



# The Firebird Screams

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

MARCH 11, 2014

VOLUME #1 NUMBER #9

Welcome to  
the **SCREAMER!**



Happy Spring!  
Well, at least we can HOPE it's finally spring, can't we? Fred the Firebird here, huddling in my nest, still trying to dry out from all the rain, snow, and ice we've been having! Brrrrrr, it's been much too cold and wet around here for somebody like me who has to be surrounded by fire all the time!

Anyway, it looks like we just might have turned the corner on the weather. So let's dive right into what's going on at FLA! Trust me, now that the weather is changing, it's going to warm up QUICK!!

**-Fred the Firebird**

## Snow Make-ups!

Speaking of cold and wet, the FLA Board has approved our makeup schedule for the days and parts of days we missed for snow. Fortunately for us, the State Board of Education now allows us to count the total hours in a school year rather than just the days, so we don't have to make up every single day or part of a day missed as long as we meet the minimum number of hours in the year (1025). So here are our makeup plans:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Thursday March 27 <sup>th</sup> : | Change from early-release (as on the original calendar) to regular full day   |
| Friday March 28 <sup>th</sup> :   | Change from teacher workday (as on the original calendar) to regular full day |
| Friday April 18 <sup>th</sup> :   | Change from teacher workday (as on the original calendar) to regular full day |

These changes were adopted BEFORE we missed last Tuesday and part of last Friday for snow and ice. Those missed hours take us down a little below the minimum, so we will have to make part of that time up, too. The Board will be considering how to do that at their March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting – we'll let you know as soon as we know when the makeup will happen!



## Brick Fundraiser

Want to memorialize an FLA student, parent, family, staff member, or supporter? Or how about saying something nice about the school? You can do it by buying a personalized brick to go in the walkway that will surround the flagpole in front of the new building. Bricks range in price from \$50 - \$300, depending upon the size and level you choose. Last day to order: NEXT FRIDAY, MARCH 21<sup>st</sup>!! Visit the FLA Athletics website for more information!



# Parent Volunteer Hours

Redeem Your Volunteer Hours: send an email to the following address: [volunteer@fallslakeacademy.com](mailto:volunteer@fallslakeacademy.com)

The information we need in the e-mail:

- Subject Line: < Name > Volunteer Hours
- In the Body of the email:
  - Name: < Name >
  - Date you Volunteered: < Date >
  - Number of Hours: < # of Hours >
  - Volunteer Task Description: < Task Description >



Hours that aren't e-mailed in don't get recorded, and you can't get credit for them. And you should definitely want to get credit for all your service hours, because we plan to recognize our most active volunteers at the year-end awards program, including the Volunteer of the Year award!

FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT YOUR PAC GRADE-LEVEL REP OR MS. FORD IN THE FLA MAIN OFFICE!

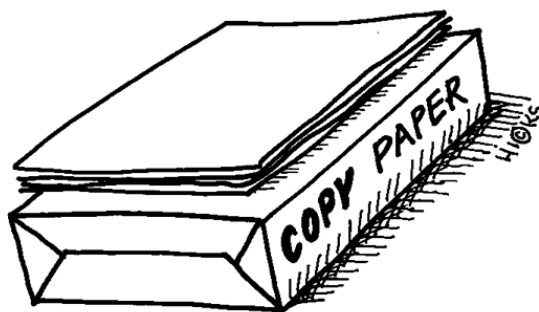
## Campus Visitors



Recently we have been taking a close look at our safety and security practices. The “modular campus” we are currently in offers some challenges to setting up procedures to keep our kids safe, and we have noticed a few places where we need to tighten up. So starting immediately, everyone who comes into the main building or any of the “outside trailers” **for any reason** during regular school hours must first sign in at the office and receive a visitor’s badge, which must be displayed while on campus. This includes parents who are “just dropping off” something, or who are driving for field trips (if they actually come into the building – not necessary if they wait outside). Thank you for understanding, and for supporting our efforts to keep our kids safe!

## We Need Paper!

Thanks to the tremendous amount of support we regularly receive from our awesome parents, we have not been obliged to buy copy/print paper so far this year! But now we've worked our way to the bottom of our supply, and we need paper. So if our parents will send us a couple of reams of paper once again, we can make it through the summer!



## T-Shirt and Other FLA Apparel

If you haven't yet received or picked up your FLA shirt, hoodie, or other cool and awesome apparel from the December order, please contact Ms. Ford immediately! And everybody please note: we will not be ordering FLA shirts, etc. again until late spring, for delivery when school opens in August!



## Hot Lunch Orders



Parents, please check your child's hot lunch orders for the rest of this quarter – we've had a number of disagreements lately over who ordered what for which dates. Often lunches will arrive that parents are sure are wrong, only to find that they actually did order that, after all.

This quarter's hot lunches finish on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. If you want hot lunches for the last quarter of the year, you must go online to order them between **Monday March 17<sup>th</sup>** and **Monday March 31<sup>st</sup>**. The ordering window will close on the 31<sup>st</sup>, no hot lunches may be ordered after that date. Go to [www.orgsonline.com](http://www.orgsonline.com) to order. Don't get left out: order your lunches for next quarter!

## PBL Presentations



The 3<sup>rd</sup>-quarter PBL presentations are set to occur according to individual teachers' schedules, but must all occur by the end of the day Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. This time, parents are welcome, but not required to come. Individual teachers are scheduling their students' PBL presentations; watch for announcements about dates and times from them.

## Parenting for Academic Success Session 3: Social Media and Internet

Our first two Parenting for Academic Success session for parents was such a resounding success that we're answering the call to do another one!

This one will be geared toward helping parents navigate social media websites and the internet in general. This workshop will provide general information about the world wide web, the different social media sites that children use, how to know what your child is doing on the internet and ways to protect your child while they are on the internet.

We promise: the information you'll get at this session will be valuable to you in ways you can't even imagine yet.

Join Mrs. Maxson on Monday, March 17th at 6pm in the main building for this enlightening and informative session.



## Spring Concerts



The FLA general music program will hold its Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade spring concert on Thursday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Bible Baptist Church. Don't worry, we learned our lesson at Christmastime: this spring, we are splitting the concert into two dates so we don't have big crowds of folks standing around on the sides with no seats! Come on March 20<sup>th</sup> and support our "little ones" as they make beautiful music with voices and instruments!

Likewise, our grades 4-5-6-7 spring concert will be held at 7:00 on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, also at Bible Baptist. This concert will include both graded general music performances as well as performances by the middle school chorus and both the beginner and cadet bands.

Mark your calendar and plan now to come hear the FLA Firebird students light up your life with the best elementary and middle school music you've ever heard!

## Lost and Found

Our L&F bins are overflowing again! If your child has lost a shirt, hoodie, sweatshirt, bookbag, water bottle, textbook, hat, sweatpants, jacket, winter coat, or any number of other assorted articles of clothing and/or personal items, it's probably in one of our L&F bins. Please come by and sort through our collection if you're missing something!

All items not picked up by the end of the day on Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> will be donated to a local charity.



## 2014-2015 Band



Plans are being made right now for next year's beginner band class! With the 5<sup>th</sup> grade moving to the middle school, next year's beginner band will be open to 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and maybe even a few 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have never played an instrument before!

All parents of students in next year's grades 5-8 who are interested in next year's beginner band are invited to meet with Mr. Sam Morgan, FLA Band Director, on Tuesday evening April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the main FLA building. The band program will be introduced, questions will be answered, and a representative from Music & Arts in Durham will be on hand to show instruments and make arrangements with parents who want to reserve an instrument for next year. It's not required that band students get their instruments from Music & Arts, but their program is the one recommended by our Band Director.

The parents of students who are already in Band need not attend. You'll be hearing more about this later. Mark your calendar!

## Athletic News

Stay "in the know" about FLA Athletics and Flight Crew activities! Check out the two websites below. Any and all updates to the athletics website will be made on the Facebook page as well. In addition to this, any changes or updates to the Booster schedule will be made on the Booster club's website. Pretty self-explanatory. [Note: "Like" these sites so you won't miss anything!]:



<https://www.facebook.com/fallslakeacademyathletics>  
<https://www.facebook.com/flaathleticsboosterclub>

## IMPORTANT Calendar/Date Changes

Please note the following changes to the calendar (These have been updated on the School Website):

May 22nd - Early Release for PBL Project Presentations and Student Led Conferencing

May 23rd - Field Day for Grades K-7

May 26th - No School - Memorial Day Holiday

May 29th - 3rd Grade Reading EOG

May 30th - 3rd Grade Math EOG

June 4th - Last Day of School for Kindergarten and 1st grade students (Full Day of School)

June 5th - 4th and 5th grade Reading EOG / 6th and 7th grade Social Studies Common Exam

June 6th - 4th and 5th grade Math EOG / 6th and 7th grade Science Common Exam

June 9th - 6th and 7th grade Reading EOG / 5th grade Science EOG

June 10th - 6th and 7th grade Math EOG / 3rd grade Reading EOG Retest

June 11th - Last Day of School for 2nd grade - 7th grade students (Early Release Day)

