

ON THE LEVEL

Volume 16; Issue 6
September, 2015



Do not use your cell phone when you are with students. We have seen negative evaluation comments regarding teachers on cell phones when they are supposed to be monitoring students.

Inside this issue:

- FCFT welcomes all of you! 1
- Keep your private records at home. 1
- See the principals voted best by you! 2
- AFL-CIO met in August. 2
- November 3rd is coming soon. 2
- Register to vote if you are new here. 2
- FCFT Office
703-451-6840

A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome back to school! We hope things are going well for you. FCFT is here to help you if you need advice or assistance with any problems that arise. The FCFT president is Steve Greenburg. Steve spends a great deal of time attending meetings with the School Board, the Leadership Team, and the Board of Supervisors. He advocates for FCPS employees all year long. Sally Todd is the Executive Director. Working along-side Sally in the office as full-time Labor-Relations Specialists are Pearl Raikin, Margaret Panik, and Yolanda Maldonado. They are here to serve you with your needs.

FCPS continues to grow larger with more than 188, 000 students and money is tight. Superintendent Garza formed a Budget Task Force in June to examine all FCPS programs to decide which services could be reduced or possibly eliminated because of a hundred million dollar shortfall expected in the 2016-2017 school year. The Task Force has been meeting for the past few months and will continue to meet to assist the Superintendent in preparing the FY 2016-2017 Budget for the School System. Steve Greenburg is a member of the committee. Steve is also a full-time Elementary teacher in FCPS, and ours is the only organization whose president also teaches. Be sure to read FCFT Updates from Steve on your e-mail.



A FEW TIPS FOR YOU

Be sure to keep all of your confidential records (hard copy) concerning your employment in a folder at home. Things are not secure in your classroom and could be reviewed by administrators and others. Be sure to read anything mailed to you from the School System and VRS. The FCFT office has occasionally found a discrepancy when someone is ready to retire. If you are mailed a document, it is usually important and needs to be read and saved at home. You need to watch out for yourself and your records. Mistakes can happen, including those on-line.

FCFT'S BEST PRINCIPALS

Last spring FCFT asked members to vote for the best principals in FCPS. FCFT members voted for the following principals as the best for the 2014-2015 school year. Congratulations to them!



Greg Brotemarkle - Terra Centre Elementary School
 Jesse Kraft - Providence Elementary School
 Melaney Mackin - Silverbrook Elementary School
 Maureen Marshall - Stratford Landing Elementary School
 Lonnie T. Bickel - Pulley Career Center
 Ronald James - Kilmer Middle School
 Alexander Case - West Potomac High School
 David Jagels - Centreville High School
 Nardos King - Mt. Vernon High School
 Jeffrey Litz - Marshall High School
 David Thomas - Lake Braddock Secondary School
 Michael Yohe - Falls Church High School

VIRGINIA AFL-CIO CONFERENCE

In August several members of FCFT were delegates to the AFL-CIO Convention in Williamsburg. The Credentials Report said that 180 members were registered. The group decided which politicians they would support in the November elections for the VA House of Delegates and the VA Senate. Governor Terry McAuliffe addressed the group and cited his accomplishments for the state in working on Virginia economic development. Lt. Governor Ralph Northam, who is a Norfolk pediatric neurologist, said that economic development equals a world-class education. He said he is very interested in early childhood development, good nutrition, access to immunizations, and healthy life styles.

LOCAL ELECTIONS COMING

Tuesday, November 3, 2015, is fast approaching. On that date you will have the opportunity to vote for members to the Virginia Senate and the Virginia House of Delegates. In Fairfax County you will vote for the Board of Supervisors, School Board, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Directors, Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth's Attorney, and the Sheriff. You must be registered by October 13 if you are planning to vote. New voter registrations are accepted year-round, and they are available at most public libraries, DMV offices, and the state and local government offices. More information is on line at www.vote.virginia.gov. If you prefer, call the General Registrar at 703-222-0776. Your vote counts!

Please update your name and school changes with FCFT. Also list a current private phone number and e-mail address. We never give out your contact information to anyone else. You can e-mail the office at www.fcft.org or call the office at 703-451-6840.

