

From the Principal's Desk



Wow! We hope that everyone enjoyed Back-to-School Night as much as we did. A huge thank you goes out to Molly Steadman, our SCA president, for her warm

and inviting opening, and to Girl Scout Troup 201, for the flag presentation. We had a fantastic turnout with over 250 of our families in attendance!

We encourage you to continue to be actively involved in our school as well as our PTA. Please look out for additional opportunities to get involved and know that we always welcome volunteers. Our next PTA event is our Back-to-School Social which will take place tomorrow from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Red, Hot, and Blue will be catering the event. We hope to see you there!

On a different note, we send our well wishes to Michele Webb, our administrative assistant, who has elected to take a one year leave of absence. For those of you that know Michele, you know that she has been an amazing addition to our staff over the years. We are currently in the process of hiring someone to fill our vacancy. In the meantime, Ellen Lambert will be the point of contact in place of Michele. We thank you for your support through this time of transition.

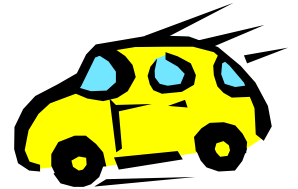
☺ Theresa Carhart

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Keeping an Eye on Safety

Kiss & Ride

Kiss and Ride is a system that we use to help student car riders get in and out of school safely. For our parents that have any questions about this process, we have created a parent how-to Kiss and Ride video. It can be found on our school website at the following address:



<http://www.fcps.edu/HayfieldES/HES%20information.html>

Walker Parent & Sibling Pick-up

Our parent and sibling pick-up is running smoothly thanks to you! We want to extend our appreciation to the parents and siblings of our primary students, primarily in grades K and 1, that have been picking up children at exits 10 & 11. Although we have older students walking or meeting parents in the SACC courtyard, we appreciate your understanding in the importance of us ensuring our little ones connect with someone before leaving our building.

Student Drop Off

Students may enter the building at **7:55 a.m.** It is important that no student is dropped off before this time as we do not have staff present to provide supervision. In addition, Kiss and Ride closes at 8:10 a.m. when the tardy bell rings and staff and students must enter the building to begin the school day. If students arrive after 8:10 a.m., parents and/or guardians are **required**, for student safety purposes, to park and walk children into the building.

Transportation Changes

Thank you for making sure **ANY** changes to transportation are made before your child leaves for school in the morning and are submitted in writing to the school. Please be mindful that students get confused when they have too many changes made to the way they go home from week to week. Establishing and maintaining a routine for dismissal methods reduces student confusion.

Safety Committee

HES has a Safety Committee that meets quarterly through the school year. If you have any school safety concerns, please contact our assistant principal, Keesha Jackson-Muir at keesha.jacksonmuir@fcps.edu.

Here's What's Coming Up...

September 25	PTA Back to School Social 5:30 p.m.
October 1	Interim Reports go home for grades 3-6
October 6	PTA Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Safety Tips for Walkers: Plan Familiar Routes and Walk with A “Buddy”



Only students who live in Hayfield Farm are permitted to walk to and from school. Parents should plan a walking route to school and choose the most direct way with the fewest street crossings. Parents are responsible for selecting their children’s walking routes to and from bus stops, schools, and home. Parents are also responsible for providing supervision that is appropriate for their child’s age, maturity, and conditions on the route. Parents should be encouraged to outfit their children with reflective clothing.

Students should cross streets at controlled intersections and in crosswalks where available. Students

Rules of the Road: Riding Bikes to School

On a yearly basis, only students in grades 4-6 will be given permission to ride their bikes to school. **ONLY** students who live in Hayfield Farm will be allowed to ride their bikes. These decisions are based on safety. A student who wishes to ride a bike to school must bring a note from a parent giving permission. Students should bring an appropriate lock to secure the bike in the stand provided at the school. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged bicycles.

should not cross in the middle of a street unless the crossing is supervised by a crossing guard or a police officer. Before crossing, students should look both ways before stepping off the curb. Students should always pay attention for turning vehicles. Students should be encouraged to turn off personal stereos (iPods) while crossing intersections.

Students who walk to and from school should be encouraged to walk with other students. Walkers should go directly home after school and never take shortcuts. Elementary students

should avoid parks, vacant lots, fields, and other places where there aren't many people, and, if they are unable to walk home safely, they should return to the school.

It is important to note that school system staff members do not assess all possible walking routes, supervise those routes, or guarantee the safety of any particular route. Staff members provide general safety information to school communities and respond to requests for specific information and advice when practical.

FCPS Offers Parent Orientation to New Families

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is offering a parent orientation seminar to families new to the school system. Getting to Know Fairfax County Public Schools: A Parent Orientation is taught by community liaisons and is offered in English, Arabic, Korean, and Spanish. This interactive seminar provides information about the school system and the importance of parental involvement in a child’s educational achievement, suggestions for how parents can get involved with their children’s schools, and a cultural discussion component that helps accelerate a family’s acculturation to the United States.

The seminar is presented **on selected dates each month** in each language on a drop-in basis at the following locations:

- **South County Government Center**, 8350 Richmond Highway, in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County, 703-704-6002. Presentation is in **English** from 10 a.m. to noon on the last Wednesday of each month.
- **Devonshire Center**, 2831 Graham Road, Falls Church, 703-208-8017. Presentation is in **English** from 10 a.m. to noon the second Friday of each month; in Korean from 10 a.m. to 12 noon the third Friday of each month; and in Spanish from 10 a.m. to noon the last Friday of each month.
- **Lake Anne-Reston**, 11484 Washington Plaza West, Reston, 703-668-0583. Presentation is in **Spanish** from 10 a.m. to noon the second Thursday of each month
- For times and locations of presentations in **Arabic**, call 703-277-2637.

Individual school parent liaisons and school parent center coordinators may also request a copy of the presentation to use with families at their schools. Family Services and Involvement personnel are also available to present to individuals, schools, and community groups.

Note: For more information, contact Robin Hamby in the FCPS Department of Communications and Community Outreach, Family and School Partnerships, at 703-277-2640 or robin.hamby@fcps.edu.