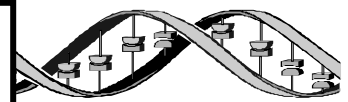


FHS Parent Connection



Franklin High School PTO...



Thanks to the Teachers for a successful spring Open House

The new format for Open House on February 8th was deemed a success by those participating. Allowing parents to “drop in” at their convenience provided a more relaxed atmosphere for interaction between parents and faculty. Once again, PTO was able to assemble snacks and drinks for the teachers. The goodies were provided by Welch Automotive and Macon Bank and PTO thanks these generous organizations.

GEAR UP TO PROVIDE PROGRAM

The next Parents Institute Meeting will be held Thursday, April 22, 2010, from 6:30 – 7:30 PM at the Southwestern Community College MACON CENTER. Please come enjoy a hands-on Computer Lab activity finding academic summer programs for your child, locating colleges with programs to match your preferences for major, location, cost, etc., and scholarship search. Meet and join forces with other parents who are interested in securing a college education for their child. Gear Up staff will be available for personal assistance on navigating the CFNC website. Contact Sherry Tilson for more information. stilson@southwesterncc.edu.

MR. SHIELDS HONORED

On March 13, 2010, seniors Mr. Ethan Elliott and Miss Ariel Wright were crowned Mr. and Miss FHS at the Mr. and Miss FHS Dance. Mr. Shields was also recognized for his outstanding work at Franklin High School and the dance was dedicated to him.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL CHANGED

Due to bad weather make up days, the last day of school has been changed from June 10 to June 11. Students will be in school for a half day and will be dismissed at 11:30 AM.

So far this year, Bi-Lo Boosters has sent the PTO a check for \$83.65 for the first half of the year, and Ingles Tools for Schools shows \$198.75 that the PTO can spend on items for FHS. Please take the time to enroll in these programs that will benefit the school and provide resources for the PTO to use for its projects like Germbusters, the back-to-school folders and Teacher Appreciation (buying the goodie bags for the donated cookies).

EMPTY BOWLS A SUCCESS

Over 300 people participated in Empty Bowls on March 12, picking out their designer bowls and enjoying the delicious soups provided by local restaurants and parent chefs while listening to jazz sounds from the FHS Jazz Ensemble and watching amazing demonstrations by Danny Antoine and his students. Almost \$4,000 was raised to benefit Care Net locally, Partners in Health in Gange, Haiti, and Rotary Club's goal of providing a million meals through Feed My Starving Children which will also be providing meals to the school children of

PTO NEEDS YOUR HELP

The next PTO meeting will be on May 5 at **8:15 AM** in Room 204 (Mrs. Passmore's room) Main Bldg. We will be assembling the goodie bags for Teacher Appreciation. Each teacher and staff member will be receiving a selection of delectable home-made treats, and **HERE'S WHERE YOU COME IN.** We need enough goodies to make **120 gifts** for the folks who work with our kids during the school year. Please bake up your favorite goodie recipe and send it in on Wednesday, May 5 so we can show FHS our appreciation. Come help if you can, it takes about 1-1/2 hours. See Ya!

Important Dates...

- Mar. 27 Science Saturday Recovery Prog.
- Mar. 27 Academic Foundation Auction
- Apr. 1 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- Apr. 2-9 Spring Break
- Apr. 3 Science Saturday Recovery Prog.
- Apr. 15 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- Apr. 17 2010 Prom
- Apr. 22 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- Apr. 22 Parents Institute 6:30 PM SCC
- Apr. 25 Nat'l Honor Soc Induction 3 PM
- Apr. 29 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- Apr. 29 Deadline SAT Reg. (Hayesville)
- May 1 SAT at Hayesville
- May 3 Tri-M Soc. Pampered Chef Party
- May 3 AP Exam - Government
- May 5 PTO Meeting 8:15 AM **COOKIES**
- May 5 AP Exam – Calculus
- May 6 AP Exam - English
- May 6 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- May 7 AP Exam – US History
- May 10 AP Exam - Biology
- May 11 Band Banquet & Awards
- May 13 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- May 18 Spring Choral Concert 7 PM
- May 20 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- May 20 Scholarship Night 7 PM Gym
- May 20 Band Concert 7 PM FAC
- May 21 Class Day 9 AM
- May 22 BNats Idol 2 PM, 7 PM
- May 23 BNats Idol 2 PM
- May 25 Senior Projects
- May 27 Science Tutorial 3:05-4:35 PM
- May 27 Athletic Awards Banquet
- May 29 Science Saturday Recovery Prog.
- May 31 Memorial Day Holiday
- TBA EOC testing will be scheduled

during the first two weeks of June
– PROCTORS NEEDED

STUDENTS MUST TAKE EXAMS TO GET CREDIT FOR THE COURSE. PLEASE MAKE VACATION PLANS ACCORDINGLY.

- June 5 SAT at Hayesville
- June 5 Science Saturday Recovery Prog.
- June 11 Last Day of School for Students
- June 13 Graduation 3 PM Ramsey Center
- TBA Baccalaureate

STAY INFORMED

For daily announcements,
Guidance Dept. news,
and links to FHS Athletics Page
(sport schedules)

Visit the NEW official FHS Web Site:
www.macon.k12.nc.us/schools/fhs



NEWS FROM THE CHORAL DEPARTMENT

MAY 3 – Franklin High School Tri-M Society will be sponsoring a Pampered Chef Party. All proceeds will go towards their Relay For Life Team. 7 PM in the FHS Choir Room

MAY 18 – FHS Spring Choral Concert featuring all of the choral ensembles at Franklin High School. This FREE concert will be held at 7 PM in the FAC, but donations will be accepted for Relay For Life.

May 22/23 – The Choral Department of Franklin High School presents **B-Nats Idol**: This is the B-Naturals' annual Spring Dessert Theatre Show in the FHS Fine Arts Center and Cafeteria. Audience members are welcome to come and try desserts from local bakeries and businesses then to enjoy watching as B-Nats Idol comes to Franklin searching for its next big star. "Celebrity" judges will be on hand to help the contestants in their goals of reaching their dreams. Tickets will be \$5.00 for just the show or \$8.00 for dessert and the show. All proceeds will go towards the FHS Choral Department. There will be several raffles and a whole lot of entertainment to be offered. Contact Robert Jessup at FHS at 828-524-6467 for more information.

NHS FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

Franklin High School's National Honor Society far exceeded the goal of raising enough money to provide a ShelterBox for Haiti. In fact, they raised over \$2000 which will send 2 ShelterBoxes to house 20 people for up to a year in the devastated country. Students and faculty sponsor Susan Allen were recognized by the Daybreak Rotary Club for their efforts and ShelterBox Coordinator Larry Stenger brought a ShelterBox to the NHS Feb. meeting so the students could see for themselves how they would be helping those in need.

Senior Survey Coming

FHS Seniors should look for another Senior Survey coming their way early in May. This survey will be completed by Seniors and their advisors to indicate to the Guidance Department where their final transcripts will be sent.

BAND CONCERT MAY 20

The Senior Dedication Spring Concert Show will feature music that FHS Seniors choose, including movie themes, popular and rock music, jazz music, and a lot of other "goodies" that folks will love to hear. This is a FREE concert, starting at 7 PM in the FAC. A slide show will be presented to allow all to "reflect" on the past year. The 15 band scholarship winners for 2010 will be recognized. This will be a concert for all to enjoy.

STUDENTS EXCEED BLOOD DRIVE GOAL

The goal set for FHS during the Red Cross Blood Drive was 60 units, and our kids exceeded expectations by donating 64 units of blood. Eighty five students participated, and 47 of those were first time donors – brave kids! All donated blood stays in the Asheville District, which encompasses Macon County.

CNA CERTIFICATION CLASS OFFERED

Classes held the weekend of 3/27-28 will prepare students for taking the CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) certification exam. Health Occupations teacher Rita Esterwood explained that students can become CNAs before they even graduate from high school.

ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

- www.SchoolSoup.com
- www.collegenet.com
- www.collegeanswer.com
- www.petersons.com
- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.fastaid.com

Make sure that all applications 1) are completed correctly; 2) include everything that's been requested; 3) are clean and neat (they should be typed); 4) have the student's name on every page; 5) are copied before they are submitted; and 6) are submitted before the deadline.

The Guidance Department reminds you that additional, new scholarships will be posted after Spring Break so be sure to check their office for these new listings. Don't forget that every scholarship has a deadline which is listed for each one. Paperwork must be completed and turned in by the deadline date for you to be eligible for the scholarship.

Macon County Schools' policy prohibits the use of ALL tobacco products:
Everywhere (all school grounds) By Everyone (students, staff and visitors)

At All Times (during school, sporting events, practices, etc.) Thank you for your cooperation!

A TRIBUTE TO PRINCIPAL GARY SHIELDS

As Mr. Shields plans his retirement after 37 years of dedication to our kids in the educational system, he was able to take a few moments to answer some of my questions. After all, he's been at FHS for 21 years and in many cases has seen a second generation of teenagers from the same family come through the doors.

He has helped FHS grow from one main building with some annex-style additions where the vocational shops were incorporated into the basements to a campus without annexes which boasts a new Industrial Arts Building, a renovated Agricultural Building, a new Media Center, and renovated athletic facilities. The upcoming 9 to 12 months will see an additional 1.3 million dollars being invested in the FHS campus for much needed upgrades.

When asked about his views towards the parental involvement he has seen at the high school level, he praised the strong voices of the parents in athletics; he feels the PTO is unique at FHS; and parental involvement in scholastics is on the upswing, especially since the economic downturn has brought into the spotlight the importance of students at least obtaining their high school diploma and hopefully gaining additional levels of training or education to help them in today's job market. Parents are becoming more concerned about the quality of education their children are receiving.

Mr. Shields has seen a change in students' attitude recently, as the recession has caused more focus on education. Economics has always played a big part, and now there is more pressure than ever on the school and students to do well. He says today's student is smarter than ever before, but that student is also lazier than ever before because knowledge is so easy to access with modern computer technology. Students no longer have to spend hours at the library researching and finding books on a subject, they just use their computer search engine. Because of this easily found information, Mr. Shields says "If a person is ignorant today, it is out of choice."

That "Ignorant Factor" is why Gary Shields went into education after his active life in the military. He says he found that the people around him seemed to know a lot about a lot of subjects he wasn't familiar with, so he set about finding out about things. That led him to getting his college degree and helping young people overcome their own "Ignorant Factor".

Now Mr. Shields is ready to leave behind the often 16 hour days he has devoted to our kids and move forward to "giving back". His plans for the future encompass what he calls "FACE", which stands for the following:

F – Family – First and foremost, spending time with his family, re-establishing and strengthening the bonds that are so important to everyone's welfare. He'll be getting his Activity Bus license and become Lindsay and Drew's biggest fan while he supports his wife Anna as she continues to coach and teach at the High School.

A – Armed Forces Veterans – Though Mr. Shields has supported the American Legion, VFW, and Vietnam Veterans Association with his dues for years, now will be his chance to become active in these organizations.

C – Civic Duties – He plans to participate in Kids Place, the Chamber of Commerce, groups like the Education and Recreation Subcommittee currently meeting to review the County's needs, and other endeavors.

E – Education – Yes, he will stay in touch with education in Macon County through working with the policy makers rather than one-on-one student contact.

I join thousands of other parents whose children have walked the educational hallways of Franklin High School who will miss the guiding hand that helped shape the future of so many students. To many, Franklin High School is Mr. Shields. Please come back and visit often, and from all of us a great big THANK YOU.

Our best wishes go with Gary Shields as he embarks on his "retirement". Sounds to me like he'll be busier than ever!

--- Terri Stenger, Newsletter "Editor"

