

THE FARQUHAR NEWS

William H. Farquhar Middle School

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www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/farquharms/

WEEKLY EDITION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2010

- May 12: 8th grade class portrait order forms sent home
May 12: Interims mailed home
May 12: Soccer game: Rosa Parks – boys home, girls away
- May 14: Cultural arts assembly: Hal Trapkin--History of Rock and Roll, 3rd pd.-8th grade, 4th pd.-6th grade, 5th pd.-7th grade
May 14: PTA newsletter deadline
- May 18: High School Assessment (HSA), algebra, 8th grade, a.m. The HSA, algebra will be given to all students who take Algebra. Please go to the Maryland State Department of Education HSAexam.org website to learn more about the testing program
Please see modified bell schedule on the website.
- May 18: Eighth grade class picture, 2 p.m. Please see next page.
- May 20: Career Café, 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
May 20: Last day for after-school activities, except for exam review sessions
- May 21: PTA dance, 7-9 p.m.
- May 25: High School Assessment makeup #1, algebra
- May 28: **6th grade** end-of-year program, 8:30 a.m. and **7th grade** end-of-year program, 10:30 a.m.
Parents will receive an invitation by mail in mid-May if their child is being recognized with an award during the end-of-year programs.
- May 28: 8th grade field trip to Hershey Park, 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. See reminders next page
- May 31: Holiday: Memorial Day
- June 1: Spring Music Concert, Sherwood HS, 7-9 p.m.
- June 2: High School Assessment makeup #2, algebra
- June 4: Yearbooks distributed through science classes to students who have paid. There are yearbooks still available to purchase, \$33. Order forms are available in the office.
- June 5: Eighth grade dance, 7-9:30 p.m.
- June 8: Exam review day
- June 9-14: Final exams
- June 15: Eighth grade farewell 1-2 p.m. followed by ice cream social for 8th grade students
June 15: Final exam make-ups second semester
- June 16: Fourth marking period ends
June 16: Last day of school for students: early dismissal 12:10 p.m.

June 17: Professional day for teachers

June 23: Report cards mailed home

8TH GRADE CLASS PORTRAIT

The 8th grade class portrait will be taken Tuesday, May 18, at 2 p.m. Order forms were sent home May 12 and should be returned with payment on picture day to the photographer. The 8" x 20" portrait is available laminated for \$17 or no lamination for \$13 plus 6% MD tax. You may pay by cash or check (payable to Blanton Studios). Late orders will not be accepted at school, but you may order online for up to five days after picture day at www.JacksonBlanton.com (choose order online).

8TH GRADERS: HERSHEY PARK TRIP

- **Trip Specifics:
May 28, 2010**
 - 8:00am - Depart FMS**
 - 8:30pm – Arrive at FMS**
- **Please be sure that students are on time to school on the day of the trip.** We will board buses at 7:50am and leave Farquhar at 8:00am. Students may ride the school bus as on any other day.
- **Please arrange for your child to be picked up at Farquhar at 8:30pm on the day of the trip.** Students should have transportation arrangements prior to the trip.
- **Hershey Park does not allow radios, tape/CD/MP3 players, food, or beverage to be brought into the park.** (Exceptions will be made for medical reasons. Please alert us to any issues).
- **Students will be permitted to bring cell phones, but each student will be responsible for his or her personal belongings.**
- **Lockers are available for public use (for a nominal fee).** They are on a first come, first served basis.
- **Please remember to give your child money for food while in the park.** Unless required medically, food and drink are not allowed to be brought in. \$20-\$25 will be more than adequate for lunch and dinner.
- In the rare circumstance that a student must be picked up by parents at Hershey Park, the student must be signed out. Please allow as much notice as possible. If there is a family emergency during the trip, please contact the Farquhar Main office so we can set up the safe pickup of your child.
- **In case of emergency, staff may be contacted through the following channels:**
 - Farquhar Main Office: 301-924-3100
 - Hershey Park First Aid Station: 717-534-3370
 - (Located in the CVS Family Health and Services Center)

ATTENTION 8TH GRADERS

Check out these transition to high school programs this summer, offered to all incoming 9th graders:

Sherwood HS STARS Program:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/sherwoodhs/news/news.aspx?id=113024>

Blake HS: High School 101:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/blakehs/hs101/index.htm>

ALGEBRA HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (HSA)

The HSA will be given May 18 to all students taking Algebra. Please go to the Maryland State Department of Education HSAexam.org website to learn more about the testing program.

SEEKING KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Parents & Students: Farquhar would like to invite all 7th and 8th grade students to apply to be the keynote speaker at their respective end of the year programs on May 28th and June 15th. This exciting opportunity is open to all students who wish to share their middle school experiences and memories in an engaging and entertaining way. All of the 7th and 8th grade English teachers are excited and eager to help students write and practice their 5-7 minute speeches. Draft speeches are due to English teachers on May 14; auditions and selections will occur between May 18 and 20. Students, please see your English teacher with any questions. Thank you

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)

Form 560-51 (SSL Activity Verification) for Student Service Learning performed during the second semester (to be reflected on the final report card) is due to Mrs. Rodriguez, SSL coordinator, by the Friday before second semester exams begin. This year: **June 4, 2010.**

Documentation of service occurring after that date and throughout the summer will be reflected on the first report card of the 2010-11 school year when submitted by the last Friday in September. Next year **September 24, 2010.**

Please note: All 8th grade folders will be sent to their high schools **Monday June 14.** **NO** SSL from 8th graders will be accepted after this date. For additional modifications to the middle school SSL awards program, please visit the MCPS SSL website at: www.mcpsssl.org.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Summer course offerings have been finalized! Course offerings will include intervention programs in reading and math, as well as for acceleration into Algebra next year. Courses will include:

Reading 7/8 (July 6-30, Cost \$95, check made out to MCPS)

Mathematics 7 (July 6-30, Cost \$95, check made out to MCPS)

Focus on Algebra (July 12-30, Cost \$75, check made out to MCPS)

Writer's Workshop (July 12-30, Cost \$150, check made out to FMS)

Courses will be filled on a first-come basis, with priority registration given to students recommended by their teacher for intervention. The courses will be held from 7:45 – 11:30 a.m. each day. Bus transportation is available, as is financial assistance for students who demonstrate financial need.

Parents of selected students will receive an invitation letter in the mail during the week of April 23. The registration window will last until May 7, at which time enrollment will be open to all students in the Sherwood Cluster. Classes will then be filled on a first-come basis until course enrollment meets

capacity. Please note: We have partnered with Rosa Parks MS to offer a wide range of course offerings in our local area. The following courses will be offered at Rosa Parks and Farquhar students are welcome to attend: Reading 6, Math 6, and Math 8.

Contact Mr. Geddes ([Walter C Geddes Jr@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Walter_C_Geddes_Jr@mcpsmd.org)), summer school coordinator, with any questions about summer reading and math programs, or Mr. Heifetz ([Adam M Heifetz@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Adam_M_Heifetz@mcpsmd.org)) for *Writer's Workshop* information.

SPRING FEVER

As our work continues into the fourth marking period, "spring fever" typically arrives and students can get distracted with the excitement of the warm weather and the end of the school year. Thank you for your support as we emphasize with students how important it is to remain on task, concentrate on academic priorities, complete homework, and take school seriously during the final weeks. We are also reinforcing our expectations for a "hands-free" school environment— no physical contact with others, no physical aggression, no hugging or other affectionate behavior, no electronics— and wearing appropriate dress to school. Please note that students will lose privileges such as Hershey Park and other end of year events for behavior infractions. Please see the student agenda book for more information, and we appreciate your reinforcement of these important items in the final marking period.

HELPFUL LINKS

Updates News & Information: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/farquharms/

Calendar: <http://coldfusion.mcps.k12.md.us/cfms/webteam/calendar/calendar.cfm?calendarID=farquharms>

Staff Directory: <http://coldfusion.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/directory/index.cfm?s=dbd&pl=03507>

Edline: www.edline.net

Edline Assistance: [Beth A Hopkins@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Beth_A_Hopkins@mcpsmd.org)

Sign Up For the Email List: www.farquharpta.org

PTA Information: www.farquharpta.org

Lunch Pre-Payments: www.myLunchMoney.com

Daily Cafeteria Menu: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/foodserv

H1N1 Information: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/h1n1/>

Student Service Learning: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/>

Bullying: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/230-35.shtm>

PrepTalk: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/careercenter/resources/preptalk.aspx>

NEC Information: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/nec>

Parent Academy: www.mcpsparentacademy.org

Giant Food A+ Bonus Bucks Program (use code 00691): www.giantfood.com/aplus

Yearbook Order Form:

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/farquharms/news/Yearbook%20Order%20Form%2009.jpg