

Mustang Express

Volume 3, Issue 1

Franconia PTA Newsletter

August 2009

August PTA Newsletter

Welcome back to school! The Franconia PTA is happy to present this newsletter as an additional information source for parents to learn about Franconia Elementary and the PTA. We hope to provide an overview of PTA activities and expose parents to issues within our school system which impact us. The success of our PTA's partnership with the school is dependent upon the willingness of parents to get involved in the school and with PTA. This newsletter should give you an idea of the countless volunteering possibilities available.

The PTA board has developed a calendar of great activities for our school year; watch this newsletter and the Mustang Message for more information. PTA meetings are typically held the second Tuesday of every month in the library. Please join us to learn about what is going on at Franconia. To view the PTA meeting minutes, go to the school website at www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES and select PTA.

Upcoming PTA Events



Mark your calendars for these fabulous upcoming events! We hope to see you soon!

-
- September 1 Back to School Picnic, 5:30-7:30pm
 - September 8 PTA Meeting, 7pm, library
 - September 8 & 10 FLEX Classes Begin
 - September 11 Fall Fundraiser Orders Due
-

FLEX Classes

Only a few more days to register for French or Spanish Foreign Language Experience (FLEX) classes. Classes begin on September 8 or 10 and continue for 30 weeks (classes will be held during intersession). Registration information is available on the school website. Contact Samantha Joyner at sam.joyner@verizon.net or 703-216-6563 with questions.

PTA Board 2009-2010			
President	Beth Krause	703-922-1877	beth_krause@hotmail.com
Vice President	Carylin Waterval	703-924-2681	carylin_mother2@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Mary Jane Alves	703-924-7119	maryjanealves@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary	Rebekah Everest	703-310-4777	rebekaheverest@gmail.com

Calling All Volunteers

We appreciate the over 80 parents who completed the PTA Volunteer form. We will be contacting you during the year to help us with school and PTA events. If you have any questions about volunteering you can contact the PTA Volunteer Coordinators Jill Vaugh (703-373-3964 or jesseandjillvaugh@gmail.com) & Nancy Nasse (703-417-9431 or nancynasse@gmail.com).



Other Volunteers Needs:

- Basket Bingo Chairperson needed to begin forming a planning committee to coordinate this event to be held in February 2010. Without a chairperson, this event will not take place.

Reflections

By Shelly Edenhart, Reflections Coordinator

Franconia Elementary would like to encourage students in K through 6 to participate in the 2009-10 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 love our students to participate again this year by creating an original work of art based on the theme "Beauty Is".



Students around the country in preschool through 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: PreK through Grade 2, Grades 3 through 5 and Grades 6 through 8. The deadline for Franconia students to submit their reflections entries is October 30, 2009. Entry forms and rules are available on www.fcps.edu/FranconiaES

If you are interested in your child(ren) participating in this year's program please contact Shelly Edenhart at sedenhart@yahoo.com or 703-313-7955.

Treasurer's Report

By Mary Jane Alves, Treasurer

We are off to a great start for the new fiscal year. Our books were successfully audited over the summer, and we approved a budget based on projected income and expenses. Should expectations change, we have the ability to revise the budget at a later meeting.

The PTA typically purchases several bigger ticket items for the school to benefit the entire school community. In past years, these have included items such as the sign board at the front of the school, SMART boards (electronic black boards that can link to data stored on computers or the internet and that facilitate interactive and visual learning), PE equipment, etc. We are continuing the tradition of a PTA cafeteria card to make sure that all students get lunch, even if they happen to forget to bring their lunch or they have inadequate funds on their own card. We are grateful when families reimburse the PTA whenever their own child has benefited so that we can keep the card funded for the next child.

We are also extremely appreciative of the large numbers of families and individuals who have joined the PTA. Although a portion of your dues is sent to local and state officials, most of your dues stay right here to benefit your children and your school. Profound thanks also to those of you who have donated money directly to the PTA. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, so your donations are tax deductible. We will keep you up-to-date on the budget at each meeting so that you know how your funds are being used, and we welcome your input and support throughout the year.

Box Tops for Education

Franconia is once again participating in General Mills' Box Tops for Education fundraising program. This year we've set a goal of earning \$1,500 through Box Tops. If each child submits 32 box tops during the entire school year, we'll meet our goal. Funds raised from Box Tops will be used to purchase supplies for the school.



The Box Tops for Education program offers easy ways to make a difference through everyday activities: buying groceries and shopping online. School budgets are tighter than ever, and Franconia is asking for the support of families and community members like you.

The 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, send the Box Tops to school with your child. The class with the most box tops submitted each

For more information on other ways to support the Box Tops 4 Education campaign, go to www.boxtops4education.com. Any questions on the program can be directed to Sharon Hester, PTA Box Tops coordinator, at thebigdirt@aol.com.

Pack 867 www.pack867.com

Boy Scout Pack 867 is looking for new members. Boys and their families can join cub scouts once they enter 1st grade and can join any year up through the 5th grade. During the 5th grade year the boys transition to Boy Scouts. Cub Scouts meet Monday evenings from 7-8 pm. Once a month, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts meet together on a Tuesday evening instead of a Monday evening, called a Pack Meeting.

Membership for the year to join cub scouts is \$12 for our National Dues and then \$25 for Den fees for the year. This \$25 stays with the boy's Den and covers projects they may have at their Den Meetings.



To join, please contact any of the individuals below:

Pack Cub Master (Leader) - Jim McCormick - 703-317-8284 (h) - jim.n.mindy@verizon.net

Assistant Cub Master - Lee Wingfield - thewingfields@gmail.com

Committee Chair - Renae Polovchik - 703-924-2698 (h) - renae@polovchik.com



Join the Girl Scouts at Franconia Elementary



Girl Scouting is for every girl, everywhere, where today's girls can become tomorrow's leaders.

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.

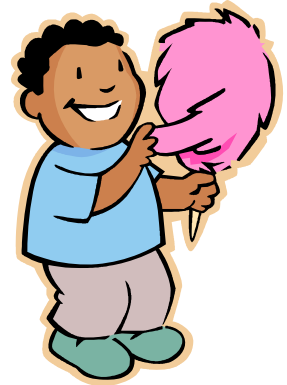
We have 3 levels of troops at Franconia that meet on Mondays (twice per month):

- 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. For more information or to join a Franconia troop, contact: Carylin Waterval, School Troop Organizer, carylin_mother2@yahoo.com, 703-924-2681.

Join Us....

For a Family Picnic
Tuesday, September 1
5:30-7:30pm
Franconia Playground



Hot Dogs
Moon Bounces
Tattoos

Sno-Cones
Bake Sale
T-Shirt Sale



\$5.00 per adult
Free for PTA members

Hope to see you there!