



Florenceville Middle School November 2015 Newsletter

School Vision - "All students will be given the opportunity and support to become responsible citizens."

School Mission - "The mission of FMS is to develop students who are intellectually, technologically, physically and socially ready for their place in the 21st century world."

Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Interviews

Feedback from stakeholders including parents has resulted in several changes in the new report card. Here are a few things to note in anticipation of the first report card coming home on November 19th:

- There will be three reporting periods: November (Report 1), March (Report 2), and June (Report 3).
- All report cards will be Provincial Achievement Reports; there will be no Provincial Progress Reports.
- The **achievement scale** will include + levels for the 3 and 4 categories as follows:
 - 4 Excelling with the Learning Goals (4+ indicates Outstanding Achievement)
 - 3 Meeting Learning Goals (3+ indicates Consistently Proficient Achievement)
 - 2 Approaching Learning Goals
 - 1 Working Below Learning Goals
- Achievement and attendance data from Report 1 will show on Reports 2 and 3; similarly, data from Report 2 will show on Report 3. Comments will not be carried forward.
- A parent/student comment sheet, to be signed and returned after the first and second reports, will replace a printed envelope.
- The Learning Habits scale will change to describe how often a student demonstrates each habit.
- The Learning Habits will be expanded to include **Initiative**, and the descriptors of each have been revised. In grades 6 – 8, these will be reported separately in each subject area.

Has your contact information changed?

Please be sure to notify us when your phone numbers or email addresses change. It is important for your child's well-being that we have a current number by which to contact you at all times.

FMS teachers will host Parent-Teacher interviews from 5:00 to 8:00 pm on **Thursday, November 19th** and from 8:30 to 11:30 am on **Friday, November 20th**. You may call Kathy in the main office (392-5115) to book appointments with those teachers you wish to see starting **Monday, November 16th**. Appointments are scheduled at 15 minute intervals. For parents for whom these dates and times are not convenient, please contact the teacher by phone or by email to arrange another mutually convenient time.

School Closures

Anglophone West School District is committed to the safe and efficient transportation of students. The District recognizes it may be necessary to cancel bus runs, close schools, or delay school opening to ensure students are not endangered by hazards brought on by poor weather and road conditions.

Options Considered

- **Schools open as usual:** no communication required.
- **All schools closed for the day:** Announcements will be made on local radio stations, through a recorded message that can be heard by dialing the district public information line at 1-888-388-4455 (toll free) any time after 6:00 a.m., and by checking the district website at: www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca.
- **A school or schools in a particular zone of the district closed:** We are in Zone 3: Florenceville-Bristol, Bath, Centreville, Hartland, Woodstock
- **All school bus routes delayed by one hour:** On these occasions, all schools in the district will open at their regular time to receive walking students and drop-off students. Students arriving late will not be penalized.
- **Schools may be closed early** on days when it is anticipated that weather conditions may deteriorate significantly. It is important that parents have alternate arrangements for their children if they or another adult will not be at home to receive the students. Please ensure that the school has up-to-date contact numbers for parents (work numbers, cell numbers, etc.) and at least one emergency contact number. It will be announced that buses will run their afternoon runs one, two, or three hours earlier than usual, whatever time is determined.

Contacting the Office

For those of you who prefer to text messages regarding absences and/or early pick-ups, you may text your messages to the FMS cell phone, which most days will be housed in the main office. Rather than texting staff members on their personal cell phones, please use this number for short texts: 323-8935. Longer messages and voice to voice communication should still be directed to the land line, 392-5115. We check messages regularly.

PSSC

This year's PSSC is made of up the following parents: Angie Graham-Debertin (Chair), Victoria Hutt (Secretary), Heather Reid, Amanda Graham, Sandra Hubley, Dale Cummings and Tara Orchard. Many thanks to these individuals for serving the school in this capacity. The first meeting occurred on October 27th and the remaining meetings are scheduled for the following dates at 7:00 pm: December 1st, February 2nd, April 5th, and May 17th. Parents are invited to attend meetings to observe the proceedings. Minutes will be posted on our website.

Our Athletic Teams

Both boys and girls had a successful soccer season; many thanks to all our students and their families for being a part of that success. At the last rally, students cheered for our players and dedicated coaches. Many thanks to Gord Phippen and Mme Quinn for coaching our girls' team and to Jared Joudry for coaching our boys this year. *All soccer players are asked to wash and return uniforms by the end of this week, please.*

Next up is Badminton and we are just finalizing coaches and practice times for the season that runs into the first week of December. Basketball follows badminton and we are finalizing plans for our gym times and coaches. Cheer will also be returning to FMS. The first tryout/practice to gauge interest will be held Tuesday, November 17th from 6:00 – 7:30 in the cafeteria.

November 2015

4th: Newsletters go home

6th: PJ/Hat Day in support of the Poppy Fund

10th: Remembrance Ceremony at 10:30 am

11th: Remembrance Day - **No school**

12th: All fundraiser orders/money due

19th: Report Cards go home. Parent-Teacher interviews 5:00 – 8:00 pm

20th: Parent-Teacher Interviews from 8:30 – 11:30 am and Professional Learning afternoon for staff. **No school for students.**

24th: Blood Donor Clinic

26th: Quebec Trip Deposit Due

26th: FMS Dance

December 2015

1st: PSSC at 7:00 pm

2nd: December newsletter goes home

4th: Badminton Finals

7th: First day of 2nd Exploratory Rotation

9th: Christmas Dinner

18th: Last Day of School

Are Your Children Ready to Learn?

We have noted a common theme among our students: many are coming to school extremely tired and not capable of giving their best to hit learning targets day after day. Adolescents require a minimum of 9 hours sleep per night. However, most are getting only 7. This means that in a week, an adolescent should receive 63 hours of sleep, but most only get 49. The difference of 14 hours (which is almost the same as not sleeping at all for 2 nights a week and then not getting caught up) has real and tangible effects on learning and research is now showing that sleep deprivation causes significant cognitive impairment. Why not chart how much sleep your child is getting and make adjustments accordingly?

We would also encourage you to make time to reflect on pre-sleep routines. Many students tell us that they have their electronic devices in their bedrooms. Did you know that the light emitted from electronic devices signals to the brain that it should be in 'wake up' mode? Why not give some of these strategies a try in your home:

- Set evening routines, including assigned bed times, to help your child create a routine for his/her body
- Have a bin or basket in a common area for all electronic devices to spend the night rather than allowing these in bedrooms
- Turn all tvs and gaming systems off at least 30 minutes before 'lights out'. This allows the brain to stop receiving messages that activate the 'stay awake' message.
- Encourage reading from a book or magazine in those now 'free' 30 minutes before sleep as a way to settle the brain for sleep.
- Reserve sleep overs and late night outings for weekend evenings rather than school nights.

Hopefully, with improved bedtime routines, fewer students will be coming to school exhausted.

School Wide Fundraiser

We hope to make this a very successful campaign. Thanks to all families who have placed citrus orders and/or have been encouraging their children to sell to friends and families. All orders should be in sealed envelopes and returned in homeroom class on Tuesday and Thursday morning. All orders will full payment must be received by **Thursday, November 12th**. We will announce top sales by individual and class later in the month and celebrate with the incentives announced at the last rally.

Grade 8 Quebec Trip Fundraisers

When you leave your recycled beverage containers at the Bath Redemption Centre, you may donate the proceeds to help with costs associated with the Grade 8 FMS/BMS Trip to Quebec City in June. Simply tell the workers "For the FMS Quebec Trip". Thank you!

We also hope to have an FMS Movie at the theatres in Woodstock in November. All proceeds from ticket sales will help defray the cost of the trip for all travelers.

Hope you will mark that in your calendar and fill one of the 190 seats!

Drama at FMS

We are currently looking for adult(s) in our communities who might be interested in leading drama at FMS this year. Please contact Mme Muise : kerri.muise@nbed.nb.ca

WOW! We collected the equivalent of 240 ½ meals during the FCC Food Drive. Thank you so very much!!!

WOW! Thanks to the generous support of students, staff and parents, the book fair sold \$1843.15!!! This gives the library \$1028.48 to spend on books from Scholastic!!! A HUGE thank you to everyone for their support.