



Mustang Message

July 2008

Franconia Elementary School

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a super summer and are ready for school to begin. Get ready to make lots of new friends and learn a lot. We know it's going to be a great year for Franconia's Mighty Mustangs!



For Your Information

New School Hours!

Set your clocks so you won't miss even a minute. Students should arrive by 8:30 a.m. Classes begin at 8:40 a.m. Note new arrival and dismissal times.

Mondays 8:40 a.m.-12:50 p.m.
Tuesdays-Fridays 8:40 a.m.-3:20 p.m.

Open House, Friday, July 25 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Join other Franconia families at Open House. Come see your new classroom and meet your teacher!

School Begins, Monday, July 28

School starts on Monday, July 28. Note our new school hours! Classes will begin at 8:40 a.m. and dismiss at 12:50 p.m.

Franconia Elementary School

6043 Franconia Rd.
Alexandria, VA 22310
703-822-2200
www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES
Merrell Dade, Principal
Nancy Mercer, Asst. Principal

On Tuesday-Friday, school will begin at 8:40 a.m. and dismiss at 3:20 p.m. So that children will be safely supervised, walkers and car riders should not arrive before 8:30 a.m.

Back-to-School Night, Thursday, August 7 7:00 p.m.

Parents will learn about your school program from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Back-to-School Night, Thursday, August 7.

Meals at School

Students may bring their lunches from home or buy breakfast and/or lunch from the cafeteria. Menus are sent home monthly. Breakfast costs \$1.50 (\$.30 for reduced) and lunch costs \$2.40 (\$.40 for reduced). Milk is served with each lunch or may be purchased separately for \$.60. Ice cream, pretzels, and cookies are also available for purchase. Applications for free and reduced lunch are mailed directly to families. Requests are confidential.

School meals can be purchased with cash daily, or parents can use cash or personal checks to make advance payment to their child's personalized account. As an alternative, FCPS offers *My-LunchMoney.com*, an online prepayment service that allows parents to pay for meals with a credit or debit card, and check the status of the child's lunch account.

Please note that a "peanut free" table is reserved in the cafeteria for students with peanut allergies.

Changes in Transportation? Send a Note

Safe student travel to and from school is very important. FCPS provides bus transportation for students who reside more than a mile from school. Check with the school office for exceptions. Bike riding is an option for walkers in grades four through six. Prior approval by the principal is required.

For any change in your child's typical transportation arrangements, send a note to the teacher indicating the date of the change, the duration of the change, and the reason for the change.



Let's Keep in Touch

Franconia School Office

703-822-2200
(8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m.)

Attendance Line:

703-822-2222
(4:30 p.m.—8:00 a.m.)

Clinic:

703-822-2210

Franconia's Website:

www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES/

To receive e-mail news:

To learn about PTA events go to
[FranconiaFamily-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:FranconiaFamily-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Subscribe to FCPS Keep in Touch

www.fcps.edu and click on
Keep in Touch E-Mail

To send email to staff:

First name.Last name@fcps.edu
(ex. Jane.Smith@fcps.edu)

Weather 24-Hour Hot Line

Weather, school closing information
in English, Spanish, and Korean
1-800-839-3277

In Case of Bad Weather

Hazardous weather or other emergency situations may result in school closing, a two-hour delayed opening, or an early dismissal. Parents should plan in advance for student supervision in the event of an emergency schedule change, and should make certain their children understand what to do. Emergency closing information is available through www.fcps.edu, **Cable TV Channel 21, FCPS Hot Line 1-800-839-3277, FCPS Keep in Touch, and area radio and TV stations.**

Safety First: Visiting Mustang Country

All exterior doors are locked during school hours. To enter, just push the doorbell and the front door will be opened remotely. Upon entering the building, everyone must report to the office to sign in and receive a visitor's badge. A school security officer routinely monitors our school's adherence to security procedures.

If picking up a student before the end of school, send the teacher a note, whenever possible. If a student must leave unexpectedly, alert the office at least one hour ahead, if possible.

Your Child's Health

School clinic services, including the administration of medication and modified first aid, are performed by the clinic aide. If the child's condition requires more attention, the parent will be contacted. If we cannot reach you, we will contact those listed on your child's Emergency Care Card. You can view, update, and submit your child's emergency care information via the new FCPS program, weCare@school, which is available through the new Parent View account on 24-7.

Prescription and most over-the-counter medications at school require strict adult supervision and should not be in the child's possession. Forms to authorize staff to administer medication are available in the school office and online at www.fcps.edu/forms. Call the school clinic at 703-822-2210 for details.

Before starting school, all students entering sixth grade must have received a booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis) if at least five years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Students, parents, and staff greatly appreciate support from our PTA whose efforts provide our children with many enrichment opportunities. FES is fortunate to have such an active PTA. Please support the PTA this year!

President—Beth Krause
Vice President — Kim Warner
Recording Secretary — Shirley Woolsey
Treasurer — Mary Jane Alves
Corresponding Secretary — Paula Thompson

We're here to help

Have a question? Need help? Our wonderful office staff can tell you the ins and outs of Mustang Country. Our school office is open Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 703-822-2200 or drop by and we will gladly assist you. If we don't know the answer, we'll help you find it.



PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO SCHOOL ON THE FIRST DAY

Child's Name _____ Teacher _____

Will go home as follows:

_____ Ride Bus # _____ to home.

_____ Ride Bus # _____ to child care provider/center below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Kiss N' Ride
Authorized to pick up child _____

_____ Walker

_____ SACC

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS must be met at the bus stop by a parent at the end of the day. If you have arranged for your child to be met at the bus stop by an adult other than yourself or to walk home with an older student, please sign below.

_____ I give permission for my child to get off the bus/walk home with _____ at the end of the school day.

_____ I give permission for my child to be met at the bus stop by _____ at the end of the school day..

Parent Signature

Date

Print Parent Name

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