

Family Communication

August 19, 2022

Hello Families,

It is almost time to open our doors and say, “Welcome Back!” We have missed you and can’t wait to be back in school together. I hope you have been able to enjoy good weather and time with friends and family.



School starts on **Thursday, Sept. 1** for grades 1-12 and **Wednesday, Sept. 7** for kindergarten.

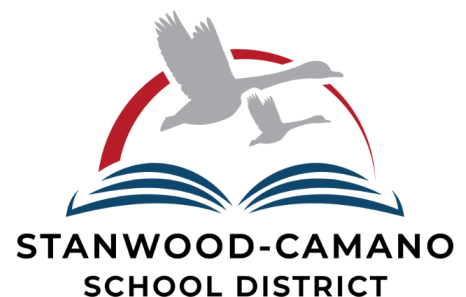
Over the summer, we have worked hard on several areas to benefit our students, staff, and parents. Some of our summer work included:

- School board adoption of our District Strategic Plan
- Investment in Social-Emotional Learning and support for students and staff
- Teaching and Learning support for schools and staff
- Annual improvement plans at each school
- No-cost school supplies for all elementary students (thank you to Stanwood Elementary and Twin City Elementary for your leadership in this area)
- Website updates and refresh (this will come later in the fall)
- Updated, student-designed district logo

I will again be providing these updates each Friday during the school year.

New District Logo

We are pleased to present our new district logo today. You may recall that earlier this year, we held a contest among students in grades 6-12 to design a new logo. Stanwood High School student Haelee Watson’s design was ultimately chosen among more than 130 entries. Her design



featured the “parent and child” snow geese, sun, and waves, which also, at the same time, form a book. The design was refined over the summer into its final version in consultation with the student by staff members at Madak. This Stanwood-based marketing firm generously donated its services to this project. We will be transitioning to it over the next few months as we roll out our new District Strategic Plan simultaneously.

Meet our Safety Team!

The District has added two new members to its school safety team for the 2022-23 school year.

- Gary Chaney has been selected as a school security officer at Stanwood High School. Chaney has been in law enforcement for 25 years, the past 23 years as a deputy with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office.
- Sam Andrews has joined the district as Coordinator of Student and District Safety. She previously served in safety-related positions with the Marysville, Sedro-Woolley, and Burlington-Edison school districts.
- Chaney and Andrews join the district's School Resource Officer, Bud McCurry, a deputy with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, which contracts with the City of Stanwood.



The safety of our students and staff is our highest priority. It takes parents, students, staff, and the community to keep schools safe places to learn. Our team, with decades of experience, is continually reviewing our safety measures to improve safety for all.

In addition, the district utilizes SafeSchools Alert, a tip reporting system that allows students, staff, and parents to submit safety concerns. Families concerned about student safety can alert all district administrators with one text, email, phone call, website, or app. Visit [HERE](#) for more information.

Return to Paid Meals for the 22-23 School Year

Federal funding for no-cost breakfast and lunches for all students during the COVID-19 pandemic has ended. Some districts have been able to qualify for no-cost meals to continue due to poverty rates in the community. SCSD does not qualify to participate under the new federal Community Eligibility Provision. This means the district will return to paid breakfast and lunch meals for students for the 2022-23 school year.

We encourage parents/guardians to apply for free or reduced meals to determine National School Breakfast/Lunch Program eligibility. Completing a meal application takes less than 10 minutes, and parents only need to complete one application per household. Information about free or reduced meals is available on our district website [HERE](#).

Respectfully,
Deborah Rumbaugh, Ed.D.
Superintendent