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Principal's Message

Dear families and friends,

The final push is on! A late spring break this year means that summer is just around the corner. FMS has been a very busy place lately as we prepare for these final weeks. Keeping up with all the various activities can be difficult and we want to help you plan accordingly. Here are a few upcoming events:



- *School closed for students – professional development day for teachers, April 8*
- *Spring break, April 18-22*
- *Reading celebration for those with 75+ AR points, April 29*
- *Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2-6*
- *PTA – Book Fair & Related Arts night, May 9*
- *SOL Testing begins, May 16*
- *Choral concert, May 19*
- *SCA Kings Dominion Trip, May 21*
- *7th and 8th grade band concert, May 26*
- *School closed – Memorial Day, May 30*
- *6th grade D-Day Memorial Field Trip, June 2*
- *8th grade ceremony and social (JFHS), June 8*

For additional information and events, please check the family calendar, school web page, Tuesday folders, and PTA email. On a similar note, FMS will have a new schedule next year. Classes will begin at 8:55 am and conclude at 3:35 pm. FMS

will also be operating on a 7 period schedule for all grade levels. The additional period in grades 6 & 7 will be used strategically as an extension of core subjects, enrichment, independent reading, guidance advisory, and as a means to provide time for additional assistance. More information on next year's schedule and office/building hours will be available once scheduling is completed.

Thomas Edison was once quoted as saying, "Many of life's failures are

individuals who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up". Edison's attitude of perseverance and discovery is one I desire to encourage at FMS. Fittingly, this quote has been chosen as our final quarterly quote of the year. As the weather continues to warm, and thoughts of summer abound, please support the faculty and staff by encouraging students to continue to meet and exceed those **great expectations**.

I trust your spring and summer will be filled with family, friends, and some rest & relaxation.

Scott Simmons
Principal

from the PTA President: **Thanks For The Memories**

As of July 1, my 2-year term as President of the Forest Middle School PTA will come to an end. It has truly been two years full of excitement and

growth to be part of this wonderful group of parents whose desire it is to see our school and children thrive. I am so thankful for the people I have met and the opportunity to serve our school and our children in this unique way.

Being the PTA president was never on my "to do" list, but I am glad that when the need arose, I was able to step forward and use my gifts for this very important purpose. The need has now come again. The PTA is blessed to have so many folks who are willing to continue in their current positions, but we do need **YOU** to say **"YES"** and join this fantastic group of committed parents. Currently, we are looking for parents to serve in the following positions:

1. President
2. Arts in Education Chair (or Co-Chairs)
3. Membership Co-Chair (our current membership chairperson will be returning)
4. Volunteers

Please consider using your gifts in one of these four areas, grab a friend and work as co-chairs, or join one of the many other committees on the PTA that are already in place.

We are indeed blessed to reside in this wonderful Forest community and we are blessed to have our children attend a great school such as FMS; please consider sharing the gift of your time in this incredibly important way. You will be given all the training, support, and help that you need to continue the good work that has been done through FMS's PTA over many years.

Thanks for the wonderful memories of serving as both your Vice President (2007-2009) and President (2009-2011) of the FMS PTA.

Please contact me if you can help in any way. I look forward to hearing from you.



Blessings,
Jennifer Vestal Moore
2010-2011 FMS PTA
President
Jenmo7@aol.com (434)
385-1103

Save the Date

A great night of fun and entertainment awaits!



Monday, May 9, will be our last General PTA meeting of the 2010-2011 school year! The PTA in conjunction with Forest Middle School, under the leadership of Mrs. Sandy Brandt, will host a Related Arts Celebration.

The night will begin at 6:30pm, with games, food, and activities for all ages. At 7:30pm, we will hold elections for our 2011-2012 PTA Executive Board as well as unveiling our new fundraiser for the 2011-2012 school year complete with samples. By 8:00pm, the band and chorus will entertain us with some of their beautiful musical selections. The night's activities will conclude by 8:30pm.

This evening should prove to be a delightful, informative, and exciting time for everyone. So, grab the entire family and plan on joining us for a great night of free family fun!!


Fundraiser News

Parents,

We would first like to thank you for your support of FMS during this school year through our VA Diner fundraiser. On-line orders will continue to be accepted through June of this year, of which 40% will go to our school.

Also, we are very excited to announce our fundraiser for the upcoming 2011-12 school year. We will be working with the Classic Cookie company to offer a *variety of products*, including Virginia Diner peanuts. Other great products will include Auntie Anne's pretzel products, cheesecake from the Atlanta

Cheesecake Company, Braided Breads and Chocolate and Pumpkin Cake Rolls from Country Creations, and scented candles. Their popular cookie dough is made of quality branded ingredients including Hershey chocolate chips, M&M's, Reese's Peanut Butter Chips and more.



We hope you are as excited as we are about our new fundraiser. After our fall kickoff, our school will receive 50% of the fall sales and also a portion of internet sales. Look for more information about this fundraiser at the beginning of next school year. Parents will also be able to sample select cookies at "Back to School" day.

As always, thank you for your continued support!

Traci Toney, Angela Moore, Crissy Mays
itpetoney@aol.com
angmoore94@hotmail.com
mays42@verizon.net

ALL PRO DAD

Forest Middle School's own Father involvement program will be having FAMILY NIGHT. Bring Mom and siblings for one of our last meetings this year.

BOWLING AT AMF LANES IN LYNCHBURG
DATE: SATURDAY APRIL 9th
TIME: 6:00 - 9:00
COST: \$8.00 per person includes PIZZA, SHOES and TWO HOURS OF BOWLING
MEET IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM WHEN ARRIVING AT THE LANES
RSVP with your number of participants by THUR, APR 7th to FORESTPRODAD@GMAIL.COM

COME ON OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN WITH OTHER FMS STUDENTS AND THEIR DADS.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

ANY DADS INTERESTED IN HELPING TO COACH NEXT YEARS PROGRAM MAY INDICATE SO TO THE SAME EMAIL FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. **WE NEED A COACH FOR NEXT YEAR.**

Questions: feel free to contact Tommy Mullett at forestprodad@gmail.com

FOREST MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES & FRIENDS.....



Thank you for your support of all the different programs that FMS participates in. These programs are great ways to earn cash and merchandise for FMS, but they could not be successful without your help. You need to take the time to link your Food Lion MVP

Card, Kroger Plus Card, or Target RedCard to FMS. You need to take the time to clip Box Tops, Campbell's UPCs or Tyson A+ Labels from products that you purchase and to save Capri Sun pouches. You need to register to support FMS at the BoxTops Marketplace and then begin every online shopping trip there. Your effort really does make such a difference. Look for a list of what **you** have earned for the students of FMS at the end of the school year.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FMS WHILE YOU SHOP!

Ways & Means: Janet Romanzak & Annmarie Finnegan

Reflections Update

Congratulations to all the following Forest Middle School students for winning the Bedford County Reflections PTA contest 2011. Great job Knights!

- Photography:*
Sarah Richards 1st place
- Visual Arts:*
Shelvia Forrest 2nd place
- Dance:*
Kyla Hull 1st place
- Literature:*
Anna Drumheller 1st place

Maribel Ebeling and Beth Laughlin
Arts and Education Committee

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 2-6

We are so thankful at FMS to have wonderful teachers who care and instruct our children every day. In appreciation of the great work of our teachers, the PTA would like to offer

a week full of yummy treats and door prizes as a way of saying thanks.

Please find below a list of treats that the PTA will be providing each day. If you can help or provide a food item, please contact Teresa Wright at teresawrightmk@yahoo.com or at 420-3665. We need lots of items and lots of hands to make this week a special week for our teachers.

- Monday** – Cookies provided by Classic Cookies
- Tuesday** - Lunch provided by Subway
- Wednesday** – Breakfast provided by Bob Evans w/breakfast items donated by Volunteers
- Thursday** – Pizza lunch provided by Upper Crust pizza
- Friday** – Ice Cream social after school

We need help on Wednesday, May 4, from 10:30am-1:30pm with serving the pizza (we will offer pizza at different times to accommodate the staggered lunches of our teachers). On Friday, May 6, we will need help dishing out the ice cream and setting out the toppings from 2:30-3:30pm.

- Food Items that we are in need of:
- __10 2 liter bottles of soda (diet) or cases of cans
 - __10 2 liter bottles of soda (regular) or cases of cans
 - __4 cases of water
 - __4 jars of Jelly
 - __4 bottles of squeeze butter
 - __100 donuts
 - __100 bagels
 - __4 Chocolate sauce
 - __4 butter scotch
 - __6 cans whipped cream
 - __4 cherries
 - __2 sprinkles
 - __3 containers Oreo cookie crumbs
 - __2 jars nuts
 - __100 bowls
 - __100 plates
 - __100 plastic spoons

April 2011

In addition, we would like to have 2 door prizes for our teachers each day. Please contact me if you can help in have anything that you are willing to donate as a door prize.

I look forward to hearing from you on how you would like to be involved in this special day for our teachers.

Thank you,

Teresa Wright
FMS PTA Hospitality
434-420-3665
Teresawrightmk@yahoo.com

Congratulations!!!



The 8th Grade Reception will be June 8th. The location will be at Jefferson Forest High School gymnasium.

A reception in the cafeteria will follow for all 8th grade participants. A letter will be sent home with more information.

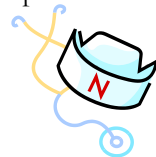
If you have questions or if you would like to help, you may contact Jeanne McKeague, Mary Beth Brown or Lynette Brooks.

Thank you,

Jeanne McKeague, Mary Beth Brown, Lynette Brooks
8th Grade Reception
lbrooks@bedford.k12.va.us
mckeague5@verizon.net

Notes from the School Nurse

Here are a few reminders for parents as we approach the end of the school year:



- Any medication that your child has in the clinic will need to be picked up the last week of school. Medications not picked up will be discarded.

- All students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade must receive the Tdap vaccine or a Medical or Religious exemption form must be provided to the school. Your child will not receive a class schedule for the upcoming 2011-12 school year until he/she has met this health requirement. The Health Department offers the Tdap vaccine free for rising 6th grade students.
- If your child has a health concern or needs to take medication at school during the 2011-12 year, please come to the FMS clinic to get Care Plans and/or Medication permission forms.

A memo will be sent home at the end of the school year regarding these reminders. Visit the “Knight Health News” website to learn more about important health issues and current FMS clinic information.

Thanks,
Jean Kliewer RN, BSN.

LMC Connect

Special Dates to remember:

April 15: deadline for earning 75 Accelerated Reader points to qualify for lunch on the patio with Bahama Sno Shack

April 25: the last day to qualify for the Putt-Putt golf field trip by reading the required number of Virginia Readers Choice books.



May 9-11: Buy one, get one free book fair to kick off summer reading!

Seize the force...read

Nancy Young, Stella Osborne
Library Media Specialists
Gigi Scalora, Library Assistant



FMS PTA presents



A Night of the Arts

Join us on Monday night, May 9th for a showcase of our students’ talents. This night will include a Band and Choral performance, Drama presentation, Art show, Culinary samples, BOGO Book Fair, Hop Sports, and Technology exhibits.



Forest Middle School PTA Executive Board 2010-2011

President	Jennifer Vestal Moore	385-1103	jenmo7@aol.com
Vice President	Jennifer Crider	525-7974	sufieldgal@aol.com
Treasurer	Lisa Baumgartner	944-5053	lbaumgartner@ddhcpa.com
Secretary	Stephanie Cheatwood	386-2283	scheatwood@hotmail.com
Arts in Education	Maribel Ebeling Beth Laughlin	525-8067 525-6562	ebelingmt4@verizon.net zansharee@verizon.net
County Council/ Legislation	Kris Paul Mary Beth Hunter	525-5912 525-2880	kmpaul1@verizon.net mbjimhunter@aol.com
Directory	Tina Zellars	534-9149	zellfam@hotmail.com
8 th Grade Reception	Lynette Brooks Jeanne McKeague Mary Beth Brown	586-6694 525-0144-h, 426-5231 cell	lbrooks@bedford.k12.va.us mckeague5@verizon.net
Hospitality	(Aug) Isabel Schleeter (Nov) Patti Kese (Nov) Jeanne McKeague (Feb) Theresa Peterson (Feb & May) Teresa Wright (May) Michele Kaminski	525-2869 540-586-9150 525-0144-h, 426-5231 cell 525-3412 385-6961 525-1054-h 426-0915 cell	ribsva.schleeter@gmail.com pkcskc@aol.com mckeague5@verizon.net tpeterson43@msn.com teresawrightmk@yahoo.com mlk1313@verizon.net
Membership	Jack Jones	385-3662	Jackjones2@verizon.net
Newsletter	Christine Rickert	851-2558	crickert@bedford.k12.va.us
Volunteers	Tina Vitale	525-5494-h 229-3450-cell	tina.mauro.vitale@gmail.com
Ways & Means VA Diner Peanuts:	Traci Toney Angela Moore Chrissy Mays	525-2131 774-6590 525-8014	jtpetoney@aol.com angmoore94@hotmail.com mays42@verizon.net
Box Tops, Food Lion: Kroger & Capri Sun:	Janet Romanzak Annamarie Finnegan	525-2566 237-4641-h 947-6266(w)	romanzak@verizon.net afinn69@aol.com
Teacher Rep.	Sandy Brandt	525-6630	sbrandt@bedford.k12.va.us
Principal	Scott Simmons	525-6630	ssimmons@bedford.k12.va.us

Please join us.....

PTA Executive Board Meetings: September 13 (5:30pm) October 11, January 10, March 14, (7:00pm)

PTA General Meetings: September 13, November 8, May 9, (all meetings begin at 7:00pm)

*All meetings begin at 7:00pm except for the September 13, Executive Board Meeting which will begin at 5:30pm.

PTA MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY MARCH 14, 2011

Attendees: Jennifer Moore (President), Stephanie Cheatwood (Secretary), Mary Beth Hunter (Legislation), Tina Zellars (Directory), Traci Toney & Angela Moore (Ways & Means), Teresa Wright (Hospitality), Sandy Brandt (Teacher Representative), Scott Simmons (Principal)

Opening: Jerry Hooks from Classic Cookie did a presentation on Classic Cookie as a fundraiser for the 2011- 2012 school year. He recommended kicking off our fundraiser in August when the kids come back to school. Our Profit is 50% of Sales. They will kick off the fundraiser, provide all posters and advertising, provide all forms and the software necessary to calculate the revenue and expenses. He is waiting on a Letter of Intent from us. Several board members expressed a positive interest in pursuing this.

President's report: Jennifer Moore encouraged everyone to notify their circle of friends for replacements for the open positions for next year. It is a 2-year term. She also spoke about 6th grade orientation and trying to recruit future board members that night.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa (absent) put together a budget for our review and approval. We have a positive cash flow even after the Teacher's Stipends and Teacher Appreciation costs are deducted.

Vice President's Report: Jennifer Crider (absent). Her replacement will be working with Mr. Hammer and maintaining our website.

Committee Reports:

(A) Art in Education: Needs a replacement for next year

(B) Legislation: Mary Beth spoke about several key points from the Council meeting.

1. The county is saving approx \$380,000 by staggering the school times.
2. The return of the leased mobiles will save approx \$44,000
3. They are not replacing any buses
4. Staff will be on a flexible schedule this summer (Fridays off)
5. Cutting the "B" teams saves approx \$56,000
6. Enrollment is down approx. 200 students county wide with a projection of another 100 next year.
7. Council discussed going to a 10- pt grading scale instead of the current 8 -pt grading scale.
8. Open positions are County Council and Community Relations
9. Optional 6th period for the High School
10. **Tommy Mullett / All Pro Dads: (absent)** Mr. Mullett is looking to expand the program to the Elementary Schools
11. **Directory:** Tina Zellars is looking for a replacement for her position. They spent \$417 on the Directory this year and need to vote on whether or not to continue making one for the next school year.
12. **Hospitality:** The current members of this committee are returning next year. Teresa Wright, Michele Kaminski and Christy Tolbert are working on Teacher Appreciation week which is May 2nd- 6th . Classic Cookie offered boxes of cookies for the teachers. Teresa also coordinated biscuits from Bob Evans, subs, pizza, and ice cream.
13. **Membership:** Jack Jones (absent) requested an assistant for next year.

14. **Newsletter:** All articles have to be sent to Christine and Scott Simmons and Jennifer Moore for approval. Next newsletter deadline is April 1st to cricket@bedford.k12.va.us
15. **Ways and Means:** Traci Toney, Angela Moore and Chrissy Mays all agreed to return to fundraise next year. Classic Cookie was selected by the committee to be the new fundraiser for FMS next year. A letter of intent will be sent to Classic Cookie.
16. **Box Tops for Education:** Brought in \$700! ☺
17. **Teacher's Report:** Mrs. Brandt spoke about the "Related Arts Night" on May 9th. They moved the time to 6:30 in order to lure parents in early to look at the exhibits and presentations. The PTA will have a general meeting at 7:30 and then the Band and Chorus can perform at 7:45.
18. **Principal's Report:** Mr. Simmons discussed the changes going on in the school regarding the cutbacks. FMS is losing 4 mobiles/ 8 classes. They are working on a solution for how to reallocate the classes and grades. The new times for Middle School will be 8:55-3:35 next year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

Next PTA meeting is the general meeting May 9th where we will vote for our new Officers.



