



Mustang Express

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Franconia PTA Newsletter

November 2009

November PTA Newsletter

Fairfax County school budget is facing a deficit of \$176 million for next school year. Many programs are in danger of being cut. Those affecting Franconia include: elimination of modified calendar, full day kindergarten, band and strings, technology specialist, and an increase of class size by 1 child. An increase in class size could lead to the elimination of 1 classroom teacher. Contact our school board member, Brad Center and let him know how you feel about these reductions.

Congratulations to the students who sold 40 items during the Lavender's sale! They won a limousine ride to lunch on November 9. Thanks again to all the families who participated in our annual fall fundraiser. We will decide on next year's company in March/April 2010. Feedback on this year's company is requested.

Our next PTA meeting will be held December 1. Please join us to learn about what is going on at Franconia. Mrs. Gawalt, the school librarian, will give a presentation on the subscription databases that FCPS provides. These are online encyclopedias, periodicals, ebooks, and more that we pay for as taxpayers and they are wonderful, safe resources that can be used for homework, research, or just fun. They can all be accessed from school, home, or from any computer connected to the internet. 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!

December 1 PTA meeting, 7pm, Library

December 9 Evening Book Sale Hours

January 22, 2010 Movie Night

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

Company Donations

Does your company match employee donations to non-profit organizations? Ask your Human Resources representative. All donations to the Franconia PTA are tax deductible.

Box Tops

Congratulations to Mrs. Owens' Kindergarten class who turned in a whopping 700 box tops for the first quarter! Box tops are due at the end of December; send your box tops into school with your child, in a Ziploc bag. The class with the most box tops submitted wins a prize! Any questions on the program can be directed to Sharon Hester, PTA Box Tops coordinator, at Franconia1988@aol.com.

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.

Program	Franconia ID	How To
Giant A+ Bonus Bucks	02290	Sign up at any Giant store <i>or</i> log on to www.giantfood.com/aplus <i>or</i> dial 1-877-366-2668
Safeway	6505092	Sign up at www.escrip.com
Office Depot	70103060	Use Franconia's school ID in the store and on-line
Target		Visit www.Target.com/tcoe <i>or</i> call 1-800-316-6142 to designate school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcard (Target Visa Credit Card, Credit Card <i>or</i> Check Card), Target will donate up to 1% of purchases to the school.
General Mills Box Tops for Education		Clip Box Tops from your favorite General Mills products, each one is worth 10¢ to our school. At the end of each quarter (December 18, March 12 and June 1), send the Box Tops to school with your child.
Cartridges for Kids (CFK)		Send your 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 to the school with your child <i>or</i> place them in the collection box outside the gym.

If you have questions on any of these promotions, contact Carylin Waterval at carylin_mother2@yahoo.com.

Tiny Chefs - Educational Enrichment Cooking Classes (Ages 5-13)

Drop the kids off at our new interactive cooking class, where children will learn how to follow a recipe, measure and combine ingredients, as well as collect kitchen safety tips all while preparing (and eating) a delicious meal. What a great way to spend a fun time in the kitchen cooking, while seamlessly reinforcing school lessons in math and science. 1.5 hour class - \$40. To register, please visit: www.cornercuisine.com *or* call at: (703) 339-1736.



New Lit'l Ballers Program

What is a court? What is a sideline? Who is on the sideline? Look I can dribble, shoot and score! Our Lit'l Ballers will learn the fundamentals involved in the game of basketball. Through age appropriate games; this clinic will prepare these players for future league play formats. Our goal for the final session is for our lit'l ballers to be able to play 3 x 3 mini games with their teammates.

Open to Boys and Girls ages 5 and 6 years old (age as of October 1, 2009).

7 - 1 hour sessions to be held on Saturday mornings at 10AM beginning January 9, 2010.

Registration is open through December 15, 2009.

For more information or to register your player, please go to www.leedistrictbasketball.com.

AngelFood Ministries

Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non denominational organization dedicated to providing food relief to communities throughout the USA. His Church, located in Springfield , VA, is a local host site for Angel Food Ministries. The program began in 1994 as a small outreach ministry serving a rural community in Georgia . The goal was to help neighbors who needed a hand up in a tough economic time. Today, Angel Food Ministries can be found in over 3,200 communities in 35 states and helps feed over 500,000 families a month.

Anyone can participate in the Angel Food program; there are no applications or qualifications. Angel Food Ministries also participates in the U.S. Food Stamp Program, using the Off-Line Food stamp Voucher system. Each month, a basic "Signature" box of Angel Food can be purchased for \$30. An average box of food weighs around 21 lbs. The weight may differ each month. A box of food assists in feeding a family of four for about one week, or a single senior citizen for almost a month.

The next order deadline is December 6. Food will be delivered on December 12. If you would like to participate, go to <http://angelfood.hcicc.org> to sign up. Contact Franconia parent, Tameka Downing at 703-862-8515 or t Downing26@yahoo.com with questions.

