



Please update your personal information for us, including name or school changes. Remember to send us a current, private phone number and e-mail address.

We never give your contact information out to anyone else; our ability to contact you quickly is to your benefit.

Thank you in advance!

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FCFT Office Phone - 703-451-6840

ON THE LEVEL

September, 2014

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to school! We hope that you had a good opening and have settled into a routine in your classroom. FCFT will keep you updated on items of concern to teachers, so be sure to read the updates and e-mail we send out to you.

Labor-relations specialists are here in the FCFT office to assist you with teacher and instructional-assistant issues. Please call for advice if you need it. Sometimes all you need is a telephone call to us which will relieve anxiety and give you peace of mind. If we require more information, we will set up an appointment with you. An office appointment must be

scheduled in advance. When you call, we ask for your name so that we know we are giving our time to a union member. Whatever you say will be confidential. We are here to serve you. If you are worried about a school problem, call us first. We will help you.



KEEP GOOD RECORDS!

One of the things that all teachers should do is keep accurate employment and licensure records. You need to keep a folder at home with everything that pertains to your employment. Anything left in your classroom may be viewed by administrators and others. Since employment documents pertain to your position, they are always confidential and should be

kept safely at home. If you receive written documents from the School System, keep them at home. We have had members tell us that they don't read or keep what is mailed to them. This is unfortunate. Our office has occasionally seen an inaccuracy when a member is ready to retire. You never know when an error could occur. Watch out for yourself.



VA AFL-CIO held their annual meeting in August.

You must renew your teaching license every five years in Virginia. Do not wait. It is better to accumulate your points early, than to be rushed at the end.



AFL-CIO MET IN AUGUST

The annual Virginia AFL-CIO meeting was held in Williamsburg in August. Several FCFT members attended. Governor McAuliffe came to speak along with the VA Lt. Governor, and the VA Attorney General. They all support Medicaid Expansion in Virginia saying that Virginians are paying taxes that are going to other states. Some people realize that there are problems with the Affordable Care Act, but the governor thinks we can fix the problems by examining what we like and what we need to fix for our state.

VA Senator John Warner, who is running for re-election, spoke the second day and outlined the five issues that he plans to work upon if he is re-elected. He listed jobs-creation as his first priority. He said that the US tax code should change so that American jobs don't go overseas. Currently, Mexico and Canada are competing against the US and that makes things more difficult. He supports building the Keystone pipeline, so that Europe won't be dependent on Russian oil and will be able to use the oil from North America. Senator Warner is very concerned with US infrastructure and said that the government must spend more money on infrastructure. He also supports pay equity and raising the minimum wage.



REMEMBER TO VOTE - November 4, 2014

Election Day is coming up in Virginia. If you are already registered, you don't have to do so again. People with new Virginia addresses should register in order to participate. October 14th is the last day to register to vote.

Fairfax County has information on-line for you. Go the main Fairfax County Government Page for more detailed information. Virginia Voters will elect

members to the US House of Representatives from the 8th, 10th, and 11th Congressional Districts. Also, voters will elect a Senator to the US Senate. On Election Day, November 4, 2014, the polls are open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.