

Friends Community School

Weekly Bulletin

September 25, 2009

Dear Hilary,

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD...

Over the past year, FCS has made a strong effort to strengthen our connection with similar schools. Our Board participated in valuable training sessions on governance and financial oversight sponsored by the Friends Council on Education. A highlight of our in-service week was a presentation by the Friends Council to help teachers increase their understanding of Quaker values and testimonies and their influence on class activities, service learning, and Meeting for Worship.

Earlier this week, the Board of the Association of Independent Maryland Schools unanimously voted to approve our membership request, providing Faculty, administration, and Board with access to their many services and professional development programs. Conversations about the process for full accreditation are underway.

Finally, Jenifer Weiss has led our school's participation in the local Progressive Educator's Network and the national conference will take place in the DC Metro area in two weeks. FCS will host a group of 25 progressive educators from around the country, as they visit classrooms, exchange ideas with FCS teachers, and tour our green facility. Workshops and nationally known speakers are scheduled for Friday, October 9 and Saturday, October 10. Please see the message below if you are interested hearing the featured speakers. Our active participation with such professional groups guides us to consider current principles of good practice and encourages our school to join the local and national conversation about quality education.

In Peace,

Larry

Extended Day News

Extended Day will be providing an all day camp on Friday, October 9. We will be playing interactive games, creating unique arts & crafts, participating in a service project, and much more! Information and the registration form was sent

Upcoming Events This Week

- 29 Picture Day (order form sent today)
- 29 Parent Night K-4, 7pm
- Oct 1 Gleaning Field Trip, K,1,2
- Oct.1-2 Catoclin, 7-8

Dates To Remember

- Oct.9 Progressive Teachers Conference -No School - Extended Day offered 8am - 6pm
- Oct. 18 Fall Fair
- Oct. 20 PTO Meeting
- Oct.28-30 Parent / Teacher Conferences, Noon Dismissal

Quaker Corner

"Today the heart of God is an open wound of love. He aches over our distance and preoccupation. He mourns that we do not draw near to him. He grieves that we have forgotten him. He weeps over our obsession with muchness and manyness. He longs for our presence. . . . And he is inviting you--and me--to come home, to come home to where we belong, to come home to that for which we were created. His arms are stretched out to receive us. His heart is enlarged to take us in."
-Richard Foster (contemporary U.S. Quaker author), *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home* (San Francisco:

via email earlier today. Please fill out the registration form and submit to the Front Office with a check attached no later than Friday, October 2, 2009.

If you have any questions please contact the Director of Extended Day by phone (301-441-2100) or email (erin@friendscommunityschool.org)

HarperSanFrancisco, 1992)

Keynote Speaker at the Progressive Educators National Conference

Two nationally known educators are presenting keynote addresses at the upcoming national conference. Parents are invited to attend these sessions. Marian Wright Edelman is speaking on Thursday, October 8 at 7:30pm and Jonathan Kozol is scheduled to address the conference on Saturday, October 10 at 3:00pm. Interested parents should register online at www.greenacres.org/penconference. The cost is \$20 per speaker.

Thinking About High Schools?

Many local public magnet programs and independent schools are beginning their recruitment seasons. Parents of eighth graders should schedule an appointment with Larry to discuss plans for high school, dates for open houses and information sessions, and admissions testing.

Directory

A 2009-2010 Directory will be sent home soon. FCS likes to get the Directory out by the end of the first week of school, but the late submission of forms from many families has greatly delayed the process.

PTO Survey

Don't forget to answer the PTO survey...see the email you received Thursday for details!

After School Enrichment Activities

Look in your child's take home folder on Friday to see this semester's FCS After School Enrichment Activities flyer. This fall FCS will be offering: Sign Language Class, Drama Club, Math Games for K-2, Chess Club, Weird Science, Cookie Making Club, From Books to Film Club, Co-Ed Soccer Club. Please direct any questions to Gwynne Brick at gwynne@friendscommunityschool.org.

Education Rebate Program

Sign up now for Education Rebate Programs to help FCS!

Calling all FCS families, friends, relatives... Here is a simple, easy way to raise funds for FCS at no cost to you -- sign up for education rebate programs at Safeway (www.escrip.com), Giant Food (www.giantfood.com/aplus), and Target (www.target.com/TCOE) to earn revenue for the FCS Annual Giving Fund. The Annual Giving Fund provides support for classroom enrichment activities and trips, special projects, and much more. Online registration is quick, free, and essential to do at this time whether or not you registered last year.

Giant: #00599 Can't find your Giant card? Call 1-877-275-2758 and Giant will look it up and register you.

Escrip: Group ID: 6505952 This is a single sign-up for your Safeway card, and for any other debit or credit cards to generate rebates automatically when you use your card(s). Many stores participate in this program, and you don't have to keep track of which ones - rebates accrue automatically. How great is that??!

<https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1.jsp>

Target: use your Target card # Sign up at www.target.com/tcoe

Please contact christine@friendscommunityschool.org with questions or for assistance. Thank you for your support! Please sign up today!