

THE FARQUHAR NEWS

William H. Farquhar Middle School

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www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/farquharms/

WEEKLY EDITION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2011

September 5: Holiday-Labor Day: No school for students and staff

September 9: PTA newsletter deadline

September 13-15: Girls' and boys' softball and cross country tryouts, see information below

September 13-16: MAP-R testing

September 15: Back-to-School Night, 7-9:30 p.m., more information coming next week

September 16: After-School Activities Fair during 7th period, students will sign up to participate in after-school clubs and intramurals

September 19: Individual school pictures taken during physical education classes

September 20: After-school activities begin and there will be three activity buses

September 20: Parent Health Education meeting, all grades: health curriculum, 7-8 p.m., room 37

September 22: Argyle softball game: girls home, boys away

September 23: School dance: music department sponsored, \$6 tickets, 7-9 p.m.

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL MESSAGE FROM MRS. MORRIS

We had a great opening day despite the aftermath of the hurricane! The staff worked extremely hard to get ready for the return of our students, and we are thrilled to welcome all of our students and excited for an outstanding year.

The first marking period is the most important time to get off to a good start, form good habits, and begin the year on a positive note. Remember – effective effort is the key.

Hard Work/Effort → Success → Confidence → Desire to Give More Effort

ACTIVATE YOUR ONLINE ACCOUNTS

All parents and students must have active Edline accounts! For new parents—activation codes and instructions for account activation will be sent home in the U. S. mail, so please look out for this envelope around September 2. For returning parents, usernames and passwords will remain the same as in 2010-11. If you have difficulty, please go to www.Edline.com and click "Forgot Username: or "Forgot Password." Students will receive their activation codes at school. For advanced assistance with your Edline account, please contact Karen Becker: Karen.I.Becker@mcpsmd.org or go

to <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/oars/>.

PTA EMAIL LIST

The PTA Email List is the primary means by which important school information is emailed directly to parents. Not only will the weekly *News* be emailed to subscribers, but the Email List is also used for emergency communications. All parents should sign up now at www.farquharpta.org.

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING DEADLINE DATES

All forms for Student Service Learning hours (SSL) performed during June through August are due no later than Friday, September 30. If you are continuing to participate with the same organization during the first semester, you still must submit your summer hours by this deadline. You will complete another form for hours served September through December.

There are three deadlines for SSL this year:

September 30th for all summer hours

January 6 for September-December hours

June 1 for January–May hours

Contact information is:

Student Service Learning Coordinator, Lisa Rodriguez 301-924-3100, [Lisa L Rodriguez@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lisa_L_Rodriguez@mcpsmd.org)

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING POLICY REVISED FOR 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR—STUDENT AIDES

- No SSL hours will be awarded to middle school students who are assigned to an aide position in place of an instructional class during the school day. (This means if your child has signed up to be an aide next year, they will NO longer earn 10 SSL hours.)
- Middle school students who serve as aides before their school day begins, during their lunchtime or after their school day may continue to be awarded 1 SSL hour for every hour of service.

IMPORTANT ITEMS TO RETURN TO SCHOOL

Many important pieces of information were sent home with students this week. Please be sure to carefully read all items. The following important papers need to be returned as soon as possible:

Emergency Information sheet. Please be sure to include cell phone and email address that can be used in case of an emergency.

Emergency Parent/Child Reunification Authorization sheet (blue)

Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) application

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES PROGRAM

Students who were eligible for FARMS during the 2010-11 school year are eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals until at least October 12, 2011. This provides benefits to eligible students while the applications are being processed for this year. Once the 2011-12 applications are processed, that eligibility determination carries through the school year or until another application is processed.

SOFTBALL AND CROSS COUNTRY TRYOUTS FOR 7TH & 8TH GRADERS

Softball and cross country tryouts start, Tuesday, September 13--Thursday, September 15. Tryouts are held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2:45-4:25 p.m. A sports bus is available and departs at 4:30 p.m. Practices begin Tuesday, September 20 from 2:45-4 p.m. There will be three

activity buses available that depart at 4:10 p.m. Students must have all of the following paperwork turned in before tryouts: current physical (MCPS Form SRS-6 Health Inventory—Parts 1, 2, & 3; Part 2 requires the physician's signature), parent permission form, and medical card. The activity fee does not need to be paid until your child makes the team. If you have any questions, please email the appropriate coach:

Boys softball: Mr. Ingram, Jason_R_Ingram@mcpsmd.org

Girls softball: Mr. Schmidt, John_B_Schmidt@mcpsmd.org

Cross country: Mr. Geddes, Walter_C_GeddesJr@mcpsmd.org

HELPFUL LINKS

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

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

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

Edline: www.edline.net

Edline Assistance: 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

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

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