



# The Seahawk Times



## Silverbrook Elementary's Monthly Newsletter

September 2009



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



Volume: 2

Issue: 1

### Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! I hope that you and your families had a wonderful summer! The Silverbrook staff and I are excited about September and look forward to spending the upcoming year with your children. Please be sure to read the entire newsletter since there is lots of important information regarding school procedures and general information about Silverbrook Elementary.

We have some new programs going on at Silverbrook this school year. We now have a School-Based Advanced Academic (AA) Center at Silverbrook. This first year we are beginning with grades 3 & 4 and will add a grade each consecutive school year. In grades 3 – 6 we are now providing classes in Compacted-Math, which is an advanced math program that we offered only to grade 6 last year. Finally we are very excited about launching our own Strategies Lab. Mrs. Peggy Tugwell and Mrs. Dee-Dee Phillips, our AA Resource Teachers are working on establishing this resource for all of our students. The Strategies Lab will be discussed at the fall parent-principal coffee. Please look for the date in next month's newsletter.

Thank you to all of you who came out for our Open House last week. Please look in this news-

letter for the dates for Back to School Night – a special evening for teachers and parents. I urge all of you to take time to attend – and also please remember it is for adults only. Please be sure to make arrangements to keep your children at home that evening.

Once again, welcome back! We are so happy to have you as a part of the Silverbrook family and look forward to a wonderful 2009-10 school year!

Melaney J. Mackin, Ed. D.  
Principal

### Open House

Thank you to those of you that were able to attend our Open House last week, on Thursday, September 3rd. We had a great turn out! If you were unable to attend please look for the take-home-packet that was given out that day in your child's backpack. This packet contains lots of important information and forms that you will need to fill out and return ASAP.

### Back to School Night (BTSN)

Who: Silverbrook Parents  
What: Meet the teachers  
When: Sept. 16, 2009  
K thru Grade 3  
& Sept. 17, 2009  
Grades 4 thru 6  
Time: 6:30 pm

### Schedule for each evening:

- 6:30-7:30 First Session
- 7:30-8:15 Second Session
- Specialists will be available during the second session. Please see their schedule below.
- 8:15 BTSN concludes

### BTSN Support Teacher Schedules

Members of our Classroom Support Team will be available from 7:30—8:15 PM in the following locations:

#### Cafeteria:

- ESOL Teachers
- GT Teacher
- Reading Teachers
- Special Ed Teachers

#### Gym:

- Art Teachers
- PE Teachers
- Band Teacher
- Strings Teacher
- General Music Teachers

#### Library:

- School Counselors
- Library Staff

### FCPS H1N1 Update

Please see the attached letter from Dr. Jack Dale regarding H1N1 and school procedures.



## Bell Schedule

Monday: 8:15-12:25

Tuesday-Friday: 8:15-2:55

Early Bell: 8:00am

\*Students cannot arrive before 7:55am. If students arrive after 8:15am they must come to the office to get a tardy slip.

## Absentee Telephone Lines


You must call our absentee line by 8:10am when your child will be **tardy or absent** from school. Also, please specify the reason for your child's absence/late arrival ie. illness, appointment etc.

Main Office Absentee Line:  
703-690-5151


## Wednesday Folders

All important information will be sent home every Wednesday in the specially designed envelope for Silverbrook Elementary students. Please read the materials in the envelope, sign and date it on the front and have your child return it to his/her teacher.

## Car Riders

Parents dropping students off in the morning must follow the Kiss & Ride route on the side parking lot. Students must be dropped off before 8:15am. At the end of the day if you are picking up your child please follow the same procedures as in the morning. 

## Parking/Speed

For the safety of our children when going to and from school, please observe the 25 mph speed limit and the 4-way stops in our community.  When on school grounds please

be sure to drive slow and when you are visiting the school for our various events, please park your cars so that our neighbors' driveways are not blocked. \*\*Also...for safety reasons and to allow our buses & FCPS maintenance trucks to get in and out of the front entrance during the day.....no parking is allowed in the front of the building during school hours.

## Riding Buses With Friends

In order to prevent overcrowding on our buses, students are discouraged from changing buses to ride home with a friend. Students may walk home with a friend, or be picked up by a parent for a play date. The parents of both students involved in any change of afternoon plans must send a note to school with their child on that same day. The note must then be turned into the office first thing in the morning for a bus pass to be issued.

## Silverbrook's Website

[www.fcps.edu/SilverbrookES/](http://www.fcps.edu/SilverbrookES/)  
This newsletter along with other school and PTA information can be found throughout the year online at this site. Also, sign up for the Keep In Touch program so you can get informative emails throughout the year.

## Medication at School

Parents are reminded that students are not allowed to take any medication, prescription or over-the-counter (with the exception of cough drops and throat lozenges), unless an authorization has been filled out and signed by the parent (or

doctor for some types of medications). Students are not allowed to carry medication to and/or from school. Medication must be in the original container, and prescription drugs must be labeled properly by the pharmacy. Please see our clinic aide, if you have any questions.

## Lunch Information

The price of lunch including milk is \$2.65. The reduced price is \$.40 cents. Milk is available separately for \$.60 cents. Students who forget their lunch or lunch money will be provided cereal and milk at a charge of \$1.00 which should be repaid the following day. The cost for breakfast will remain \$1.50. Parents will still be able to pay for their children's school meals three ways: online, using [www.myLunchMoney.com](http://www.myLunchMoney.com); check; or cash.

## Free/Reduced Lunch Applications

For those who are on the free or reduced lunch plan, all applications have expired! New applications must be submitted each year. If you have questions you can call Food and Nutrition Services at (703) 813-4844.

## PTA Innisbrook Fund Raiser

Be sure to check out the Innisbrook packet that each student received. We appreciate the support of all Silverbrook families. All orders are due back to school by Monday, September 21st.

### **Family Life Education Opt Out Forms**

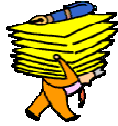
Beginning fall 2009, Family Life Education printed opt out forms and letters will not be distributed to schools. Parents will be able to access FLE parent letter, grade level forms and program descriptions online at <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/OMSI/fle/index.htm>.

### **Student's Rights and Responsibilities**

Please be on the lookout for your Student's Rights and Responsibilities booklet. This should be reviewed with your child, signed and returned as soon as possible.

### **3 Important Forms**

First day packets containing all of the important forms to be filled out were sent home at our Open House on September 3rd. If you did not attend Open House the forms were sent home with your child on the first day of school. Please review/update and sign the Emergency Care Form. This form is vital for our records when the school needs to reach you for any reason. Also, please sign and return the new Ethnicity Race Survey. This form is new to FCPS this school year. There is also a new Health Form for the 2009-2010 school year in the packet. Please sign & return **ALL** forms as soon as possible.



### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Oct. 2: FUN RUN  
9:30-10:30—KAM & Gr. 4—6  
1:00-2:00—KPM & Gr. 1—3
- Oct. 6: PTA Meeting—  
Volunteer & Class Parent Orientation Training
- Oct. 12: Columbus Day  
NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 28: Innisbrook Pick-up  
3:00—7:00pm in the Gym



