



ON THE LEVEL

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

You are well into the school year now with mid-year evaluations coming soon. Winter break may give you some time to think about your position in the School System. You may be wondering what to do about certain situations. Then, it is probably time to call us. If you have questions about your professional employment, and you are uncertain where to call, call FCFT. We may be able to answer your questions, but if not, we can send you to the proper sources within FCPS for an answer. Questions about contracts, assignments, memo's for your school file, or breaches of confidentiality can be directed to FCFT. Ask for a Labor-Relations Specialist. Also if you are asked to sign and backdate a document, contact us.

Don't sign a letter of resignation without contacting FCFT immediately. Another situation for which you have to be very careful is if an incident occurs in your classroom. If you are uncertain of any ramifications which may come to you, contact FCFT as soon as possible. You need to protect yourself. And FCFT wants to protect you, too. Call 703-451-6840.

LEAVING A MESSAGE



We always urge you to call the FCFT office when you have a school concern or issue with which you might be wrestling. We have Labor-Relations Specialists who are here to talk with and support you. Speaking in confidence can help alleviate your distress. Please call the office at 703-451-6840.

If you call after office hours and leave a message, please speak slowly when saying your telephone number where you can be reached. We are here to help!



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FCFT Office - 703-451-6840	

SPECIAL POINT OF INTEREST:

The FCFT office will be closed during Winter Break.

THE DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY MARKET

The 11th Annual Downtown Holiday Market has returned and will run from November 27 to December 23, 2015. The hours are from noon to 8 pm daily. The market is located on the F Street sidewalk in front of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery between 7th and 9th Streets, NW. The market is easily accessible from the Gallery Place Metro stop.

The market will feature more than 150 artisans, crafters, and boutique businesses. Some available gift items are jewelry, pottery, paintings, and textiles. About 60 exhibitors are expected each day. Exhibitors will rotate daily, and the selection of goods available will be different each day.

At the market you will find lively seasonal music, food, and sweet treats. The Holiday Market has been described as a “unique, festive shopping village” where you might be able to find any gifts which you need!

www.dccool.com/downtown-holiday-market-DC



THE FCPS BUDGET

The Budget Task Force was appointed to study all FCPS programs and services. Their task was to study every program and make recommendations to reduce, eliminate or modify existing programs. After many meetings over the past several months, the Budget Task Force recommendations were made public on November 9th when they were presented to the School Board. It is important to remember that though the recommendations have been published, no decisions have been made.

The next few months will see the budget process continue with many meetings between the Fairfax County School Board, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and community members before they reach a decision on the FY 2017 Budget. That final decision will occur on May 26, 2016.

Please read the recently released FCPS Compensation Study, soon!

BE PREPARED



It's now December and we need to get ready for some snow and ice. Some predictions are that this area will get more storms and precipitation than it did last year. If you've lived here for a few years, you know that you can leave home in the morning on dry roads and return after school in snow. It takes just a small amount of snow for the roads to get slippery and congested. Try to listen to the local media for updates on the weather warnings and road conditions, so you can be prepared. Most of the time we get current news about approaching storms. It might be a good idea to put a blanket and scarf in your car along with some flashlights. Many folks here can tell you stories of being in their cars for hours trying to get back home in the evening!