

MEMORANDUM

To: All APS Staff

From: Dr. Lisa Herring, Superintendent

Date: May 14, 2021

Subject: Celebrating our School Resource Officers and School Nurses, Staff Engagement Session, Youth Ages 12-15 Can Get COVID-19 Vaccine, Change in Release Date of Staff Memos and Other Updates

Celebrating our Frontline Workers

I want to remind everyone to extend their appreciation to the district's frontline workers! Wednesday, May 12 was National School Nurse Day, and this week, May 10-14, we celebrated our school resource officers for National Police Week. Allow me to share a few celebratory words about these teams.

APS School Resource Officers

Five years ago, APS created a different kind of police department, one with officers trained in social emotional learning skills and restorative practices. These school resource officers (SROs) learned and then practiced techniques that encouraged and enabled them to work with students, teachers, staff, families, and the community to solve problems; work to get to the source of issues, and empower everyone with the skills to make better decisions.

Our SROs are already extraordinary even in ordinary times. They never left the frontlines and never checked their training at the door. Even with a pandemic and while many schools were closed, our officers protected our schools, conducted welfare checks when necessary, and helped prepare us to reopen. We are so proud that we have officers who put students and schools first! Please take a moment to thank Chief Applin and his always extraordinary force of school resource officers!

APS School Nurses

APS employs 85 nurses for our traditional, partner, and charter schools under the direction of Dr. Valencia Hildreth, our Comprehensive Health Services Manager. They are further supported by agency nurses and contract nurses. This team has been on the frontlines of the pandemic and has been a crucial force in ensuring that our schools and buildings are safe as they check temperatures, conduct health screenings, and encourage safe hygiene practices.

Please join me in thanking and celebrating both our school resource offices and school nurses for enabling us to provide quality teaching and learning this school year and every year!

Staff Engagement Session on Academic Recovery Plan on Wednesday, May 19

As many of you know, we have developed a three-year Academic Recovery Plan that includes a required intervention block at every school to address the unfinished learning and learning loss our students experienced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please join us for our Staff Engagement Session on the plan on Wednesday, May 19 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Workplace at aps.workplace.com. I look forward to seeing you there!

Fulton County Youth Ages 12 – 15 Can Now get FREE COVID-19 Vaccines

I want you to know that the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has been approved by the FDA and CDC for patients ages 12 - 15. At this time, all vaccination sites operated by the Fulton County Board of Health and the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency administer the Pfizer vaccine, including mobile units.

Residents ages 12 – 15 may now receive their FREE vaccine without an appointment.

- Parking is FREE at all locations during operating hours.
- No ID is required.
- Sites are ADA compliant.
- All minors (under age 18) must have a consent form signed by the parent. The parent does not have to be present at the time of vaccination. (Download the form and bring it complete with the parent's signature.)
- While patients who have insurance are asked to bring their information, the vaccine is offered at no cost for everyone.

For hours and locations for vaccination sites and mobile units, or to download the parent consent form for minor patients, please go to www.fultoncountyga.gov/covidvaccine. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to protect the health of our students.

Recap Video of our Delta Vacation Surprise

It was so exciting to be part of Delta's surprise visit to Mays last week to award one of our teachers with a vacation anywhere in the U.S., Mexico, or the Caribbean! Relive the moment by watching our video recap: <https://youtu.be/oMdBTFBeAmQ>.

Deadline Reminder for GO Team Elections

Don't forget to cast your vote for your school's GO Team. Elections continue through Sunday, May 16. Candidate profiles and more information can be found at www.apsstrongschools.com.

Change to Release Date of Staff Memos

Moving forward, I will be sharing my staff memos with you on Wednesdays of each week. Be on the lookout for my latest staff memo next Wednesday!

Thanks as always for your service and dedication. Please stay healthy, and be well.

Yours in Service,

Dr. Lisa Herring