

# Colin Powell Elementary School

Brian Hull, Principal

Mrs. Linda Clifford and Mr. Adam Erbrecht, Assistant Principals

Weekly Newsletter Vol. 7, #8 - Week of Nov 3 – 9, 2009

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

## **McEducator's, Tuesday, November 10th**

McEducator's night is coming on Tuesday, November 10th at the Greenbriar McDonalds from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. We're hoping to see all Pumas and non-Pumas alike to support our school. We can earn as much as 15% of the TOTAL sales for the time frame. Please invite your family and friends to join us for a night of fun and friendship. Please come and support your PTA.

## **Our Mini-Walk for the Homeless was a Great Success!**

On Friday, October 23rd, students in grades K-6 participated in a Mini-Walk to benefit the homeless. Students started their walk with a brief information session presented by Pam Ryan from Western Fairfax Christian Ministries. Ms Ryan is the director of development for WFCM, an organization that works to prevent homelessness right here in Centreville and western Fairfax. Ms. Ryan talked to the students about the program of homelessness in our community and ways everyone can help. The students then travelled to 3 different stations where they learned more about homelessness and participated in some team-building activities. Several parents and siblings were able to join their children's classes, making it a true community event. CPES had 37 registered walkers and raised \$620! Thanks to everyone who participated. We always make a difference here at Colin Powell Elementary! We also extend a special thanks to **Mrs. Renee Orlosky** and all those who helped to make this day and event a tremendous success!

## **Please Have Your Child Stay Home if They Are Sick**

Our school system in collaboration with the Fairfax County Health Department recommends that students with influenza-like symptoms (fever with a cough or sore throat) stay at home and out of school until at least **24 hours after they are free of fever**, or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines. If students have flu-like symptoms, they should not participate in any school activities, in school-aged child care (SACC) or be out in the community except to seek medical care. If a child appears to have an influenza-like illness when he or she arrives at school, a parent or guardian will be notified and asked to pick up the child. Parents should ensure that their emergency information is up to date and that they pick up their children when notified. When calling the school attendance line to report your child's illness, parents should provide specific information about their child's reason for absence. If the child is ill, please be specific as to a physician's diagnosis or the symptoms your child is having such as fever, cough, sore throat, headache, and diarrhea or vomiting. Also, please remember when calling you child in sick, you must call the school's attendance hotline at 571-522-6060 and not the main office. Please leave your name, your child's name, reason for the absence and a phone number in case we should need to contact you. Please speak slowly and clearly when pronouncing each of your names.

## **A Special Invitation to our Active Military and/or Veteran Family Members**

On Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, Colin Powell Elementary School will be honoring our Veterans and members of our Armed Forces with a special Veteran's Day assembly. The assembly will take place from 9:40 a.m. to approximately 10:30 a.m. We would like to extend a special invitation to all military personnel and veterans to be honored at our Veteran's Day assembly. If you or a member of your family is a veteran or a member of our military and would like to be recognized at this event, please send a note to our school office, attn: Tammy Wallace (571-522-6005), with the person's name, branch of service, rank/rate and active duty or veteran status.

## **eCART Window 1 Testing Dates**

One of the assessment tools that our school is able to now use to help drive our instructional decisions is called eCART. There are two windows of time that there are division-wide reading and math tests that

students take to help give us helpful information about their progress on specific standards but are not used as a grade. Below is the schedule of when each grade level will be giving these tests so that you can make every attempt to have your student in attendance those days.

Grade	Reading	Math	Compacted Math
3	Wednesday Nov. 4	Thursday Nov. 5	
4	Wednesday Nov. 4	Tuesday Nov. 17	
5	Wednesday Nov. 18	Friday Nov. 20	Friday Nov. 20
6	Tuesday Nov. 17	Thursday Nov. 19	Thursday Dec. 9

**PTA Reflections Contest Submissions Due November 9th**

"The Reflections Program challenges students to create art that supports a specific theme." The theme this year is "Beauty is..." Reflections submissions are due November 9th. Please turn submissions in with a student entry form (see attached link) to the school office. For more detailed information on the Reflections Program, please visit: <http://www.novadistrictpta.org/reflections/reflections.htm> Entry Form: [http://www.vapta.org/library-forms-a-documents/cat\\_view/82-arts-in-education/238-reflection-forms.html](http://www.vapta.org/library-forms-a-documents/cat_view/82-arts-in-education/238-reflection-forms.html) Please contact Amy Heimbach [aheimbach@gmail.com](mailto:aheimbach@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**Sally Foster Update**

We are pleased to announce our Sally Foster Contest Winners! Congratulations to the following winners of our Parent and Staff Sally Foster Contest, who each received a \$25 gift card to Alto Plaza!

**Ioana Plesea**

**Paula Shervanick**

**Maureen Kasputis (staff)**

Catalog orders will not be accepted after Oct. 28, 2009, but purchases may still be made through [www.sallyfoster.com](http://www.sallyfoster.com). Entertainment Books are still available for purchase. Get your own copy or give them as gifts! Order forms are available in the front lobby. Check back next week for the list of our top student Sally Foster sellers! Thank you for your continued support! Judy Fanucci and Patrice Mortson, Co-Chairs, Sally Foster Committee

**Family Life Education Curriculum and Opt Out Procedure Changes**

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) provides a comprehensive, sequential Family Life Education (FLE) program for kindergarten through grade twelve. The FLE program is designed to provide students with the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to make healthy, responsible, respectful, and life-enhancing decisions related to human growth and development, relationships, substance abuse, and emotional and social health. Instruction is seen as a partnership among parents and guardians, the school, and the community in supporting the learning essential to the development of strong families, positive relationships, and a healthy community. Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of all or part of the Family Life Education program. Students who are opted out are provided with age-appropriate, non-punitive alternative health instruction, and every effort is made to foster respect for family choices. **If you wish to opt your child out of all or part of FLE for this school year, please access the opt out forms for each grade level at <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/OMSI/fle/index.htm> and then click on "FLE opt out forms and program descriptions". Please fill in the opt-out form and return it to your child's school by October 30, 2009 or prior to Family Life Education instruction.**

Your child will be included in all Family Life Education instruction unless you request that he/she be opted out using the opt-out form. **You do not need to return the form to the school if you**

**wish for your child to participate in FLE instruction.** If you return the opt-out form and later decide you want your child included in FLE instruction, you must notify the principal in writing. For more information about the FCPS Family Life Education program, please see the detailed grade-level program descriptions at <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/OMSI/file/index.htm> and then click on "FLE opt-out forms and program descriptions". In addition, grade level specific curriculum lessons, instructional materials, and media are available for review at your child's school, Sprague Technology Center Professional Library and the Fairfax County Regional Library in the City of Fairfax (this location does not have media).

Fairfax County Public Schools is committed to providing sensitive, quality, age-appropriate instruction in the very important topics included in Family Life Education. We welcome your questions and comments about the program. For more information regarding FLE or to share your comments or questions, please call Elizabeth Payne at 703-846-8666 or contact your child's teacher.

### **Message for Parents of Fifth and Sixth Grade Students**

As part of the Family Life Education (FLE) curriculum, the teachers in grades five and six will teach Human Growth and Development on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Parents/guardians have an opportunity to view the entire FLE curriculum and all instructional materials. If you wish to preview these materials, please make an appointment with Mrs. Lude or Mrs. Smith in the Library prior to December 4<sup>th</sup>. In addition, these materials are also available at the Sprague Technology Center and the City of Fairfax Regional Library. For more information about the FCPS Family Life Education program, see the detailed grade-level program descriptions at [www.fcps.k12.va/DIS/OMSI/file/index.htm](http://www.fcps.k12.va/DIS/OMSI/file/index.htm). If you have additional questions, please call the school at 571-522-6000.

### **The 2009-10 Colin Powell Yearbook Cover Art Contest**

The 2009-2010 Colin Powell Yearbook Cover Art Contest has begun! Flyers regarding criteria for cover design have been distributed in a previous Tuesday folder as well as an attachment at the end of this electronic newsletter for you to print. Please consider sharing your talent and submitting an entry! Please submit all entries on or before Monday, November 16, 2009. Please submit entries WITH entry form to the Office to the attention of "Karen Kramer/PTA Yearbook".

**There will be one winner PER GRADE (K-6)! Encourage all ages K-6 to submit an entry!**

### **Lunch Account Reminder**

There are three easy ways to purchase meals:

1) ONLINE using [www.mylunchmoney.com](http://www.mylunchmoney.com)

This service is easy to use, convenient, private, and secure. There is a \$1.95 convenience fee when adding funds to your account. You may check your student's funds and which they have purchased at no charge. To open a new account you will need your student's identification number. This number can be obtained from the school office.

2) CHECK - Make checks payable to Colin Powell Food Services. You may send a check to school with your student. Please put your student's name on the check. If possible, include their lunch money access code.

3) CASH - Please send cash to school in an envelope labeled lunch money, with your student's name, teacher's name, and grade. A complete lunch, which costs \$2.65, includes one entree, choice of two vegetables and/or fruits, bread, and milk. Online and checks are the preferred method of payment. Please make every effort to ensure your student has lunch money every day. We are seeing increasing numbers of students who do not have lunch money.

### **Upcoming Calendar of Events**

November	4	2 <sup>nd</sup> grading period begins
November	11	McEducator's Night at Greenbriar McDonalds
November	19	Thanksgiving Luncheon
November	25	Early Dismissal for Thanksgiving recess

# Attention All Students!

## Enter the YEARBOOK Cover Art Contest!!

The Colin Powell Yearbook Committee needs your talent!!

The theme for our yearbook is “*Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow*”, and we are looking for a Colin Powell student to create this year’s design for our full-color custom cover! All entries will be judged by the Yearbook Committee. ***There will be one winner PER GRADE (K-6)! The 6<sup>th</sup> grade winning entry will appear on the front cover. K-5 winners will appear on the back cover. Encourage all ages K-6 to submit an entry!***

### **Criteria for your design:**

- \* The following words **must be included** somewhere in the design:
  - Colin Powell Elementary School (spelled correctly please!)
  - 2009-2010
  - Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow
  - You may also include your name written in the lower right-hand corner
- \* Your **original** design must be on white, **unlined** paper, 8 1/2” wide x 11” tall, VERTICAL layout.
- \* Please keep in mind that about ½ inch around edges may be cut during printing.
- \* Suggested media includes: marker, crayon, watercolor, acrylic paint, or construction paper collage—make sure paper is glued down well!
- \* Pencil drawings, sloppy, incomplete **or past deadline** art will not be accepted.
- \* **Copyrighted art cannot be used.**
- \* Do not fold or roll your artwork.
- \* Remember your artwork must be turned in by the DUE DATE, **Monday, November 16.**

To submit your artwork, write your **FULL NAME, GRADE & TEACHER** on the Submission Form **attached below**. **Attach the form** to the bottom edge of your artwork (using transparent tape on the back side of your paper).

Submit your artwork to the Colin Powell office, to the attention of “Karen Kramer, Yearbook Cover Art” on or before **Monday, November 16, 2009**. If you have any questions, call Karen Kramer, CP Yearbook Chair, at 703-502-8874, or email [KSKramer@cox.net](mailto:KSKramer@cox.net).

---

### **Colin Powell 2009-2010 Yearbook Cover Art Submission Form**

(Please attach to bottom of your artwork, using tape on the BACK SIDE of your paper)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade (K-6)\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_