



The Seahawk Times

Silverbrook Elementary's Monthly Newsletter



September 2011

www.fcps.edu/SilverbrookES

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Issue: 1

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to you and your children! I hope that you all had a wonderful summer. All of us here at Silverbrook are looking forward to the new school year.

Please be sure to read the entire newsletter since there is lots of important information regarding school procedures and general information about Silverbrook Elementary.

On the first Wednesday of each month, please look for this monthly newsletter, *The Seahawk Times*, where I will provide pertinent information for parents regarding Silverbrook Elementary and school district updates. You will also find a calendar at the back of each newsletter with dates & times of upcoming school events.

We have a couple of new firsts for this year.....this is the first year that we are offering Full-Day Kindergarten, and this is also our first year of having a full AAP School-based Center with grades 3 – 6. The staff and I are very excited about both of these programs and are looking forward to working with Silverbrook students in this capacity.

Please take notice when you visit the school what a nice job our custodial staff did cleaning the building – both inside and out.

They even polished the name of the school that is located on the outside of the building. I am very proud of them and the hard work that they put in to keeping Silverbrook looking great. Walking the school grounds you will also notice that our blacktop area and walkways along the back have been resurfaced. This fall we are set to have the cement slab where the 10 room modular once sat converted into basketball courts. It will be nice to have an additional area out by our playground and field for students to play.

Once again, welcome back! We are very happy to have you as a part of the Silverbrook family, and we look forward to a wonderful 2011-12 school year!

Melaney J. Mackin, Ed. D.
Principal

Open House

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend our Open House on Thursday, September 1st. We had a great turnout! If you were unable to attend please look for the large packet that was given out on the first day of school. 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. 14, 2011

K thru Grade 3

Sept. 15, 2011

Grades 4 thru 6

Time: 6:30 pm

Schedule for each evening:

- 6:30-7:30 First Session
- 7:30-8:15 Second Session
- Members of our Classroom Support Team will be available from 7:30-8:15 PM in the locations listed 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
- AA Teachers
- Reading Teachers
- Special Ed Teachers

Gym:

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

Library:

- School Counselors
- Librarian



Bell Schedule

Monday: 8:15-12:25

Tuesday-Friday: 8:15-2:55

Early Bell: 8:05 AM

*Students cannot arrive before 8:00am. If students arrive after 8:20am they must come to the office and sign in on the late arrivals sheet.



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 the office the morning of the change.



Silverbrook's Website

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.



Important Forms

First day packets containing all of the important forms to be filled out were sent home at our Open House on September 1st. If you did not attend Open House the forms were sent home with your child on the first day of school. Please sign & return the forms as soon as possible. These forms include the **Emergency Care Form** and a new **Health Form**. There was also a new **Student's Rights and Responsibilities** booklet included in the packet. This booklet should be reviewed with your child. Please sign the Parent/Guardian Signature Sheet located on the second page of the booklet and return it to the school along with the other forms.



Dismissal Information

For those of you who come to wait for your child to be dismissed at school – please note that our dismissal happens in phases – our walkers, kiss & ride, bus riders and SACC leave the classroom in separate groups. Although our final dismissal time is at 2:55 we do begin announcing the various phases at 2:50 (Monday dismissal is 12:25 – with announcements beginning at 12:20).



Family Life Education Opt Out Forms

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/OM/SI/fle/index.htm>.

FCPS Cafeteria Account Low Balance Message

Starting this fall Silverbrook will begin using the FCPS Keep In Touch messaging system to send cafeteria account low balance messages to parents. In addition to notifying parents by phone, the Keep In Touch system will also send emails to parents. The messages will be sent weekly. Students will still be notified in the lunch line if their cafeteria account balance is getting low. The Keep In Touch communication of low balance messages is separate from the email messages generated by myLunchMoney.com. If you are currently receiving email messages from myLunchMoney.com you may unsubscribe yourself from receiving these messages so that you do not receive duplicate emails.

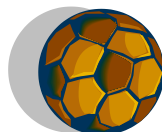


Kindergarten Bus Drop Off Policy

All Kindergarten students riding the school bus home MUST be met by a parent, designated adult and/or sibling or neighborhood child in 7th grade or higher. The receiver must ask the bus driver for the kindergarten student by name to be released off the bus. If there is no one to accompany or receive a kindergartner, the child will be returned to the school.

FCPS Attendance and Tardy Policies

If your child is going to be tardy or absent from school you must report this to the attendance line at 703-690-5151 or the school office at 703-690-5100 by 8:30 a.m. If the school does not receive a telephone call by 8:30 a.m., you will receive an automated telephone call and an email stating that your child is absent from school. A student being tardy or absent from school due to illness will be reported as an excused absence. Unexcused absences and unexcused tardies include family trips, child care problems, oversleeping, non-school related activities, or missed buses. Families are expected to make travel plans during school vacations. Parents should seriously consider the educational implication of disrupting educational progress for family vacations. Students coming in after 8:20 a.m. will be reported as tardy, unless the student has an excused absence or if the late arrival is due to an FCPS-provided transportation issue. You may report that your child will be coming late to school but a parent or guardian must escort the child into the school office. You need to sign in the late arrival sheet listing your child's name and the reason for the tardy.



Excused Absences: Illness/ Death/Medical & Dental Appts./ Religious Holidays.

Unexcused Absences: Family Trips/ Child Care Problems/ Oversleeping/ Non-School Related Activities/ Traffic-related Delays/ Missed Bus.

After School Hours

Please be advised that student and community access to the classrooms closes 30 minutes after the end of each school day. If your child has forgotten their homework, they will **not** be allowed to get back into their classroom after that time. Please be sure to remind your students to take all work they need for home with them at the end of the day.



Calling all 6th Grade Parents

The first meeting of the 6th Grade Events Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21st at 7:00pm. It will be held in the library. All 6th grade parents are encouraged to attend to find out more about the fun upcoming events for this year.

Attention All Non Profit Groups & Organizations

Any Non-profit groups NOT affiliated with FCPS will have two opportunities to have flyers distributed in our Wednesday folders. Please submit flyers to Dr. Mackin for prior approval. The distribution dates are Wednesday, September 21st, and this spring the date will be Wednesday, June 6th.

IMPORTANT DATES

SEPT 30: FUN RUN

OCT 10: COLUMBUS DAY/
NO SCHOOL

OCT 18 & 19: FALL PICTURES

OCT. 25—28 BOOK FAIR

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. If you have questions regarding this policy please call the school office. Parents can now pay for student lunches online at: www.myLunchMoney.com



Track Team Update

Last Spring's track team went to the Hershey state competition and did extremely well. Every student that competed placed 3rd or higher in their event. The results are as follows: Emma Yates & Spencer Nelson - 3rd in throwing. Tyler Kling - 1st in throwing. Michael Fairbanks & Alicia Campbell - 1st in jumping. Niles Scafati & Tyler Kling - 3rd in the 100m. Trevaun Turner, Seth Dunn, Jaden delaConcepcion, Tyler Kling -2nd in the 4x100m relay. Nathan Scafati, Dominic Salguero, Zachary Schultz, and



Tyler Kling competed at the North American Final meet for Throwing and placed 4th. Congratulations to all our track stars! You did a wonderful job and Silverbrook is very proud of you!

Cafeteria Hostess Job Opening

Silverbrook is looking for an enthusiastic person to work in the cafeteria. This is a Monday— Friday position from approximately 10 am—1 pm. Interested applicants should be friendly, energetic, assertive in maintaining expectations for cafeteria behavior, and have a love for working with children. Send resumes to Assistant Principal, Mr. Joe Bosco at Silverbrook Elementary.



Why Buy a School Lunch?

Lunches are planned by registered dietitians and chef to reflect the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and strict United State Department of Agriculture meal patterns. The menus contain no more than 30 percent calories from fat, 10 percent calories from saturated fats, limited trans fats, and reduced sodium and sugar.

Lunches contain whole grain breads and cereals, fresh fruits, vegetable choices and low fat or skim milk.

A variety of lunches include salad, hummus, and vegetarian options.

Food is prepared and served under safe and sanitary conditions.

Lunch costs less than bringing an equally nutritious lunch from home

In this period of rising food costs, a comparison of a lunch brought from home with school lunch prices shows the school lunch is a nutritious bargain.

Cost of Sample Lunch from Home

Determined from prices at local grocery stores 8/11

	<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Middle/High</u>
Bread (white), 2 slices	\$.15	\$.15
Turkey slices, 3 oz	\$1.31	\$1.31
Potato Chips, (small bag)	\$.33	\$.33
Baby Carrots (6-8)	\$.50	\$.50
Fresh Apple (1)	\$.96	\$.96
Milk, 1/2 pint (at school)	\$.60	\$.60
Bag, napkin, etc	\$.13	\$.13
Labor, 15 minutes	free	free
Total Cost	\$3.98	\$3.98
Lunch purchased at school	\$2.65	\$2.75
Savings	\$1.33	\$1.23