



A monthly newsletter for members

Dear Members,

Welcome back! We hope you had a rejuvenating winter break full of too much food, just enough sleep, and zero stress. In addition to gearing up for 2nd semester, SEA is gearing up for budget season! The budget process is multi-layered, and we hope to clarify some of those layers in this issue. Here is a general outline:

Budget Basics

- We get funding from both the state and local government (BoS). The current Governor's proposed budget for next year is *not* education friendly. [Click here](#) for more details on VEA's position regarding this issue.
- Every year, the School Board must approve a budget and present it to the BoS with a funding request. The approved budget takes estimated state funds into consideration and asks the BoS for their contribution.
- The BoS must approve their own budget for all of Stafford County. The amount they give schools is just one section of the full County budget, which is largely funded with property tax revenue.
- The BoS must review the School Board's request and determine how much funding they will allocate to SCPS. The School Board then votes to formally adopt a budget. If the BoS doesn't fully fund the SB request, changes must be made before a budget is finalized.
- Budget season includes a lot of opportunities for advocacy. The full calendar of events can be viewed [here](#), but we'll also communicate details about important meetings. Stay tuned and mark your calendars--one thing we've learned is that we must raise our voices to get what we need. It'll be all hands on deck.



Join us for VEA Lobby Day in Richmond! This is our opportunity to raise our voice at the state level. You can [click here for details](#) and to RSVP.

We'll have details on a group transportation option soon.



@StaffordEA



@sea_vea

LOBBY DAY
JAN. 16th

Not a member yet?
[Click here or scan the
code to join SEA!](#)



JANUARY ADVOCACY

- 10th--School Board meeting, 6:30p.m., School Board chambers
- 11th--OZB Committee Meeting, 5:30p.m. ([Zoom: email Michele for details](#))
- 24th--SB Work Session, Dr. Taylor presents budget, 4:30p.m. School Board Executive Session Rm.