



FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5626 Sykesville Road
Sykesville, Maryland 21784
(410)751-3525 (410)795-4767

Freedom Web Site: <http://www.carrollk12.org/fes>

Richard H. Huss
Principal

Nicole M. Jensen
Assistant Principal

February 2009 Newsletter

Character Trait of the Month

February – Justice and Fairness

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear Parents,

In March our third, fourth and fifth grade students will be participating in the Maryland School Assessment. This assessment meets the requirements of “No Child Left Behind” legislation that requires each state to test students in grades 3-4-5 in reading and mathematics. One purpose of the test is to let us know as a school how we are succeeding in the areas of reading and math. It will also give individual student scores so parents will know how their own children are performing and where their child ranks across the state. The MSA will be administered as follows:

- Math – **March 16th and 17th**
- Reading – **March 23rd and 24th**

Between **April 22nd and April 27th**, our fifth grade students will be participating in the **MSA Science Assessment**. This test will be given to all fifth graders in Carroll County and across the state of Maryland. This assessment will measure achievement in science skills and processes across the entire elementary school science curriculum K-5. We look forward to our students having the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge in science.

It is important that your child(ren) is at school on testing days. Please schedule doctor appointments and dentist appointments around testing dates.

As we begin the third marking term continue to be involved with your child’s education. Start the term on the right foot:

- Support your child during homework time. Set a regular time for homework.
- Check to make sure homework is finished and ready to go back to school.
- Schedule regular trips to the library.
- Help your child with long-term assignments.
- Volunteer to help in your child’s school.
- Communicate with the school about any issues or concerns.
- Set aside a regular time each day to read to and with your child.

We continue to appreciate the outstanding parental support enjoyed by Freedom students and staff. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Richard H. Huss
Principal

Nicole M. Jensen
Assistant Principal

Keys Please for School Safety

An electronic entry security system is in place on both portables. While this is good news for security, it presents some challenges when we have visitors to the building. All visitors traveling to the portables with office issued swipe cards are asked to leave their car keys in the office. This is necessary for us to insure the return of all swipe cards as these are active keys that will open all exterior doors to the building. We appreciate everyone’s cooperation as we strive to maintain a safe and secure environment for all.



Media Memo – Home Access

Here is a reminder of our subscription databases and the passwords to access them at home:

World Book Kids

Home Access: <http://www.worldbookonline.com>

Username: ccps09

Password: media09

Sirs Discoverer

Home Access: <http://discoverer.sirs.com>

Username: ccps

Password: elem

Tumblebooks

Home Access: <http://tumblebooks.com>

Username: freedom

Password: books

Culturegrams

Home Access: <http://online.culturegrams.com>

Username: freedelem

Password: freedelem

Summer Enrichment Programs



Summer Enrichment Program Booklets for the 2009 sessions are available in the school office. There are two sessions.

Session 1 is at Friendship Valley Elementary from June 29 – July 10. Session 2 is at Linton Springs Elementary from July 14 – July 24. Most classes are for students completing grades K-5. Topics have a wide variety of content and interests, including music, art, math, reading, drama, history and geography. If you have children who have previously enjoyed the Summer Enrichment Program, please consider attending this summer. If your child has not attended in the past, please request a booklet and become a part of an enriching, rewarding and fun-filled experience. Students should return the application form, sign-up sheet, and registration fee to their teacher by Friday, February 27, 2009.

Kindergarten Registration 2009-2010

Registration for kindergarten for the 2009 - 2010 school year will be held the week of March 9-13, 2009 at the elementary school in your attendance area. Enrollment in kindergarten is mandatory for children who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2009.

Parents will need to present the following at the time of registration:

- a copy of their child’s birth certificate or other legal document to verify their child’s legal name and birth date
- verification of residence such as a public utility bill or a lease agreement
- specific address from which the child will be transported to school and the specific address to which the child will be transported after school.

Additional information will come home in the near future.

Yearbooks for Sale

Orders for Freedom Elementary School's 2008-2009 Yearbook will soon be taken. The cost will be \$18.00 (\$16.98 + \$1.02 tax). Orders forms will be sent home in the near future. All payments must be by check. Our full-color yearbook filled with memories is expected to arrive by late May. The price for late orders will be \$20.00 (\$18.87 + \$1.13 tax).

Carry ID, Please

Whenever you come into the office to pick up your child early from school, please remember to carry your ID with you. Sometimes we don't quite remember everyone's face and you might be asked to produce identification. Please don't be offended. We just want to be sure that your child is safe.

Reminder for borrowed lunch money

The cafeteria has limited funds for children who need to borrow lunch money. If your child borrows lunch money, we appreciate your promptness in repaying that money to the cafeteria the next day. Keep in mind that you can purchase advance lunch tickets for your child. You can prepay for as few or as many lunches as needed. Lunches are \$2.00 each. Please send in a check, made payable to the Freedom Elementary Cafeteria, for the number of lunches you wish to purchase times \$2.00 each. If you would like to apply for free or reduced lunches, please contact the office for an application.

eSchoolNewsletter.com

Please take advantage of this opportunity to receive school and county information. Visit the eSchoolnewsletter.com website to sign up today. We post our monthly newsletter on our school website and now only send print copies upon request.

Fieldtrip Chaperones

We encourage parents and guardians to accompany children on trips when possible. At times the number of chaperones is limited by available bus space or allocation from the location we are visiting. Chaperones are to be parents or legal guardians over the age of 21. Please be sure you have completed the required volunteer training **prior** to signing up to chaperone. Freedom will be offering a volunteer training session on February 24th at 9:00 a.m.

When volunteering at school for staff or PTA, please do not bring younger children with you. This is part of the policy for CCPS Volunteer Program and is in place for safety and liability.



2008-2009 School Calendar

Early Dismissal Dates

Please take notice of the early dismissals that are built into this year's calendar. **The following dates are scheduled to have 2 hour and 45 minute early dismissals (Freedom dismissal at 12:20 p.m.):**

February 6th

March 18th

April 8th

May 12th

June 15th

June 16th

GOODSEARCH.COM

Go to www.goodsearch.com and select Freedom Elementary as the non-profit you wish to support. For every internet search you do, we receive a penny. Pennies make dollars!

Returning to the Classroom for Forgotten Items

As a reminder, Freedom Elementary School policy states that children are not permitted to return to the classroom after the school day for forgotten items such as homework, books, etc. There are several purposes behind this policy.

- Students learn at an early age to accept responsibility, especially for their own learning.
- Our building can be a safe, secure environment for those who are working after hours.
- Staff members can complete their duties without interruptions.

Our students are given 15 minutes at the end of the school day to pack up before dismissal, which we believe is more than enough time. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Homework Requests and Vacations

While we recognize that many trips provide valuable learning experiences, the increase we are seeing in lost school time due to vacations is very concerning. Teachers are receiving requests to provide 1-3 weeks worth of work in advance of trips. To prepare this work takes valuable time away from their classroom preparation and from students. When a teacher receives a parent request for homework due to a vacation (minimum 3 school days advance notice) some basic assignments will be provided. All other work will be collected during the course of the absence and will be provided upon return. Please be aware that loss of instructional time due to vacations can have a negative impact on student learning and possibly grades. Many activities are lab or discussion based and cannot be duplicated outside of the classroom.

Budget Hearing Dates

The dates for public presentation, review, and input to the Operating Budget for the Carroll County Public School System for the 2009 - 2010 school year are as follows:

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Public Hearing – South Carroll High School – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Public Hearing/Adoption of Board of Education's Proposed FY 10 Budget

Board Meeting – Room 007 – Board of Education Offices – 1:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of Carroll County does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

The Board of Education of Carroll County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities. Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities, (410) 751-3177. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communication should contact the Office of Community and Media Relations at (410) 751-3020, TTY (410) 751-3034, or write to Carroll County Public Schools, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157 at least one (1) week in advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

Making a Difference Together
SCHEDULED TRAINING SESSIONS
February 2009

Level II Volunteers (classroom helpers, chaperones, mentors, classroom tutors, etc.) are required to attend an annual training session at least seven (7) school days prior to volunteering. Please call the number provided to confirm that the training session is being held on the day and at the time listed on the schedule.

Inclement weather may cause the cancellation of a scheduled training session. Please reference the school system's Inclement Weather Policy, located on Page 20 in the 2008-2009 CCPS Informational Calendar, for specifics.

Allow adequate time so you can arrive at the training location in a timely manner. The training session will begin promptly at the scheduled time, and those arriving after the starting time may be asked to attend another session.

DATE	SCHOOL	TIME	CONTACT
	+ precedes a school event/activity		Please call to verify
	* follows a school event/activity		the scheduled session
	# part of a school event/activity		
February 2	Eldersburg Elementary	7:00 PM	410-751-3520
February 3	Eldersburg Elementary	9:30 AM	410-751-3520
February 4	*Manchester Elementary	5:00 PM	410-751-3410
February 10	+ Wm. Winchester Elem.	6:00 PM	410-751-3230
February 10	Piney Ridge Elementary	6:15 PM	410-751-3535
February 10	Winfield Elementary	7:00 PM	410-751-3242
February 10	West Middle	7:30 p.m.	410-751-3661
February 11	Sandymount Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3215
February 24	Freedom Elementary	9:00 AM	410-751-3525
February 24	South Carroll High	6:30 PM	410-751-3575

CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OUT-OF-DISTRICT REQUESTS FOR THE 2009 - 2010 SCHOOL YEAR

On January 20, 2009, out-of-district applications will be available in school offices. Board policy states that students who attend Carroll County Public Schools shall attend school in their designated attendance area. However, in very specific and limited circumstances, students may be placed in a school outside their attendance area if an approvable circumstance is deemed to exist.

Parents/legal guardians desiring an out-of-district placement for their child should carefully review the list of approvable circumstances listed on the back of the out-of-district application to determine whether the child meets the criteria for approval. The Carroll County Public Schools' out-of-district policy and regulation will be strictly adhered to in making decisions regarding admission of students to schools outside of their assigned attendance area.

The only Carroll County Public Schools designated as "OPEN" for the 2009-2010 school year are as follows:

ELEMENTARY

Cranberry Station Elementary	Mt. Airy Elementary
Ebb Valley Elementary	Parr's Ridge Elementary
Elmer Wolfe Elementary	Robert Moton Elementary
Friendship Valley Elementary	Runnymede Elementary
Hampstead Elementary	Sandymount Elementary
Manchester Elementary	Taneytown Elementary

MIDDLE

New Windsor Middle	Northwest Middle
North Carroll Middle	Shiloh Middle

HIGH

Francis Scott Key High	North Carroll High
Manchester Valley High	South Carroll High

All other Carroll County Public Schools will be designated as "CLOSED" for the 2009-2010 school year. This means that any out-of-district application submitted for placement to a "CLOSED" school for the 2009-2010 school year will be denied unless it meets the limited criteria for admission to a "CLOSED" school.




Parents/legal guardians who plan to submit out-of-district applications for the 2009-2010 school year need to be aware of the following procedures:

- It is the parent's/legal guardian's responsibility to obtain an out-of-district application from the school office or the Student Services Department. These applications will be available on January 20, 2009, but not before. Please be certain that the application obtained is for the 2009-2010 school year. Completed out-of-district applications may not be returned to the school office.
- The deadline for out-of-district applications for the 2009-2010 school year is April 1, 2009. Completed applications must be postmarked or personally delivered by the deadline date to:
 - Carroll County Public Schools
 - Student Services Department
 - 125 North Court Street
 - Westminster, Maryland 21157
- Applications postmarked/received after the deadline date of April 1, 2009 will be returned to the sender without consideration.

QUESTIONS REGARDING OUT-OF-DISTRICT ISSUES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SCHOOL'S PUPIL PERSONNEL WORKER, SHERRY PYLES, AT 410-751-3118.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2009</h1>						
1	2	3	4 7PM PTA Mtg. 5PM Board of Ed. Mtg. Budget Hearing (Rescheduled from January 28)	5	6 Report Cards Go Home 2 hour 45 minute Early Dismissal (12:20PM)	7
8	9	10 7PM Budget Hearing South Carroll High School	11 5PM Board of Ed. Mtg.	12 7PM Market Day Pick-Up	13	14
15	16 Schools/Offices Closed	17 Schools Closed for Students	18	19	20	21
22	23 6-9 PM PTA Restaurant Night at Panera Bread	24 9AM Volunteer Training	25 1PM Board of Ed. Mtg. Public Hearing/Adoption of FY 2010 Budget	26	27	28

FEBRUARY 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				
2 Meatball Sub Chicken Noodle Soup Coleslaw Applesauce Brownie	3 Hamburger or Cheeseburger Tater Tots Fruit Animal Cracker 	4 Chicken Patty on Roll Vegetable Soup Fruit Cookie	5 Breadsticks w/ Meat Sauce Broccoli Peaches Fruit Juice Bar	Pizza Hot Vegetable Fruit Cookie Early Dismissal—No Extras
9 Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Chicken Rice Soup Fresh Veggies w/ Dip Fruit Cookie	10 Orange Juice Scrambled Eggs Sausage Patty Pancake w/ Syrup Baked Cinnamon Apples Breakfast for Lunch	11 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Tossed Salad Garlic Bread Pears Pudding	12 Valentine Chicken Nuggets w/ Choice of Sauces French Fries Fruit Cup Valentine Dessert	Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad Peaches Cookie
16 SCHOOLS CLOSED	17 SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS	18 Oven Baked Cheesesticks w/ Dipping Sauce Tossed Salad Fruit Brownie 	19 Chicken Tenders Potato Rounds Roll Applesauce Orange Crème Bar	Pizza Green Beans Fruit Cookie
23 Popcorn Chicken Hot Vegetable Roll Fruit Cookie	24 Sliced Turkey , Ham & Cheese Sub Chicken Noodle Soup Coleslaw Pears Doughnut	25 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Pizza Soup Orange Wedges Jello	26 Hard or Soft Shell Taco w/ Cheese Shredded Lettuce Corn & Rice Peaches Cracker Trax	Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad Rainbow Apples Cookie