



Fairfax High School PTSA News

Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA 22030 (703) 219-2200 <http://www.fcps.edu/FairfaxHS/>

School Calendar

May

- 1- Spring Musical- 7:30PM
- 2- SAT Test at Fairfax HS
- 2- Spring Musical- 7:30PM
- 3- Spring Musical- 2PM
- 4- AP Exams start
- 8- Spring Musical- 7:30PM
- 9- Spring Musical- 7:30PM
- 10- Mothers Day



- 14- IMPROV Show
- 15- Academy Dance Show- 7:30PM
- 16- Academy Dance Show- 7:30PM
- 18- PTSA meeting- 7PM
- 19- Band Concert- 7:30PM
- 20- Senior Parent Night- 7PM
- 25- Memorial Day- NO SCHOOL
- 27- Choral Concert- 7PM

June

- 1- Spring Sports Banquet- 6:30PM
- 3- Orchestra Spring Concert @ Lanier- 7:30PM
- 4- Band Banquet
- 5- Junior/Senior Prom
- 12- Students Released @ 11:20AM
- 15- Graduation- Noon
- 15- All Night Grad Party
- 17- Students Release @ 11:20AM
- 18- Last Day of School-Released @ 9:56AM
- 21- Fathers Day



A Message From the Principal:

Dear Rebel Families,

The 2008-2009 school year has almost drawn to a close. It truly has been a “Year of Champions” for Fairfax High School and our students. Inside and outside the classroom our students have excelled in every way imaginable. I know you share with me the immense pride that we have in them for their achievements.

I continue to be grateful for your unbelievable support for the faculty and staff at this school. While this budget year has been one of the most difficult in a generation, your support for our collective work in the education of each and every young adult has made our work all the more easy and enjoyable. Thank you for taking that extra moment to say “thank you” to a teacher, a counselor, a secretary, a custodian, an administrator or a coach that has made a difference for your child.

As the year closes, soon another year will begin. There will be some changes as there always are, but one “thing” will remain the same at Fairfax High School: The Main Thing is to Keep the Main Thing, the Main Thing. Students: their hopes, their dreams and their education; are and will always be the Main Thing at Fairfax High School.

Have a great end of the year and a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Scott Brabrand, Ed.D.

From the PTSA President:

Dear FHS Community:

I can't believe that my first year as PTSA President is coming to a close! This year has certainly flown by, and I appreciate all the support and encouragement that I have received from the community!

We will be needing new people to step up next year to fill vacancies on the PTSA Board.

Several of our Board members will be graduating from Fairfax this year, and some have served the limit of their terms.

I want to thank several people who have served Fairfax High School tirelessly for many years and will be graduating their youngest children this year:

Mary DeOrnellas, our Athletic Boosters representative

Pearl Johnson, our African American Achievement representative

Teresa Liarakos, our FAST Desk Coordinator

Renate Manville, our Cluster VII representative and

Judy Thurston, our First Vice President

THANK YOU VERY MUCH to each and every one of you! You have given so much of your time, talent and energy – and I, particularly, have benefited greatly from your help.

Thank you, too, to **Lisa MacCammon** who has fulfilled her two-year term as Treasurer and has done a wonderful job!

We will also need a Hospitality Chair, a Volunteer Coordinator and a Freshman Class representative, in addition to the positions being vacated.

Please consider stepping up to a position – the PTSA Board is a great team, we learn together, and

we also have fun! I am happy to answer any questions about any position that you are considering.

In the next six weeks we have many opportunities for volunteering, and we really need your help. Even if you only have an hour, it lessens the load!

Please email me if you would be willing to help out with any of the following:

- Helping with the Rebels on the Rise breakfast given by the Academic Boosters Committee on April 30 (set-up late afternoon April 29)
- Selling All Night Grad tickets during lunches on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (10:30 am -12:30 pm) beginning the week of April 27
- Proctoring AP Exams May 4 –15 (see p. 6 for schedule)
- Helping with the Summa Cum Laude luncheon given by the Academic Boosters Committee on May 18 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm
- Helping Student Services with two mail-outs – one April 29 and 30 and one May 11 and 12

Thank you in advance for your willingness to participate in your student's education!

Clai Jorgensen

When Parents Volunteer

Below are some examples of what parents, students and school staff members have said about the benefits they gain from the volunteer experience at their children's schools:

Parents

- *"It shows my children that their education is important and that I take time to be part of it."*

- *"I get to see how students and school staff members relate to each other and how my children interact with others."*

- "I feel proud that I can contribute to my children's education and that I am setting a good example for them."

Students

- "It shows that my parents think school is important and that they care enough about me to be there."

- "I tend to be on my best behavior because I know my parents and my teacher communicate with each other."

- "It feels good when my teacher tells me how much he or she appreciates my parents' help and it makes me proud of them."

Schools

- "Volunteers help ease our workload so that we can spend more time working with the students."

- "It shows us that the parents care enough to be involved and gives us a better understanding of the student and the family."

- "It increases communication, diversity, and cultural understanding, and it breaks down barriers between families and schools."



You know, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum...!

Fairfax High School (the FX Players) will be presenting Stephen Sondheim's musical **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**, May 1-9, 2009. In a desperate attempt to win his freedom, the slave, Pseudolus, attempts to help his young master, Hero, earn the love of a girl. But the Captain wants the same girl. And poor Erronius is looking for his lost children. This musical comedy is the FX Players Cappies show. (Cappies are the Critics and Awards Program for High School Theatre and Journalism). Discounted tickets may

be purchased in advanced through the website only: www.fxplayers.org. Please note: this production may not be suitable for elementary aged children.

FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE STUDENTS SPEND SPRING BREAK ABROAD

After over a year of planning and fundraising, 27 Fairfax High School Theatre students and nine parents/teachers took a 10-day whirlwind tour of London, England with the help of the Ivy Discovery Institute student travel agency.

Students learned to navigate the London tube and double decker bus system while touring British monuments such as Windsor Castle, Kensington Palace, The Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert museum, the Cortauld Gallery, and the National Gallery. Students also received backstage tours of The National Theatre, The Globe Theatre, the Royal Theatre Drury Lane and saw the productions The Woman in Black, Sunset Boulevard, Madame du Sade, La Cage aux Folles (or) Wicked, Billy Elliott and The Mousetrap, London's oldest running play. Students also took high tea at Fortnum and Mason and had a chance to shop in London's most notable places: Harrods, the Covent Garden Market, Picadilly Circus, Camdentown, and Portabello Road.

This was a first trip abroad for many of the students and gave each one – and the adult chaperones too - the chance to broaden their horizons. Your student may have an opportunity to experience the world through the Fairfax High School Theatre Department, as there may be another trip abroad planned within the next four years. *Stay tuned...*

AP Proctors Needed for AP Tests

AP proctors are needed for the AP tests being given May 4 through 15 during the school day. Please contact Clai Jorgensen at claij@cox.net or Renee Service at renee.service@fcps.edu for the schedule and if you are able to help with this very important activity.

CITY OF FAIRFAX THEATRE COMPANY: AUDITIONS

The (new) City of Fairfax Theatre company will be holding auditions for its summer production of **Children of Eden**, which will be performed July 31-August 9, 2009. Auditions will be held at Fairfax High School on May 23rd and May 30, 2009 from 9am to Noon and auditions are open to the community. Potential actors should prepare a one minute contemporary monologue and 16 bars of a song. Children 12 and under should prepare a song to sing and be ready to answer some basic questions (such as how old they are, where they go to school, and be able to describe a pet or sibling.) Volunteers will also be needed for carpentry, electrics, costumes, props, publicity, box office and concessions. If you are interested in assisting in any capacity, please send an e-mail to fairfaxcitytheatre@gmail.com.

You may also visit the website:

<http://www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org/CFTC/Welcome.html> to find out about the theatre company, purchase tickets for any performance, or to get information about the Summer for Youth programs or Internships for high school and college students.

American Association of University Women - 2009 Educator of the Year

Congratulations to our own Joan Hartman, for being selected as the 2009 AAUW of Virginia Educator of the Year. The committee agreed that Mrs. Hartman is a fine woman leader who has made a difference for students! We certainly agree and are pleased that her accomplishments will be recognized. She will be invited to Richmond later this month, to receive a plaque and speak to the convention about her work at Fairfax High School. Congratulations!



Business & Information Technology Department News

The third quarter was a very exciting quarter for the Business & Information Technology Department as our classes got deeply into their subject matter, we began preparing for both Microsoft and IC3 computer certification exams, and FBLA continued on its best year ever with incredible success in the Northern Virginia Regional competition.

The Business Department would like to congratulate the following students for placing in the top 3 in their individual or team event at the FBLA Spring Regional Conference held at George Mason University.

1st place in the NOVA Region for Emerging Business Issues, the team of:

Alison Liu
Ayesha Yousuf
Tara Bastawrous

2nd place in Job Interview

Cecilia Pham

2nd place in Public Speaking

Tehreem Butt

3rd place in Accounting

Matt Lopez

3rd place in Impromptu Speaking

Tokunbo Okulaja

The team of Alison Liu, Ayesha Yousuf, and Tara Bastawrous will be competing at the state level on April 17-18 at the FBLA State Leadership Conference held at the Hyatt Reston Town Center. We wish our team good luck at State's and are confident that they will qualify to represent Fairfax High School at National's in June in Anaheim, California.



Geosystems SOL Tutoring

The Geosystems teachers are offering review sessions prior to the Geosystems SOL test. The sessions will take place in D-149.

Geosystems SOL review sessions

Saturday, May 9

Saturday, May 16

(9:00 am – Noon)

All students are encouraged to attend either of the Saturday sessions.

Reservations are not required!

Camp Director- Marcus Konde, Varsity Basketball Coach at Fairfax High School

Camp Philosophy- The goal of the Lady Rebel's Basketball Camp is to develop and improve fundamental skills of basketball of each camper. We believe that summer camp is a great way to expand your basketball skills with your teammates and friends. The Fairfax High School staff will focus on helping each camper become the best player they can be.

Important Camp Information- Each camper will receive a camp T-shirt and instruction by high school coaches as well as college and high school athletes. Campers will eat lunch everyday with the Lady Rebel varsity athletes (campers should bring a bag lunch and a snack bar will be available during the week.).

Space is LIMITED so sign up today!

Contact Coach Konde at 703-219-4967 or marcus.konde@fcps.edu for an application.

Fairfax High School

Athletic Booster Club
Presents



Lady Rebels Basketball Camp 2009

When: June 22-26

Time: 9:00-3:00

Who: Girls Ages 6-16

Where: Fairfax High School

Cost: \$125 (\$100 if received by June 1st)

Chorus

The final public concert of the season will be the always popular **Spring Show** on Wednesday 5/27/09. Disney music is the theme this year, so mark your calendars now and plan to enjoy our Fairfax Choirs and small groups give their all one last time as they perform your Disney favorites. This free concert in the auditorium begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. Please refer to the website www.fhschorus.net for more information, and thank you for your continuing support of Fairfax Chorus.

AP Proctors- Can You Help?

Hello Parents!

We are looking for volunteers to assist with AP testing in May. There are people that administer the tests but we need additional adults to be in the testing room. Your job would consist of wandering through the aisles throughout the exam and assisting with the distribution and collection of exam materials. We will (of course) provide food for all volunteers.

There is one restriction for proctoring: Proctors cannot assist for any test that their child is taking. It doesn't matter if they are not in the same room as their student, parents cannot have access to their students' exams. For College Board, this is an exam security issue.

I would be so grateful if I can find parents to volunteer to proctor for the exams listed below.

If you are willing to help, please email Clai Jorgensen at claij@cox.net.

AM Exams (7:30-11:30)	Proctors needed	PM Exams (11:30-3:30)	Proctors needed
Monday, May 4 (Government)	3		
Tuesday, May 5 (Spanish)	1		
Wednesday, May 6 (Calculus AB/BC)	3		
Thursday, May 7 (English Lit 12)	4		
Friday, May 8 (US History)	4		
Tuesday, May 12 (Chemistry)	1	Tuesday, May 12 (Psychology) (4)	4
Wednesday, May 13 (English Lang 11)	5		
Thursday, May 14 (World History)	3		
Friday, May 15 (Human Geography)	1		

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
 Renee C. Service
 FHS School Counselor
 AP Test Coordinator

Hey Senior Parents!!!

Do you realize it's only **weeks** until graduation?! It's time to start planning for it. Have you ordered your **personalized yard signs** yet? They will have the Fairfax lion and your child's name on them.

Why not order two? The All Night Grad Committee will put one of your signs on Rebel Run to greet the grads on their day. Of course the sign is yours after graduation. You can order the signs by going to the school's home page and clicking on the link to All Night Grad.

Hey, while you're on the ANG site, why not sign your grad up for the all night party? It is going to be an amazing time!

And if you're interested in getting **reserved seats for graduation** you need to check out how to buy tickets for that raffle. The day's going to be hectic and without fighting the lines!

And speaking of graduation day, have you signed up to **help on the All-Night Grad Party** yet? It takes literally hundreds of parents to pull this off- we need you for a few hours!! The volunteer information is also on the ANG site. Come on, you'll get a cool t-shirt! Send an email to Maureen Williams- mwilliams@bcisse.com - there are all kinds of volunteer jobs to fill!



Athletic Boosters

The month of May signals the ending of the regular season for many of our spring sports. Please take the time to support the student-athletes at Fairfax by attending one of the many sporting events taking place this season. You can verify team schedules by visiting the athletic website: www.fairfaxhighsports.org. Good luck to those advancing to post season play. The end of the current spring season will mark the ending of Fairfax High's four year participation in the Concorde District. *Next fall our sports teams will compete in the Liberty District!*

Fairfax is once again hosting **sports physicals** here at the high school. Plan to take advantage of this great opportunity. Mark your calendars for June 3rd. Physicals will be performed from 5:30 until 8:00 pm at a cost of \$40. For more information call 703-219-2241. To register online - use the

following link:

<http://www.fcps.edu/supt/activities/atp/ppeoverview.htm>.

Remember, in order to participate in any sport next fall, the student needs a current "sports" physical completed using the approved **VHSL Physical Form**. These forms are available on the athletic website and will be used during our sports physical night on June 3rd. If you will be participating in sports at Fairfax in the fall, plan on attending. If you know of someone who hopes to try-out for one of the fall sports (rising 9th graders etc) - please pass this information along.

It is never too late to become involved. The Athletic Boosters welcome your continued support and interest. As budgets tighten and services are reduced, we will need to work harder to meet the needs of the athletes at Fairfax High School. Plan on attending an Athletic Booster meeting (the first Monday of each month) and on purchasing a Booster Pass next school year. The Booster Pass is an excellent way to show your support and gives our athletic director the opportunity to budget for current and future sports programs.

Again, congratulations to all of our student athletes on their respective seasons. We are proud of each of our teams. Best of luck to those seniors who will continue their sports at the collegiate level.

GO REBELS

FAIRFAX ACADEMY NEWS

SkillsUSA Champions!: The Fairfax Chapter of SkillsUSA was proud to be recognized as a 100% membership chapter at the SkillsUSA state conference in Hampton, VA. Academy students participated in four different contests and came home with top five finishes in every contest entered – a first! Our **state champion in Photography, Adrienne Chaplin**, will compete at the SkillsUSA national competition in Kansas City, in June. We also congratulate our other winners:

Advertising Design: Cesar Liendo-Castellano, Third Place (Bronze Medal winner)

Photography: Sam Sivonen, Third Place (Bronze Medal winner) and Lacey Stone, Fifth Place
TV Production: Joshua Ruffner & Eric Waldron (team) Fifth Place

Web Design: Vinh Le and Amelia Liarakos (team) Fifth Place

“Rock Your Sole” Dance Concert: May 15 & 16: 7:30 pm, FHS Auditorium

Everyone is invited to watch our talented Dance students perform their spring concert!

This year’s show has a rock music theme and will showcase a variety of dance styles. Featured dance pieces will include three that were choreographed by visiting artist Dana Fisch, from New York City’s Undertoe Dance Project. Dana spent a week with the Academy’s dance classes as part of a Washington Post Arts Grant awarded to Andrea Heininge, Dance instructor. **Tickets are: \$10 students and \$15 adults pre-sale and \$15 for everyone at the door.** Call (703) 219-2270 for more details.

Academy Awards Night: Thursday, May 21, 7:30 pm, FHS Auditorium

This annual event promises to be a big hit again this year as Academy Ambassadors help Pro TV Production students plan and produce the show. Look for red carpet, student emcees, displays of student work, a fashion runway show, and of course, the AWARDS! Not only is this an exciting celebration for Fairfax Academy students and families, it is also a wonderful way for any one interested to experience first hand what the Academy is all about! FREE! Call (703) 219-2226 for more details.

Free4All Student Film & Animation Festival: Friday, May 22, 4:30 – 6:30 pm,

FHS Auditorium: This event, produced by the Professional Graphics Studio class in conjunction with the MHz Networks’ National Shortie Awards, is a film and animation festival specifically for high school students. In its second year, the festival has expanded beyond FCPS to include student entries from a variety of metro DC area schools. Student work will be critiqued by area film and design artists, and shared with the public at the Festival. Festival participants will have the opportunity to vote on their favorite entries for the “People’s

Choice Award". FREE! Call (703) 219-2284 for more details.

MORE from Pro Graphics Studio: The Pro Graphics program has just purchased a professional ***Motion Capture kit*** which will enhance the ability of students to capture real time motion through video cameras and sensory nodes and apply that motion to a 3D character or object. This optical motion capture solution is a state-of-the-art device for interactive gaming and tracking objects in motion. Also, the Pro Graphics Studio students have constructed a 12 ft X 8 ft green screen for motion video compositing, just like you would see at a TV or movie set studio! Fairfax Academy will be the only school in Virginia to integrate this state-of-the-art technology into a high school program. The technology will debut in the 2009-2010 school year.

FHS BANDS

Congratulations to Symphonic Band for achieving a Superior Rating at District Festival. After District Festival, the music department took the show on the road to Disney World. Symphonic Band once again achieved a Superior Rating and won the Silver Award for being the 2nd best concert band in the entire competition. Concert and Jazz Bands each received an Excellent Rating. All groups played extremely well and had a great time on the trip! Congratulations are also in order to Winter Guard and Drumline for truly spectacular seasons! Guard finished with 2nd place in their last AIA show at Edison. Drumline made the finals and finished 4th overall at the WGI Pittsburgh Power Regional in Coatesville, Pa.

The FHS Bands would like to invite you to two upcoming events. The Spring Band Concert and Senior Showcase will be May 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the FHS auditorium. This is a chance for us to highlight our senior members and let them show what they can do. We would also appreciate a large turnout to support the band as they march and play in the annual Ride of the Patriots Parade sponsored by the local Harley-Davidson dealership. The

parade will take place at 7 a.m. on Sunday, May 24 on Arlington Blvd (Rt. 50).

Lastly, please make plans to support the FHS Bands Spring Carwash. Look for us on May 30 at the Mosby Woods Sunoco. We will be there from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The kids would love to be kept busy the entire time and we greatly appreciate your donation to the band program.

PROM SAFETY

Parents, as you probably know Fairfax High School prom is June 6th at Fox Chase Manor in Manassas. This is a time of celebration and excitement! You're also probably starting to realize how expensive this highly anticipated event can be: tickets, photos, dresses, tuxedos, corsages, dinners, and possibly limousines.

However, the bigger concern is the cost of risky behaviors too often associated with this rite of passage famous for teens' jumping off the deep end with alcohol poisoning, driving under the influence, drugs and unsafe sex. Peer pressure too, often leads teens to use poor judgment before, during and after prom.

A few guidelines for a safe Fairfax High School prom:

- Get your teen's detailed itinerary. Know exactly what after prom activities are taking place and where—if at a friend's house, call the parents to confirm and make sure that alcohol will not be present
- Keep a list of names and phone numbers of teens and their parents in your students group.
- Meet your teen's date prior to the big night.
- Know who will be doing the driving. If using a limo, check the company's driving record and policy on alcohol in the vehicle.

- Make sure they have a charged cell phone.
- Provide an “out” for your teen. Be on call for a ride home or other emergency.
- Make sure they have cab fare and a cab company phone number.
- Have a “no questions asked” policy on getting home safely that night.
- Know where the alcohol is in your house and how much you have so you can monitor potential consumption.
- Talk to older siblings about not providing alcohol.

It is important to place attention on safety and good decision making in order to promote a healthy, memorable experience. Discuss the possibility that alcohol will be present, and emphasize to your teenager that underage drinking is illegal, that alcohol abuse is dangerous and that underage drinking is unacceptable. Teens do listen to their parents!

Free Bowling!

The summer of 2009 will mark the thirteenth year of Bowl America’s Rolling Rewards Honor Roll Program. The Rolling Rewards Program has become one of the area’s most recognized student reward program for academics among students and parents. During the summer of 2008 over 35,000 students came to Bowl America and received free game passes for their outstanding achievements in the classroom.

To recap how the program works, students bring their final 2008-2009 report card into any Bowl America location, and are awarded a free game for each “A” earned over the course of the entire school year. It’s that simple!

Bowl America is proud to support the community, its school systems and most of all, its students, through the Rolling Rewards Honor Roll Program.

PTSA Contact Info

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Newsletter Submission Guidelines

This PTSA newsletter is a monthly publication. Deadline for the next newsletter is May 15.

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