

Franklin Middle School

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Chantilly VA 20151
703.904.5100



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

November 2008
Volume 2, Issue 1
The Kiteline

Message from Mrs. Eisenberg, Principal

Greetings and warm wishes to our wonderful Franklin community!

We enjoyed the opening and excitement of starting a new school year. The students are settled in and it is delightful to see them in classes, hallways, in the cafeteria, and in taking advantage of our After School program.

Thank you for your attendance at our Back to School Night and your continued support through PTA and our fundraisers. We do appreciate your generosity in the face of these economic issues. I hope that you were able to attend or will attend one of the meetings that are being sponsored by Fairfax County Public Schools and Fairfax County Government about the proposed budget issues facing us in the next couple of years. They are informative and the county welcomes your input.

School has changed so much over these last years. It is so exciting for us as educators. Our students have opportunities for learning and activity that are wonderful. Technology is important in the 21st century and our staff is always finding ways to ensure that our students are able to use it appropriately for learning. This year our school is using a system called eCART which allows teachers to develop quality assessments for learning. Additionally, students will take assessments that will help the teachers determine where students are in their learning and plan for them. Students will take two assessments per year in math and English that are part of the county's requirements. We hope that this will help with the spring SOL assessments which are so important in documenting progress.

Our recent early closing for staff development focused on assessment and learning. Our teachers gained much insight and perspective as we continued to look at proven research-based strategies that increase student achievement. The presenter was well aware of the standards and reputation of Fairfax County Public Schools and validated the work we do for our students at Franklin MS. He presents in Fairfax County Public Schools as well as school divisions across the United States. As your principal, I can tell you that I am always proud of our accomplishments which come with the hard work of our dedicated and professional staff. We are learners, also!

Thanks again for your support. It is truly my honor and pleasure to work in such a vibrant school and community. I want to extend the best to everyone as we approach this busy and happy holiday season. ~Sharon Eisenberg

Inside this issue:

Book Fair SCA	2
Energy Zone News Lost & Found	2
Letter from Mr. Holland	3
PE/Health News, Clinic, After-School Pro-	3
Calendar of Events	4
Interim/Report Card/Testing Schedule, Submission of work by email or Digital drop-box,	5

Franklin's Attendance Line

Open 24 hours
703.904.5151

**2-Hour Early
Release**
**Wednesday,
November 26**

Dismissal at 12:10 pm
for Thanksgiving Holiday

November 27-28, 2008

School Holidays

Thanks for a successful Magazine Drive!

Many thanks to our students, parents, and community for their support of the Franklin MS 2008 Magazine Drive! All monies raised fund instructional resources and student activities. You can continue to support FMS by ordering magazines throughout the school year. Go to www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/NewsandEvents to link to the QSP Readers Digest website. We truly appreciate the support of the community with our annual school-wide fundraising activity!

FRANKLIN MS BOOK FAIR - COME ONE COME ALL!

Franklin's Annual PTA Book Fair will be December 8-12 during school hours: 7:00am to 2:30pm. On Tuesday, Dec 9th, it will be open from 7:30am until 9:00pm.

Please contact Sara Ortiz at samysara@msn.com or Maggie Avedisian at mavedis776@aol.com if you can volunteer to help on Friday, December 5th, for set-up or anytime during the Book Fair week; volunteers are very much appreciated. The proceeds from this year's Book Fair will go toward PTA projects that benefit the entire school. Thank you for all you do to support learning at Franklin MS!

SCA (Student Council Association)

Franklin is giving back! The SCA is coordinating a *Canned Food Drive* from December 8 through December 16 to help replenish local food banks during the holiday season. Teams will be participating in a contest to bring in the most canned and boxed goods for those in need in Fairfax County. Parent participation is critical to Franklin's annual contribution.

The SCA will be sponsoring its annual student 'Fall Fling' on **Wednesday, November 19th**. Tickets will be sold during all lunch periods November 14, 17, & 18. The \$5 ticket includes pizza, drinks, and snacks. Students can sign-up for a late bus when they buy their ticket. Tickets will be not sold at the door.

If you have questions, please contact SCA sponsors Megan Kokinda, megan.kokinda@fcps.edu, or Melissa Rhoden, melissa.rhoden@fcps.edu.

LOST & FOUND

Our lost and found bin in the cafeteria is overflowing. Please take a moment in the next couple of weeks to come in and look for any lunch box, binder, or clothes that your student may be missing. All unclaimed clothes will be donated to a charity before the winter break.

Remember to sign-up for your Blackboard Parent View Account at <http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/>

News from the FCPS Energy Zone

Healthy Snacks

The rise in overweight children means that parents need to take an active role in providing healthy snacks for their children.

- Keep snacks small.
- Don't eat snacks straight out of the package.
- Snack only when hungry, not bored.
- Limit sweet snacks such as brownies, cookies, and candy because they are often loaded with calories and sugar.
- Offer fruits and vegetables.
- Offer low fat cheese with whole grain crackers or pretzels.
- Select snacks from MyPyramid.
- Quench thirst with water, fruit juices or low fat milk, not soft drinks.
- Read food labels carefully – if first ingredient is sugar **AVOID IT**.

Use www.fcps.edu/fs/food/ nutrition calculator to evaluate your snacks at home.

Healthy Tips for the Holidays

- Choose a variety of foods from MyPyramid-Steps to a Healthier You.
- Start the day with breakfast.
- Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables.
- Eat lighter meals at night.
- Limit portion sizes of favorite holiday foods, especially desserts.
- Eliminate night-stress-related gorging, especially in front of the TV.
- Go to bed feeling light, not "full".
- Enjoy your feast, family, and friends.
- Remember to exercise 60 minutes per day.



FRANKLIN WELCOMES MR. HOLLAND AS A NEW MEMBER OF THE FRANKLIN MS FAMILY

Dear Franklin Community,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself to such a wonderful community. In my first few months, two things have become very clear: first, accepting this position is proving to be the best decision of my career; and second, this is a terrific place to work. I knew Franklin was an excellent school before I arrived, but the people I have met here have demonstrated the excellence and commitment necessary to create a successful school.

This is my thirteenth year in the county, as I spent my first twelve at Chantilly High School. During my tenure at Chantilly, I was a Marketing teacher, Varsity Boys Soccer Coach, SGA sponsor, and an Assessment Coach. Each opportunity at Chantilly helped to prepare me for my new role here at Franklin. I am excited about Franklin's future as I envision Franklin Middle School's next several years. The largest challenge seems to be how to make an excellent school even better. This is no small task and requires the effort and support of everyone in the Franklin community.

Thank you for your time and attention. I am thrilled to be the 7th grade Assistant Principal at Franklin Middle School, and I look forward to working with all of you.

Bryan Holland

Assistant Principal

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEWS

The PE department and PTA have teamed up to offer sweat suits to the students. The students may purchase sweats through the PE department. Please make the checks payable to Franklin PTA.

The Physical Education Department will begin the full schedule of indoor activities later in November. Seventh grade will be learning basketball, juggling, and modified volleyball units, while the eighth grade will be learning volleyball, modified tennis (pickleball), and fitness training and testing.

The students are currently rotating through health, learning more about 1) Skills for Health and Wellness, 2) Injury Violence and Prevention, and 3) Drug use Prevention: Alcohol, Tobacco, and other drugs.

In January, the students will be receiving the Human Growth and Development unit. There will be a parent preview night on Thursday, December 11th for those interested. Times will be posted on Franklin's website.

Franklin MS' 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.

Please check out

Franklin's After-School Program

calendar and information about programs and activities:

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

If you have questions, please contact Chris Woodby, After-School Program Specialist, at 703.904.5183

Clinic News

Vision and hearing screenings have been completed. Letters have been mailed to the parents/guardians of any student who failed. If you receive a failure letter from the clinic, please have your physician complete the form, then return it to the clinic. The information will be used to update your student's health records in the school files. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Palumbo, Clinic Aide, at 703.904.5110.

On another note, if there are any changes to the health information that you provided to the clinic at the beginning of the school year, please let the clinic know. This may include medications, health issues, or changes in telephone numbers.

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

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

NJHS students, remember to complete your service hours quarterly. Contact Mrs. Gardner, leah.gardner@fcps.edu, if you have questions.

Calendar of Events

November 2008

- 11 PTA Meeting, 9:30 am, Library
- 19 SCA "Fall Fling", after-school
- 20 School Picture Make-up Day
- 20 All 'A' Honor Roll Reception, 1:15 pm, Cafeteria
- 20 Thanksgiving lunch served to students
- 26 2 hr. Early Release, Thanksgiving Holiday
- 27-28 Thanksgiving Holidays

December 2008

- 3 Band Winter Concert, 7 pm, Gym
- 4 Orchestra Winter Concert, 7 pm, Gym
- 11 P.E. Parent Preview/Information Night, Theatre
- 8-12 Franklin PTA Book Fair, Library (7:00am-2:30pm)
- 8-16 SCA Canned Food Drive
- 9 PTA Meeting, 9:30 am, Library
- 9 PTA Book Fair, Library (Open 7:00am-9:00pm)
- 9 Choral Winter Concert, 7 pm, Gym
- 24-Jan 4 Winter Break

January 2009

- 5 Return from Winter Break
- 13 PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm, Library

Come visit the Book Fair! December 8 through 12 in the Library. Great books for students and siblings! Get started on your Holiday Shopping and remember...
A book is a gift you can open again and again!

ATTENTION GRADUATES OF OAK HILL ELEMENTARY!

Did you attend Oak Hill? Here is your chance to leave your mark at Oak Hill. Help support the new outdoor classroom by purchasing a personalized commemorative brick for the new patio. You may personalize your brick with your name or family name or honor a teacher you remember. Bricks are available in two sizes: 4x8 for \$40 each, with 3 lines of text, and 8x8 for \$75 each, featuring a wolf paw print logo and with 5 lines of text. To order, go www.fcps.edu/OakHillES/, click on "Outdoor Classroom." Orders must be received by January 16, 2009. For more information, contact CJ Peters at oakhillbricks@gmail.com, or call 703-437-5837.

Connect with the Franklin PTA!
<http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/PTA.html>

**Franklin Middle School
INTERIM, REPORT CARD, & TESTING SCHEDULE
2008-2009**

1ST Qtr. INTERIMS

Interim reports given to students 7th Period Tuesday, October 14

1ST Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Report cards given to students 7th Period Monday, November 10

2ND Qtr. INTERIMS

Interim reports given to students 7th Period Monday, December 15

2ND Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Report cards given to students 7th Period Monday, February 2

SOL WRITING TESTS March 2 – 5

3RD Qtr. INTERIMS

Interim reports given to students 7th Period Monday, March 2

3RD Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Report cards given to students 7th Period Monday, April 20

4TH Qtr. INTERIMS

Interim reports given to students 7th Period Monday, May 11

ONLINE SOL TESTS May 18 – June 5

FINAL EXAMS June 8 – 12

4TH Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Grades given to students All Classes Thursday, June 18

Final report cards mailed home Thursday, June 25

**SEPTEMBER
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

Team 7A

Jia Rodgers & Tyler Evans

Team 7B

David Reed, Alex James &
Sami Lemieux

Team 7C

Kate Scott, Ricky Richardson
& Andrew Warrener

Team 7D

Darby Chancler

Team 8A

Aisha Hussain & Ryan
Gulledge

Team 8B

Matt Eshleman, Katrina
Roberts & Rania Beshara

Team 8C

Eva Melendez, Patrick Linehan
& Devyn Tinker

Team 8D

Josh Wallace

SUBMISSION OF WORK VIA EMAIL OR THE DIGITAL DROP BOX ON TEACHERS' FCPS 24/7 BLACK-BOARD SITES:

We encourage students to work from home, but request that they save their work in the Word 2003 format. To save work from Word 2008 documents you need to change the default format so that all documents saved on your machine are compatible with Office 2003.

1. Click the Microsoft Office Button
2. Choose Word Options
3. Choose Save
4. Under Saved Documents, click the Save Files in this format drop down arrow and choose Word 97-2003 document (*.doc) option
5. Close

To just save one document so that it is compatible with Word 2003, click the Microsoft Office button, choose Save As, Click Word 97-2003 document.

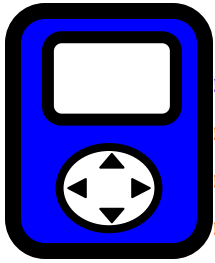
Please review these steps with your student so that they may preserve the integrity of their work and successfully submit that work to their teachers. For your convenience, these instructions are available on the main page of Franklin's website www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS, see Principal's Letter.

Kiss and Ride Alert!

All students who are driven to/from school should be dropped off at the Kiss and Ride lot only! Cars should not drive through the bus loop, which is the road directly in front of the school. Please do not drop-off students in the main parking lot and do not have them cross the bus loop road. Be aware that buses drive through during the morning and at afternoon dismissal and after-school dismissal.

Kiss and Ride is one way. Cars should pull-up to the sidewalk to meet students. Please do not direct your students to meet you in the parking lot or to cross the parking lot to meet you on Lees Corner Road. Students' safety is most important!

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Bryan Holland, Assistant Principal, bryan.holland@fcps.edu, or Officer Carl Jenkins, School Resource Officer, carl.jenkins@fcps.edu.



Positive Behavior Support

ITUNE2 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.