



# The Firebird Screams

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

APRIL 1, 2023

VOLUME #10 NUMBER 9

## April Dates to Remember:



Apr. 1 - Golf Tournament  
Apr. 3 - 3rd grade field trip  
Apr. 4 - Board Meeting, 6:30pm  
Apr. 4 - Senior Cap & Gown Picture Day  
Apr. 5 - Thespian Honor Society, 5:30pm  
Apr. 6 - 7th grade field trip  
Apr. 7 - Wellness Day (No school for Students & Staff)  
Apr. 10-14 - Spring Break/Intersession  
Apr. 17 - PTA Board Meeting, 6pm  
Apr. 17 - PTA General Meeting, 7pm  
Apr. 18 - Board Meeting (if called), 6:30pm  
Apr. 21 - 8th grade Formal, 7pm  
Apr. 22 - BINGO  
Apr. 25 - PAC Meeting, 6pm  
Apr. 26 - Administrative Professionals Day  
Apr. 26 - Senior Awards Night  
Apr. 28 - Movie Night  
Apr. 29 - PROM

## Meet our New Executive Director



We would like to introduce our new Executive Director, Mr. Joey Johnson. Mr. Johnson is a life-long resident of Granville County with more than 20 years of management experience. Mr. Johnson is a graduate of South Granville High School, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Grand Canyon University. He began his career in the laboratory science field. Mr. Johnson worked as a lab manager and served on the Bioterrorism and Emerging Pathogen Unit for the State

Laboratory in North Carolina. In this field, Mr. Johnson was able to use his scientific skills and leadership qualities to save lives and protect the health of many Carolinians. While working at the laboratory, Mr. Johnson's wife was busy serving on the original Board of Directors that started Falls Lake Academy. Three years after the school opened, Mr. Johnson took a career shift and was hired as a Biology teacher in the newly formed high school. Mr. Johnson spent the next three years teaching and leading in the high school science department. During this time, he obtained his graduate degree and eventually departed to become the Head of School at Bethesda Christian Academy. Given his scientific knowledge, leadership abilities, and administrative degree, Mr. Johnson was able to lead continuous, in-person learning throughout the pandemic. Mr. Johnson led there for two and a half years until he was hired back at FLA as the High School Director in January 2023.

Mr. Johnson knows the value of the education provided at FLA. He has two graduates from Falls Lake Academy and two additional children set to graduate from here. Mr. Johnson's two graduates are now in college and are doing well. FLA has prepared them well for college level classes with the soft skills that will lead them in being successful in future careers.

FLA has been a passion for his family since its initiation. Mr. Johnson supports the mission, the educational philosophy based on Project-based learning, and the care shown by the amazing staff of FLA. He is ready to continue leading FLA in a path of excellence with the partnerships from Firebird families and our community. He believes that every single child can learn, and every single child can be successful. He also believes the greatest path for success in our students is building their confidence and inspiring them to reach their full potential so they can TAKE FLIGHT!



Tuesday, April 4th @ 6:30pm

Tuesday, April 18th (if called) @ 6:30pm

Link to Live Stream:

<https://live.myvrspot.com/player?>

[udi=ZmFsbHNsYWVtIYVWNhZGVteQ%3D%3D&c=ZmxhMQ%3D%3D](https://live.myvrspot.com/player?udi=ZmFsbHNsYWVtIYVWNhZGVteQ%3D%3D&c=ZmxhMQ%3D%3D)

## CHANGE IN BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Three of FLA's board members were recently recognized for the years of service on the FLA Board of Directors. Mrs. Velvet Nelson, Mrs. Crystal Grant and Mr. Brian Massengill recently completed their terms as BOD members. Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Grant and Mr. Massengill were celebrated for their dedication and commitment to the establishment of Falls Lake Academy. They have volunteered countless hours to the planning, development and governance of our great school. THANK YOU for your service from the entire Firebird Family! Enjoy your "board retirement".

We would also like to welcome two new board members!

Deana McFarland, Anastasia Council, Magan Inscoe, Nathaniel Carmichael and Willie Owens

# Meet our New Board of Directors



## **Deanna McFarland**

Deanna McFarland is a Durham county native, who recently moved to Granville county in 2019. She has a loving fiancé and 2 amazing children, an almost 3 year old and a 5 year old step son. She has her Bachelors in Child Development and Family Relations. She has been employed at Bright Beginnings Preschool for 13 years, where she currently holds the position of Assistant Director. Deanna is very excited to join the Firebird family and share her passion for children and education.



## **Anastasia Council**

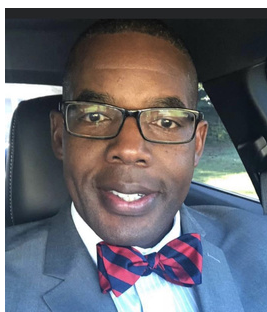
Anastasia Council is from Raleigh, NC but feels like she was raised in Granville County. She attended church and 1st-12th grade at Christian Faith Center Academy in Creedmoor, NC. This is where her passion for community and service began. She obtained her Business degree from Alcorn State University while playing Division I basketball on scholarship. She later became a financial advisor at Edward Jones, and has been with the firm for going on 9 years. As a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL

PLANNER™ professional, she partners closely with her clients to address a host of financial concerns including tax mitigation, estate considerations, wealth protection strategies and retirement income planning. Over the years in her free time she has coached Elementary, Middle and Highschool girls basketball teams at various YMCAs and local schools, and taught financial literacy to children as young as 4 years old up to 12th grade. In 2022, she relocated to Creedmoor, NC with her husband of 6 years, Jerrell, and her 2 year old daughter, Zoe. She looks forward to joining the board and serving in the community she loves.



## **Magan Inscoe**

Magan Inscoe was born, raised and currently resides in rural Durham County. Graduating in 2003 from North Carolina State University with a BS in Business Management and a focus in Marketing, Magan found her niche in real estate shortly after graduation. She has been a licensed Realtor in Granville County since 2003 and currently manages the Triangle Home and Land Team with Coldwell Banker Advantage. She is the proud mother of two children. Magan is excited to be a member the Falls Lake Academy board and hopes to be an asset to the school and community.



## **Nathaniel Carmichael**

Nathaniel Carmichael, Jr. leads the Operations team at Murdoch Developmental Center, a 1200+ employer in Butner, N.C. His 30+ year career extends across military service in both the United States Marine Corps and the United States Air Force, the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, and the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. His community service includes but is not limited to Boys and Girls Club, At Risk Youth, and Adopt-A-Highway. Mr.

Carmichael has a passion for education, with an undergraduate degree in Psychology through N.C. Wesleyan University, and a Master of Science in Administration (MSA) through Central Michigan University.

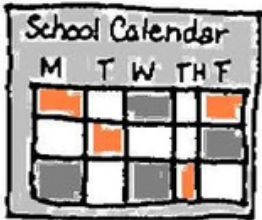


**Willie Owens**

Willie J.C. Owens grew up in New Jersey and currently resides in Youngsville, NC. He received his Bachelor’s degree from North Carolina A&T SU in construction management and his Master’s in business administration from Strayer University. He is married to his wife Denetra, and they have three children Darby (9), who is in the 3rd grade at FLA; Jayla (14), who is in the 9th grade at FLA; and Dasaiah (21).

Mr. Owens is the Associate Director of Engineering and Maintenance for Merck & Co. in Durham, NC, and has a long project/construction management career to add to his experience. Mr. Owens is also an entrepreneur with a family catering company and a construction/business consulting firm. This experience has helped to heighten his interpersonal skills, ability to handle complexity and ambiguity, integrity, independent-mindedness, collaboration, and financial competence. His extensive business and project management expertise and ability to build strong relationships within communities and industries have delivered powerful results throughout his career.

In addition to his work experience, Willie is passionate about service and education, returning for his second term on the Board of Directors at Falls Lake Academy. He is dedicated to using his experience in both the public and private sectors to aid in the continued positive growth and improvement of FLA. As a board member, he is excited to support the students, parents, faculty, and greater Falls Lake Academy community and looks forward to being of service.



# School Calendars:

CLICK BELOW TO VIEW:  
[2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR](#)  
[2024 - 2025 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR](#)

# NO SCHOOL



**Wellness Day - April 7**  
**Spring Break - April 10 - 14**



# Attendance Reminders:

ABSENCES: Absences are excused for the following reasons only:

1. Illness or injury requiring hospitalization, bed rest, or parent-approved recuperation time at home.
2. Medical quarantine imposed by the Health Department.
3. Religious observance (parents must request excused absences status for this in advance).
4. Death in the immediate family.
5. Medical or dental appointment (excused only when a doctor's or dentist's note is presented).
6. Special circumstances requested by the parents and approved by the school Director.

When a student returns to school after an absence, he/she must bring a written note from home, signed and dated by the parent, stating the reason(s) for the student's absence and indicating the date(s) of the absence.

Important Notice: Family Trips and Vacations are considered unexcused absences.



## Volunteers Opportunity



We will be needing parent volunteers this year to help with Elementary and Middle School Field Day. Please be on the look out for Jupiter messages from Coach Denning and Coach Britt to sign up to help. Volunteers will need a background check on file in order to volunteer for these events.



## SPELLING BEE CHAMPIONS!



### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Alice Weaver - 1st Place  
Bekah Ballard - 2nd Place  
Piper Howerton- 3rd Place



### MIDDLE SCHOOL

Johanna Doerfler - 1st Place  
Matilda Travis - 2nd Place  
Isabela Arceo- 3rd Place



### FAST TRACK

Marli Seibles - 1st Place  
Marli competed in a Charter School spelling bee with students from 44 other NC charter schools across the state. She made it to round 5 and finished in the top 10!



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

FLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
COMPETES IN

## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



Our BOGO Scholastic  
Bookfair coming  
soon! Please mark  
your calendars for  
**May 1st-May 5th.**

Yes, BOGO means Buy-One-Get-One-Free! And that includes  
**EVERYTHING!**

**Stock up on Summer  
Reading!  
and/or**

**Help your teachers build  
their classroom libraries!**





# Reminder:

## Community Service is due

### May 1st

If you have signed in previously and need to add hours, please go to [fallslakeacademy.galaxydigital.com](https://fallslakeacademy.galaxydigital.com) and sign in using the student email address and password. You can also check what hours you've already submitted by signing in.

#### **If you have never signed in, here's what you need to know:**

- 1) The last four digits of your student's ID number - you can find that in Jupiter under Settings.
- 2) All students already have an account with GetConnected. I created those. You do not have to 'sign up' with your student's information.
- 3) All student hours must be logged under their student email address. Parents create their own GetConnected account to log Family Involvement Hours.

#### **Here's how you log student hours:**

##### **1) Go to Get Connected:**

\* You can either go to [fallslakeacademy.galaxydigital.com](https://fallslakeacademy.galaxydigital.com) or go to [www.fallslakeacademy.com](https://www.fallslakeacademy.com), click on Students, and click on Student Volunteer Hours

##### **2) Enter Username:**

Student's username is first name + last name @ fallslakeacademy.com

For example, mine is [elizabethdoerfler@fallslakeacademy.com](mailto:elizabethdoerfler@fallslakeacademy.com)

There is no punctuation between the first name and the last name.

##### **3) Enter password:**

The password follows our typical password protocol.

Password is: FLA (uppercase) + first letter of last name (lowercase) + last four digits of student ID number.

For example, if my student ID is 186861324, my password might be: FLAd1324

You are welcome to change that once you log in or you can leave it as that. This is a password that most of our students (those who were here before Covid) know.

##### **4) Click Add Hours**

- When it asks, is this in response to an opportunity, click No.
- Under Location - I'd put a very short description, not just a place:
- Packing bags at ACIM or Delivering groceries to elderly neighbor
- You will also be asked for someone who can verify these hours. It may be the event coordinator or it may be the parent.
- Put in date and number of hours.
- Under Description - Put a more detailed description if you wish.
- Make sure you choose "Student Volunteer Hours"
- The family involvement code is not needed for Student Volunteer Hours.

5) **When you are done, you can click "Log Out"** in the drop-down menu in the top-right corner. If you have multiple students in the school, repeat the process for each student.

If you need assistance or you need your password reset, please email [elizabethdoerfler@fallslakeacademy.com](mailto:elizabethdoerfler@fallslakeacademy.com)





# SENIOR CAP & GOWN PICTURE DAY

## APRIL 4TH

Summer fun for girls!

# DIY

Crafts & More

with Mrs. Voss & Mrs. Frazier

Come hang out with us this summer! Learn new skills. Make new friends. And have tons of fun as we DIY our way through everything from fairy gardens to slime... BEST! SUMMER! EVER!

Fairy Gardens

Cloud Dough

Resin Flower Bookmarks

- Fairy Gardens
- Resin Flower Bookmarks
- Slime / Edible Slime
- Cloud Dough
- Simple Cooking
- Simple Sewing
- Science Experiments
- and More!

For: Rising 2nd graders and up

Dates: Session 1 June 5 - 9 & Session 2 June 12 - 16

Times: 9 AM - 2 PM (Bring a lunch!)

Cost: \$120 (fee includes supplies)

**SAVE \$10!**

Cost is \$110 if you sign up before April 21!

Please complete this form and turn it in with payment.  
Payment and form can be turned in to Mrs. Voss in room 206. Spots are limited so do not delay!

Session Preference: Session 1 | Session 2

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/PAA: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to  
Falls Lake Academy





# FALLS LAKE ACADEMY **SUMMER CAMP '23**

**5-30  
JUNE**

From 7:00 am til 5:30 pm

Cost \$130 a week (week of June 19th Cost is \$120)  
(\$500 for the entire camp if paid up front)

FAST will be offering a fun and exciting summer camp this summer for students in grades 1-5. Incoming Kindergarteners are welcome, if they have a current sibling attending FLA. Space is Limited!

Kids must bring a snack and lunch every day.

**Come join us for a day full  
of fun and excitement!**

For more information contact  
**LISA WATKINS AT**  
**LISAWATKINS@FALLSLAKEACADEMY.COM**





# Want to go to Greece??

## FLA Students are going June of 2024

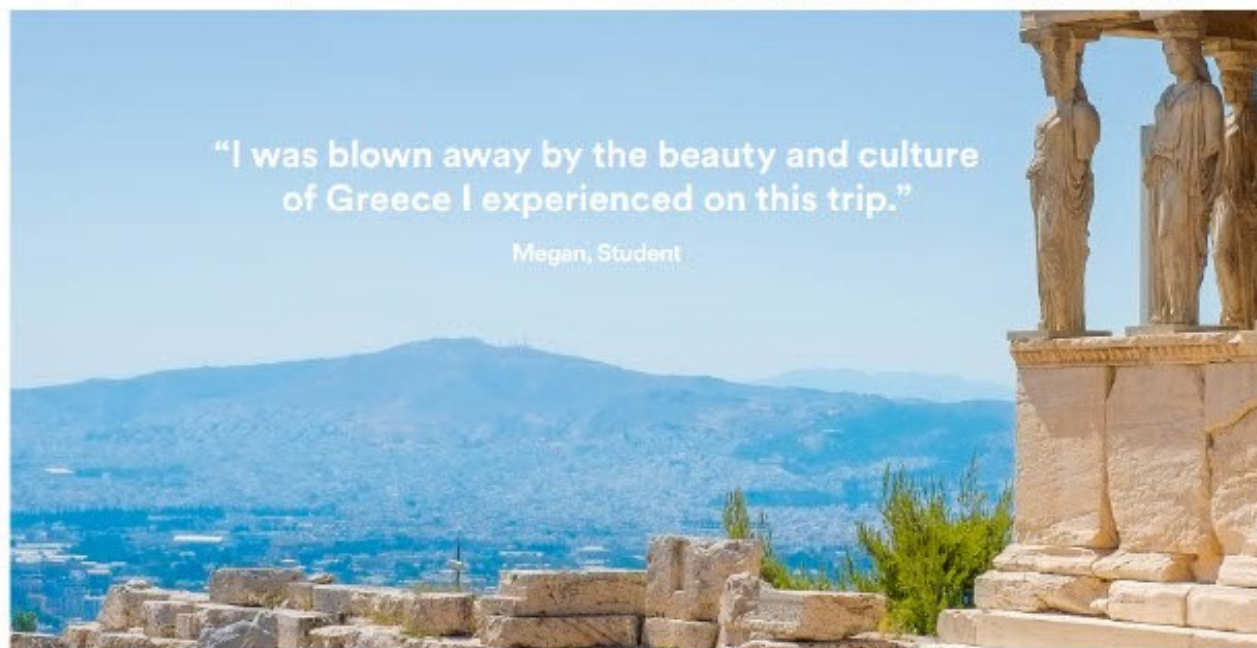
Requested travel dates are June 24, 2024 - June 30, 2024

Total Cost per student traveler is \$3,584

This includes: airfare, accommodations, breakfasts and dinners, entry into group tour events, day cruise through the Saronic Islands, guided tours of famous archaeological sites, and more!

Go to [www.eftours.com/2552183sf](http://www.eftours.com/2552183sf) to sign up

Contact Mrs. Lindsay Graham if you have questions



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

-Fred the Firebird

