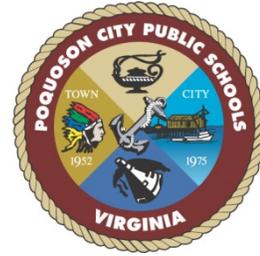


NEWS RELEASE

POQUOSON CITY SCHOOLS



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Virginia Department of Education Releases Accreditation Ratings

Poquoson – All Poquoson City Public Schools (PCPS) met the state’s accreditation standards under the new state accreditation system. All the schools met or exceeded the state standards for the School Quality Index (SQI) to include the student achievement indicators as well as the graduation rate and chronic absenteeism indicators. As a result, the school division will continue to monitor data associated with the School Quality Indicators as well as school plans in the coming year.

The new accreditation system provides a more comprehensive view of all schools while also encouraging continuous improvement. The new system has an increased emphasis on addressing student achievement gaps and includes student growth as a factor in a school’s rating. Students in Poquoson’s elementary and middle schools demonstrated growth in math and reading as was evidenced by their improved performance during the course of the past school year. All schools also demonstrated improvement in closing the achievement gaps for students with disabilities and students who are economically disadvantaged but more work needs to be done in this area.

“We are pleased to again be fully accredited by the state especially in light of Virginia’s new comprehensive expectations for student achievement and the new indicators,” said Jennifer Parish, Ed.D., Superintendent. “Poquoson City Public Schools’ teachers and staff will continue to work to ensure that we meet the needs of all students as we work to close the achievement gaps.”

“A number of our students demonstrated growth last year in our classrooms and as a result we saw improvement overall in closing the achievement gaps.” said Antonia Fox, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Support Services. “This year our staff will continue to use student data to provide specific interventions for students who struggle while also raising the bar for students who excel.”

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