

# HILL HIGHLIGHTS

## "WE GO THE EXTRA MILE!"

Freedom Hill Elementary



Tim Stanley, Principal  
Jessica Lewis, Acting Assistant Principal

October 27, 2009  
<http://www.fcps.edu/FreedomHillES>

### Veterans Day

On Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11, we pay special tribute to America's 25 million living veterans. We honor them for exemplifying the true character of the American spirit. Freedom Hill will honor veterans with a program on Wednesday, November 11. We will hold a short program in the gym from 9:40 to 10:10. The children will sing and we are delighted to have one of our parents as our guest speaker. **Please get this invitation out to all Freedom Hill family members who are veterans.** Thanks!

### PTA Thank You

Halloween Fun Night was an amazing night for our children!!! I just love this school community. I looked around on Friday night in awe of the turn out! Our PTA is unlike any other I have seen! There must have been half of our school there dressed up for the event. It was a great opportunity for staff and parents to chat and to build relationships which we all know are so important to the success of our children. Thank you, thank you, and thank you.

Also, a HUGE thank you to everyone who came to build the Smart Board projector carts on a recent Sunday afternoon. **I know the teachers that received the newly built carts were also very appreciative.**

### Parent View – Please sign up

Go to the Blackboard logon page (<http://fcps.blackboard.com/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp>) and scroll down to where it says "Register for a New Parent Account Now!" Once you complete the online portion, you need to come to Freedom Hill with the code provided to you during registration in order to complete the process. Here at FH, parents go and see Mrs. Hassinger to complete the Parent View process.

### What's New With Keep in Touch (KIT) for 2009-10

FCPS has an electronic mass notification system known as Keep in Touch (KIT). KIT has two services: **KIT Basic** (automatic enrollment) and **KIT Plus** (subscription).

**KIT Basic** has automatic enrollment because it draws contact information from the student information system (SASI) and the employee (Lawson) databases. Contact information for KIT Basic may be updated at the school or through weCare@School, a feature of FCPS 24-7 Learning (Blackboard) - <http://www.fcps.edu/DIT/fcps247.html>. FCPS central offices and schools use KIT Basic to provide families and employees with three types of messages—attendance (new this year), emergency, and outreach—via e-mails and phone calls.

**KIT Plus** is a subscription service for students, community members, and citizens interested in news, events, and updates from FCPS. Subscribers may select from the following topics:

- Adult and Community Education (ACE) classes and news.
- Current issues (budget, boundary studies, summer programs).
- Delayed openings and school closings.
- FCPS job opportunities.
- Magnet schools and advanced academic programs.
- News releases and media tips.
- PTA, PTSA, PTO information.
- School Board news and updates.
- Special education services.
- *Supergram* (employee newsletter).
- Volunteer opportunities.

In addition to these topics, KIT Plus subscribers may also receive announcements from up to five schools of their choice. KIT Plus is a self-subscribing, -updating, and -unsubscribing service. FCPS families and employees may receive announcements from both KIT Basic and KIT Plus. For more information, or to subscribe, visit <http://www.fcps.edu/kit>.

### Youth and Depression: What Parents Need to Know and Do

Almost one-third of FCPS students surveyed in 2008 reported experiencing depression. How do we recognize when our children are depressed? Who can we turn to for help? A presentation to address these concerns will be hosted by the Marshall-Tyson Community Coalition on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at Kilmer Middle School, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**This is Really It! We're Going Paperless!**

This will be your last paper copy of Hill Highlights as we are going green! Future issues will be emailed to families every other Tuesday. Please make sure you have provided the office with your current email address(s). If you do not have an email account, we will be happy to print a copy for you. Just let us know.

**SCHOOL—VISION STATEMENT**

Freedom Hill Elementary School is developing into a community of continuous inquiry and improvement--a Professional Learning Community. We are dedicated to guiding our students to be intrinsically motivated to become contributing members of society. This goal is becoming embedded in our school culture and increasingly drives the work we do everyday.

**SCHOOL—MISSION STATEMENT**

Freedom Hill Elementary School creates and develops students who:

- thrive and grow academically
- respect community
- become lifelong learners

**SCHOOL—CORE VALUES/BELIEFS**

Our students will exhibit self-esteem and perseverance. Our students will take risks, volunteer and love learning.



**OCTOBER / NOVEMBER**



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26	27	28	29	30 Sixth Grade Field Trip to the National Gallery of Art  <b>FIFTH GRADE WAX MUSEUM PROJECT</b> 2:00-3:00
2 Teacher Workday No School for Students	3 Teacher Workday No School for Students  <b>ELECTION DAY</b>	4 Second Grading Period Begins	5	3 Fall Picture Make-up Day 
9	10 Progress Reports Distributed to Students 	11 <b>VETERAN'S DAY ASSEMBLY</b> 	12	13