



# Lancer Times

February 25, 2011  
Volume 1 Issue 26

Longfellow Middle School, 2000 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church, VA 22043  
<http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS> (703)533-2600



## UPCOMING PARENT COFFEES



- **February 23** – Coffee cancelled
- **February 28** – 6pm Coffee for current 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents before the PTA meeting - Library
- **March 15** – Parent Coffee for all parents 9am – Lecture Hall
- **April 11** – Parent Coffee for current 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents 9am - Library



## IMPORTANT DATES



- **February 23** - Choral Concert 7pm Gym 1
- **February 25** - Spelling Bee 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> periods
- **February 28** - PTA Meeting @7pm

## STUDENT SERVICES DATES

- Start to Success Program-students coming to LMS in the Fall:  
Session I – **August 22, 23**/Session II - **August 24, 25**
- Open Houses – **August 31 & September 1**
- Orientation for new students – **September 2**
- Back-to-School Nights – 7<sup>th</sup> grade-**September 14**  
8<sup>th</sup> grade-**September 21**





## LONGFELLOW'S ONLINE AUCTION



[http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/2011PTA\\_Auction.pdf](http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/2011PTA_Auction.pdf)

We have a box in the front office for your convenience, if you would like to contribute anything for the online auction.

### ELECTIVES FAIR

Thank you to Gail Bigio, our counselors, and all our teachers and students for your efforts and time in preparing for the Electives Fair last week. Between the set - up, organizing students as ambassadors, preparation of posters, decorations and communicating with parents/guardians as well as their rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders, all that *coupled with the move*, was pretty amazing. Our parent volunteers were very helpful as well.

**THANK YOU**



### WRITING SOL

The Virginia Department of Education requires that all students in grade 8 take the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) test on English: Writing. The test contains two parts and will be offered at our school on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> (Multiple Choice) and Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> (Short Paper Direct Writing). Make up testing will occur on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> and Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

It will be very helpful if you can avoid appointments which may take your child out of school during this time period. Also, it will help your child perform his or her best if he or she has had a good night's rest, a healthy breakfast, and comes to school with a positive attitude.

[http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/Letters/2011WritingSOL\\_ParentLetter.pdf](http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/Letters/2011WritingSOL_ParentLetter.pdf)

## LONGFELLOW-FONTAINEBLEAU EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Longfellow Middle School will be hosting 29 French students from April 5 to April 12, 2011. World Language teachers will be distributing Interest Sign Up sheets for those parents interested in hosting an exchange student. We will be having an interest/information meeting on **March 3<sup>rd</sup>** at **7pm** in the **Longfellow Middle School LIBRARY**. We will discuss the details of the French exchange program. Our students are of course welcome to attend.

The Longfellow-Fontainebleau Exchange Program has been an enriching experience for the Longfellow community since 1996. Under the direction of their teacher, Madame Helen Bocquet, a group of 20-30 French middle school students come for about two weeks to the United States to learn more about American culture and history. They start their trip in Jamestown and Williamsburg, then they come up to Washington DC and stay with Longfellow host families for one week, after which they finish their trip in New York City. It is a wonderful experience for them, as well as for us in Virginia. Many former host families have developed friendships with their visiting student that has continued over the years.

This year, the group will be arriving in Falls Church, VA around 6pm on **Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**. If you decide to host a student, you will need to be able to pick up your assigned student at that time. You will take them to your home where they will stay with you until **Tuesday, April 12**. Each school morning, the French student will go to school with your Longfellow student. The French student group meets in the library while the Longfellow students attend classes as usual. A bus will pick up the French students from Longfellow and take them sightseeing in the DC area during the day. The bus will return them to Longfellow between 5-5:30 each evening, at which point someone from your family will need to pick up your student and take them to your home. The evenings are your time to spend with the student, and host families in the past have done a variety of activities to help the students experience "American life".

We encourage students to get in touch with their French guest before they arrive through e-mail or Facebook.

Thank you again for opening your homes to these French children!  
Mme Barrau & Mme Sezgin

*Merci*



## *RESPONSIBILITY...IT'S A GOOD THING FOR OUR KIDS*

Do you struggle when your child:

- Forgets homework?
- Doesn't follow through on commitments?
- Is consistently late?
- Doesn't give himself/herself enough time to complete an assignment?
- Misses curfew?



Are you trying to “fix” these problems? Cooper MS and Longfellow MS are presenting a parent education session to talk about strategies parents can use to encourage responsibility.

**Date** – Tuesday, March 29, 2011

**Time** – 7 pm – 8:30 pm

**Location** – Cooper MS



Topics will include:

- Helping children learn from mistakes; turning them into teachable moments
- Setting boundaries and sticking to them
- Helping your child learn how his or her actions affect everyone else
- Understanding why consistency matters
- Letting consequences work

The program will feature a group presentation and then break-out sessions for small group discussions. Presenters are Marge Bleiweis and Estelle Brauer. Both are retired school counselors with 15+ years of parent education experience in the McLean community. This is a free program, open to everyone in the McLean/Langley/Falls Church community. For more information, you can email Estelle Brauer at: [esbjewels@verizon.net](mailto:esbjewels@verizon.net) or Marge Bleiweis at: [mlbleiweis@fcps.edu](mailto:mlbleiweis@fcps.edu).

**8TH GRADERS...COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY!**

**Lemon Road ES Fun Fair**  
**Saturday, March 26, 2011**  
**9:45am to 4:00pm**



Time slots available are: 9:45-12:00pm (morning shift); 11:45-2:00pm (afternoon shift); 9:45-2:00pm (full day shift); 2:00-4:00 (clean-up)

**To volunteer: E-mail Cheryl Ryan [Cheryl.d.ryan@usa.net](mailto:Cheryl.d.ryan@usa.net)**

Please provide your full name, your school, the times you are available, your parent's name, your home phone number and a phone number where your parents can be reached during the Fun Fair.

**Community service hours for baking:**

One hour of community service for two dozen cookies, one dozen cupcakes or brownies, or for one cake.

**You must let us know ahead of time that you'll be baking!**

(Note: I will confirm that your volunteer information was received shortly after you contact me. Please try again if you don't hear from me.)

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE VOLUNTEER HOURS**

**Available Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Spring Hill Elementary School Fun Fair**

**Attention all 8<sup>th</sup> graders needing volunteer hours** – The Spring Hill Fun Fair needs your help with games and activities. There are shifts available so it is not necessary to work the full day, unless of course you need the hours!

Shift Times:

9:45 am – 11:35 am

11:25 am – 1:15 pm

1:05 pm – 3:00 pm

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm (clean up)



**Please check your availability and if interested e-mail us at: [shfunfairvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:shfunfairvolunteers@gmail.com).**

Please provide your name, school, grade, contact info (home phone number and e-mail address so you can receive future updates from us), and the shift times that you are available.

We will send you an acknowledgement that we received your request and can participate.

Come join us on this fun day! You can contact us below if you have any questions. Thanks for your help!

Courtenay Hamilton (703) 847-4735

Judy Wong (703) 893-0789



**STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED @ HAYCOCK ES**  
**Student volunteers needed for the student and parent Math Night on March 14 from 5:30 – 9:30. They can receive community service hours. Contact Holly McGuigan, assistant principal, if you'd like to assist at [holly.mcguigan@fcps.edu](mailto:holly.mcguigan@fcps.edu).**



### **STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Haycock Elementary International Night is this Friday 2/25 at 6pm. We would love to find 10-15 Longfellow students to help out for two (5:45-7:45pm) or three hours (6-9pm) with food service and clean-up.**

**Interested students can contact me by email [nyakatan@aol.com](mailto:nyakatan@aol.com) or phone (703-532-1662).**

**Nicole Yakatan  
 Haycock Elem**

**International Night Volunteer Coordinator**



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