

West Frederick Middle School

<http://schools.fcps.org/wfms>

Phone 240-236-4000

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March 6, 2009

Issue 2008/9-7

- Mar. 6 Fri. 6th/7th grade registration forms sent home
- Mar. 9 Mon. PTSA meeting 7 pm Mod. C
- Mar. 12 Thur. ELL MSA Night 5:30 - 7:30 pm Café
- Mar. 13 Fri. 6th/7th grade registration forms DUE
- Mar. 16, 17 & 19, 20 - MSA TESTING**
- Mar. 20 Fri. WFMS Dance 6 - 8 pm Gym (\$5)
- Mar. 26 Thur. 2 hour early dismissal (1 pm)
- Mar. 27 Fri. Schools Closed / Teacher work day
- Apr. 2 & 3 **Willy Wonka Performance**
7:30 pm GYM (tickets)
- Apr. 8 - 13 **Spring Break - school closed**
- Apr. 20 PTSA Meeting
- Apr. 24 WFMS Dance 6 - 8 Gym (\$5)

UPDATE: Parent/Teacher Conferences from Monday, March 2nd will NOT be rescheduled. If you'd like to speak to any teachers, please contact them directly either by phone or email, or call our front office: 240-236-4000. Thank you.

Meet the Future: School Report

There's a big change in this year's "Meet the Future" FCPS School Report: It's all electronic!

The online report delivers updates for the same data published and printed last year, including:

- ★ enrollment
- ★ achievement
- ★ audited budget figures

It adds quick-links for easy access for those wanting to know more. Finally, it saves printing/delivery costs and allows FCPS to provide quarterly updates to keep you better informed. Check out the cool new features under About FCPS on the Web: www.fcps.org/schoolreport Hint: The diamond symbols reveal extra photos and more!

Dian Nelson, Communication Coordinator
Frederick County Public Schools
115 E. Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701
301-696-6911 phone; 301-696-6958 fax



REMINDER! All students need 2 locks - one on their school locker & one on their PE locker.

MSA PRACTICE MATH TEST

On Tuesday, March 10th all WFMS students will take a 1-hour, MSA Practice Math Test. The MSA Practice Math Test will cover many, but not all, of the grade-level math concepts that students will be responsible for on the actual MSA Math Test. A complete review of the MSA Practice Math Test will be completed in regular math classes on Wednesday, March 11th. Your child will be bringing home their MSA Practice Math Test for review by you and a parent signature and date. The cover sheet should then be returned to your child's math teacher.

You can further help your child prepare for the MSA Math Test by visiting www.mdk12.org / Assessments / MD School Assessments / What does MSA look like? / Mathematics Sample Items / 6, 7, 8. Mrs. Roney, Math Specialist

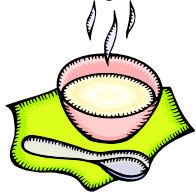
MSA PRACTICE READING TEST

On Wednesday, March 11th all WFMS students will take a 1-hour, MSA Practice Reading Test. A complete review of the MSA Practice Reading Test will be completed in regular Language Arts classes on Thursday, March 12th. Please make it a point to ask your student how he or she performed on the practice test.

You can further help your child prepare for the MSA Reading Test by visiting www.mdk12.org / Assessments / MD School Assessments / What does MSA look like? / Reading Sample Items / 6, 7, 8. Ms. Hines, Literacy Specialist

National Nutrition Month - School Breakfast Week

The health room continues to see students complaining of a stomach ache who have not eaten breakfast. Numerous studies have revealed that eating breakfast improves our physical and mental abilities throughout the day.



Benefits for eating breakfast are as follows:

- Improved test scores
- Lower rates of tardiness and absenteeism
- Less referrals to the health room
- Increased ability to concentrate
- Fewer behavioral problems and longer attention spans
- Greater sense of well-being
- Maintaining ideal weight
- Preventing overeating and snacking

We all know mornings can be hectic. The school provides breakfast each morning for only \$ 1.35. Go to www.FCPS.org for the most up to date menu choices.



Box Tops for Education

Here is your monthly call for all Box Tops. We are still well short of our goal and we need your help. Please send in any box tops to Ms. Katzenbarger and thanks again for supporting your school.

LOST and FOUND

We have three locations for lost and found – our cafeteria, front office and the box outside Mr. Lippy's office (B-113).



The front office has a number of house keys, so if your child has misplaced his/her house key, have them come take a peek.

PERFORMANCE NOTES



WFMS Theatre is gearing up for a great show: **Willy Wonka!** **Our show will run April 2nd and April 3rd.** The show begins at 7:30 pm in our gymnasium. Tickets will be sold at the door. We have a cast of over 60 people. This is going to be one you DON'T want to miss!

*All County Band, Orchestra and Chorus were **AWESOME** on February 14th at TJ High!!!* The students were focused; adding a tremendous amount of talent to the groups they participated in. Congratulations: Julianne Redmond (choral), Sienna Schmid (choral), Jhea Nillas (choral), Chris Rother (1st trumpet part), Jessica Lee (1st chair flute who had several solos), and Tina Huang (violin).

All County Chorus Concert students put in 20 hours of rehearsals for the concert after school. This was by audition... these students were 3 of a 60 person group. **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR PARTICIPATING STUDENTS!**

The spring concert is quickly approaching. JUNE 3rd at 7:00 pm in our gymnasium.

GUIDANCE CORNER:

Attention current 6th and 7th grade parents and students. It's registration time for the 2009-2010 school year!! Registration sheets will be **mailed** home on Friday March 6th. You will need to complete this form, rank your elective choices, sign it and return it to the guidance office by **Friday March 13th.**

It is imperative that you return this form. If you do not, *we will choose your classes for you.* Middle School Course Guides will be going home with your child March 6th. Please use this guide as reference when choosing electives. Any questions please call your child's guidance counselor.

Sue Marinello, 6th grade 240-236-4052
Dawn Irwin, 7th grade 240-236-4066.

ELL Students and Families

MSA (Maryland State Assessment) Information Night
Thursday, March 12th, 2009
5:30-7:30 pm in our WFMS Cafeteria
Interpreters and Childcare Provided

Please join us for Refreshments at 5:30pm and an important Discussion at 6:00 pm. Your child will soon take an important test called the Maryland State Assessment. (MSA). Learn how this test will affect your child. Understand how the MSA impacts our school. Please contact Lisa Gadra at 240-236-4037 if you have any questions.

Stop Wasting Club

The Stop Wasting club is planning two community service events in March. On March 7 we are returning to the Days End Horse Farm from 9-1 and on March 21 we are going to The Arc of Frederick to babysit disabled children for their Parents Day Out Program from 10-2. I will have students/parents fill out permission slips as I have done in the past. Just wanted to update you all.

Need Tissues

6th grade team is in need of boxes of kleenex tissues for student use. Please donate boxes to your first period teacher. Thanks a lot!!!!

FABULOUS NEWS:

Mr. and Mrs. Todd Bono PROUDLY announce the birth of their daughter, Claire Elizabeth Bono, born Friday, February 27th, 2009 at 5:35 a.m.!



She was 8 lbs. 7 oz., 22in in length and completely healthy! We wish this wonderful family all the best. YEAH to Mrs. And COACH BONO and a sincere welcome to Claire!

HONEST Student – Kyle Alvarez found and turned in a beautiful leather cased I-touch. WAY TO GO KYLE !! You've shown that character and honesty are important parts of life! The owner claimed the I-touch with tremendous gratitude for your honesty.

As some of you know, Ryan Spurrier, our assistant librarian, is a track coach at Governor Thomas Johnson High School. They have had an incredible indoor



season, and it just got better! He is very proud to announce that they are Class 4A Maryland Indoor Track and Field Co-Champions! Great coaching job, Ryan!

The YMCA Edge Program is a great opportunity for middle school youth after school and is also free of charge to all who join.

Why should my child join?: We provide a safe and enriching environment for students, along with including character building activities, team building, mentoring, recreational games, arts and much more!!! Grant Funding allows us to provide this opportunity at no cost to participants and their families for daily activities.

How it works: WFMS participants will be picked up from West Frederick Middle School everyday and bused to the main YMCA on Market Street. Students should meet the YMCA bus at the steps by the gym before the bus departs at 3:10 p.m. and will not make return trips for students who miss the bus. The program will operate out of the YMCA activity room and will remain open until 6:30 pm. Parents are to pick up at the YMCA and sign their child out everyday.

Sign me up: To sign your child up, obtain a registration packet from the YMCA and complete it. Then turn it in to the front desk staff at the YMCA.

Raya Mills – Co-Director 240-674-5448
Marqus Dawson – Co-Director 925-917-1102

Volunteers Needed

The WFMS **ELL Outreach Coordinator, Lisa Gadra**, is looking for volunteers who might assist in the ELL program. Specifically, she needs help in a **small group/tutoring setting in the content areas of math, reading and social studies**. She could also use **volunteers fluent in Spanish, French or Vietnamese**. If you are interested, please contact her at 240-236-4037 or lisa.gadra@fcps.org.

PTSA Corner

PTSA Meeting Calendar

Our next business meeting will be held **March 9 at 7 pm in Modular C**. We'll hold two more meetings, **April 20 and May 11**, before the end of the school year. One of those will probably be another parent program on a topic of interest - so stay tuned....

PTSA Fundraising Update

Thanks to everyone who came out to support West Frederick at **The Greene Turtle Restaurant Night**. We had a great time and raised **\$389** for our school. This brings our fundraising total so far to **\$4380 - making us near 60% of our goal of \$7500**. Stay tuned for more restaurant nights this school year! It's a fun way to raise money - we all have to eat, don't like to cook, and the kids enjoy being together outside school.

If you (or a friend or relative) are a **Direct TV Customer**, call them at 1-888-388-4724 and give them the WFMS account # A1283. They will donate \$50 to our school. That's all you have to do - just **make one phone call and our school receives money - no strings attached!** If you are a NEW or returning customer, they'll donate \$100 - It's that simple!

PTSA Membership Update

We currently have **115 members**. Thank you to everyone who has joined. Our membership is open to all parents, teachers, students and even extended family members, so consider joining the PTSA for \$5. WFMS keeps \$1 and the rest supports the PTSA at the county and state level. Our membership drive ends March 31.

Upcoming Events

The next **PTSA meeting** will be held on **March 9 at 7 pm in Modular C**. We'll hold an important business meeting to discuss our PTSA activities for the remainder of the year, plus the need to **elect officers and committee chairs for next school year**.

The **PTSA Cultural Arts Committee** will bring the following events to WFMS: **Shakespeare Alive** for 8th graders April 1st with workshops to follow; **Step Africa!** for 7th graders April 14, and **Fabulous Chinese Acrobats** for 6th graders on May 26.

Volunteers Needed

The PTSA will focus on next year's PTSA leadership. If you're **interested in being an officer or committee chair for next year's PTSA**, please contact Kevin Kusmider at kevinkusmider@yahoo.com or talk to someone you know who is a current member of the Executive Board. The PTSA Executive Board is made up of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, a volunteer coordinator and chairs for membership, fundraising, staff appreciation, and cultural arts. A slate of nominations will be presented at the April PTSA meeting. However, interested candidates will have an opportunity to submit their name as late as the night of elections at the May meeting.

Thanks!

A big thanks goes out to the parents who helped with the **Stop Wasting and Start Giving Club's Dance**. Another thanks goes out to parents who helped with **conference sign ups**. Also, thanks to parents for helping out with the **Science Fair judging!** This helped staff and scientists from Ft. Detrick in their "professional" judging duties!