

# Key Center Spotlight

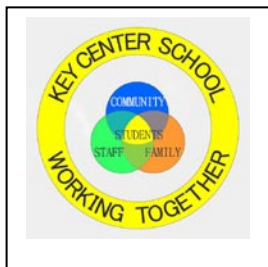
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Principal: Tom Flick  
Assistant Principal: Ann Smith



## Upcoming Events

- May 25 –  
Memorial Day  
- No School
- May 29 –  
Field Day
- June 10 –  
Graduation
- June 18 –  
Last Day of School  
Early dismissal  
Time TBD



## Principal's News

Dear Parents,

Summer is fast approaching. Our big event in June will be our graduation which will be Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 6 pm. I invite all of you to attend this special event. We have seven graduates this year. Your attendance would be greatly appreciated by the graduates and their families. Mark your calendar it will be a great evening.

Our school prom, which was on May 1, was a big success. Our senior students danced the day away at the Waterford. We had over 20 Lee High School students paired up with our students who had a great time dancing and socializing. Each of our senior students received a framed picture of themselves taken at the prom. Our PTA provided the parents of our senior students a catered lunch at Key Center School. It was a great day for our students.

Field Day will be on May 29. It will start at 8:30 am with awards given out after lunch. The PE department is very busy planning this event. The students will have four events in the gym that they will participate in and one event outside. We will be having an Olympic theme for Field Day. It should be fun. Please come and join us for this special day.

Summer school will begin on July 7 and will end on July 31. It will be at Key Center School from 8 am to 11 am. Teachers will be contacting you in regards to Extended School Year Services (ESY). All ESY IEP's will be completed by May 29. If you have questions in regard to this please give me a call.

Sincerely,

*Tom Flick*

Principal

## Focus on Music!

Music Therapist: Rebecca Barry

Welcome to Music Therapy at Key Center School! According to the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), music therapy is an established healthcare profession that uses music to address the needs of people of all ages, including physical, cognitive, emotional and social needs. Through the process of music therapy, students with developmental disabilities can improve such skills as grasping, communicating, walking, and making decisions. In other words, I don't teach music, but rather use it to help all of my students achieve their IEP goals. For more information on music therapy, please see these websites: [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org); and [www.cbmt.org](http://www.cbmt.org).

This year, the theme in Music Therapy has been "Music around the World." Each student created a passport at the beginning of the year. Every time we "travel" to a new "continent," each student gets to stamp that passport. Passports will come home at the end of the year.

For the month of May, our theme is Europe. No matter what our current continent is, we always have fun by playing instruments, dancing, singing with our voices or communication devices, and even composing. In fact, our big project for this month is composing a song, which each class will do with the help of a special computer program.

Have a wonderful Spring, and remember AMTA's motto: "Music Therapy makes a difference!"





# Key Center Spotlight

## Focus on Technology

School-Based Technology Specialist:  
Nicole Bracken

Key Center is really fortunate to be what I would call a “technology rich” school. Key Center really profited from our recent renovation in so many ways, but especially in the technology arena; this has been augmented by having an administration that is highly committed to exploring how technology can benefit the students here at Key Center. Some of our technology additions from the last couple of years include:

- **Digital Cameras**
- **“Smartboard”** interactive white board
- **Touch Screen monitors**
- **Classroom computers**
- **Large screen TV’s**
- **Assistive and Augmented communication devices**
- **BoardMaker Software**
- **Computer Lab**

We also offer regular computer training to our staff. I hold **Tech Talk Thursday**, which is a scheduled 45 minute lesson, usually on some type of software program of interest to the staff. I also offer **Free for All Friday** early Friday mornings when any staff member is welcome to come in for one on one instruction in any technology area they are interested in. My goal in these trainings is always to de-mystify technology and make it accessible to all.

If you would like to learn more about technology here at Key Center, or would like to come see our technology in action, please don’t hesitate to give me a call at (703) 313-4077. Parents are also always welcome to come use our computer lab.



## Focus on Classroom 324

Teacher: Ka’ala Rapoza  
Assistant: Tracie Curtis  
Sean Elder

It has been an exciting school year for the students and staff in room 324 and we are looking forward to a relaxing summer. Our class has been participating in teaming activities with our friends in room 327, Mrs. Jovanelly’s class. Over the school year we have used this teaming time to learn about a wide variety of topics but lately during that time we have been discussing natural resources such as the Chesapeake Bay and Bald Eagles. Our class tries to keep up with current sporting events and lately we have been discussing the NBA playoffs. Our class has been participating in several vocational worksites which include; Journey Church, an FCPS Warehouse, and Mount Vernon and Lee Enterprises. We also are involved in the school’s recycling program and make regular drop offs at Atlantic Metals. Some other trips that we plan on making this month include: Huntley Meadows Park, Lake Accotink Park, and Jerry’s Subs and Pizza.

