



Mustang Message

September 22, 2010



Franconia Elementary School

If mornings are hectic, and you don't always have time to make a healthy breakfast for your child at home, remember Franconia has a breakfast program at school. This tasty and economical alternative may be just what you need to simplify your mornings and ensure your child gets a great start to the day. As you can see, Franconia's assistant principal, Wiatta Padmore, joins a group of students who are truly enjoying their breakfast!

From the Principal

The days leading up to Back-to-School Night are always filled with a lot of work and dedication from students and teachers. It's a wonderful night for parents to meet teachers and to learn about expectations for the new school year. This year, Back-to-School Night didn't disappoint. We heard many positive comments about the classroom visits, and it's clear we are off to great start!

Back-to-School Night was also an opportunity to meet Franconia's new assistant principal, Wiatta Padmore. Ms. Padmore comes to Franconia with a little over twenty years of experience as a teacher and administrative intern through the highly competitive Fairfax County LEAD Program. We were fortunate enough to get Ms. Padmore from London Towne Elementary School, where she had extensive experience as a kindergarten, first and third grade teacher. During her tenure at London Towne, Ms. Padmore had many leadership positions including team leader, school plan committee member, and Program Director for the SOL After-School Remediation Program for 10 years. Prior to coming to Franconia, Ms. Padmore served as an administrative intern at McNair Elementary. There, she gained valuable on-the-job experience as an assistant principal.

Every day, Ms. Padmore comes to school with a smile on her face as she walks down the halls. She tells us that she is so happy to be a part of the Franconia Family and looks forward to many years of learning and growing with us! Welcome, Ms. Padmore. We are glad you are on our team to "build tomorrow" at Franconia!

Merrell Dade
Principal

For Your Information

Enrichment and Intervention Time begins at 9:00 a.m.

Students in grades 1-6 will be participating in Enrichment and Intervention Time (EIT) on Tuesdays-Fridays. EIT for kindergarten students begins at 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays—Fridays. During this time, staff will target your child's individual needs through formative assessment and provide appropriate support.

Parents can help us ensure their child gets the most out of this time by making sure he/she arrives to school on time. If driving your child to school, make sure he/she arrives at 8:40 a.m. Students who eat breakfast will be sent to the cafeteria beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Let the teacher know if your child is forgetting homework

Forgetting homework can be stressful for everyone. As homework increases, your child may forget homework and materials and ask you to come back to school to pick them up. It's important to remember that the school building closes at 4:30 p.m., and students or parents cannot be let into classrooms after hours to get homework. To ensure safety, we do not let students and parents through the hall after school as construction workers are working throughout the building.

If you notice your child is having difficulty remembering to get all of his or her homework, please let the teacher know. The teacher will be happy to problem solve with you to ensure a more relaxing homework experience at home.

NFL Punt, Pass, and Kick competition for grades 4-6

Franconia Elementary School is proud to host the NFL Punt, Pass, and Kick competition for students in grades 4-6. The date of the competition is Monday, September 27, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. (after school). The competition will begin promptly at 1:30 p.m. and will end at 3:00 p.m. To participate in the competition, students must submit a signed permission form to Ms. Collins or Mr. Aracich and must have transportation home. The permission form can be found on-line under the Take Home Wednesday link.

If you have any questions, contact Ms. Collins at (703) 822-2200.