign up for an activity A session.

Questions from Parents during Pathfinder Events

Transportation:

- Transportation information (bus numbers, times, etc.) is posted in SIS. A bus chart is posted out front daily with a map of bus line up. FCPS uses the “Here Comes the Bus” App (we will post the code)
- Students will get an email from Mrs. Kaden on Friday 8/16 with their bus number for the first day of school.
- Bike racks are available in the front and back of the school building.
- Students who walk to school can enter/ exit the building through Door 1 (Main Entrance) or Door 7 (out back).

School Supplies:

- Teachers will share required school supplies for their classes. Most materials are posted in Schoology, so students do not need as many supplies as they might have in elementary school.
 - Digital notebooks are allowed.

Attendance:

- Attendance calls go out just before 9 AM (after block 1 or 2) if a student is marked Unverified (not in class and no parent called about absence). Please let the office know by 8:30 a.m. at the latest.
 - Attendance can now be updated in SIS ParentVUE.

Questions from Parents during Pathfinder Events

Technology:

- Technology should be used for educational purposes. We encourage you to sign up for Lightspeed updates.
- Students will use their FCPS credentials (Student ID# & password) to access their Chromebook. We will have lessons during the first days of school to help students get familiar with the new laptops.
- Cell Phone Yondr Pouches → Cooper is not a pilot school this year
- Apple Watches/ AirPods/ headphones all fall into the same category as cell phones → Away for the Day
- Technology: Schoology is the Learning Management System (where teachers post assignments, due dates, etc.) and SIS is where historical information is stored (Gradebook, Test History, Course Requests, etc.)
- If students are having difficulty resetting their passwords, we will help them on the first two days of school as laptops are distributed.

Questions from Parents during Pathfinder Events

Important Dates

- Families are able to tour the building during **Open House** (Aug. 15th) and **Back to School Night** (Sept. 5th)

Renovation:

- Temporary classrooms in use (trailers) for Chorus & Orchestra
- When construction is completed, the Fitness Center will be used by Health/PE classes. It is not an “open” gym.

Tutoring

- Tutor.com is being replaced with Varsity Tutors (free to FCPS students)

Recess

- Recess is every day for 15 minutes before lunch.

Questions from Parents during Pathfinder Events

Bell Schedule Changes

- Any updates and changes to start times would come from FCPS. The current bell schedule for Cooper is 7:30 AM - 2:15 PM.

Lockers

- Students keep items in their backpacks throughout the year (no lockers).
- No “homeroom” - students keep items in their backpacks throughout the year (no lockers).

Enrollment

- Total Enrollment: around 1000 students (about 500 per grade)

Lunch

- Lunch pins are not available in SIS, but the cafeteria workers can easily share it with students at lunch.

Family Life Education

- More information coming for the FLE Preview. Cooper will be piloting a few lessons at each grade level in gender combined classrooms for HGD lessons. Both gender specific and gender combined classrooms will be available for parents to make a choice for their family.

Questions from Parents during Pathfinder Events

Student Schedules:

- Class schedules will be posted in SIS the morning of August 15th, and we will have schedules printed on the first day of school.
 - Students will get an email to their FCPS email account on Thursday 8/15 (for Orientation the following day), and another email on Friday 8/16 (for the first day of school)
- Advisory classes are grade-level specific (all 7th grade, all 8th grade); QSTs may be mixed grade-levels.
- Odd/Even rotation is set by FCPS and alternates; students will have a calendar posted in Schoology.
- The HS level classes offered are Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2, World Languages, and ELD. If you have a question about your child's high school transcript, please contact their counselor.

Questions from Parents during Pathfinder Events

ParentVUE:

- Parents can use their SIS ParentVUE credentials to log into Schoology. Same log-ins as elementary school!
- Need ParentVUE support → email Annie Eisman (adeisman@fcps.edu)
- SIS vs. Schoology:
 - Schoology is the Learning Management System (where teachers post assignments, due dates, etc.)
 - SIS is where historical information is stored (Gradebook, Test History, Course Requests, etc.)

Advisory:

- Advisory classes around 22 students.
- Advisory lessons cover a variety of topics including social-emotional learning, organizational skills, career readiness, etc.

Grades:

- All information about reassessment policies and timelines will be included in course syllabi.
- Cooper has specific grading codes that will be entered into SIS to communicate with students/families which assignments are eligible for reassessment and/or be made up after the due date.
- Due dates for upcoming assignments are posted in Schoology (no weekly reports emailed at this time).