

.: **PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE**

1-We would like to welcome Dante' Tabron and wish all the best to Isaac Levinson and Joy Vitbesky in their new school.

2-We have a large number of items in the Lost and Found. We will donate all the items to the Salvation Army next Friday, December 13,2002. Please check to see if any of the items belong to your child.

3 -There still seems to be quite a few rumors floating around the school. If you hear any of them, please contact the administration or any of the board members for confirmation or denial. Only through communication can we prevent this sort of thing from harming our reputation.

FSA is on the right track with 234 students. We have achieved a lot of success in the first 4 months. Students are improving academically, Our resources in the media center are increasing through the help of parents. Progress reports and report cards are sent out in a timely fashion. You should be getting weekly progress reports via email from each teacher. After school activities are running smoothly .CRCT practice tests are been given to students to get them acquainted with the multiple choice test format and the content of the CRCT Tests. We are currently analyzing the results. Students have access to the Worldbook Encyclopedia at home over the internet. Most importantly, FSA Students are enjoying learning Science and Math with the innovative techniques of our highly regarded math and science curricula .We have one of the highest student to computer ratios in the area for our computer classes and on line activities in the Labs and Media Center. With the introduction of the LSAC you now have yet another means of communication with teachers, the administration and Board Members along with e mail or telephone. We have a newsletter that is very informative and posted on the FSA Web Site which is sent to you electronically every week. Ms.Tina Kriske, parent volunteer, is running the Drop Everything and Read(DEAR) program. We have enough personnel to serve both our students and their educational needs. Of course, we still have more goals before us and they will be met with your support,

Please be patient and continue to support us as we work through this first, most difficult year. Everyone on the board,all our students, teachers, parents, and administrators have accomplished a great deal so far. Things are being done beyond expectations for a brand new charter school.

If you have any contact information that needs to be updated, please notify the school so that we may remain in contact with you.

I would encourage you to visit our fantastic web site www.fultonscience.org. It is perhaps the best charter school web site in the entire state and we are very proud of it. If you haven't seen it, please do so and check out some of the great links for our Geo Bee. You won't be disappointed!

You should be receiving a report on your child's performance on the practice CRCT today.

4- There will be a school wide field trip to the Fern Bank Museum on Tuesday, December 17th. Information concerning the field trip was sent home with the students today.

.: **YEARBOOK SALES ARE GOING ON NOW!!!!**

Students who wish to purchase a copy of the first yearbook for FSA may do so. The cost of the book is \$26 if you purchase before January. After January, the price will be slightly higher. Checks should be made payable to FSA. All forms need to be turned into Mrs. Teeling.



.: GEORGIA DEPT. OF EDUCATION SURVEYS

Parents, this year the Georgia Department of Education (DOE) is conducting a study to determine how charter schools are being implemented in Georgia and how they are impacting student achievement. The study includes performance monitoring of school activities and surveys of parents and teachers at charter schools. We distributed the survey forms to your children on Thursday, December 5th. Please complete the survey and return it to the school or you may mail it in the postage paid envelope by December 12, 2002. Thank you for your cooperation.

.: CANNED FOOD DRIVE STILL GOING ON

The canned food drive at FSA will be ending on December 16th. At that time canned food collected, along with items remaining in Lost and Found will be donated to the Salvation Army. Please encourage you child to check Lost and Found for any missing items. Thanks.



.: THANK YOU

Mrs. Tallent wishes to thank all of the parents who submitted recipes and sent in food for the Colonial Thanksgiving Feast. The food was delicious and we had a good time.

.: NEWS FROM THE PVO

We will be having a book fair all next week (December 9-13). All proceeds from the Book Fair will go to the Media Center. The hours of the book fair will be 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. daily and 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11th. The PVO is still in need of volunteers. Anyone interested in helping should contact Linda Plemmons at 770-754-4668 or Gina McCullough at ext. 150.

The "Geo Bee" was held today. Results will be printed in the next newsletter.

Parents: if you have not returned your volunteer form and directory update form, please do so as soon as possible.

The PVO is still in need of donations. If you wish to contribute, but haven't done so, you may send your donations in to the front office. Checks should be made payable to FSA PVO.

This week's mind bender puzzle winner is Alex Westbrook.

The PVO is selling window clings, flyer attached, please return to the front office if you wish to purchase.

Don't forget to use your Kroger and Publix commitment cards, and send in your boxtops.

.: IMPORTANT REMINDERS

The 2nd installment for both the Georgia and Washington, D.C. is now due. If 2nd installment isn't received, your child's seat may be given away. Sign-Up Sheets for Afterschool Activities are due by December 13th. We have sign-up sheets available in the front office or online at our website. Forms should be returned to Mr. Conrad.

.: DATES TO REMEMBER

December 7 Board Meeting
 December 9-13 Book Fair
 December 11 PVO Meeting 7 p.m.
 December 20 Semester Ends
 December 23 Winter Break Begins

.: FROM THE DESK OF GINA HOLLOMAN

In an effort to provide clarity as it relates to FSA disciplinary procedures, I will review our current disciplinary processes with regard to how FSA categorizes conduct infractions, assigns consequences, and informs parents of their child's disciplinary interactions.

MAJOR MISCONDUCT

**Major misconduct results in an immediate office referral. Major misconduct is also documented on a student's permanent discipline transcript. Major misconduct refers to fighting, AWOL, profanity, obscenity, weapons, drugs, alcohol, smoking, assault and/or battery, defacing and/or destroying property, gross insubordination, stealing or extortion, forgery of passes, excuses, or any other forms, or repeated minor-level offenses.

**Once a major infraction occurs, an investigation ensues, after which consequences (if appropriate) are assigned and parents are notified both by phone and by written notice.

**Consequences for major misconduct range from a warning or restitution, to detention, ISS, OSS, or expulsion depending on the duration, frequency, and intensity of the violation and the students* prior discipline record and other related information.

**Six formal office referrals within one academic year result in a board disciplinary hearing for possible expulsion.

MINOR MISCONDUCT

**Minor misconduct (up to 2 incidents) is referred to the intervention room for the period in which the infraction occurred. However, repetitive minor offenses, i.e., 3 or more misconduct referrals and/or 4 or more reports of tardiness, in one semester, result in a major office referral. Minor misconduct refers to tardiness, continuous verbal disruptions, horseplay, out-of-seat behavior, peer conflict, unprepared for class, and/or refusal to participate.

**When a minor misconduct occurs the student is sent to the intervention room with an assignment and a misconduct referral from the assigning teacher.

**Consequences for minor misconduct are standardized below as follows:

Tardiness	# of Infractions	Consequence	Parent Communication
	1-2	Intervention Room for the tardy period	Call
	3	Lunch Detention	Letter
	4	Referral/1 Day ISS	Call/Copy of Referral
	5	Referral/2 Day ISS	Call/Copy of Referral
	6	Referral/3 Day ISS	Call/Copy of Referral

Misconduct	# of infractions	Consequence	Parent Communication
	7	Referral/OSS Board Hearing	Call/Certified Letter of Hearing
	1-2	Intervention Room for one period	Call
	3	Referral/1 Day ISS	Call/Copy of Referral
	4	Referral/2 Day ISS	Call/Copy of Referral
	5	Referral/3 Day ISS	Call/Copy of Referral
	6	Referral/OSS Board Hearing	Call/Certified Letter of Hearing

In addition to the aforementioned standardized procedures, teachers also employ an in-class isolation desk to address non-continuous behavioral problems that discontinue when a warning is given. Students who are assigned to the isolation desk in the classroom are assigned to lunch detention for each assignment. Parents are informed about lunch detention by a letter which should be signed and returned to the school. A phone call is made to the parent if the signed letter is not returned. All of this information is cited in the student/parent handbook.

At the end of the first semester discipline statistics will be available for perusal in the front office. Please call me to schedule an appointment if you have concerns or suggestions regarding our current disciplinary proceedings.