

AMHERST COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Dr. Steven Nichols
Superintendent

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20 May 2016

Dear Parents of Pleasant View Elementary School Students:

On May 12, the School Board approved the closure of Pleasant View Elementary School (PVES) on 30 June 2017, at the end of the next school year. This was a most difficult decision to be made, but the steady decline in enrollment and increasing costs of operation made keeping the school open unsupportable.

As the school will remain open for the 2016-2017 school year, everything in place now at PVES will remain. The school will be fully supported and maintained.

The new school year, 2016-2017, will be a time of transition for the students, staff, and community. It is my desire and that of the School Board that we do all within our power to make the transition a smooth one, where the history of PVES be maintained, and the young people made to feel welcome in their new school beyond June 2017.

A Transition Team is being formed that will work with various groups within the county to promote the transition. There will be representatives from the School Board, Central Office staff, PVES faculty and staff, receiving schools staff, parents, community member, and young people. The logistics of closure will be discussed, but the primary focus will be ways to make the young people feel a part of their new school as quickly as possible. As the school year begins, staff will be able to determine to which school the students will be assigned, and steps will be taken to visibly involve these new students into existing activities. I would hope that everyone work to insure the PVES young people see a smooth transition to new surroundings for 2017.

Should any parent decide to utilize the "Out of Zone" process during the next school year, the division will do all it can to facilitate that decision. The "Out of Zone" process for any student allows, if approved, for attendance in a school other than the one to which they would normally be assigned. Transportation in these situations is the responsibility of the parent. The school division will still be providing the best education possible for every child, every day.

Sincerely,



Dr. Steven Nichols
Superintendent