Dear Viking Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year! It’s a privilege to begin another exciting year at Dulles High School as we celebrate our 66th year of A Tradition of Excellence. We are energized and ready to welcome your students back into our classrooms and hallways, full of curiosity, determination, and Viking pride.

At Dulles, we believe in the power of partnership. Your involvement, whether through volunteering, sharing feedback, or simply staying engaged in your child’s education plays a vital role in our shared success. As both an educator and a parent, I understand how meaningful it is to create a school environment that is welcoming, safe, and focused on learning. Please know that my door is always open, and I invite you to reach out with celebrations, concerns, or ideas. You can also connect with our Executive Assistant, Mrs. Beth Sanchez, at any time.

This year, our focus is on the power of just one degree. At 211 degrees, water is hot, but at 212 degrees, it boils and creates steam. That one extra degree can make all the difference. Heat alone builds potential, but steam releases it. That one extra degree makes the difference between energy stored and energy used. Whether in academics, behavior, or relationships, we’re encouraging students and staff to bring their “plus one” every day, just a little more focus, effort, or kindness can push us from good to great.

To support student success, we’ll continue with our cell phone expectations during instructional time. Since implementing these procedures, we’ve seen a clear improvement in both engagement and academic performance. All students are required to silence their phones and store them in their backpacks during class. Teachers may also collect phones during class at their discretion. If you need to reach your child during school hours, please call the front office and we’ll assist you.

Thanks to district support, every returning student has a district-issued laptop, and all 9th graders and new students will receive theirs within the first three weeks of school. These tools are essential to learning; phones, while useful in many areas of life, are not needed for instructional purposes.

While academic success is extremely important to your child’s future it is also a time to grow, connect, and build memories. Please encourage your child to join one of our many clubs, sports, fine arts programs, or student organizations. Studies consistently show that students who are involved in extracurriculars are more successful, both in school and beyond.

We believe in a strong partnership with you and are committed to holding ourselves and our students accountable. With clear communication, mutual respect, and shared goals, there’s nothing we can’t accomplish together.

Important Information & Reminders

First Day of School: Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Start Time: 7:30 A.M. | Dismissal: 2:50 P.M.

Schedules available via Skyward beginning August 11 (a Job Aid will be sent to help access the new Skyward Q app).

Seniors with Off-Campus 1st/2nd Periods: Report to the cafeteria at 7:30 A.M. on the first day.

Reese Center Students: Report to the DHS Library during those periods on the first day.

Campus Procedures & Safety

Lunch Deliveries: Not allowed. Please ensure your student brings a lunch or has funds in their account (via the Fort Bend ISD meal payment system).

Student Medication: Must be dropped off by a parent/guardian at the clinic. Students may not carry medication during the school day.

Traffic: Expect congestion the first few days. Please drive carefully, slowly, and without distractions—we have many student walkers and car riders on and around campus.

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, August 12 – First Day of School & First Home Volleyball Game

Friday, August 15 – Grade-Level Student Assemblies

Friday, August 22 – Senior Sunrise

Wednesday, August 27 – Meet the Vikes

Friday, August 29 – First Varsity Football Game @ Mercer Stadium

Monday, September 2 – Student/Staff Holiday

Friday, September 8 – Coffee & Donuts with the Principal

Volunteer Opportunities

Our Viking Volunteer program (VIPS) is always looking for helping hands—whether it’s assisting with events, making donations, or supporting school-wide communication. If you’d like to get involved, please contact Mrs. Beth Sanchez at beth.sanchez@fortbendisd.com.

As we kick off another year together, thank you for your continued trust and partnership. I am confident that with a shared commitment and a “plus one” mindset, we’ll make this year one of the most successful yet—for every student, every day.

Let’s make it a great year!

Warm regards,

Corey Stewart

Principal

John Foster Dulles High School