



Franconia Elementary

PTA®

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Volume 5

December 2011 Newsletter

Issue 4

## Month in Review

The results are in, and we are pleased to report that our Mustangs are amazing readers. During the October Read-a-thon, our students logged more than 180,000 reading minutes. That's more than 3,000 hours, or 125 days of reading! In addition, students collected more than \$5,000 in pledges and donations to help support the PTA and school. Thank you to all of the staff and parents who supported the students and encouraged them to reach their goals. Please share your thoughts on the Read-a-thon by completing the brief survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/readathon>. **We value your feedback!**

Congratulations to everyone who participated. All readers will be recognized with a prize, and our top readers and fundraisers will enjoy a pizza party to celebrate their amazing efforts during the Read-a-thon. The top participants are as follows:

### Top Fundraisers:

Kiara Frey in Ms. Price's Kindergarten class  
Alex Gartman In Ms. Stump's 1<sup>st</sup> grade class  
Joanna Madamba in Ms. Younger's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class  
Dylan Previ in Ms. Henceforth's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class  
Zachary McCoy in Mr. Jackson's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class  
Sadie Michel in Ms. Thompson's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class  
Josh McCoy in Ms. Hicks 6<sup>th</sup> grade class, Josh Mccoy  
Top fundraiser in the school, Warren Carrington in Mrs. Yortzidis 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class

### Top Readers:

Brady Thomason in Ms. Price's kindergarten class, logging 1,395 minutes  
Lauren Flynn in Ms. Reynold's 1<sup>st</sup> grade class, logging 2,559 minutes  
Brendan Waterval in Mrs. Yortzidis 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class, logging 1,730 minutes  
Lily Warnock in Ms. Wooster's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class, logging 4,890 minutes  
Sean Thomason in Ms. Snyder's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class, logging 2,950 minutes  
Spencer Weinstein in Mr. Gilmartin's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class, logging 4,800 minutes  
Aidan Blair in Ms. Dzubinski's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class, logging 4,840 minutes  
Top reader in the school, John Warnock in Ms. Dzubinski's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class, logging 10,180 minutes

### Top Class Participants:

- \* Honorable mention: Ms. Huffman's kindergarten class
- \* Runner up: Ms. Snyder's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class
- \* 1st Place: Miss Frakes' first grade class

### PTA Board Members 2011-2012

#### President

Mrs. Carylin Waterval, 703-924-2681  
[carylin\\_mother2@yahoo.com](mailto:carylin_mother2@yahoo.com)

#### Vice President

Mrs. Tracee Gartman, 571-265-9928  
[traceegartman@gmail.com](mailto:traceegartman@gmail.com)

#### Recording Secretary

Mrs. Cory O'Meara, 703-373-3887  
[ctomeara@gmail.com](mailto:ctomeara@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Mr. David Noguera, 703-922-6159  
[davidnoguera@verizon.net](mailto:davidnoguera@verizon.net)



# Current Events



**Let's get moving for our 4th Annual Family Fun Run this Saturday, December 3rd, at 9:00 a.m. Please pre-register by sending in the registration form with your child. All event information can be found here:**

**<http://www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES/docs/PTA%20Forms/2011-2012/4TH%20Annual%20Franconia%20Family%20Fun%20Run.pdf>**



***Our Page is Growing!***

**facebook**

In case you haven't heard, the Franconia PTA has joined the Facebook nation! Come find us at facebook.com under Franconia Elementary School PTA (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Franconia-Elementary-School-PTA/284564241570550>). Become a fan by clicking "like" on our page. In addition to our newsletter, website, and KIT messages, we will use this page as another form of communication regarding current and upcoming events. Rest assured that protecting the safety of our students is our priority and that we will never post pictures of your children. Check out our page and let us know what you think. We remain eager to hear your thoughts.

## ***Upcoming PTA Events....Mark your calendars!***

- November 29 Restaurant Night at Noodles & Company in Kingstowne, 5-9 p.m.***  
***December 3 4th Annual Family Fun Run to benefit New Hope Housing, 9 a.m.***  
***December 13 PTA Board Meeting, 7 p.m.***

**Where  
Can You Find PTA  
Forms, Month Meeting Minutes,  
and Newsletters? Right Here:**

**<http://www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES/ptaforms.html>**



## **What's Happening in FCPS?**

### **School Board Election Results**

Fairfax County voters went to the polls last month to vote in what was dubbed one of the "most intense" Fairfax County School Board races in years. Seven candidates ran for the board's three at-large positions. Winning the race for those spots were Ilryong Moon, Ryan McElveen and Ted Velkoff. From our district, Tamara J. Derenak Kaufax won a seat on the board. Learn more about the election results at <http://kingstowne.patch.com/articles/in-school-board-race-incumbents-keep-pace-with-new-faces#photo-8390303>.

### **FCPS Trust and Confidence Survey Results**

FCPS Superintendent Jack D. Dale has released the results of a recently implemented trust and confidence survey of FCPS parents and taxpayers that measured their opinions about a number of issues related to the school system. Check out the results here: <http://www.fcps.edu/news/trustconfidencesurvey/trustandconfidencesurveyresults2011.pdf>

### **FCPS Website Survey**

Have you explored FCPS's new website? Have you been able to find what you are looking for? Let your voice be heard by taking the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/fcpsedu>.

### **FCPS Education Summit**

In October, Fairfax County parents, students, citizens, business leaders, community leaders, and school leaders met to discuss the changing landscape of education from various perspectives. Click here <http://www.fcps.edu/news/summit/summitspeech2011.pdf> to read Superintendent Jack Dale's remarks at the event.



## **Community News**

## **What's Happening in the Community?**

### **Edison HS Craft and Vendor Fair**

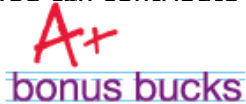
Save the date and save some holiday cash! After a two year break due to school renovations, the Edison Athletics Boosters will once again be holding the Annual Craft and Vendor Fair. It will be held on Saturday, December 17 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the cafeteria (enter using entrance 12). Over 60 vendors have signed up to participate. They are selling everything from handmade jewelry and floral items to tried and true vendors like Pampered Chef and Mary Kay. Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be making an appearance with photo opportunities! Contact Lisa MicKey at [awabyalisa@msn.com](mailto:awabyalisa@msn.com) for more information.

### **12th Annual Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights**

Experience one of the region's most beloved holiday traditions. From 6 to 7 p.m., Alexandria's harbor will sparkle when 50 brightly lit powerboats and sailboats parade down the Potomac River from Washington, DC, to Alexandria, VA, fully decked out in lights and holiday décor. The parade is led by Alexandria's fireboat Vigilant and Washington, DC's fireboat John Glenn. Bundle up and come to the docks and waterfront parks of Alexandria to cheer on their favorites. The boats are dressed to impress a panel of judges who will award prizes in a dozen categories including Best in Show, Thinking Outside the Christmas Box, and Hardest Souls. Pre-parade festivities begin at 4 p.m. and include live musical performances and FREE photos with Santa Claus for kids and canines. Santa will arrive by fireboat at 4:15 p.m. at the Alexandria City Marina behind the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Visit <http://dc.about.com/od/christmasevents/a/AlexHolBoatPara.htm> for more information.

# Membership News

Perhaps you haven't yet joined the PTA or **renewed** your membership for the 2011-2012 school year and are wondering if you still can. The answer is YES! It is never too late in the year to join or renew your membership. As a member of the PTA, you are not required to volunteer or stretch yourself beyond the limitations of work and family obligations or commitments to other organizations. Your dues alone will go far in helping your PTA achieve its yearly goals. However, if you do decide to volunteer, rest assured that there is a role for every level of time commitment. You can contribute as much or as little as you'd like and



by Giant® **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.



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.



**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.

trust that we will deeply value your time and participation. Whenever families, schools and communities work together, our students benefit. So please, be a part of your PTA in whatever capacity you can. We are truly **your** PTA - here for you and your family.

Listed below are more programs in which you can participate to benefit your school and PTA. Thank you for your support!

**Please remember to sign up at Giant. To date, only 19 people have designated their card.**



**Target's Take Charge of Education program.** Here's how it works: Visit <http://sites.target.com/site/en/corporate/page.jsp?contentId=PRD03-001825www.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 with this program 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. Click here [http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/clip/Brands.aspx?WT.ac=SweepsTY\\_ZooPals\\_Products](http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/clip/Brands.aspx?WT.ac=SweepsTY_ZooPals_Products) for a complete listing of participating products.



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.