



ON THE LEVEL

ISSUES COMING UP



Best wishes for a happy holiday season!

Inside this issue:

Prepare for Mid-Year Conferences.	1
January 10th—the Proposed FY 2014 School Budget	1
Stay informed of school news that will affect you.	1
Make some plans before winter storms.	1
For a change of pace, visit the National Portrait Gallery.	2
Apply for an FCFT grant or scholarship soon.	2
FCFT-703-451-6840 and www.fcft.org	2

During the month of December, you should be thinking about and getting ready for the Mid-Year Conference if you are in your Summative Year. Familiarize your selves with Best Practices and what that means. Review your SMARTR goal update. Be sure to work on the Documentation Logs by having 1-3 Artifacts per student. Complete your training requirement.

In other school news FCPS is in the final stage of preparing next year's FY 2014 Proposed Budget. Superintendent Dale will release the Proposed Budget FY 2014 to the School Board on January 10, 2013. The School Board and the Board of Supervisors have met and discussed the County's financial situation with its dwindling

revenues. FCPS has also noted that more than 2000 new students are expected to join the schools next September. The January 10th meeting is just the beginning of many more months of public hearings with the community and interested parties. The School Board and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will meet also and an amount of transfer money will be decided upon.

The final FY 2014 Budget will be adopted by the Fairfax County School Board on May 23, 2013.

FCFT WILL BE CLOSED DURING FCPS' WINTER BREAK.

PREPARE FOR THE WINTER AHEAD

Be sure to get ready now for the possible harsh winter days ahead. Check that you have flashlights and extra batteries. Buy a battery-powered or hand-crank radio. Have some extra blankets and warm clothing for each member of your household. The Red Cross also suggests that you have

extra drinking water on hand and food that is non-perishable and easy to prepare. Don't forget a manual can opener, also. Remember to keep your cell phone charged. Try to get ready now for possible electricity outages that can occur with a storm.

LOOKING FOR A TREAT?

Over the coming holidays you might be looking for something to do that will be enjoyable and free. Think about a visit to the National Portrait Gallery at Eighth and F Streets NW in Washington, DC 20001. Currently on view is Poetic Likeness: Modern American Poets.

The exhibition will be at the gallery until April 28, 2013. The display will feature portraits and audiovisual clips of American poets reading their own works. The poets are Robert Frost,

Ezra Pound,
Marianne Moore,
Langston Hughes,
Walt Whitman, and
Allan Ginsburg.

The National Portrait gallery is dedicated to the exhibition and study of portraits of people who have made significant contributions to American history and culture.



Plan a visit to the National Portrait Gallery, part of the Smithsonian Institution.

A REMINDER ABOUT FCFT GRANTS!

Keep in mind that there is still time to apply for FCFT's scholarship and grant programs. Applications are now available.

- Deadline for completed applications is April 30, 2012.
- All applications will be forwarded to the scholarship committee for review.

- Awarded applicants will be notified and you will receive a scholarship award in May.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered for review.

For more information or to request an application, call the office (703) 451-6840 x 207 (Gayle Burgoyne) or e-mail her at gayleburgoyne@fcft.org.



**Call FCFT at
703-451-6840.**

JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY

Now that December is here and we are well into the school year, some of you may be having some issues with your observation report or school situations. Don't just brood over something that might be changed if you talk to one of our FCFT labor specialists. They can provide advice and assistance that will give you the

resolve to know what the right path is. Often someone simmers over a problem for too long. We are here every day to help resolve difficulties. Sometimes talking with another person can help you come up with solutions. Call us for your own peace of mind.