



September 11, 2008

THE CENTERVILLE CONNECTION

Principal's Constellation Comments

Another school year milestone has reached us; Back-to-School Nights have begun. It is always enjoyable to meet new families and see familiar faces. Thank you for being part of the team and involved with your child's education. As the school year goes on, continue to ask questions and gain a

deeper understanding of the FCPS and CES curricular goals set for your child. Keep an eye out for our Math Information Night. We will be setting the date soon and will look forward to seeing you there. You can get more information about our new math resource by going to: www.fcps.org/mathfacts .

KickOff Meetings for Oakdale High School Redistricting Study Announced

There will be four opportunities for the public to learn about the upcoming Oakdale HS Redistricting project. Public information meetings will be held at the following locations: Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at Oakdale High School at 7 p.m.; Thursday, September 18, 2008 at Urbana Middle School at 7 p.m.; Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at New Market Middle School at 7 p.m.; and Monday, September 29, 2008 at Gov. TJ Middle School at 7 p.m. The meetings will cover the same information and are open to all school communities. FCPS staff will introduce the OHS redistricting project, define objectives and establish the process and schedule. There will also be an opportunity for the public to provide general comments, concerns and ask questions. Draft redistricting options will not be available at this time. Additional information can be found on the FCPS web page at <http://www.fcps.org/ohsredistricting>.

Cafeteria Guidelines

As a safety precaution for our students, we require that no glass containers be sent with students in packed lunches. We request that all containers sent with students be made of plastic to avoid any breakage or possible cuts or injuries to our students.

To the Parents of Middle School Students

Please keep in mind that any middle school students who wish to visit teachers in our school, including the portable classrooms, must contact the teacher and set up an appointment to visit after 4:00 p.m. The afternoon dismissal is a time that staff is focused on making sure current CES students get dismissed quickly and safely. Thanks for your cooperation in helping us maintain order during our dismissal time.

Centerville Website

Our website has moved! Please take note that our website address has changed. The new web address is <http://schools.fcps.org/ces>, and we are in the process of a redesign. If you have an idea that you'd like to see incorporated into our new website, please contact Mr. Hanna at 240-566-0138 or centervillees@gmail.com.

Reading Incentive

Centerville will no longer be participating in the reading incentive program, *Accelerated Reader (AR)*. The decision was made at a county level. The staff is working on new ideas to encourage our students to continue reading above and beyond the requirements, and to help them develop a love of books.

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WELCOME BACK - FROM THE HEALTHROOM

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back returning families and welcome new families to Centerville. My name is Karen Young and I am your school nurse. I also share my time with Urbana High School, so I am in the building a few days per week. However, I am always reachable by phone. Patty Martinez is the health technician who mans the health room each day. She is a licensed CNA with a medication technician certification. We are both also certified in CPR and first aid. Our goal is to keep the students healthy and safe, so they may remain in the classroom and available for learning. If a student presents to the health room and requests to call home, we must do so. Please note that a call to you does not mean you must pick up your child, unless we tell you otherwise. I would also request you keep us informed of any change in or newly diagnosed medical conditions of your child. This will enable us to serve them better should they visit the health room. If you have any further questions or concerns we can be reached at 240-566-0110.

COMFORT MEASURES

There has been a change to the FCPS regulation regarding comfort measures. Currently, ANY medications (Roloids/Tums, Lactaid, Maalox/Mylanta, etc.) will require a health care provider's order for student administration at school. All other items such as calamine lotion, bee sting wipes, Vaseline, cough drops, saline nose drops/spray, rewetting eye drops, etc., are considered non-medications. Non-medications do not need a health care provider's order or parental/guardian consent. The Health Room will carry bee sting wipes, Vaseline, and calamine lotion. All other items are to be provided by the parent.

Parent Volunteer Orientations

The PTA has scheduled Parent Volunteer Orientations for the following dates and times: Tuesday, 9/23/08 and Monday, 9/29/08 – both at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, 10/1/08 at 6:30 p.m. All orientations will be held in the cafeteria. If you plan to volunteer, please make plans to attend one of these orientations.

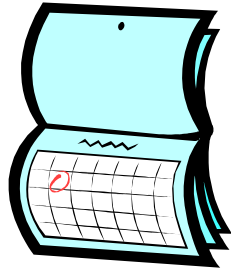
Learning Opportunity

On October 18th, FCPS is sponsoring a special collaborative event for parents/guardians of young children, ages birth through five. It will take place at Hood College and be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This conference, *Beautiful Beginnings and Beyond*, is being put together by many early childhood groups and interested community members, though FCPS is the lead agency. It is geared to help families understand ages and stages of development, cognitive growth, and the importance of play. There are presenters from a myriad of agencies and community organizations, including doctors, child care leaders, librarians, FCPS staff and more. Following a brief introduction and key note speaker, there will be many workshops for families to attend, including one that is a welcome to FCPS. There will be door prizes, interpreters when needed, and light refreshments. All of this will be **free** to the public. See the attached flyer and please plan to attend this wonderful event.

Find Out First

Please see the attached flyer for instructions for subscribing to FCPS' Find Out First system. This is a wonderful communication tool between FCPS and the parents/community.

Yours in education,
Steve Raff & Gina Keefer
Administrative Team



Dates to Remember

- 9/16/08 – Back to School Night
2nd Grade – 5:30 p.m.
3rd Grade – 6:30 p.m.
- 9/17/08 – Back to School Night
4th Grade – 5:30 p.m.
5th Grade – 6:30 p.m.
- 9/19/08 – School Closed for Fair Day