

FHES "Principal" News October '07

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Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on November 5 & 6, 2007. These two days are student holidays. Tuesday is Election Day...don't forget to get out and vote!

During our Back to School Night, teachers had "sign up" sheets for parent/teacher conferences. If you did not sign up, please contact your child's teacher to schedule a conference. The majority of the conference time will be used to inform you of your child's progress and answer your questions. To maximize conference time, parents need to prepare. Plan what you would like to ask your child's teacher in advance. If you have specific questions, try to bring samples of your child's work that may illustrate your question. After the conference, talk with your child about what you and the teacher discussed. Make sure your child knows that both you and the teacher care about their education. Keep in touch with your child's teacher. Together, we will ensure a great school year for your child.



Walk to School Day

Thanks to the many children that walked to school on October 3, 2007. We had more than 175 students walk to school.

Walking or biking to school, or riding the bus relieves a lot of traffic on Flint Hill and Vale Road. Our crossing guard, Gia Tony, commented that the traffic was much better on that day.

Please remember that Virginia Law requires for all vehicles to stop when pedestrians are present at a crosswalks. Help us keep our children safe by stopping at crosswalks and obeying the crossing guard.

Managing "play" dates

When students go home with other students:

1. Both parents/guardians must write a note indicating that the students are going home together. Notes must have date and signature and should be delivered to the office with morning attendance.
2. If riding a bus, the parents/guardians must check that there is space available on the bus. (bus driver may not allow students on the bus without notes)



Flint Hill Day at Madison HS Football game

Don't forget Flint Hill Day this Friday, October 12, 2007 during the

Madison HS Varsity Football game. The game starts at 7:30. Flint Hill students enter free with an accompanying adult. Mr. Rivera will be working the gates from 7:00 to 7:30. Don't forget to wear Flint Hill colors (teal and silver) or Madison HS colors (red and black). Come join the fun and cheer for the Madison Warhawks as they take on the WT Woodson Cavaliers.

Gifted and Talented (GT) Programs

FCPS and Flint Hill ES offer a continuum of gifted services for all students in grades K-6. Our goal is to develop higher-level thinking through enrichment, acceleration, and extension of the Program of Studies. Teachers, administrators, and GT resource teachers work together to provide the following levels of service:

Level I—lessons in critical and creative thinking skills for all FCPS students in grades K-6.

Level II—differentiated instruction at an advanced level for many students through collaboration between classroom teacher and the GT resource teacher.

Level III—services for identified students include the GT school-based program in grades 3-6.

Level IV—services are for those students found eligible for the full-time GT center program in grades 3-8.

We are very glad that Flint Hill ES offers all levels of service, especially in grades 3 and 4. Each year all FCPS 2nd grade students, as well as students in 3rd through 7th grade who are missing an ability test score are administered the Cognitive Ability Test and/or the Naglieri Nonverbal Test. A 2nd grade GT center screening pool is established using these results. Students in the 2nd grade pool are automatically screened for GT center placement. Parents/guardians of students not in the second grade screening pool may initiate the GT center screening process by completing and submitting a Gifted and Talented GT Center Referral form to the local school no later than February 8, 2008. Late referrals are not accepted. Second graders not in the pool and all third through 7th graders are screened only by referral. Forms are available on the GT website or from the school. Parent information nights are scheduled for October. The information nights will present an overview of the continuum of gifted and talented services, screening, testing and identification procedures, and timelines. There will be four separate dates:

October 15, 2007 at Oakton HS

October 18, 2007 at Annandale HS

October 23, 2007 at West Potomac HS

October 24, 2007 at Langley HS

The information meetings are open to the public and will be from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. For more information, visit:

<http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt/index.htm>