The Firebird Screams

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

NOVEMBER 2, 2026 VOLUME #14 NUMBER 4



November Dates to Remember:

Nov. 1 - Lottery Opens
Nov. 2 - K-5 Energy Play, ES/MS Gym
Nov. 3 - 3rd - 8th Reading Check-ins
Nov. 3 - Board Interest/Information Meeting, 5:30pm
Nov. 3 - Board Meeting, 6:30pm
Nov. 4 - 3rd - 8th Math Check-ins
Nov. 5 - 5th & 8th Science Check-ins
Nov. 5 - HS One Act, 6:00pm
Nov. 6-7 - HS Theatre Arts Field Trip - NCTC
Nov. 11 - Holiday - Veteran's Day
Nov. 12 - Signing Day, 11:15am-12pm, HS Gym
Nov.13 - World Kindness Day
Nov. 17 - Board Meeting, 6:30pm - (if called)
Nov. 19 - Mrs. Myers' Classes POL - Senses in Action, 11am
Nov. 20 - Kindergarten POL - Wants/Needs
Nov. 23-27 - Holiday - Thanksgiving

Message from Mr. Johnson

Have You Ever Wondered How Successful Our Alumni Are?

As parents, we naturally look at grades, test scores, and report cards to measure success. But have you ever wondered how successful our Falls Lake Academy alumni are once they leave our school and step into the next chapter of their lives?

Over the years, I have heard some wonderful success stories from parents about their children's college experiences. One shared that when other college students struggled to lead group projects or determine direction, our FLA alumni have stepped up and guided their groups consistently. Another shared how well FLA prepared their daughter to confidently present and lead in her college classes. I also heard how a son has managed a demanding course load and persevered through challenges using the tools he developed at FLA. Others have highlighted our students' ability to collaborate effectively and work productively with others. This is the same as we see so much success in those entering career fields after they leave here.

Just this past weekend, our high school girls volleyball team competed (AND WON!) in the 1A State Volleyball Championship at Campbell University. As I walked into the arena, I noticed a Campbell recruitment table. When I walked by the gentleman working there saw Falls Lake on my shirt. His first words to me were, "We get a lot of really good students from Falls Lake."That simple comment made me proud. It was an unsolicited reminder that the work happening throughout our school is making a difference beyond our campus.

At FLA, we want students to master academic content, but we also want them to develop the confidence to lead, the ability to collaborate, and the resilience to persevere when things get tough. Sometimes, success shows up in a test score or a grade- other times, it appears years later as they become adults.

To me, our success is not just measured by what our students achieve while they are here, but by who they become when they leave.

There is so much to celebrate at Falls Lake Academy!

I am proud to be a FIREBIRD!

Scheduled Board Meetings



Tuesday, November 3rd @ 6:30pm

Tuesday, November 17th (if called) @ 6:30pm

No School:



Wednesday, November 11th
- Veteran's Day

Monday - Friday - November 23-27
- Thanksgiving Break



Important Dates from the Board of Directors:

Nov. 3rd: An interest/information meeting for prospective Board Members will be held in the Elementary POL room on November 3 at 5:30pm. Our regular scheduled board meeting will follow at 6:30pm.

Nov. 7th: Work with the Board Day. Come and assist the Board with some projects to spruce up the campus on November 7 from 9am-12pm. A great way to get some Service hours and meet your current Board.

Nov. 15th-Dec. 15th: Application window for those interested in joining the Board. Applications will be available from the school's website. New members will be selected by the end of February and will begin their three-year term in April.

2027 - 2028 Enrollment

Our lottery applications for the 2026-2027 school year is now open and will close at 5pm on January 8. Applications must be completed electronically through the link found on our website at www.falslakeacademy.com. Navigate to the Join Us Page and click the on the Enrolment link to the right. The application deadline is 5pm, January 8, 2027. 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 15, 2027.

This is also a reminder that siblings of students who have attended FLA the 26-27 school year have preference in the lottery. They must have an application completed before the deadline.

2027 - 2028 School Calendar

Click here to view next year's school calendar.

K

Presented books to the library





1st

Learned about their community



2nd





Presented government brochures to high school students

3rd

Created toys for Kindergarten





4th

Presented activity books about fossils, rocks, and minerals to 2nd graders.



5th





Completed investigations to learn about how to use data to make predictions and conclusions.

Elementary Projects

High School PBL in November

Mrs. Harshbarger's Math IV Honors students are working on the "Coaster Project," to answer the question: How can we use our understanding of functions to design a thrilling yet safe roller coaster that maximizes excitement while adhering to safety requirements?

Mrs. Lee's Junior/Senior Seminar Students

These students have read the book, *Atomic Habits* by James Clear and are completing a personal habit change project this semester.

Ms. Hardison's Healthful Living classes are working on a project exploring the potential effects of energy drinks on teenagers.

Ms. McKoy's Spanish 1 students are working on project to honor the lives of others, using the Spanish vocabulary they are learning in class.

Ms. Hardison's Strength and Condtioning II class is compleing a project called, "Train the Athlete."

Mrs. Ohrt's Civics classes are addressing the question: How would you design a fair, functioning government for a new island community?

Mrs. Allen's Econ and Personal Finance Class will be finalizing their projects on their future lives, building on the financial information they have learned this semester.

Mrs. Forsythe's English I classes will work on their banned-books project this month. They will have the first of two presentations and will finish in December.

Mrs. Nelson's English II classes will be completing their Passports Around the World project, focusing on how literature reflects both diverse cultures and the universal human experience.

Mr. Hammett's PEPI students have designed a project around physical fitness for younger students.

Well that's all for now, until next time...
-Fred the Firebird

