



The Firebird Screams

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

NOVEMBER 1, 2025

VOLUME #13 NUMBER 4



November Dates to Remember:

- Nov. 1 - Lottery Opens
- Nov. 3-7 - Book Fair Week
- Nov. 4 - Board Meeting, 6:30pm
- Nov. 6 - Theatre Arts High School Fall Show, 6:00pm
- Nov. 8 - YMHA Community, 8:00am-4:00pm
- Nov. 11 - Holiday - Veteran's Day
- Nov. 13 - World Kindness Day
- Nov. 17 - NHS Event - Blood Drive, 11:00am-4:00pm, HS Gym
- Nov. 17 - New Family Tours, 9:00am
- Nov. 17 - Athletic Booster Club Meeting, 6:00pm, HS Lobby
- Nov. 18 - Board Meeting, 6:30pm - (if called)
- Nov. 21 - Kindergarten POL
- Nov. 21 - 6th - 8th Grade PTA Dance, 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- Nov. 26-28 - Holiday - Thanksgiving

Message from Mr. Johnson

As we look around and reflect on this season in our school year, I can't help but feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude. Gratitude for our students, our staff, our families, and the incredible community we've built together. Each year we accomplish so much, but what makes it truly meaningful is knowing all the effort, perseverance, and heart it took to get here.

As spoken by Derek Jeter, reaching dreams takes risk. The bigger the dream, the greater the risk. There are risks, challenges, setbacks, and moments when things don't go as planned. But those experiences are part of what makes our progress so incredibly special. They remind us that growth doesn't come from things being simple; it comes from steadily pushing through when things are not quite simple. At times it seems that it would be much easier to throw in the towel.

Again, Jeter says "failure is essential to success." His words remind us that our struggles are not signs of weakness; they're stepping stones toward achievement. Every time we stumble, we learn. Every time we face a challenge, we grow stronger as individuals and as a community.

This time of year is a great time to pause and give thanks for where we are today. As a school we also embrace the journey as it creates stronger individuals. We are thankful for the journey. We are thankful for the hard work, the lessons, the risks and even the failures that have shaped who we are. Together, we plan to continue to climb, to learn, and to reach new heights.

Remember, when your child struggles, it is an opportunity to come out stronger and reach the highest dreams! May the FIREBIRDS SOAR!

Scheduled Board Meetings



Tuesday, November 4th @ 6:30pm

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

Reminders:



Tuesday, November 11th - Veteran's Day

Wednesday - Friday - November 26-28
- Thanksgiving Break

Message from the Board of Directors

Our organization is seeking new board members to join our dynamic leadership team!

We're looking for individuals who bring professional expertise, strong ethics, and a commitment to advancing our mission. Specifically, we are seeking candidates with one or more of the following backgrounds:

- **Construction or Development:** Experience in project management, site planning, or real estate development – particularly someone who can assist in the planning, design, and execution of our upcoming new build project and help guide growth during this exciting phase.
- **Accounting or Finance:** Strong financial acumen to support fiscal oversight, budgeting, and long-term sustainability.
- **Contractual or Legal Review:** Knowledge in reviewing and managing contracts, policies, or compliance matters – particularly valuable for our Academic Review and Governance Subcommittee.

Ideal candidates are collaborative, detail-oriented, and passionate about making a meaningful impact through board service.

If you or someone you know would be a great fit, please join us November 4th in the POL Room of the Elementary Building at 6pm for an Interest/Information Session.

Together, we can continue to strengthen our organization and the community we serve.

2026 - 2027 Enrollment

Our lottery applications for the 2026-2027 school year is now open and will close on January 6th. Applications must be completed electronically through the link found on our website at www.fallslakeacademy.com on the Enrollment page. The application deadline is January 6, 2026. Applications received after the deadline are not entered into the lottery, they will be placed at the end of the grade level waiting list. The lottery will be held on Friday, January 16, 2026.

This is also a reminder that siblings of students who have attended FLA this current school year have preference in the lottery.

However, you must apply online through SchoolMint by January 6th to receive that preference.

2026 - 2027 School Calendar

Click [here](#) to view next year's school calendar.

Background Checks

This is a friendly reminder that if you plan on working with students for your volunteers hours, you need to have a background check on file.

Background checks are good for 3 years.

If you are active law enforcement or military please contact our office before completing a background check.

To complete a background check click on [Secure Volunteer](#).



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Nov. 3rd-7th

Important Info

K-8 students will come to the bookfair on Monday, 11/3 and Tuesday, 11/4, with their classes. They can buy books that day or just browse. If they wish to purchase later, they will have an opportunity to return the next week.

(Most of the school supplies and 'toys' will not be put out until Wednesday after school).

Don't need to shop? Just want to help build our school and classroom library? Help us buy books. 100% of donations will go to buying books for our school collections. Donation boxes are located in the front office and the school library or you can send it in by your child's teacher! The FLA Library will also have an e-wallet that you can donate to.

Round up for All for Books- another way to donate! During checkout, round up to the next dollar and 100% of that is given directly to our school to buy books. Last year, we bought more than 150 books for our library with this "round up" change.

HOURS

MONDAY - 7:15 - 4:00
TUESDAY - 7:15 - 4:00
WEDNESDAY - 7:15 - 6:00
THURSDAY - 7:15 - 4:00
FRIDAY - 7:15 - 3:45

Set up an E-wallet for cashless spending:

Share your link with friends, grandparents, and loved ones so that they can send a gift - they can even add a note!

Teachers will also be encouraged to make an e-wallet that you can add money to if you want to enable them to buy books for their classroom libraries.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/fallslakeacademycharter>

FALLS LAKE ACADEMY
2025

Food Drive

NOVEMBER 5TH-
14TH

More information to come!
Grade levels will be assigned
an item to donate! Let's make
this the best food drive yet!





Family Movie Night

6 PM | NOVEMBER | 7TH

FLA's Student Council
and NJHS students
would like to invite you
to join us for a fall
family movie night!





Mental Health **FIRST AID**

from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING



YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

WHO SHOULD KNOW MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

- Teachers.
- School Staff.
- Coaches.
- Camp Counselors.
- Youth Group Leaders.
- Parents.
- Adults who Work with Youth.

WHY YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18.

10.2%

of youth will be diagnosed with a substance use disorder in their lifetime.

Source: Youth Mental Health First Aid**

1 IN 5

teens and young adults lives with a mental health condition.

Source: National Alliance for Mental Illness*

50%

of all mental illnesses begin by age 14, and 75% by the mid-20s.

Source: Archives of General Psychiatry***

Sources

* National Alliance on Mental Illness. (n.d.). Kids. <https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults/Kids>

** Mental Health First Aid. (2020). Mental Health First Aid USA for adults assisting children and youth. National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

*** Kessler, R., Berglund, P., Demler, O., Jin, R., Merikangas, K.R., Walters, E.E. (2005, June). Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of DSM-IV disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication. *Archives of General Psychiatry*. 62(6), 593-602. doi: 10.1001/archpsyc.62.6.593

REGISTER TODAY!

Delivery Format:

In Person at Falls Lake Academy

Date and Time:

November 8th 8:00-4:00

Location:

Falls Lake Academy-POL room

Where to Register:

use link in the parent square message

The course will teach you how to apply the MHFA Action Plan (**ALGEE**):

- **A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- **L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- **G**ive reassurance and information.
- **E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- **E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies.



“Presents for Paws”

PBL Project for Room 210/Ms. Myers

The students in room 210 will be conducting a PBL Project to answer the question: “How can we as a class, help cats and dogs in our community?”

We have partnered with Kittrell Animal Hospital to collect needed supplies for the animals at the Vance County Animal Shelter. As a class, we will be collecting the following items here at the school and at Kittrell Animal Hospital:

Dawn Dish Soap (blue bottle with the duck on it)

Fabuloso Cleaner

Clorox Bleach (Liquid)

Windex

New/Gently Used Blankets

New/Gently Used Towels

Puppy/Kitten Treats

Dog/Cat Treats

Weight Gain Dog/Cat Food

High Quality (ex. Purina Pro Plan)

Collections will run from 11/3/25 till 12/3/25

Bins will be placed in the POL Room as well as outside our classroom for the month of November. Cash donations can be given to our class
Venmo: Jennifer Myers@Room210EC-582 Email Ms. Myers if you have any questions. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**

jennifermyers@fallslakeacademy.com

