

School Board Office 6 Schoolhouse Road Washington, Virginia 22747 Telephone (540) 227-0023 Fax (540) 987-8896 www.rappahannockschools.us

January 22, 2025

Dear RCPS Families,

At Rappahannock County Public Schools, the safety, well-being, and comfort of our students and staff are always our top priorities. We understand that recent concerns shared online about heating issues in our schools may have caused confusion, and we would like to provide clarity to our community. On January 21st, we experienced an issue with one of our boilers that supplies heat to the RCHS cafeteria and gymnasium. Fortunately, all classrooms had heat. While the boiler was repaired at lunchtime, due to the time it took to warm the large spaces with block walls and high ceilings, students ate their meals in classrooms, and the cafeteria was still not at a comfortable temperature. Throughout the morning, our facilities team ensured that all classrooms remained at appropriate temperatures.

We are pleased to inform you that today, January 22nd, the cafeteria and gymnasium are at comfortable temperatures, and students are once again enjoying lunch in the cafeteria and utilizing the gymnasium for their classes. This issue did not impact the elementary school.

Additionally, we would like to take this time to remind our school families to ensure that students are dressed for the frigid temperatures while at the bus stops. If any families need extra winter coats, our fantastic PTO has a clothes closet with winter outerwear available. For more information, please contact them at pto@rappahannockschools.us.

As always, the safety and wellbeing of our students remain our top priority. We appreciate the trust our families place in us and remain committed to maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment. If you ever have concerns or questions about school conditions, we encourage you to contact us directly so we can address them promptly and provide accurate information. Thank you for your trust and collaboration as we work together to ensure the success and wellbeing of every child.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shannon Grimsley Superintendent / Cheerleader in Chief