



FAIRFAX COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Holmes Middle School  
6525 Montrose Street  
Alexandria, VA 22312

May 2009

Dear Parents or Guardians:

Most students at Holmes will be taking the **Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests** from May 18 to June 5. It will be very helpful if you can avoid appointments which may take your child out of school during this time period. Also, it will help your child perform his or her best if he or she has had a good night's rest, a healthy breakfast, and comes to school with a positive attitude. For Holmes' complete SOL calendar, please refer to our website at [www.fcps.edu/HolmesMS](http://www.fcps.edu/HolmesMS).

The Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) tests are required of all students in Grades 6-8 across the state by the Virginia Department of Education. SOL tests measure the extent to which students have learned the content and skills specified in the Virginia SOLs. Content areas tested include writing, reading, mathematics, history/social science, and science.

The purpose of the testing is to provide information about student achievement in several subject areas. Scores from the tests will be used to determine whether students fail to meet standards, are proficient in meeting the standards, or advanced in the standards. **Please note, depending on test score availability, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students that fail both the Math and English SOLS will be required to attend summer school.**

Sincerely,

David A. Czarnecki  
Director of Student Services