



A Message from Shelly

Hey FTE Warrior Families,
I hope September is off to a good start for you! We had an amazing start to the 2024/25 school year! It's so good to have the positive energy circulating the halls of FTE once again.

I know many of you are so busy with your own lives and hectic work schedules, and we want you to know that you are always welcome here at FTE!! We love seeing you and we'd love to have you join us for lunch or even have you volunteer in any of our classrooms.

As anticipated, we picked up right where we left off; it's been a tremendous start with all of our teachers and kids. We've been engaged in lots of team-building, getting to know you activities, and community building. We value relationships so much and we do everything we can to ensure our kids feel loved, seen, heard, and valued.

Having the unique opportunity and extraordinary honor of serving you (our amazing families), your kids, and our incredible staff brings me a sense of gratitude that is hard to grasp sometimes. I have a "get to" job and I try to never take a minute of it for granted. Being the principal here at FTE is a dream come true!

We're always striving to grow and be 1% better each week. If you have feedback for ways that we can improve, please reach out. We'd love to hear from you!

With Gratitude,



Dates to Remember:

- September 16** Board Meeting; Admin. Bldg; 7:00pm
- September 19** FTE Family Fun Night 5:30-7:00pm
- September 20** – Students No School; Prof. Devl. For teachers
- September 24** Health Hero Flu Vaccination Clinic
- October 1** Dental Screenings
- October 3** Fall Picture Day
- October 11** Early Dismissal 12:00pm



Notes from the Nurse:

Welcome back! I hope all of our students and families had a safe and healthy summer. Please remember to complete and return your child's **PINK** health survey form as soon as possible. If your child needs to take a routine medication at school (that is not mentioned on the bottom of the health survey form), you will need to complete a new medication permission form. These forms are updated annually and must be signed by the parent and medical provider. Medication is to be provided to the school nurse in the original packaging or labeled bottle. If your child has food allergies or requires special dietary accommodations, please let me know or contact food services. To access the special dietary request form, use this link:

<https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/services/food-services/special-dietary-needs>.



FTE will be hosting the Health Hero flu vaccination program on **Tuesday, September 24th**. If you wish for your child to participate, please return the consent form that was sent home on the first day of school. Dental Screenings will occur on **Tuesday, October 1st**. Dental screenings for Kindergarten, 3rd and 5th grade are state mandated and completed yearly, just like our vision and hearing checks. If we have not received a Private Dentist Examination Report completed after April 27, 2024, or communication has not been received to the health office by September 25, 2024, students in Kindergarten, 3rd or 5th grade will have the dental screening completed at school. This screening is a visual examination of your student's teeth at no cost to you and will complete the dental requirements for the year. The first Dental Visit will be **Wednesday, October 16, 2024** and is open to any student at the school

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email rmead@gasd-pa.org.

Have a great year!

~ Ms. Mead, RN FTE

Counselor's Corner:

A characteristic or ability that we all desire our children and students to develop is resilience. The exact definition of resilience varies to some degree depending on the discipline defining it. I find it interesting that in engineering, materials that have high resilience, such as metals used in springs, can withstand more stress before permanently deforming. These high resilience materials are able to "bounce back" after undergoing the application of stress. Likewise, resilience in humans is one's ability to bounce back or "to resume positive functioning following adversity" (K.A. Foster). We all know that stress and adversity are universal human phenomena; therefore, resilience is a critical and essential component to our children's well-being. In future newsletters, I will share additional information about common factors that promote resilience and how to build it in our children and communities. If you want to learn more sooner, here is one helpful resource: <https://developingchild.harvard.edu/resourcetag/resilience/>. We are so happy to have your children back at FTE and, as always, never hesitate to reach out if there's anything I can do to help your child(ren) and your family!



~ Mr. Hogg; FTE Counselor

GASD Family Navigator News:

The Family Navigators would like to welcome you back to a new school year! We are excited to connect with both our returning students and families, and our new ones! For those that may not be familiar with our role at GASD, we are here to serve and support our families! We help students navigate obstacles, promote a strong connection between families and the school system, encourage student/family involvement, and connect our families to local resources and services. We would like to invite all of our families to meet us out in the community to ask questions, voice concerns, or just to introduce yourself! This month, we will be at the following locations during the following times:

- **September 6 - 10am-12pm** – Gettysburg Rec Park
- **September 12 - 11am-1pm** – Waldo's
- **September 16 - 1:30pm-3:30pm** – McDonald's (York Rd)
- **Wednesday, September 25, 9:30am-11:30am** – Gettysburg Library (basement)

Additionally, we would like to invite you to 2 different family events during the month of September. We know this is a busy time of year, but we love to encourage lots of family and community connections, and we have a passion for doing these things while incorporating healthy living and the outdoors! Please join us on the following dates and bring your family, friends and neighbors along! All children must be supervised by their parent/guardian at both events.

- **Thursday, September 12th - 5:45pm** - Meet in the GAMS parking lot (stadium side) to walk/ride bikes/scooter on a 2 mile loop to the battlefield and finish up with a family trip to Mr. G's (not funded by GASD).
- **Friday, September 27th - 6:00pm** - Meet at Gettysburg Area Rec Park outside of the Sterner Building to walk/ride bikes/scooter around the path that surrounds the park, then finish up by playing on the playground and free popsicles! Address: 545 Long Lane, Gettysburg.



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Computer User Fees

The primary mission of the Gettysburg Area School District Laptop/Chromebook Program is to integrate today's digital tools to assist with teaching, learning, and assessment. The GASD School Board, along with the Staff and Administrators are pleased to support this opportunity for all students. Each student in the Laptop/Chromebook Program is required to pay an annual, non-refundable Use and Maintenance Fee (\$15.00). The fee covers the laptop for one free repair (battery and charger not covered). If you have further questions about this fee, please refer to the Laptop/Chromebook Handbook found on the GASD website under Services>Technology Department.



Spotlight in Education: Kindergarten

In Kindergarten, we're having a fantastic time learning our classroom routines and discovering what it means to be a Warrior! We've been enjoying nursery rhymes and exploring story elements like characters and events. Excitingly, we'll soon dive into the world of the Five Senses! The Kindergarteners have been having a blast with our daily calendar activities and watching our number line grow each day. It's amazing to see how much both our number line and our students have blossomed already this year! Alongside all this learning, we're also focusing on being kind friends, using helpful hands, and embracing the Warrior Way. It's shaping up to be a wonderful year ahead!

~ Mrs. Canning, Mrs. Forbes, & Mrs. Roberts



Be Here: Every Day, On Time, Ready to Learn!

Franklin Township Elementary School and the Gettysburg Area School District are bound by state and federal attendance laws. It is our hope that the following information will be helpful to you.

- 3 unexcused absences = AIP Meeting (Attendance Improvement Plan)
- 4 or > unexcused absences = Magistrate
- 5-9 absences (both excused/unexcused) = Dr. Warning Letter
- 10 or > (both excused/unexcused) = Dr. Note Required

If your child is absent for any reason, the excuse must be received by the school within three school days of the absence. Four or more consecutive absences can only be excused with a note from a physician. If there are any medical problems or other circumstances of which we are unaware, please contact Franklin Township Elementary School office at (717) 334-6254 opt 6 or email adiaz@gasd-pa.org. Open and honest communication is key. We are here to help and support you and your child in any way possible. More information on Attendance can be found in the Elementary Handbook.

Lunch Account PIN #s

Please continue to work with your child at home to memorize his/her assigned lunch PIN number. It is imperative they memorize this number as it will stay with them throughout their journey at GASD.



Snack Information



Students at FTE are permitted to bring a daily snack. Please refer to this [document](#) for acceptable snacks in the classroom. Thank you in advance for adhering to these guidelines. There are also a variety of healthy snacks available for sale in the cafeteria that students can purchase.