



The Firebird Screams

“Ask not for whom the Firebird screams, he screams for you!” - Fred the Firebird

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Welcome to
the **SCREAMER!**



Greetings, Firebird families! The end of the year is almost here, and we are charging downhill as fast as we can fly, SCREAMing in anticipation of summer! But before we get there, we have just a few more things we need to take care of as we close out the year. So read up and get ready: we're almost out of here!

-Fred the
Firebird

Awards Program

The First Annual Firebird Athletics Awards are being given out on Tuesday evening, May 27th, at 6:00pm at Bible Baptist Church, located at I-85 and Gate #2 Road. All athletes and their families are invited to join us.

Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades will be giving out their academic awards in individual classroom ceremonies – watch for e-mail announcements from the K-1-2 teachers about when each of them is holding their awards programs.

The First Annual FLA Academic Awards Program for grades 3-7 will be Monday June 2nd, 6:00pm, at Richie Bros. Auction Center on I-85. All FLA students and their families are invited and encouraged to attend. The PTA is hosting a “dessert reception” following the program; all parents who want to help and/or contribute dessert items should contact Brandi Chappell, new PTA President, at 919-730-2789 or bran.d.jo76@gmail.com.



Catered Lunches Cease

Mark your calendars: Wednesday, May 28th, is the last day for delivery of catered lunches to the FLA campus. After that day, students must bring their own meals every day through the end of the year.

2014-15 Firebird Apparel Orders

LAST CALL FOR THIS YEAR: We will be ordering t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, sweatpants, hats, parent shirts, and vehicle magnets in June so they will be here when school starts in August. **ORDER DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 28th!** Download an order form from the FLA website or pick one up in the office. The form has been re-designed to make it easier to indicate which colors and sizes you want. Please mark the form carefully and return it, along with a check made out to Falls Lake Academy for the full order amount, no later than **Wednesday May 28th**. Next order won't go in until October, for delivery in time for Christmas.



Parent Volunteer Hours

Redeem Your Volunteer Hours: send an email to the following address: volunteer@fallslakeacademy.com

The information we need in the e-mail:

- Subject Line: < Name > Volunteer Hours
- In the Body of the email:
 - Name: < Name >
 - Date you Volunteered: < Date >
 - Number of Hours: < # of Hours >
 - Volunteer Task Description: < Task Description >



Special Note: Typically, parents can earn volunteer hours' credit for a school year all the way through June 30th of that year, even after classes officially end for kids. Parent volunteer hours earned in the summer "switch over" to the new school year on July 1st.

School and Community Service Hours

Please remember that completion of at least 10 approved School and Community Service Hours is a condition of grade promotion at FLA. Students who don't complete 10 approved hours cannot be promoted. If you are not sure whether or not your child has completed his or her hours, or if you need to get an activity pre-approved for hours' credit, or if you're panicking and need help finding an event or activity that will give your child the hours he or she needs, please contact your child's PAA immediately for answers!

Dress Code

As the weather gets warmer and the sun gets brighter, every school in the country begins to have issues with student compliance with dress code provisions. It's generally true that the older the students, the more the issue pops up. But even elementary school kids are sometimes guilty of pushing the limits when it comes to dress codes. Board policy #4.3600 includes the FLA dress code:

Students are to be attired in clothing that is appropriate for school and for the specific grade level to which they are assigned. When they are not, their parents will be contacted to bring appropriate replacement attire. The following clothing is **NOT** in compliance with these expectations **and is subject to the Principal's interpretation:**

- Hats or non-medical head coverings worn indoors.
- Dark glasses, masks, or any other items which conceal any part of the face.
- Clothing which is clearly intended for wear at places other than school (pajamas, bathing suits, workout clothes, etc.)
- Slogans, symbols, printed text, and/or illustrations which are inappropriate for school (including gang symbols or references to violent and/or otherwise inappropriate clubs or organizations).
- Jewelry and/or accessories that create an atmosphere non-conducive to learning or that can be used as a weapon or which hinders or restricts free movement.
- Overly revealing or provocative clothing (including too-short shorts, skirts, or dresses and too-low tops, shirts, or blouses).
- Visible undergarments.
- Sagging pants or pants worn with the waistband below the waist and/or low on or underneath the buttocks.
- Shirts designed to be worn tucked-in that are worn untucked to hide sagging pants.



EOG Testing Calendar

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| Thursday May 29 th | 3 rd grade Reading |
| Friday May 30 th | 3 rd grade Math |
| Tuesday June 3 rd | 6 th and 7 th grade Science [Note change in date] |
| Wednesday June 4 th | 6 th and 7 th grade Social Studies [Note change in date] |
| Thursday June 5 th | 4 th and 5 th grade Reading |
| Friday June 6 th | 4 th and 5 th grade Math |
| Monday June 9 th | 5 th grade Science, 6 th and 7 th grade English-Language Arts |
| Tuesday June 10 th | 3 rd grade state-mandated EOG re-test, 6 th / 7 th grade Math |

Parenting for the EOG

1. Early to bed on the night before the tests.
2. Good breakfast on the morning of the tests, but not much sugar! And also, not too much food.
3. Get here on time – the state doesn't allow us to wait for late arrivals, and you don't want your child to be required to do a makeup test after school is out.
4. Bring 2 or 3 pre-sharpened #2 pencils on test mornings.
5. Don't stress your child out over the tests! Kids react much more strongly to the way the adults in their lives act than to what they say. Be positive and happy – the tests are important, but they aren't life and death.

Dismissal Time

Parents, please be reminded that we now dismiss at 3:10pm in order to make up enough time from missed snow days so we do NOT have to add days to the end of the year. It's important that we keep to this schedule in order to stay in compliance with State Board of Education regulations. Please help us out by keeping patient at the end of the day, and remember that we really must insist that all students stay in school all the way through the 3:10 dismissal time at the end of the day. Thanks!



High School Plan

After much discussion, the FLA Board of Directors has approved the operational and educational plan for Falls Lake Academy High School, which will open its doors with its first entering freshman class in August, 2015. The Plan is both ambitious and rigorous, with a seriously strong emphasis on college preparation. The Plan is posted on the FLA website; we encourage all parents, especially parents of current middle school students, to check it out and read it very thoroughly. In September, we are planning a meeting of all next year's 8th grade students and their parents to go over the expectations for FLA High School in detail. In the meantime, read the Plan and start developing the questions you may want to ask at the September meeting!

We're Moving



Hooray!! The new FLA building is almost ready, and we're making plans to move in! Moving days have officially been designated for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (if needed) June 20th, 21st, and 22nd. We still don't know if we will be allowed to move all our stuff into the building itself on those days, but if not, we still have to move it out of the trailers since they are scheduled to be taken out of here on Monday June 23rd. [If we can't get into the building, we'll be moving everything into a row of storage trailers which will be set up in the parking lot until we can get in; then we'll have to move it again when the building is finally ready.]

So here's what we need: lots of volunteer ADULTS (no one under 18 allowed) on those designated moving days: Friday-Saturday June 20-21, and Sunday June 22 if needed.

The more adults we can get to help, the quicker this will go. And yes, volunteer hours earned by helping us move will count towards either this current school year or next school year, whichever you need.

So come out on the 20th and 21st and join us in our new building move-in party!

2014-15 Kickoff

Mark your calendars now: school starts next year for students on **Monday, August 18th**. [That's a week earlier than Granville County Schools starts classes.] Our Open House and Intake session for new students will be held on **Thursday August 14th** (time TBA). Firebird apparel will be ready for pick-up then, along with all kinds of important information, and the new building will be open for everybody to wander through and take a look at. It's gonna be GREAT!

Director of Development

The FLA Board of Directors is looking to appoint someone to the volunteer position of Director of Development. This person will be responsible for coordinating information, correspondence, and solicitation of donations, both monetary and otherwise, for use by the school and its various classes and programs. If you are interested in this job, please send a letter outlining your background, experience, and expertise with similar pursuits to the FLA Board of Directors. You can either mail it or e-mail it to Dr. D; he will see to it that it gets to the Board. Thank you!

OK Gang, that's it for this time. Fred the Firebird here, wishing all you Firebird families out there the happiest and most awesome summer ever! Great Good Luck on the EOGs, coming up in the next few days. See you next year, starting with Open House / Intake on Thursday, August 14th. We'll be SCREAMing atcha!

- Fred the Firebird