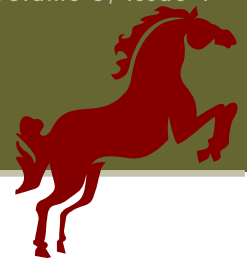


# MUSTANG EXPRESS



Franconia PTA Newsletter  
<http://www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES/pta.html>

## Welcome back to Franconia School to all of our new and returning families!

The PTA is looking forward to a fun and exciting school year. The Franconia Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a community of parents and educators working together toward a common goal. That goal is creating a great school and the best educational experience for our children. We strive to create an atmosphere where teachers and administrators can do their best work—and so can our children.

This year the PTA is planning some new events and programs. We are excited about a new Fall Fundraiser program, the Mustang Read-a-Thon, to be held in October. After the school renovation is complete in January/February 2012 we also hope to offer some new after-school programs. Watch for details in our monthly PTA Newsletters. You may access the PTA Newsletters, meeting minutes and general information from the Franconia School main web page at [www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES](http://www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES). Click "PTA" under the Main Links section on the left side of the screen.

PTA meetings are typically held the second

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PTA Membership	2
Calling All Volunteers	2
Franconia Mustang Spirit Wear	2
Get Ready, Get Set, Read!	3
FLEX Classes	3
National PTA Reflections	3
Franconia Promotions	4
Community Information	5
PTA Board	6

Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm in the school library. We welcome and encourage all school families to attend the monthly meetings. If you are unable to attend a meeting, the PTA meeting minutes will be available for viewing on the school website listed under the PTA link on the main page. We welcome your suggestions and ideas for PTA activities and programs. If you would like to share an idea or suggestion with the PTA, please feel free to email or call one of the PTA board members. You will find their contact information listed at the end of this Newsletter.

*Carylin Waterval, PTA President*

## Upcoming Events



September 13  
September 14  
September 29

PTA Meeting in the Franconia School Library, 7:00 PM  
Franconia Mustang Spirit Wear Sales Begin  
Franconia Mustang Spirit Wear Order Forms Due

## PTA Membership

We encourage all school families to join the PTA. The membership dues are \$8 per individual or \$15 per family. The PTA collects \$3.50 on behalf of the National/State/Local PTA and the remaining monies are used to fund PTA programs and activities. Each membership entitles you to a Franconia PTA Directory, a Franconia Calendar magnet and PTA voting rights.

The Membership Form is attached to this newsletter and is available on the school website

## Calling All Volunteers

There are PTA volunteer activities to fit virtually every interest and time schedule. Our PTA volunteers share their talents in the classroom, provide administrative and clerical support from home, and interact with the students and faculty at the many social events throughout the school year. Our children gain in so many ways when they see their families participating in their school. Your involvement helps them develop a sense of community spirit and appreciation for school program activities. Whatever role you choose, know that your time and talents are appreciated!

The PTA Volunteer Form is attached to this newsletter and is available on the school website at [www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES](http://www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES) under the PTA link

## Franconia Mustang Spirit Wear

Your student can show their Mustang pride by wearing quality spirit wear apparel! Franconia Mustang spirit wear will be available for order soon after school starts. We will offer a hooded sweatshirt, long sleeve and short sleeve t-shirts with the Franconia Mustang design. Watch for the order form to come home on September 14th. Order

at [www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES](http://www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES) under the PTA link on the left side of the screen.

It's easy to join the PTA! Here's how to become a member:

- Print and Complete the membership form,
- Attach a check payable to "Franconia PTA",
- Place your check and membership form in an envelope marked "PTA" and send to school with your child.

on the left side of the screen. Please consider filling a vacant chairperson position to coordinate/plan PTA events/programs or volunteer to help for a specific event/program. Please return the PTA Volunteer form to school with your child as soon as possible so the planning can begin. Upon receipt of your Volunteer form, we will contact you throughout the year to help us with school and PTA events.

**URGENT!** We need to fill the Volunteer Coordinator chairperson position immediately. If you are interested in this crucial position, please email Carylin Waterval directly at [carylin\\_mother2@yahoo.com](mailto:carylin_mother2@yahoo.com). Thank you!

forms should be returned to the school by September 29th with payment. The spirit wear sale is not a fundraiser, the items are sold at cost. Spirit wear will be delivered to the students in late October. Contact the PTA Spirit Wear Chairperson, Renae Polovchik at [renae@polovchik.com](mailto:renae@polovchik.com) with questions.

## Get Ready, Get Set, Read!

This October, the Franconia PTA will hold the Mustang Read-a-Thon in place of our traditional wrapping paper sales fundraiser. Students will seek pledges for time spent reading throughout the month and the donations will go directly to the Franconia PTA to be used to support school programs.

In addition to raising funds to help support the school, the Mustang Read-a-Thon will help to build the school community by promoting school spirit among students, teachers and families;

## FLEX Classes

'FLEX' stands for Foreign Language Experience (FLEX) and is an after-school foreign language enrichment program offered to Franconia students. At this time, Franconia FLEX classes are slated to begin in October 2011. The FLEX

## National PTA Reflections

Franconia Elementary School would like to encourage students in Kindergarten through 6th grade to participate in the 2011-2012 Reflections Program. Reflections is a self discovery learning program for children that was created by the National PTA in 1969 to encourage millions of students across the nation to explore their artistic talents. We would encourage all Franconia students to participate this year by creating an original work of art based on the theme "**Diversity Means.**"

Students around the country in preschool through

encouraging good reading habits; and teaching students to set and meet their goals.

We'll need lots of support to make the Mustang Read-a-Thon a success. You can volunteer to help with kick-off and awards assembly planning; promotion and marketing; prizes; and reading log coordination. Contact the Read-a-Thon Chairperson Anna Pruet Ellis, at [pruetta@verizon.net](mailto:pruetta@verizon.net) or 703.971.4990 to volunteer.

Registration form will be sent home with students once the class schedule is finalized. If you have any questions about the FLEX program, please contact the PTA Flex Coordinator, Svetlana Hovhannisyanyan, at [shovhann@gmail.com](mailto:shovhann@gmail.com).

grade 12 participate in the areas of literature, dance choreography, film/video production, musical composition, photography, and visual arts. Our school will be participating in the following age divisions: Pre-K through Grade 2, Grades 3 through 5, and Grades 6 through 8.

The deadline for Franconia students to submit their reflections entries is **October 21, 2011**. Entry forms and guidelines will be posted soon on the school website on the PTA page. If you have any questions, please contact the Reflections Chairperson Greta Loggins at [gretaloggins@verizon.net](mailto:gretaloggins@verizon.net).

## Franconia Promotions

Franconia is participating in six major promotions programs for this year: **Giant Food's A+ Bonus Bucks**, **General Mills' Box Tops for Education**, **Office Depot**, **Safeway's Club for Education**, **Target's Take Charge of Education** and **Cartridges for Kids**. All six programs provide instructional equipment, vendor certificates, and cash rebates to Franconia when you make everyday purchases. To sign up and support these programs, please see the information below.



### Giant Bonus Bucks program.

Each time you shop at Giant using your Giant Card, you will earn CASH for our

school! You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt. To register your Giant card, sign up at any Giant store, log on to [www.giantfood.com/aplus](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus), or call 1-877-366-2668. Franconia's School ID for is 02290. Remember, even if you designated last year, **you MUST re-designate this year**. The program runs October 7, 2011 through March 29, 2012, register your card now.



**Office Depot** donates 5% of your

purchase to Franconia when you use Franconia's school ID 70103060 in the store and on-line! If you shop at Office Depot, please use our school ID. This program is in effect year round.



Don't  
Throw it Away...  
Raise Funds  
TODAY!

### Cartridges for Kids (CFK)

Help us be green, earn some green, and save some green by recycling with CFK! We are recycling used cell phones, empty

laser, fax, copier, and inkjet cartridges as well as, laptops, Palm Pilots, iPods, video games, GPS Systems, DVD's and digital cameras. We are trying to preserve our environment by keeping these harmful items out of landfills. The recyclable items that are collected are returned to Cartridges for Kids® (CFK). Just send them to school with your child or place them in the collection box outside the gym.



**Safeway** has partnered with eScrip to support Franconia. Franconia's ID is 6505092. Sign up at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). Remember, even if you designated a school last year, **you MUST re-designate by November this year**, the program now runs year round.

### Target's Take Charge of Education program.

Here's how it works: Visit [www.target.com/tcoe](http://www.target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcardSM (Target® Visa® Credit Card, Target Credit CardSM or Target Check CardSM), Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the eligible K-12 school of your choice.



### General Mills Box Tops for

**Education** program is simple. Clip Box Tops from your favorite General Mills products, each one is worth

10¢ to our school. Use the envelope sent home with each family to store your Box Tops during the quarter. At the end of each quarter, October 14, January 13, March 23 and June 1, send the Box Tops to school with your child. The class with the most box tops submitted each quarter will receive an ice cream party.

Another easy way to help our school is to sign up for the Box Tops at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). You'll get updates on our school's Box Tops earnings, money-saving coupons, family-pleasing recipes, chances to win Bonus Box Tops, the latest Box Tops news and much more.

## Community Information

### Join Cub Scouts – Pack 867 [www.pack867.com](http://www.pack867.com)

For all boys in 1st – 4th Grades

Cub Scouts is for boys that like to have fun and try new things! Everything in Cub Scouting is designed to have the boys doing things. Activities are used to achieve the aims of Scouting — citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness. .Cub Scouts meet at St. John’s Lutheran Church twice a month for Den Meetings on Monday nights and the last Tuesday of the month for a Pack Meeting.

For further information on Cub Scouts, please contact Cubmaster Jim McCormick at [jim.n.mindy@verizon.net](mailto:jim.n.mindy@verizon.net) or 703.317.8284 or Committee Chair Renae Polovchik at [renae@polovchik.com](mailto:renae@polovchik.com) or 703.924.2698.

Want to learn more about Cub Scouts? Come to the Open House, Tuesday, September 20, 2011, 7:00 pm–8:00 pm at St. John’s Lutheran Church fellowship hall located at 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310.

### Join Girl Scouts – Franconia Troops

**Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.**

Learn and participate in exciting activities, help your community, make new friends and build character while having fun. Typical activities include: arts & crafts, camping, sing-a-longs, community service, sports, field trips, selling cookies and much more.

We have 3 levels of troops at Franconia that meet on Mondays (twice per month):

- Daisy Girl Scouts (Kindergarten & 1st grade)
- Brownie Girl Scouts (2nd & 3rd grade)
- Junior Girl Scouts (4th – 6th grade)

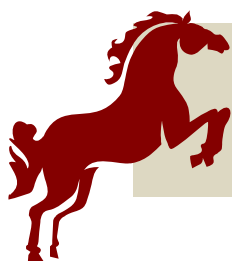
We welcome new girls as well as parent volunteers. We specifically need Daisy leaders.

If you want to find out more about Girl Scouts, bring your daughter to an Open House/Registration on Monday, September 19, from 5 – 6pm at our meeting location, Franconia United Methodist Church at 6037 Franconia Road (located next to Franconia ES).

For more information or to join a Franconia troop, contact Carylin Waterval, School Troop Organizer at [carylin\\_mother2@yahoo.com](mailto:carylin_mother2@yahoo.com) or 703-924-2681.

## PTA Board 2011-2012

Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
President	Mrs. Carylin Waterval	703-924-2681	carylin_mother2@yahoo.com
Vice President	Mrs. Tracee Gartman	571-265-9928	traceegartman@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Cory O'Meara	703-373-3887	ctomeara@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mr. David Noguera	703-922-6159	davidnoguera@verizon.net



We're on the Web!

<http://www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES/pta.html>