

February 17, 2010

Dear Stonewall Community:

Over the past several weeks, students and teachers were given an unexpected “winter holiday” due to the significant snowfall that hit our region. Thus far, we have been closed a total of 11 school days this winter. It is my understanding that based on our total number of instructional hours in the school division, we will not be required to make-up any of these lost days. However, the expectations for students and teachers on various end-of-course assessments (SOL/IB/AP/CTE) will remain.

Stonewall Jackson does have a built in FLEX period that meets every other day that is typically reserved for remediation and/or enrichment activities. Due to the significant loss of instructional time, we will alter our FLEX guidelines to allow for the introduction of new material during this time. This will begin starting the week of February 22<sup>nd</sup> until the end of the school year on June 18<sup>th</sup> to ensure that we are able to teach the entire curriculum prior to end-of-course assessments and final exams.

To assist students who typically use FLEX to get additional support and/or make-up missing assignments Stonewall offers free after-school tutoring on Mondays and Wednesdays. Additionally, the activity bus will now run three days a week (Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays) through Memorial Day.

The unusual winter weather has forced us to utilize every minute of our instructional day and make adjustments to ensure our students are successful. I appreciate your understanding and support as we revise and adjust for the remainder of the school year.

I hope everyone is excited to be back in school and ready for the remaining 15 weeks of the 2009-2010 school year.

Sincerely,

Richard Nichols  
Principal  
Stonewall Jackson High School