

Freeman Middle Scoop – 12-19-25

FMS Office Hours are 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. Doors are open to students at 8 am.

Email: FMSoffice@freemansd.org Office phone (509)291-7301 Attendance line (509)291-7425

Congratulations, Scotties! We have officially reached the end of the first semester. As we head into break, I want to thank our students, staff, and families for an outstanding start to the school year. I hope everyone enjoys a restful break and returns refreshed and ready to take on the second semester.

This semester has been filled with accomplishments that reflect the hard work, character, and school pride of our community. Our students made a strong impact through the Scottie Dash and Food Drive, showing generosity and teamwork. Our Robotics program had an impressive regional showing, with Lost & Found qualifying for State—an outstanding achievement. We also celebrated successful seasons in football, cross country, softball, volleyball, and wrestling, highlighting the dedication of our student-athletes and coaches.

Beyond athletics and activities, we continued to grow as a school community. Students learned about positivity, ownership, and work ethic through Advisory, participated in Career and College Ready lessons in 6th grade Academic Skills, and helped launch new opportunities like the Let's Lego Club. Our Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program continued to develop, and our 8th graders explored future pathways during their field trip to the HUB for the "Unlock Your Future" career fair. We also partnered with Washington State University's College of Medicine at both the 7th and 8th grade levels, collaborated with the PTSG on dances and events, and connected with families through Back to School Night and parent-teacher conferences. Highlights such as the FSD Veterans Day Assembly and the incredible Band & Choir Concert reminded us of the talent and pride within our school.

Thank you for being such an important part of our middle school community. Enjoy the break, and we look forward to seeing everyone in the new year—ready to finish strong.

Jim Straw

SPORTS

Boys' basketball first day of practice – Tuesday, January 6th.

- Parent Meeting Thursday, January 8th at 5:15 pm in the K-8MPR
- Picture Day Wednesday January 21st starting at 3 pm
- Click [HERE](#) for the current 2026 Boys Basketball schedule

FINAL FORMS ATHLETE REGISTRATION: <https://freeman-wa.finalforms.com/>

- Your student must have completed all forms and a sports physical must be on file to participate in the first practice

REMINDER: If your student is planning to stay and watch any of the MS home games/meets, they will be meeting in the MS Commons at 2:55 for a study hall. They will be released at 3:35 pm to go directly to the game. *If they stay for after school activities, the closed campus policy is still in effect. They will have school discipline if they go to the Freeman Store.*

2nd Semester Schedules - Students can log into Family Access and see their schedules for the 2nd semester. Students can request a schedule change until 2:00 pm on Monday, January 12, 2026, by going into the FMS Counselor classroom and clicking on the "Schedule Change Request Form." **Note:** Mrs. Archibald is working through requests but remember that a request does not guarantee a change!



The Growth Mindset

Do you believe your abilities are fixed, or that you can grow and get smarter with effort? Having a growth mindset means believing in the power of "yet." It's about seeing challenges as opportunities to learn, not as a reflection of your intelligence. Try This: When your child is struggling with a concept, remind them that their brain is like a muscle. "The more you work on this, the stronger your brain will get at it." Contact School Counselor Kayleen Archibald –

karchibald@freemansd.org

Band Alumni Night! 1/24/26

If you played an instrument while at Freeman, please consider joining the Freeman Pep Band on Saturday January 24th. FAB (Freeman Arts Boosters) will pay your entry to the game and if you email Mr. Jydstrup (jjydstrup@freemansd.org) with your name, instrument and favorite pep song you will have your sheet music and practice recordings sent to you to prepare. If you need an instrument, no worries, just let Mr. Jydstrup know in the email, and he will find you one. You will need to be in the high school band room at 3pm and we will be playing for both games and it will be done around 7:30-8pm. We hope to see you there and thank you again for your continued support!

2026 WSUMED Family Night for 6th and 7th grade Families

We are excited to invite you to an evening of dinner and learning on Wednesday, January 7th, from 5:30–7:00 pm. This annual event has continued to grow, and we're looking forward to welcoming a large group again this year. Thanks to a generous partnership with WSU, Chipotle dinner will be provided, and families will have the chance to learn more about the outstanding collaboration between FMS and the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine. This partnership continues to create meaningful opportunities for our students, and we're eager to share the impact it's having. This year, we're especially fortunate to have Dr. Poppy Gardiner joining us to speak about the effects of social media on the adolescent brain—a topic that continues to be relevant and important for families. We expect it to be an engaging and informative evening.

To help us plan, please RSVP by Monday, January 5th by emailing us, or by calling the FMS Office. Your early response ensures we can prepare dinner and seating for everyone. We hope you'll join us for this valuable and enjoyable night together.

CALENDAR/SAVE THE DATES:

December 22 – January 2 – No School - Winter Break

January 5 – No School for Students – Professional Development Day for Teachers

January 6 – First Day of School for the 2nd Semester

January 14 – PTSG Meeting – FES Community Classroom @ 5:30 pm

January 19 – No School – MLK Day

January 26 – FSD Board Meeting, PRTC at 4 pm

January 30 – Math is Cool Competition, Mead HS @ 3pm

Important Fliers



Freeman School CHESS CLUB

Sign up for Winter 2026 Grades 2-8

SCHEDULE: After School, Thursdays 3:00 – 4:00 pm
8 Weeks: **Jan 22, 29 Feb 5, 12, 19, 26 Mar 5, 12**



Professional Chess Coach Dennis Pirello provides lectures, videos, and exercises, then facilitates tournament play. Students compete for club tournament awards. The chess club also competes against other clubs in regional tournaments held on Saturdays (this is an optional activity). Qualifying students are encouraged to enter the WA State Elementary Chess Championship, April 25, 2026, Tacoma, WA.

TUITION ~ \$90 for 8 weeks.

Registration form below.

Tuition pays for: **A.** coaching fees, **B.** coaching supplies, **C.** end of semester awards, **D.** insurance, coach development, and administration costs. Note: Inland Chess Academy does not contact children directly by phone, text, or email.

Installment payments are accepted and limited scholarships are available.
Parents are encouraged to attend chess club to learn and play (free of charge).

Click [here](#) for Chess Club registration form

Stay Connected! Follow Freeman Middle School on Instagram! 
Follow us today to make sure you don't miss out on any of the fun!



[Student/Parent Handbook](#)

[FMS Office Reminders](#)

[FMS 25-26 Bell Schedules](#)

[SMS Text Opt-in for FMS Communications](#)

[Qustodio App - Monitor your Students Chromebook](#) by using this free app you will be able to Manage your student's screen time; Supervise your student's online activity; Access expert advice vis FSD Online Safety Hub

[25-26 FSD School Calendar](#)

[26-27 FSD School Calendar](#)

[Freeman Elementary Scottie Scoop](#)

[Freeman High School Friday Flyer](#)

Freeman School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights, Title IX, and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator: Randy Russell, rrussell@freemansd.org, 509-291-3695, 15001 S Jackson Rd. Rockford, WA 99030