



Calendar of Events

February 1 MD History Day

Parents welcome – refreshments provided by Hospitality Committee

February 2 - Howard County Solo and Ensemble Festival

February 5 – Coffee/cupcakes provided by Hospitality for staff

February 6 – conference dinner for staff provided by Hospitality

February 6 – 7 three hour early dismissal

February 8 - No school

February 11 – Gold Awards Breakfast

February 12 - No school

February 13 – Honor Roll Ice Cream

February 14 - Coffee and Conversation w/Dr. Perkins

February 18 – No school

February 22 – 6th Grade field trip to see Spiderwick Chronicles

March 7 – 6th grade art day – cultural arts

March 10 – 14 – Book Fair

March 13 – Coffee and conversation w/Dr. Perkins

April 21 – 7th grade cultural arts - Bill Roger, storyteller

President's Message

Here we are - the end of the second marking period!

Where does the time go? I hope your children and students are enjoying the middle school experience.

The dance last Friday was very well attended and the children who went seemed to have a great time. There are many more exciting events coming up such as the Black Saga poster contest in February, Book Fair in March, Falcon Day before spring break, cultural arts events and more after-school programs. Be sure your

children are aware of all of the programs available to them and afford themselves of those opportunities.

Remember, February is conference month - if you have questions for your child's teacher - be sure to schedule a conference. We are working on parent resource night where several speakers will be sharing information on safety - it should be a terrific and informative night for all. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions,

please feel free to funnel them through the PTA - we would love to hear from you. Regular meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 7pm in the media center, however, February's meeting will be February 21 due to Valentine's Day. Stay warm!

Janet Rohner
PTA President

Kids for Kids Yard Sale

**FQMS Parking Lot
Date: April TBD**

Are you always asking your kids to get rid of the clutter in their rooms? We have thought of a great way to get your kids to WANT to clean up the clutter. The **"Kids for Kids" Yard Sale** was established last year to create a FQMS PTA "Scholarship Fund" for students needing financial assistance to participate in school activities such as Outdoor Ed & Medieval

Times that have a fee involved.

You and your kids can participate in this event. The cost is only \$5 a space (parking slip) which goes to the Scholarship Fund and all your sales go to YOU! Last year most kids earned \$75 or more! We will advertise the yard sale in various local newspapers and put up signs in appropriate locations, including other local schools, so all you have to do is clean out your closets

and bring a table or blanket to place your items on.

The date for the yard sale will be selected shortly and will be announced in this Newsletter, E-School Newsletter and in FQ-PTA Yahoo Groups as well as on Morning Announcements at school.

So Start Cleaning Out Your Closets Now!

I spy with my little eye –

Boxtops can be turned into the front office, along with inkjet/toner cartridges. Next submission of Boxtops is February 28, so send in your clipped Boxtops when you come for conferences.

We currently have 448 PTA members. Thank you, parents, for supporting your school.

After-School Programs

The FQMS After School Drama Program held their production of High School Musical on Wednesday night, January 16 at Glenelg High School. The students have been working hard for the past three months and it really showed as they put on an amazing performance. Thank you to all the parents and friends who attended the show. The students were very excited to see many of their classmates cheering them on during the performance. Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the program. You all did an

outstanding job.

FQMS has a new after school program, SuperSquads Cheerleading. This cheerleading program includes dance and tumbling instruction. Class began on Mondays starting January 28 from 2:30 - 4:00 in the FQMS Gym.

We are hoping to bring golf back in the spring (offered by Total Golf Adventures of Greater Baltimore (TGA)). They introduce students to the game, build sound golf fundamentals, instill a solid understanding of the game's

rules and etiquette, prepare them for playing on a course. TGA provides all of the necessary equipment; golf clubs, golf balls, and instructional tools. Students with different levels of golf experience can enjoy this program. More information will be available through eSchoolnewsletter as we get closer to spring.

Spring Book Fair – March 10 thru 14

FQMS Media Center

Just in time for Spring Break, the Scholastic Book Fair arrives at FQMS to give your child something exciting to read and do with all their time off! Your kids don't want to be cleaning their rooms (except to get ready for the FQMS Yard Sale in April!), they want to pretend they are on an adventure! The book fair offers hundreds of titles, from teen

romance to dinosaur digs and computer games! The fair will be open during each school day as well as one evening (TBD) during the week of March 10, so watch for announcements as the date gets closer.

Keep in mind that this Book Fair supports the FQMS PTA, which supports our school!

Eighth Grade Activities

Planning for the exciting year-end activities for 8th graders is getting underway. If you would like to volunteer for these activities and did NOT do so at the beginning of the school year, please email

Melody Scaldara at mscaldara@comcast.net or Tracey Wyns at traceywyns@verizon.net. Thank you.

HC DrugFree

Some of your children may have gotten *the Parent Bulletin* in the mail recently. HC DrugFree is a nonprofit organization and their mission is to empower the Howard County community to raise drug-free teens. The newsletter was chockfull of information about programs HC DrugFree offers, information about seminars for children and parents on topics of drugs and alcohol. The programs are free and no RSVP is necessary. Log onto their website at www.hcdrugfree.org to see how you can better educate yourself in navigating your middle schooler, and beyond, through the troubling topic of drugs and alcohol.

Call for Nominations

PTA Board is accepting nominations for the 2008-2009 PTA Board.

Anyone interested in serving on the Board or on the Nominating Committee to help identify candidates to serve on next year's Board should contact jenniferhays@verizon.net.

The Nominating Committee is comprised of three individuals, and we have one already! We're only looking for two more by March 1, 2008. Be a role model for your kids and show them how volunteering makes a difference in everyone's lives.

We will be looking for a PTA president and treasurer as well.

Hospitality Committee

Gold Awards Breakfast with the Principal - Monday, February 11, 8:00am - 9:00am.

If your child earned Gold Honors by receiving straight "A's" on his/her report card, you are invited to join us for the Gold Awards Breakfast with the Principal. Donuts, bagels, fruit, yogurt and beverages will be provided.

Cultural Arts

Bill Rogers – storyteller who recounts events from his youth – 7th grade April 21

Art Day – 6th Grade March 7 - Ms. Fauth is still in the process of getting artists and presenters. Students rotate through stations that expose them to various art mediums and history. Volunteers are needed that day. Contact Heidi Trout at (410) 442-1141 or troutfarm1@msn.com if interested or have questions.

Black History Month Poster Contest – All grades – February. Students wanting specifics about the contest rules can contact Mr. McCauley.

Parents are always welcome and encouraged to attend cultural arts events sponsored by your PTA.

Ice Cream for all Honor Roll Students – Wednesday, February 13

The FQMS PTA will be providing ice cream treats for all Honor Roll Students on Wednesday, February 13 during all lunch shifts. We need your help in handing these treats out! Time 11am-1pm. Please contact Donna Flemister via email: dflemister@comcast.net to volunteer your time for this event.

Coffee and Conversation with Dr. Perkins – Thursday, February 14, 9am – 10am

Join Dr. Perkins in the Staff Lounge for the next Coffee and Conversation. The topic to be discussed is Extending Learning at Home.

March 13 Coffee and Conversation – topic to be discussed is Online Safety.

2007-2008 "In Honor of Excellence" Awards

The PTA has formed a committee to nominate a teacher for the **First Year Educator Award** and the **Maryland Teacher of the Year Award (Howard County)**. A chairperson has been established to take the lead and we are looking for others to participate. If your child has or has had a teacher that you are impressed by, we would love to hear about it.

The nomination deadlines are March 12 and March 26 respectively, so don't delay in letting Rita Morsberger, ritamors3@verizon.net, know of any teacher that you feel is deserving of recognition, or if you're interested in helping with this committee.

Reflections

The PTA is pleased to announce two of our students will be representing FQMS in the Reflections county-level competition. They are **Angela Banner** for her literature entry and **Joseph Pickens** for his musical composition. Both students were inspired by the theme, "I Can Make a Difference By..." Angela and Joseph's entries, along with all other Howard County winners, will be on display at the Howard County Reflections showcase on January 31. If their entries are selected at the county-level, they will move on to compete at the state level in March. Good luck to Angela and Joseph!

Reflections is a National PTA-sponsored arts

recognition program in Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, Visual Arts, Dance, and Film/Video. This program provides a venue for students to create and be recognized for their original works of art, while increasing community awareness on the importance of arts in education.

REFLECTIONS
COMMITTEE CHAIR,
Chris Geibel 410-
489-4138 OR
sgeibel@yahoo.com

Boxtops and Boxtops Marketplace

We received a \$145.54 check in December. Thank you for clipping your Boxtops **and** for registering for Boxtops Marketplace! Please send in to the front office any Boxtops that you have been collecting by February 15. If you have a moment when you're online, check out

Boxtops Marketplace for your favorite online store. You can find it under www.boxtops4education.com. After you have registered to join Boxtops, which is easy, then you simply log onto the Boxtops website, click on Marketplace and click on your favorite store that you use online. A

percentage of each sale is sent to FQMS. I did it, and FQMS received an extra \$20. It was easy and there were no problems. Actually, you're not even aware you're using it.

