

# Fairland Flyer

Flying Far With Education

Fairland Elementary School

June 4, 2008

## President's Letter

Dear Fairland Community,

It is truly hard to believe that the 2007-2008 school year is almost at a close. A great big thanks to the commitment of all of our volunteers who made this year possible. Special thanks to our outgoing parents who contributed their valuable time and energy to Fairland Elementary School and kept the PTA torch burning brightly during the years their children attended the school.

To all our graduating 5th graders, on behalf of the PTA, I say congratulations and best of luck in your new schools. Each one of you brought your own special gifts to Fairland Elementary School and will carry many great talents over to your new school community.

To our ongoing parents, we want to again say thank you. Thanks to everyone who signed up in the PTA for committee responsibilities in 2008-2009. I am looking forward to working together as we advocate for our children in order to make a positive and meaningful impact on their lives. As the children work hard on their own physical, social and emotional growth, it is never too late for us as adult parents to want to become better people because of our commitment to our children. As PTA parents, we get to try anew to work together respectfully, peacefully and with civility once again in 2008-2009 school year.

It is with great excitement that we welcome a new set of parents to walk the halls of Fairland, to worry and fuss over their children and try to help their teachers. They bring a fresh new batch of ideas and diversity to our Fairland community. Please join me in welcoming each family wholeheartedly as the acceptance they get is the first step to determine their level of parent involvement.

At the start of the 2007-2008, I signed on as PTA President because of my commitment to helping children. At the close of this year my energy, focus and agenda for next school year remains unwavering in keeping with the PTA mission, which is to work to provide an equal voice for all children.

Just like the school year came and went, late August will be here faster than anyone can imagine, so enjoy the time off from PTA responsibilities. I wish for everyone a safe and fun-filled summer. Have fun making wonderful memories with your children!

Sincerely,  
Carla Austin, Fairland Elementary School PTA President  
caustin@enllc.net

## Special Points of Interest:

- Sock Hop, June 6, 7:00—9:00 pm
- Fifth Grade Promotion, June 10, 10:15 am
- Pre-order school supplies for next year by June 10 and your child may win a prize (see back page for details)
- Last Day of School, June 12, Early Release
- Our website: [www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/fairlandes/](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/fairlandes/)

## Fairland E-mail Group

If you are not already signed up for our PTA email group, please send your email address to Kim Gibbs at [kim\\_a\\_gibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:kim_a_gibbs@hotmail.com).

The Yahoo group distributes valuable information about what is happening in and around our school.



We love your children! Please keep reading with them and talking with them.



Remember, you are their role models!

Have a terrific summer break.

Kindergarten Communications

We are so excited about how hard our students have worked this year! The results of our spring testing are proof of their hard work! Way to go! We are continuing our work on living things. We had a great time visiting The Smith Center to observe many living things. We also went to Toby's to watch Seussical the Musical. We wish everyone a wonderful, safe summer.

### First Grade Flash

It is hard to believe that we are ending another school year. The first grade classes are studying weather in science, money, fractions, and estimation in math, and reading books by Arnold Lobel and Ezra Jack Keats. They are learning to write their own stories by adding details to the characters, setting, problem, and solution.



In addition to reading, math, and writing, the first grade classes will be tie-dying tee shirts, visiting the Baltimore Zoo on June 5th, and enjoying a picnic at school on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

The first grade team would like to thank those of you who chaperoned our field trip to Imagination Stage and those of you who are planning to go to the Baltimore Zoo with us. We appreciate the support each of you has given your children this school year.

We should never stop learning, and it is important that your child use the summer to learn something new. Please check your child's backpack for the summer math packet. Although what is covered in the packet is a review, included could be something that was not mastered during the year. The packet should be returned to school when we return in the fall.

It has been a pleasure to watch your child grow academically this school year. Our hope is that you and your loved ones will enjoy a healthy and relaxing summer.

Summer Vacation

## Second Grade Scoop

On May 29th the second graders explored the national monuments and memorials in Washington, D.C. This was an extension of our last social studies unit on Biographies and Influential Leaders of the United States. The students explored the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial and the Jefferson Monument (among others) to find answers to their scavenger hunt questions. Thank you to all the parents who helped to chaperone our trip.

The second grade team has an end of the year picnic each year. We will be holding the picnic on Wednesday, June 11th. During the morning the students will be rotating to our different classrooms for fun activities. Then for lunch they will feast on hot dogs, fruit, cookies, and juice boxes. We still need parents to donate food and drinks and their time. Please check your child's backpack for a flyer with more information about how to help make this day fantastic for the second graders.

All students will be coming home, in June, with a summer reading and math packet. Please keep these in a safe place and have your child work on them throughout the summer. One suggestion would be to make a set time each day for the students to read and practice their math. The students will also be coming home with a summer box. This box will hold activities that they can do on summer days (rain or shine).

## Third Grade Tidings

The end is finally in sight. The third grade team would like to thank all of the parents who assisted in class this year. You make a huge difference.

Please look for Summer Reading and Summer Math packets to come home with your child. The math packet will help keep the children current on the math concepts they learned this year, though the greatest help you can provide is to be sure that each student can rapidly recall all of the basic math facts. The reading packet will help motivate the students to read and write this summer. Please encourage your child to continue keeping a list of the titles that have been read. Also, consider participating in the Montgomery County Public Library's summer reading program.

Have a safe and educational summer.

### Summer School Opportunities

This year Fairland Elementary is one of the locations for summer school.

For more information please contact:

<http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/extendedhours/summerschool>

301.279.3202

## Fourth Grade Findings

What a wonderful and eventful 4<sup>th</sup> Grade School Year! Welcome Carly Irene Jacobs, Mrs. Jacobs' newborn daughter! We are so happy you are here! Thank you to our maternity substitute, Mrs. Slatkin. We could not have completed the year without your help! We want to wish Mrs. Marriott the best in her future endeavors. Fourth Grade will not be the same without you!

This quarter our Investigators searched through the Mystery Genre, looking for clues, cliffhangers, and red herrings! We also composed personal poetry anthologies and hosted a Poet's Tea on June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 -1:00, in our classrooms. Please ask to hear your child's poetry! Over the summer, encourage your child to continue searching for Just Right Books. Take a field trip to the library and sample the different genres of literature - Non-Fiction, Science Fiction, Poetry, Tall Tales, or Plays.

This quarter our Mathematicians calculated metric and customary units of measurement. We explored area, perimeter, capacity, and volume! Parents, please continue to practice multiplication and division facts with your child every day! Over the summer, take advantage of teachable moments. For example, when you are in the grocery store, ask your child how much 3 bags of \$1.99 rice will cost. If you go to an amusement park, ask if 35 riders will fit on a roller coaster if 2 are in a car, and there are 15 cars. For more math ideas, visit [www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Math](http://www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Math)

Have a wonderful, restful, and safe summer!  
See you in the fall!

To celebrate the many accomplishments of our students, we will have a Luau on June 10<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 - 3:00. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents, and siblings who helped our students succeed this year! To prepare for next year, we encourage all students to complete the summer reading and math packets.

## Fifth Grade Footnotes

It's hard to believe that our 5<sup>th</sup> graders will soon be moving on to a new phase in their lives – middle school! We will celebrate their accomplishments at our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Closing Ceremony on Tuesday, June 10. It will be held at 10:15 am in the All Purpose room. We hope you can join us!

In the meantime, we have been busy working on a variety of projects. In language arts, the students have been studying tall tales. Each of them chose a tall tale to read, and made a poster about the tall tale character. Also, each class performed 3 tall tale plays. The students worked hard to memorize their lines, and made scenery, props, and costumes. They really enjoyed the chance to dramatize some of their favorite tall tale stories.

In May the 5<sup>th</sup> grade took 2 field trips. First, we attended a performance of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra at Strathmore Music Center in Rockville, MD. Next, we spent the day in Philadelphia visiting such historic sites as the Liberty Bell, Betsy Ross' house, and the U.S. Mint. We'd like to thank all the parent chaperones who came along to help us that day!

Have a wonderful summer, and please help your child continue reading during the summer months.



Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to everyone who helped with recent PTA events:

- Staff Appreciation Lunch Donators and Volunteers
- Fairland PTA Kids' Flea Market Volunteers and Vendors
- PTA Movie Night Volunteers

**Thank you from the PTA to all of our staff, parent, and family volunteers who helped to make our events for the 2007-08 academic year a success. We look forward to working with everyone again next year.**

**Next Year's PTA Looking for Volunteers**

- Cluster Representative (attends evening mtgs once per month and learns about our local elementary, middle, and high school issues)
- FLES Coordinator (for the Spanish and French before/after school program at Fairland)
- Spring Friday Night Event (help plan a fun event for Fairland's families)
- Recycling printer cartridges/cell phones (box and mail items so the PTA can earn funds)
- Audit Committee (if you can balance your checkbook we need you to help review our treasurer records, CPAs and non-accountants are welcome)
- Main fundraiser (help select our fundraiser for next year)
- Newsletter (put together this newsletter in MS Word or Publisher)
- Special Needs Coordinator (join the Special Needs list serve and keep our PTA informed of relevant issues)

If you can help, contact Carla Austin at [caustin@enllc.net](mailto:caustin@enllc.net) or call 301-879-7000



Cultural Arts Concert 4/22/08 - Andes Manta brought the rainforest alive at Fairland on Earth Day.

**Book Fair Volunteers:**

A HUGE thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped out during the Scholastic Book Fair!.....Amy, Anne, Annette, Carla K, Dina, Donna, Jill, Linda, Louise, Mariela, Mark, Marlene, Michele, Njeri, Patricia, Toni, and Vanessa. Special thanks to Stacy for her assistance "behind the scenes." Thanks also go out to our set-up and break down crews: Maddi, Emma, Teddi, Irene, Andrea, & Danielle; and Livia & Georgia. The book fair could not go on without you!!

Suzie & Andrea

**REACH Update — To all our students, teachers and parents/guardians:**

Thank you for all of your support during our REACH week fundraiser. To date, we have earned \$7,528! More importantly, the school read a total of 159,870 minutes both at home and in the classroom! Congratulations to you all!

A BIG thanks to Donna Kassel for organizing the entire fundraiser!



## What does it mean to be a Number One Super Citizen at Fairland?



- It means that through teacher direction a student answers a question in oral or written form about a specific character goal each month.
- It means that the words of the Super Citizen are read over the announcements and put in the main hallway so that other students may be taught what good character and behavior is from their own peer group.
- It means that the Super Citizen gets to keep an elementary school award and a memory of an honor bestowed because of his or her own thoughts and effort.

Fairland's fantastic teaching staff deserves accolades for using the Super Citizen slips as writing prompts and for teaching our students the character concepts which can also be known as "character traits" in our Reading/Language Arts program.

The following teachers are to be recognized for providing their classes with an opportunity to be a Super Citizen for every month of the school year 2007-2008: Ennis, Shields, Austin, Kerth, Menter, Robinson, Klumpp, DiFonzo, Jones, Ysern, Grabowski, Jacobs, Marriott, Blake, Collins, and Hester. Mrs. Rious participated as a specialist to recognize good character and behavior in her music classes.

A real hero of this program is Cheryl Johnson, a parent of Fairland graduates and a lunch hour aide. Cheryl spends hours and hours to insure that every child's Super Citizen slip is read over announcements, displayed in the main hallway and then made into an attractive award for keeping. The time spent and the care with which Cheryl does this is truly appreciated by Fairland staff and students.

Last, but not least, there is Mr. Douglas Blake, who makes sure the fifth graders read this positive student-to-student teaching mechanism over the daily announcements. The wonder of this is that what students write stays with them and what they hear others say gives them the opportunity to choose to try the same behaviors for positive attention and character. We at Fairland do hope this promotes a positive school culture which will influence them to live a lifetime of good choices for success.

*You can still help us raise money over the summer.*

- √ Box Tops for Education: Earn cash for our school when buying groceries. Clip the box tops and send them to school with your child.
- √ Giant Food A+ BonusBucks: A+ BonusBucks are points that accrue with each purchase using the BonusCard. Sign up at [http://www.giantfood.com/aplus/aplus\\_pin.htm](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus/aplus_pin.htm).

- √ Safeway eScrip: Safeway, through the eScrip program, will donate a percentage of the purchase price on selected products. Don't forget to designate Fairland Elementary School as that organization at <http://www.escrip.com>.
- √ Recycle used printer cartridges and cell phones through our program at school.
- √ Clip and save Campbells Soup labels to earn educational materials for our school: <http://www.labelsforeducation.com>.
- √ Designate Fairland PTA when you purchase Verizon products. Call 1-888-695-5299 and give them tracking code 1145.

**Supply Bundles Available for purchase from the PTA for 2008-2009!!**

1. Pre-Order your child's teacher approved school supplies from the PTA today!
2. Sign-up to join the PTA for next year and receive a discount on your bundle!

Children who order by Tuesday, June 10 will receive:

1. A goodie bag of treats on the last day of school!
2. A chance to win a valuable summer entertainment package!

Questions?  
 Contact Carla  
 Austin at  
[caustin@enllc.net](mailto:caustin@enllc.net)  
 or call  
 301-879-7000

**COST OF BUNDLES:**

Kindergarten	\$38.99
First Grade	37.99
Second Grade	37.99
Third Grade	49.99
Fourth Grade	44.99
Fifth Grade	38.99

To sign up to be a PTA Member  
 ADD \$10 then subtract the  
 following amount from the total:

Kindergarten	-\$3.32
First Grade	-3.24
Second Grade	-3.24
Third Grade	-4.26
Fourth Grade	-3.83
Fifth Grade	-3.32

ADD 6% MD Sales Tax

**The Fairland PTA**

The Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) at Fairland Elementary School is a non-profit volunteer organization which strives to improve the education, socialization and community action of its students, teachers and families. Membership in the PTA is \$10 per adult and entitles a paid member to voting rights in the PTA. All parents, regardless of membership, are invited to participate in meetings, discussions and events. Our meetings are typically on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning at 7:00 p.m. with social time. The business meeting starts one half hour later in the school's All Purpose Room. Reminders will go home on flyers in your child's backpack. Membership monies are used to support the fun and educational events planned throughout the school year for our students and their families.

The entire PTA welcomes you to volunteer your time to assist with a committee, an event or a position in the PTA. Please contact Carla Austin, PTA President, if you are able to volunteer an hour, a day or commit to a year-long role on the PTA: [caustin@enllc.net](mailto:caustin@enllc.net) or 301-879-3190.

Fairland Elementary School

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 Silver Spring, Maryland 20905 Fax: 301-989-5769

Mrs. Tillie Garfinkel, Principal  
 Mrs. Stacey Dunn, Assistant Principal

• Flying Far With Education!

**We're on the Web!**

[www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/fairlandes/](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/fairlandes/)