



**“Ask not for whom the Firebird screams, he screams for you!” - Fred the Firebird**

**VOLUME #8 NUMBER #6**

Tuesday, January 19th (if called) @ 6:30pm

# Holiday Reminder **NO SCHOOL**

New Year's Day -

January 1st

Martin Luther King Day-

January 18th

## **Inclement Weather reminder**

The winter season is upon us once again. Just a brief reminder of how you'll now what's going on when Falls Lake Academy opens late, dismisses early or closes for inclement weather - information will go out to parents via the following:

- \* FLA Website
- \* Jupiter Message to Parents
- \* Phone Message to Parents
- \* Facebook
- \* Local News Stations - WRAL Channel 5 and ABC Channel 11



When there is snow or ice on the ground or in the air, we try to put out information about our opening or closing status no later than 6:00am. If possible, we will put it out earlier than that, even the night before if we can make a decision in time.

But remember: Our winter weather plans are **NOT** aligned with other district public schools. Falls Lake Academy operates independently of local school districts and may have school when other schools do not. We do not operate buses and have more flexibility to open school when it is safe to do so. We serve families in 9 different counties, so there will be times that the roads may be clear around our school but are not clear near your home. Always use your best judgement when deciding to transport your child to school and never travel if you feel it is unsafe to do so. Weather related absences are excused with a note to your child's PAA.

## *Teacher Assistant of the Month*



Mrs. Brittany Wadford is our Teacher Assistant of the Month for December. Mrs. Wadford is the TA for Mrs. Hanson in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade. Mrs. Wadford is always willing to help others in need and never wants to receive credit for it. She is always willing to help if you ask her, even if she doesn't have the time in her schedule to help. She has a love for the kids and the kids love her as well. If she sees someone struggling, she is always the first to say "What can I do to help?". She helps the classroom run smoothly so that Mrs. Hanson can focus on teaching the kids. We really appreciate all that Mrs. Wadford does for the kids and our school.

## **TRAINING OPPORUTUNITY FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS:**

Falls Lake Academy is proud to notify you of an amazing opportunity! This is a training for our parents/guardians about how to help youth with a mental health concern or crisis. Mrs. Amanda Moore, middle school counselor, is a certified instructor and will be offering a session in March for our families. More information on cost and date to come! Please see below for information regarding the course.



Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders in youth. This 6-hour training gives adults who work and or live with youth the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to children and adolescents (ages 6-18) who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care. At the end of the course, participants will be a certified Youth Mental Health First Aider!

What it Covers • Common signs and symptoms of mental illness in this age group, including • Anxiety • Depression • Eating disorders • Attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD) • Common signs and symptoms of substance use • How to interact with a child or adolescent in crisis • How to connect the person with help • NEW: Expanded content on trauma, addiction and self-care and the impact of social media and bullying.

## NC Winter Weather Preparedness Week- Winter Fire Dangers

With the cold temperatures comes an increase in the number of house fires. According to the National Fire Protection Association, half of all home heating fires occur during the winter months. Heating equipment is involved in 1 in every 7 home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths. Here are some safety tips to reduce this risk.

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.
- To avoid a carbon monoxide poisoning risk, keep portable generators outside away from windows and as far away from your home as possible. Never use charcoal or gas grills indoors.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.
- Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance, like a space heater, into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.

Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.

Many people fall victim to fires in their homes during the winter. This fact means that everyone should have one or more working fire extinguishers. Be sure to test smoke detectors and replace any broken detectors and dead batteries.

For additional safety tips to reduce the risk of winter fires, please visit <https://www.nfpa.org/winter>

Additional winter weather preparedness resources:



Ready NC: [www.readync.org](http://www.readync.org).

NWS winter safety page: [https://www.weather.gov/wrn/winter\\_safety](https://www.weather.gov/wrn/winter_safety)

North Carolina Department of Public Safety preparedness page: <http://readync.org>

FEMA's winter preparedness page: <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>


**WINTER WEATHER PREPAREDNESS**  
HEATING YOUR HOME SAFELY





**To reduce the chance and impact of fire:**

- ❖ Check smoke detectors.
- ❖ Be careful with candles.
- ❖ Inspect fireplaces and wood stoves.
- ❖ Use a sturdy screen or door in front of the fireplace.
- ❖ Only burn wood in the fireplace.
- ❖ Keep holiday decorations away from your heat source.
- ❖ Be aware of overused electrical outlets.
- ❖ Have a fire extinguisher that is fully charged.

**Common Causes**

 **Chimney Fires**

 **Space Heaters**

 **Wood Stoves**

**WINTER WEATHER**  
**CARBON MONOXIDE**  
**SAFETY**

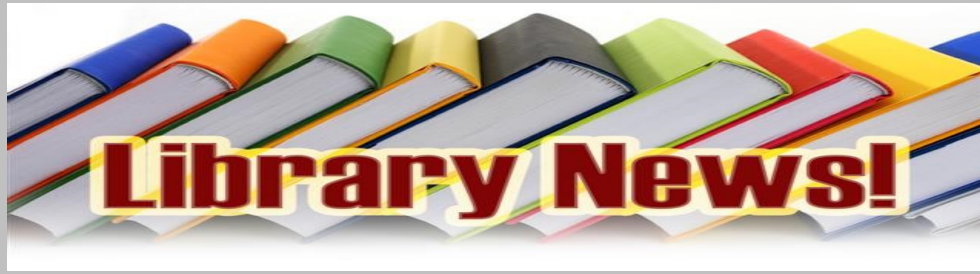


- Carbon monoxide—or CO—is a poisonous, colorless, odorless gas produced from burning fuels like gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal.
- Always use gas-powered generators and grills OUTSIDE.
- Install CO alarms on each level of your home.
- Change alarm batteries twice a year (when the time changes in spring/fall).









Hello Firebird Families,

In hopes of getting more of our library books back on the shelves, I would like to ask that you look around your home/ check backpacks, bookshelves, and return any Falls Lake Academy library books that you are able to locate but have been unable to or not sure of how to return. I understand that things became a bit confusing last March.

The books that your student may have in their possession are still on their library account as a lost book. There are no late fees being charged, but we would appreciate getting the books back so they can be on the shelves when the students are able to visit the library to check out books again.

When your student comes in the building after being dropped off in car pool, I will have the book return bin in the doorway of the library. All your student needs to do is place their book(s) in it and I will get them checked in. If your child is a remote learner, you can drop the books off at the school but you will need to call the front office when you arrive and someone will come out to your vehicle and collect the books from you.

If you need to check your student's account, go to the Falls Lake Academy homepage, go to **LINKS** and scroll down to **MORE LINKS**. Please scroll down to **FLA LIBRARY SEARCH** found under "Helpful Links."

Once you are at the FollettDestiny page, select Falls Lake Academy

In the upper right corner, select log in

The username is your child's firstnamelastname, all lower case (johnsmith)

The password is the same password you received for your email/Google account from Mrs. Beth Doerfler. (Example: FLAd5123)

Go to **"MY INFO"** near the upper left side of the page to see if your student has any books checked out in their name. Please check under **FINES** for books that have been marked "lost." If you have those books, please return them and the fines will be removed.

Once the books are returned and checked in, they will be removed from your child's account.

Thank you for your help,

Lisa Pienkosz  
Elementary Library Specials Teacher  
Elizabeth Doerfler  
Director of Media and Data Services





### **MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK NEEDS YOUR HELP THIS YEAR**

Because at least half our year is happening remotely, we need *your* help to fill the book with photos. Here are some of the things we're looking for.

***Photos of your remote workspace*** – Do you work in a *She Shed*? At the kitchen table? Under your bed? In a corner of someone's office? In your garage? Or somewhere else? Send us photos of your remote school workspace.

***Photos of your pets*** – Are you spending more time walking your dog? Is your cat photobombing your zoom class? Have you trained a parakeet to answer to your name for online rollcall? Do you have an exotic pet? Or are you spending more time at the stables? What does your dog look like upside down? (*laying on their back, don't try to teach them to do a handstand*) Send us photos of your four-legged or feathered, or scaly friends.

***Photos of you exercising*** – Are you playing travel ball? Are you just playing one-on-one basketball with a grown-up in the driveway? Are you using the extra time to work on your golf swing? Have you rediscovered the ancient discipline of *Hacky Sack*? Are you working out in a home gym or running laps around the neighborhood. Send us photos (or it didn't happen... yeah, we know EVERYONE says they're doing more exercise right now, prove it!)

***Photos of you cooking*** – We know lots of you are spending time in the kitchen, so what are you making? Have you upped your ramen game? Perfected the ideal grilled cheese sandwich? Invented a new recipe that would rival the most expensive French restaurant? Send us those mouthwatering photos of you creating a culinary masterpiece.

***Photos of you playing video games***... or binge-watching your new favorite streaming show... or (and hear us out on this, because we know this one will seem crazy to a few of you) **READING A BOOK!** Tell us your favorites and send us photos of you watching, reading or playing.

***Photos of you flexing your creative talents*** – Have you taken up a creative hobby? Started knitting a sweater for your pet iguana? Like to spend time painting portraits of your family during lock-down? Do you make bows and wreaths for festive occasions? Started your own business selling the things you make? Send us pictures and make the world more beautiful.

***Photos of you outside*** – Yeah, we know most of the time you'd prefer to be inside staring at a screen, but since you *HAVE* to stay inside staring at a screen... for school work, what are you doing to escape the computer? Hiking? Building tree forts? Riding quad bikes? Planning to jump the *Springfield Gorge* on your skateboard? Trail riding? Send us photos of you in the great outdoors.

Those are just a few suggestions.

This year we're definitely making a '*not your usual*' Yearbook, so if you have something new, creative wild or unusual you think would make a great addition to the book, send it to us **NOW!**

You can upload photographs you think will be awesome additions to our '*Not Your Usual*' Yearbook here <https://images.jostens.com/upload.jsp>

Thanks in Advance  
Mr. Mettam and the Middle School Yearbook Class



# *FLA Flight Crew Booster Club*

**FLA Flight Booster Club is SEEKING NEW OFFICERS and MEMBERS - Year 2020/2021 - JOIN US!**

Come join us at the Flight Crew Booster Club meeting on **January 13, 2021 at 6:00 PM, FLA High School lobby**. Learn all about what Booster Club does and how to **become a member!** You can make a difference for our School, the Athletic Department and MOST IMPORTANTLY our ATHLETES.

The Booster Club is a group of members that consist of FLA faculty, FLA parents/family and friends. Booster Club is overseen by the Booster Club Board (President, Vice-President, Treasure, Secretary, and Members at large). The main responsibility of the Booster Club is to meet once a month to plan, organize and participate in fundraising events, and coordinate concessions. This is a great way to get involved in your child's school and to support the school, athletic department and the athletes. It is vital to raise funds in support of the athletic program. A few examples of the duties of the Booster Club are:

## **Fundraising Events**

1. Boston Butt, Chicken BBQ, Yard Sale, Car Wash, Dine-Out Nights, Quarter Auction, Drive a ford, etc. (New ideas are always welcomed!)
2. Solicit Corporate and Family Sponsors
3. Sell Season Passes for all MS & HS home game athletic events
4. Set-Up, work and/or coordinate coverage for the concession stands for all home volleyball and basketball Games (MS & HS)
5. Assist the Athletic Director (AD) with set-up and working the Gate table for all home game athletic events(collect money from spectators)
6. Every FLA athletic team will have a designated Team Parent(s) that consists of a FLA Booster Club member or a FLA parent/designee.
7. Senior gifts committee – (organize yearly gifts for all seniors)
8. Developing committees and overseeing them.

FLA has a high percentage of student athletes and that requires a lot of funding to adequately support all their needs. Some examples are listed below; however not limited to:

- Uniforms – Middle School and High School, all sports
- Equipment - Training equipment and aids for all athletic team sports.
- Field Equipment – Pitching mounds, scoreboards, bleachers, balls, bags, clipboards, goals, etc.
- Coaches Fees
- Advertisement Signs/Banners
- Corporate/Family Sponsored Banners

FLA Flight Crew Booster Club looks forward to joining forces with our K-12 parents/families and continuing to grow and support our incredible FLA Athletes.

## ***Roles, Duties and Responsibility***

### **FLA Booster Club's Mission Statement**

The Athletic Flight Booster Club's goal is to support all FLA athletic programs by promoting funding for areas not fully covered by the school. The areas we focus on are uniforms, field rentals, coaches' stipends, officials and miscellaneous equipment. The Booster Club works diligently with school administration and the Athletic Director as well as many parent volunteers. By supporting the athletic program financially we strive to allow our student athletes the best experience possible here at Falls Lake Academy Charter School.

### **FLA Officers and Members at Large**

The board is comprised with a President, Vice-President, Treasure, Secretary, and Members at Large. These positions are held by anyone whom is interested and actively commits to the position and roles and responsibilities. Every two years at the beginning of the school calendar year, the booster club will advertise and promote new members for officer positions. This will be performed during a Booster Club meeting when we vote and sworn newly elected officers. These meetings include all current board members, members' at large and any interested FLA staff, parents, or family interested in joining or participating.

## **FLA Booster Club's Officers Roles and Responsibilities**

### **President**

President provides leadership to officers and members. The president communicates with officers to ensure that they are meeting their responsibilities and oversees the schedule of events and appoints assistants for any and all projects.

- Provides overall leadership and direction to the FLA Booster Club organization.
- Coordinates club activities through the FLA board of directors, school administration, school Athletic Director, and the booster club officers and members at large.
- Presides at meetings of the Booster Club and its members.
- Structures the organization to ensure continuity by providing opportunities for new leadership to develop.
- Exercises overall financial responsibility for the club; co-signs bank accounts with club treasurer.
- Maintains contact on Booster Club activities with FLA Administration, Athletic Director, FLA Board of directors, Booster Club members and the coaching staff.
- Submits annual reports of the Booster Club activities to FLA Administration, Athletic Director, and FLA Board of directors.

### **Vice-President**

Vice President provides back up assistance to the President with similar roles and responsibilities appointed by the President.

- Presides at Booster Club meetings in the absence of the President.
- Plans, coordinates, and recruits committees to manage a series of meetings and club activities.
- Coordinates activities and events with the President, the officers and the members at large.
- Provides timely and interesting information for newsletters and mailings.
- Provides and coordinates information on forthcoming events to the secretary for inclusion in meeting notices, newsletters or electronic distribution lists.

### **Treasurer**

Treasurer is responsible for the managing the flow of money into the Booster Club and for allocating and recording how those funds are spent to run the Booster Club. Treasurer works to ensure the Booster Club is able to meet its day to day expenses and prompts the need for increased fund-raising events where a shortfall in income funds exists.

- Create and maintain the Booster's Club monthly and annual budgets.
- Works and coordinates with other Booster Club officers to generate and collect funds.
- Ensures accurate and up to date detailed accounting records of all Booster Club income and expenditures on a monthly basis.
- Ensures payments to our vendors and organizations we hired doing business with.
- Prepare and issue financial invoices and manages the Booster Club's bank account.
- Issue payment reminders to coaches.
- Seeks approval of the Booster's Club committee for major and any expenditures.
- Corresponds with the FLA administration, Board of Directors and the Athletic Director with all financial matters.

### **Secretary**

Secretary is responsible for providing administrative support to the Booster Club's Officers to ensure the overall well-run operations are conducted for all programs and events held by the Booster Club. The Secretary is a pivotal role as it results in one of the most time-consuming roles. Secretary undertakes and coordinates a wide variety of tasks that requires organization and a high standard of verbal and written communications.

- Plan meetings with Booster Club Officers and agree on agenda.
- Circulate details of meetings (time, location, agenda, etc.) to all Booster Club members and FLA family and staff.
- Follow up with relevant parties on key actions or outstanding projects arising from previous meetings.
- Keeping detailed and accurate records of monthly meetings, contact details for members, corporate sponsorship contacts, event planning contacts, etc.
- Assist the Booster Club officers in strategic planning of on-going Booster Club development.
- Assist the Athletic Director in areas of need for advertisement and supporting roles.

### **Members at Large**

Members at large are members that want to be a part of the Booster Club and join the club to support and volunteer in overall events and operations. FLA parents and staff who join the Booster club perform duties of all types such as assisting, organizing, and working fundraising events, sporting events, and any tasks that are appointed to them or any new tasks they create and or develop with the approval of the Booster Club officers. These members are also voted in and or appointed to the Booster club. These members choose to help as much as their time can allow and are **the essential part of the Booster Club's overall operations.**

Anyone can join our meetings and volunteer and assist in any events to help FLA school, Athletic Department, athletes, and the community. It is a great way to earn community or school volunteer hours!!!!!!

*Well that's all for this addition of the Screamer, until next time.....*

*-Fred the Firebird*

