

Tailfeathers

Kim Dockery, *Principal* • Cecilia Vanderhye, *Assistant Principal*



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Mrs. Dockery Appointed Assistant Superintendent



Mrs. Vanderhye Named Acting Principal

On September 4th the FCPS School Board appointed me assistant superintendent for the Department of Student Services. This opportunity comes with great pain as it means leaving the Westlawn school community. For the past five years I have been privileged to work with the finest teachers and staff members in FCPS to serve this community. In partnership with parents and their children we have created a professional learning community that is built on high expectations not only for academic achievement but also for developing life long learners who are responsible, caring people. Our school has become a model for its literacy practices, its parent partnerships and its teacher leadership. I have worked

in many schools and this is by far the most rewarding professional experience I have ever had. Westlawn defines what is possible.

I deeply regret the timing of this change to the Westlawn School community. I will be leaving Westlawn after Back to School Nights on September 25th. I am very happy to inform you that Phyllis Pajardo, Cluster II Assistant Superintendent, has named Cecilia Vanderhye as the Acting Principal. An acting assistant principal will be named this week.

Mrs. Vanderhye will be acting principal through the fall while the formal principal search process occurs. The Cluster office will hold informational sessions for staff and parents on October

2nd to describe the process that includes an opportunity to give input and the opportunity for staff and parents to sit on the selection panel. Staff will meet with the Cluster II representatives at a staff meeting on October 2nd. Parents will have this communication occur at the PTA meeting at 7:00pm on October 2nd. I encourage all parents to attend and to take part on the selection of your next principal.

This is a bittersweet time for me. I love Westlawn. I love the students and I worship our staff. Magical students, Parent as Partners and Teacher Leaders have made the past five years a remarkable journey. Thank you for your support. Thank you for the past five years.

Kim Dockery

**For more information, visit our web site at www.fcps.edu/Westlawn.
Tailfeathers is a bimonthly publication.**

Back To School Nights Please Be There!

One of the most critical components of student success is parent involvement. Research shows it does not mean just volunteering at school but it means showing your child that you value school and are interested and concerned about what happens at school. Back to School Night is an important night. First the PTA will let you know ways to be involved in school, large and small. Then you have an opportunity to visit your child's classroom, meet his or her teacher and find out about the curriculum, schedule and important happenings this year. You will also have time to sign up for a Parent Conference on either November 1st or 2nd and will receive a copy of our Title I Home School Compact.

Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Back To School Night is September 24th from 6:45 to 8:00. Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grade Back to School Night is September 25th from 6:45 to 8:00. Please note that this-

night is for parents only.

PTA Wrapping Paper Sale

The PTA Wrapping Paper fund raiser is the most important fund raiser of the year. This fund raiser pays for extremely important, vital student activities such as student field trips and assemblies as well as supporting the school in technology acquisition. Support the PTA. Sell wrapping paper or buy wrapping paper today.

Westlawn Featured on Channel 21

Westlawn is featured on the Channel 21 feature Insight through September 21st at 6:30pm. If you can't catch it then you can log onto the web site listed below and click on the Westlawn story. The story features summer school Kindergarten, 6th grade and our Problem Solving class. Enjoy some of the great things that are happening at Westlawn.

<http://www.fcps.edu/mediapub/cable-tv/insight/index.htm>

Week At-A-Glance September 15th-26th

15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24 K-2 Back to School-Night 6:45-8:00	25 3-6 Back to School Night 6:45-8:00	26

Spotlight on Learning

Westlawn Welcomes Great New Teachers

We are very fortunate to have some wonderful new staff joining us this year. Teams and Administration spent the spring and summer interviewing to make sure that students have the very best instruction. Welcome to: Kindergarten: Nicole Escudero, Lynda Chamie, Specialist May Kate Rooney, IAs Lydia Hack



Welcome to new staff

ett and Heather Carty. 1st grade: Kendayl Cooper, Kristina Ballal, Kimberly Brown. 3rd grade: Lora Hirshberg, Courtney Andes and Specialist Lynn Nichols. 4th grade: Katie Hiles. 5th grade Riley Trone. 6th grade: Romona Wright, Anne Booth, and specialists Vandana Kapoor and Hanah Nam. Reading Specialist, Marilyn Miner

Upcoming Dates

September 29th	Mrs. Dockery Day PTA Reception 7:00pm
October 13th	Columbus Day School Hoilday
October 24th	Fall Picture Day