

Franklin Middle School

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[http://www.fcps.edu/
FranklinMS/](http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/)

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The Kimeline

Message from Mrs. Eisenberg, Principal

Dear Franklin Families,

As we enter the second semester of school, we become busier and busier to meet the challenges we face in educating our students. We take great pride in the accomplishments of our students and staff. Our students receive many honors at school and in the community. At school, we have A-B Honor Roll as well as a very large group of children achieving All A Honor Roll. Additionally, students receive "Student of the Month" recognition from their team of teachers, and we have students that are recognized through our PBS (Positive Behavioral Support) Program and receive vouchers which are then placed in a box and names are drawn biweekly for a gift of recognition. Our students are involved in service learning projects and fulfill this by providing service hours in our community. How wonderful for their learning to give back to our community!

Our staff is highly qualified and talented and share their knowledge and experience with colleagues. They receive recognition and honors within our school and in the county. Our teachers are asked to present at meetings for staff development and in-services sharing their strategies and knowledge that impacts student achievement. Others are National Board Certified Teachers or are in the process of working for this prestigious designation.

I remind us of this because we just received an honor for the second year as a "Governor's VIP Award for Educational Excellence." Last year was the first year of this award and we were among eighty-nine schools in the state, eighteen of which were in Fairfax County. This year, thirty-one Fairfax County Public Schools were awarded out of one hundred sixty-two schools. This is such an outstanding compliment and honor for our school and community. The standards are rigorous and we continue to meet these standards, thanks to our dedicated staff and students. To quote a paragraph from the press release:

The 2009 Governor's Award for Education Excellence is the highest honor under the Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) incentive program created by the Virginia Board of Education to advance Governor Tim Kaine's "competence to excellence" agenda to encourage advanced learning and achievement in Virginia public schools. I refer you to the link below for more details of the award.

<http://commweb.fcps.edu/newsreleases/newsrelease.cfm?newsid=1055>

Each year schools create a document called the "School Improvement Plan." Our plan outlines the mission, vision, and goals that we have at Franklin. It also includes how we intend to meet our goals through our objectives and work plans. Much of our work is based on current educational research and best practice, highlighted in our plan. If you would like to see the entire document, it is on our website and can be accessed by this link: <http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/>

Thank you, again, for the honor of being the proud principal of Franklin Middle School. Let's enjoy the second semester of two of the most critical school years for our children.

~Sharon Eisenberg

Remember to sign up for your Blackboard Parent View Account at

<http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/>

ATTENDANCE LINE Please call 703-904-5151 to report an absence.
Number available 24 hours a day!

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2-Hour Early Release

**Tuesday,
March 24th**

Dismissal at
12:10 p.m.
to allow teachers
to participate in
staff development
activities.

Library news

- Students are getting into Non-Fiction books this quarter with seventh grade English classes focusing on the trials of climbing Mount Everest.
- February is Love a Book month.
- Be watchful of service hour opportunities with the after school Ecology Club in March and April.
- On March 2nd the library will have a Read-In for those English classes who want to let their students relax and read for enjoyment on Read Across America Day.
- April is National Poetry Month and the library will be hosting its annual Poetry Café. Have your students sign up in the library to join our audience or be one of the poetry readers. Refreshments are served.

News from the FCPS Energy Zone

NUTRIFAX



CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

The two major oral health diseases are tooth decay (dental caries) and gum (periodontal) disease. Both diseases are influenced by nutrition and diet. Nutrition plays an important role in the development of teeth and oral tissue. Dental caries result from the interaction between the tooth, oral bacteria, and dietary carbohydrates (sugar and starch).

Plaque is a sticky film of bacteria that forms on our teeth and turns the sugars and starches in our food into acids. These acids act on the tooth enamel and cause tooth decay. If high-acid producing or sugar foods (raisins, cookies, cakes, potato chips) are consumed, they should be eaten with meals, not as snacks. Cheeses, popcorn, raw fruits and vegetables are low-acid producing food and make healthy snacks.

To prevent dental disease, remember to:

- Brush teeth after every meal with fluoridated toothpaste.
- Floss teeth daily.
- Visit the dentist and dental hygienist regularly.
- Eat a nutritionally balanced diet.

Avoid foods that stay in the mouth a long time and stick to teeth (raisins, hard candies, and caramels).

I TUNEⁿ2 FMS because:



iCHOOSE Respect

iCAN be Responsible

iCARE about Safety

At Franklin MS, we believe in promoting high expectations and recognizing positive behaviors each day. We emphasize respect for self and others, responsible choices that facilitate learning and positive interactions and safe behaviors at all times. Students will understand clear expectations for behavior and will receive feedback when teachers or staff see respectful, responsible and safe behaviors in class, in the hallways, in the cafeteria and on the bus. Throughout the year, students who demonstrate respect, responsibility and safety will be recognized in a variety of ways including verbal acknowledgement, nomination as a student of the month as well as bi-monthly drawings of names of students who were given PBS cards.

At home, parents can talk about respect and responsibility and how to live out these words. You can also proudly recognize the respectful, responsible, and safe behavior choices your child makes. Ask your child if he or she has been recognized for positive behavior and please continue to encourage your child to choose respect, behave responsibly and make safe choices at school and at home. If you have any questions about Franklin's Positive Behavior Support program, please feel free to contact Asma Junco, Assistant Principal.

Thoughts from the Assistant Principals **Bryan Holland, Asma Junco and Turnell Sims**

The quality of “perseverance” has enabled many of our students to succeed when confronted with challenges. This key quality allows students to pursue their goals, have the determination to endure hardships, and finally to remain on course.

We are now beginning the second semester for this school year. We are so impressed with our students and on a daily basis we see evidence of perseverance at our school. Here are some thoughts to discuss with your child about this topic:

- Are your students putting in the essential time and effort in their class work and homework in order to be successful?
- Are your students staying after school with their teacher or going to the homework club?
- Are you and your child discussing course options for next year?
- Are you discussing grades with your child?
- Is your child setting goals and strategies for improvement for the next marking period?

A sense of purpose with the determination to overcome obstacles in life is what perseverance is all about. The ability to bounce back from adversity and keep moving toward goals with enthusiasm and resourcefulness are two main byproducts of applying perseverance in all one does.

EARLY DISMISSALS Prior to leaving school early, a student must bring a note signed by a parent or guardian to the front office stating the reason for leaving and the planned time of departure. The student will be given a pink early dismissal/check-out form by the office staff. This will be his/her pass to depart from class at the indicated time. Parents must come in to the office to sign-out their child. A record of each student's check-outs will be kept by the office. In some cases, the office staff may ask that doctor, dentist, court, or attorney appointments be confirmed in writing on office stationery by the professional visited. If a student returns to school again later the same day, he/she must check-in at the office.

PREARRANGED ABSENCES Parents may prearrange for their child to be absent from school. The student must bring a letter, signed by the parent or guardian, to the office. The letter must include the dates of the absence, reason for the absence and any other pertinent information. The student will receive a pink prearranged absence form that must be signed by all of their teachers **AND RETURNED TO THE OFFICE PRIOR TO THE ABSENCE**. Students are responsible to make up any work missed!

LATE ARRIVALS (TARDY) When a student comes to school late, he/she should bring a note signed by a parent/guardian or be accompanied by a parent/guardian. The note must explain the tardiness and estimate the time of the student's arrival to school. This note should be presented to the Front Office. Parents are requested to call the attendance line at 703 904-5151, to report a late arrival in advance, for attendance purposes. Tardiness that is caused by a school bus breakdown will be classified as excused, and each student on the bus will be given a late pass to show to his/her first period teacher. **Traffic, oversleeping, and missing the bus are considered unexcused.**

HOMEWORK If a student is absent 3 or more consecutive days parents may request homework. Please call 703 904-5100 to make a homework request.

Clinic News Are there any changes to the health information that you provided to the clinic at the beginning of the school year? Please let the clinic know if medications, health issues, or if there have been any changes in telephone numbers. Call Kathy Palumbo, Clinic Aide, at 703.904.5110.

Remember, parents must bring any medications to the clinic for their student. Students may not transport medicine to or from school.

When calling to report your student's absence please state if reason for absence is either an upper respiratory or GI systems illness.

Calendar of Events

February 2009

- 1-28 Love a Book Month
2 Report Cards Sent Home with Students
10 PTA Meeting, 9:30 am, Library
Guest: Kathy Smith, School Board Representative
11 All 'A' Honor Roll Reception, 1:15 pm, Cafeteria
16 School Holiday, President's Day

March 2009

- 2 Read Across America Day
Interim-Progress Reports Sent Home with Students
2-5 SOL Writing Tests, Grade 8
10 PTA Meeting, 9:30 am, Library
Guest Speakers: Amy Parmentier & Patricia Silverthorn
24 2 Hour Early Dismissal (12:10pm), Staff Development

April 2009

- 2 Third Grading Period Ends
3 Student Holiday—Teacher Workday
6-10 Spring Break—No School
14 PTA Meeting, 9:30 am, Library
16 Poetry Café, 2:30pm, Library
20 Report Cards Sent Home with Students

June 2009

- 16 8th Grade Event
17 End of Year Picnic—Yearbook Signing

PTA News

February 10th at 9:30AM the PTA is hosting Kathy Smith, Sully District Board Member. She will discuss current issues regarding the school budget for Fairfax County Schools. We will also have Ted Velkoff, the Chantilly High School PTA President to talk a for a few minutes about participation at the High School level PTA.

March 10th, the PTA meeting will have Amy Parmentier , Social Worker with Fairfax County, to talk on Middle School Children and their social, emotional development. Patricia Silverthorn, the Franklin Middle School School-Based Technology Specialist will also present a talk on Internet Safety issues.

In January, Eileen Stein pulled together a wonderful community service for Franklin MS children to participate in. As always, Eileen finds a way to bring out the best in our children by encouraging sensitivity and awareness of the needs of those less fortunate. This year the children put together toiletries for the families of children at Bright Beginnings (a day care center for children of homeless families).

The PTA welcomes comments and concerns. We would like to see you and hear from you at our meetings.

FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

Spring 2009

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
Mon., Feb. 2	7 th period	Second quarter report cards given to students
Mon. Feb. 2	7:00 pm	Chantilly HS Honors/AP Curriculum night for parents
Mon., Feb. 2	7:00 pm	Oakton HS Curriculum night for parents
Wed., Feb. 4	7:00 pm	Westfield HS Curriculum night for parents; and 6:15 Special Ed parent meeting. (Snow date for both: Feb. 9)
Monday, Feb. 9	7:00 pm	Chantilly HS Curriculum night for parents
Thursday, Feb. 12	9:15 am	Assemblies for Chantilly-bound 8 th grade students. CHS counselors distribute registration materials. (Gym & Cafeteria)
Tuesday, Feb. 17	1:15 pm	Meeting for Westfield-bound 8 th grade students to distribute WHS registration materials. (Library)
Tuesday, Feb. 17	1:15 pm	Assembly for Oakton-bound 8 th grade students. OHS counselors distribute registration materials. (Cafeteria)
Monday, March 2	7 th period	Third quarter interim reports given to students
Mon., March 2	1 st period	SOL Writing Multiple Choice Test given to 8 th grade students (makeup – March 3)
Wednesday, March 4	1 st period	SOL Direct Writing Test given to 8 th grade students (makeup – March 5)
Tuesday, March 10	9:30 am	Rising 7 th Grade Parent Orientation for Lees Corner, Navy, Brookfield, and other feeder elementary schools; Franklin Middle School Theatre
Wednesday, March 11	9:30 am	Rising 7 th Grade Parent Orientation for Oak Hill, Poplar Tree, Waples Mill, and other feeder elementary schools; Franklin Middle School Theatre

Thursday, March 12	9:30 am	Rising 7 th Grade Student Orientation at Franklin Middle School in the Gym; Franklin will arrange bus transportation
March 9-13		Franklin counselors visit feeder elementary schools; distribute course selection materials to rising 7 th grade students
March 23-27		Franklin counselors visit 7 th grade classes; distribute course selection materials to rising 8 th grade students
Thursday, March 26		Rising 7 th grade course selection sheets due to Franklin from elementary schools
Thursday, April 2		Rising 8 th grade course selection sheets due from counselors to Theresa Fitch
Friday, April 3		Teacher Workday
April 6 – 10		Spring Break
Monday, April 20	7 th period	Third quarter report cards given to students
Friday, April 24	9:15 am	High School Activities Fairs. Eighth grade students visit Oakton, Chantilly, and Westfield high schools
Monday, May 11	7 th period	Fourth quarter interim reports given to students
May 18 – June 5		Online SOL Tests given to students
June 8 – 12		Final Exams
Thursday, June 18		Last Day for students – grades given to students
Thursday, June 25		Final report cards mailed home

Counseling Department Liaisons: 703-904-5100

Registrar	Mrs. Wyne	Teresa.Wyne@fcps.edu
Director of Student Services	Mrs. Fitch	Theresa.Fitch@fcps.edu
Emotional Disabilities Program	Mr. Lothschuetz	Frank.Lothschuetz@fcps.edu
Teams 7A & 8A	Mrs. McGill	Margaret.McGill@fcps.edu
Teams 7B & 8B	Mrs. Case	Tammi.BaileyCase1@fcps.edu
Teams 8C, 7D, 8D	Mrs. Hudson	Kathy.Hudson@fcps.edu
Team 7C	Mr. Stephan	Mark.Stephan@fcps.edu

Congratulations to our November 2008 Students of the Month

Team 7A

Leasley Alvarado
Jae Noh
Fernando Negrete

Team 7B

Joseph Cafiero
Casey MacLean
David Crafton

Team 7C

Ciana Deveau
Brennan Garrett
Michael Reingold

Team 7D

Erin McConnell

Team 8A

Yazan Hajoun
Sarah Wu
Kelly Zust

Team 8B

Shannon Holcombe
Mitch Batchelder
Alek Sung

Team 8C

Emma Olson
Tanul Gupta
Michael Fradette

Team 8D

Andrew Boddie
Elaine Kim

Congratulations to our December 2008 Students of the Month

Team 7A

Savannah Hemmig
Matt Upright

Team 7B

Mackenzie Springer
Olivia Townsend
Jeffrey Weinberg

Team 7C

Sofia Ortiz
Aaron Long

Team 7D

Nicholas Stern

Team 8A

Victoria Carboni
Revanth Kolli
Sandeep Malladi

Team 8B

John Townsend
Samantha Jones
Maddie Farmer

Team 8C

Myles Crouther
Makeez Qaderi
Helena Chung

Team 8D

Briana Stewart
Nathan Chen

SCHOOL—MISSION STATEMENT

The Franklin Middle School community provides students a rigorous instructional program in a safe and nurturing environment. The curriculum and climate challenge and support each student to strengthen foundational knowledge and higher level thinking, awaken curiosity and creativity, apply problem-solving strategies, develop self-advocacy and communication skills, and become community-minded, life-long learners.

SCHOOL—VISION STATEMENT

The Franklin Middle School community will continue best practice teaching and will utilize cutting-edge technology to engage all students in challenging core academic subjects and fine and practical arts with support and enrichment in an inclusive environment. We shall prepare students for higher-level and life-long learning to become self-aware individuals and to develop as productive and responsible members of society and the global community.



Home of the Falcons



NJHS STUDENTS: Reminders about completing service hours and grades.

Hours may be earned by assisting a teacher, working in the office, peer tutoring, or assisting with the PTA, or participating in any of the activities sponsored by NJHS. Please check with Mrs. Gardner or your team liaison if you have a question regarding appropriate service hour locations.

Hours completed should be turned in to team liaisons when served. Service hour forms may be obtained from them as well and can also be found in the office. Please turn in your hours as you complete them. This avoids problems at the end of the third quarter. It is recommended that students complete 5 hours per quarter.

Please turn in ALL hours served, even after you have completed the minimum of 15 hours. It is the sole responsibility of each member to complete at least 15 service hours. BE PERSISTENT! Continue to ask teachers if they need help and don't forget the seventh grade teachers!

GPA's are checked quarterly. All NJHS members and candidates will be notified whether they do or do not have a 3.5 GPA on a quarterly basis. GPA's are not calculated at Franklin Middle School.

Members that do not complete the minimum 15 hours of service will not receive NJHS pin. Candidates that do not meet this requirement will not be inducted. FINAL SERVICE HOURS DUE DATE: April 2, 2009.

Please contact Mrs. Gardner, leah.gardner@fcps.edu, or Mrs. Serroka, karen.serroka@fcps.edu, if you have questions.