



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

January 11, 2019

<http://education.fcps.org/ses>

Calendar of Events:

- Wed., January 16** **Hearing and Vision Screening**
Mon., January 21 **Schools and Offices closed-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
Fri., January 25 **Term 2 ends**
 Mobile Dentist at SES
Mon., January 28 **Schools closed-Teacher Work Day**

Happy New Year! Welcome back to school. We certainly hope that everyone had a safe and relaxing holiday break. Students and staff have returned ready to take on the challenges of the new year! This is a great time to be sure that your child's supplies are replenished and a system of organization for home and school communication is well established! Do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions or concerns.

PBIS News: Just a reminder that our students are expected to demonstrate the "SES Way" each and every day they are at school. We reward students daily, weekly, and monthly with a variety of PBIS incentives. During our awards ceremonies (mid-year and end of year), we honor many students with gold star and silver star awards. The criteria for receiving a gold star are staying on green or blue 95-100% of the time and turning in their monthly calendar at the end of each month. Silver star criteria are staying on green or blue 90-94% of the time and turning in their monthly calendar at the end of each month.

Please Update Inclement Weather and Emergency Card Information: With the new year comes a lot of change, and one change we do not want you to neglect is the updating of your child's inclement weather dismissal information and student emergency card. Most of this information was provided at the start of the school year, and it may now differ. If you have had a change to your address or phone numbers, your child's daycare provider, how your child is dismissed daily, or how you want your child to dismiss in regards to inclement weather, it is important to document the change. Please send a note to the front office identifying the change, and we will update this information in an effort to always be able to reach you and maintain your child's safety.

Testing: Students in grades 3-5 will participate in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) testing **April 23 through May 17**. It is very important that students be at school on time during the testing window. If you already know that your child will be absent any time during the testing window, please contact the SES front office as soon as possible. Students must complete the PARCC assessment prior to their scheduled absence.

Kindles, Ipods, Toys, Cards, Games, Cell Phones, Hats, and Bandanas, etc.: Please know that any type of toy, game (including cards) cell phones and head gear are not permitted in school. They can disrupt the classroom and learning environment. Please support us in our attempt to eliminate these items coming into the school building.

Firearm Policy: *Weapon/firearm possession-* A student found in possession of a firearm or other weapon (including look-alikes) at school or on school property will subject themselves to the consequences outlined in the FCPS Calendar Handbook. Our school is committed to providing our students with a safe environment, and we will do all we can to carry out that responsibility including, if necessary, conducting searches of students' belongings.

Magnet Nominations: The magnet program is designed for academically gifted students in grades 3 - 5 with superior performance in both language arts and mathematics. Nomination booklets, which will be available beginning January 25, 2019, may be obtained from the school office, the FCPS Office of Advanced Academics or online at <http://www.fcps.org/advacademics> under Elementary Magnet Program. Beginning January 25, 2019, the Office of Advanced Academics will be accepting nominations of present second through fourth grade students for possible placement in the magnet program for the 2019-2020 school year. Students may be nominated for the magnet program by school staff, parents or jointly. Parents and teachers are encouraged to review information, including some characteristics of gifted students that is posted at <http://www.fcps.org/advacademics>. Teacher nominations, parent nominations and a completed *Parent/Guardian Rating Form* are due in the school office by February 28, 2019, so that information required to complete the nomination packet may be gathered by school staff.

A Magnet Program Overview for parents interested in nominating their child will be held on **January 24, 2019, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Office** (191 South East Street). Parking is available in the East All Saints Street parking deck or in the parking lot located next to the Central Office off of East All Saints Street. Accessible parking is located in the Commerce Street lot located behind the Central Office. Enter the Board Room at the front of the building. The overview will include components of the magnet program and the processes leading to placement. Please note that this meeting is designed for parents, not students. The snow date for this meeting is January 31, 2019, at the same time and location. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Advanced Academics at 301-696-6891.

Community Food and Clothing Distribution: Thurmont Middle School and the Maryland Food Bank are hosting a community food and clothing distribution on Thursday, January 24 at TMS Cafeteria, 2:30-4pm. Please park in the back parking lot by the gym.

From the Health Room: There are many myths about head lice. To dispel common misconceptions, here are links to a Head Lice 101 Fact Sheet:

https://www.fcps.org/academics/files/documents/HeadLice_101.pdf

FCPS has posted additional resources online:

https://www.fcps.org/academics/files/documents/HeadLice_Presentation.pdf

Attending a school outside your attendance area: Dates for applying to attend a school outside the usual attendance area are **January 2-March 1**.^{*} FCPS will post the out-of-district application online on January 2 in the section "For Families and Students" at www.fcps.org. Those needing assistance may call 240-236-2493 after January 2. Schools projected to be over capacity in the coming school year are closed to out-of-district students. The list of restricted schools can be found online at <https://www.fcps.org/about/news/1650698/fcps-announces-schools-restricted-for-out-of-district-transfers>. For details, please see the updated Assignment and Transfer of Students Regulation 400-15: <https://apps.fcps.org/legal/doc.php?number=400-15>

^{}In the prior version of the regulation in place last year, the application window was April 1-May 31. In 2019, FCPS will post applications January 2, due by March 1.*

Dr. Theresa R. Alban introduces the Superintendent's Recommended Fiscal 2020 Operating Budget using video this year for your convenience. **See it now:** <https://youtu.be/ViiNB-qQxHs>
FCPS has also posted budget details online. See *Moving Forward: Superintendent's Recommended Fiscal 2020 Operating Budget*: <https://www.fcps.org/about/fy2020-budget>
and the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Calendar:^{*} <http://www.fcps.org/about/fy-2020-budget-calendar>

Please share your feedback:

Email fcps.budget@fcps.org

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Save the date:

Board of Education's Public Hearing

Wednesday, February 6, 7 PM

Board Room, 191 S. East Street, Frederick

See the news release:

<https://www.fcps.org/about/news/1651058/superintendent-shares-budget-priorities-seeks-public-feedback>