

# LY FOCUS

GOVERNMENT AND THE FALLS CHURCH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



APRIL 12-18, 2007

For more news about the Falls Church City Public Schools visit: [www.fccps.org](http://www.fccps.org)

<b>Chairman:</b> Craig Cheney	.....703-237-6931
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Ronald Peppe II	.....703-534-4959
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Joan Wodiska	.....703-533-1248
<b>Superintendent:</b> Dr. Lois Berlin	.....703-248-5601*

\* Indicates TTY 711 Accessibility

## Schools Get Spring Improvements

George Mason High School students noticed a few changes when they returned from spring break. Contractors removed a large, concrete seating island from the center of the high school lobby, and replaced it with a new reception area. Parent volunteers will staff the desk to help welcome and direct visitors to the school.



A new door leads visitors directly into the Thomas Jefferson Elementary School office. The change was made during the spring break holiday to improve security at the school.

Contractors made additional changes at both Mount Daniel and Thomas Jefferson Elementary Schools over the spring break. For security reasons, the front entrances were reconfigured to direct all visitors to the main offices. Exterior and

interior lighting at Mount Daniel was also upgraded. Now the halls are brighter and the lights are more energy-efficient.

## New Student Registration Begins

Falls Church City Public Schools' kindergarten and new student registration for the 2007-2008 school year is now available online. To register a new student in the Falls Church City Public Schools, visit [www.fccps.org](http://www.fccps.org), click on "new student registration" on the right-hand side, and follow the instructions.

Parents will need to have their child's birth certificate number, social security number, medical condition and insurance information, family physician information and emergency contact information to fill out the electronic forms via the school division's secure network. Once the online forms are complete, parents will be directed to contact the school to make an appointment for them and their child to complete the registration process at the school.

Registration for returning students will begin in mid-June. That's when parents of returning students will receive a "snap" code in the mail to access their child(ren)'s existing information and make appropriate changes for the coming school year.

## FCC-TV Spotlight: GMHS Spring Play: NASA Sci Files

Tune in to Falls Church Community Television (FCC-TV) to watch *NASA Sci Files*. This Emmy award-winning program, produced by NASA, emphasizes research and standards-based instruction, problem-based learning, and scientific inquiry. *NASA Sci Files* can be seen at the following times:



- Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. • Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

FCC-TV airs on Cox Channel 12, RCN Channel 2 and Verizon Channel 35. For a complete schedule of the variety of community programs on FCC-TV, visit [www.fccv.net](http://www.fccv.net).



## BIE Partner of the Week Tiffany Cureau Re/Max Distinctive

**School Involvement:** Read to students for *Read Across America Week* at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School and *Drop Everything and Read Day* at Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School; exhibited at the George Mason Career Expo; advertised in the George Mason High School Mustang Yearbook and the PTA Home and Garden Tour Program.

**Why Tiffany is a BIE Partner:** "I was a school supporter long before I became a realtor. With children at George Mason & Mount Daniel, I know how strong our schools are. As a realtor, I am delighted to introduce people to our wonderful city and its special schools."

For more information about sharing your expertise through the BIE Partnership, visit [www.fccps.org](http://www.fccps.org) or contact Marybeth Connelly at [connellym@fccps.org](mailto:connellym@fccps.org).



School content published in *The Weekly Focus* is written and edited by the Falls Church City Public Schools. For more information, contact the Falls Church City Public Schools Communications Office. Phone: (703) 248-5699 Fax: (703) 248-5613.

## Students Bring Ancient China to Life

The Thomas Jefferson Elementary School cafeteria looked like a village in ancient China when Susan Johnson's second grade class performed the world premier of *Ming Lo Moves the Mountain*, based on the children's book by Arnold Lobel. Set in ancient China, it is the story of Ming Lo and his wife, Ming Hi, who are unhappy in their home beside the mountain. They visit the village wise folk for advice on how to move the mountain. After several silly mishaps, the wise folk teach them the "Dance of the Moving Mountain" and Ming Lo and Ming Hi live happily ever after in their bamboo house far away from the mountain.

The operetta was part of the unit on ancient China. Students read the story and worked in teams to write dialogue for the operetta. Each student had a role and wrote a creative description about each character. All of the students learned and performed original songs like "The Mountain Did Not Move," and "Ming Lo's Lament," with lyrics written by Susan Johnson and music by Olivia Johnson.



Students Hope Toulon (l), who played "Ming Hi," and Khavren Hoyer, who played "Ming Lo," entertain the audience at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School during their recent performance of *Ming Lo Moves the Mountain*.

## FCEF On-line Auction Open

The Falls Church Education Foundation's annual silent auction during its black-tie dinner gala is still three weeks away, but the bidding has already begun.

This year, the Foundation has set up a Web site where you can place early bids on more than 50 items for sale. Auction items range from exotic vacation getaways, Redskins tickets, and scrumptious meals to the more unusual; a U2 LP signed by Bono, a weekend use of a convertible Saab and a set of holiday ornaments that you'll need to see to believe. The FCEF On-line Auction continues through April 25th at [www.auctionforourschools.com](http://www.auctionforourschools.com).



FALLS CHURCH EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### April

<b>12</b>	7:30 PM Mason @ Potomac Falls (G Lacrosse)
	7:30 PM Potomac Falls @ Mason (B Lacrosse)
<b>13</b>	Spring Pictures (TJ)
	4:30 PM Mason @ Stone Bridge (Girls Tennis)
	5:00 PM Stone Bridge @ Mason (Boys Tennis)
	5:00 PM Rappahannock @ Mason (Baseball)
	5:30 PM Mason @ Rappahannock (Boys Soccer)
	7:00 PM Rappahannock @ Mason (Girls Soccer)
<b>13-14</b>	Musical "Annie Jr." (MEH)
<b>13-23</b>	IB Art Show (GM)
<b>14</b>	9:00 AM Mason at Scudieri Team Challenge (Track)
<b>16</b>	4:00 PM Mason @ North Stafford (B/G Tennis)
	7:00 PM School Board Work session (MEH)
	7:00 PM Mason @ Heritage (B Lacrosse)
	7:30 PM Heritage @ Mason (G Lacrosse)
<b>16-27</b>	VAAP, VGLA & VSEP Testing (TJ, MEH, GM)
<b>17</b>	7:00 PM Mason @ Strasburg (Baseball/Softball)
	7:00 PM Strasburg @ Mason (B Soccer)
	7:15 PM Mason @ TC Williams (G Lacrosse)
<b>18</b>	9:00 AM 7th Grade Jazz Band Concert (TJ)
	5:00 PM Clarke County @ Mason (Track)
	6:00 PM Mason @ Brian Woods (Baseball)
	7:00 PM Elementary PTA (TJ)
<b>20</b>	String Solo/Ensemble (GM)
<b>23</b>	7:30 p.m. PTA (MEH)
<b>24</b>	6:30 PM School Board Meeting Work session (Chambers at City Hall)

(MD) Mt. Daniel Elementary  
(TJ) Thomas Jefferson Elementary  
(MEH) Mary Ellen Henderson Middle  
(GM) George Mason High

Check the FCCPS Web site for more calendar information.  
[www.fccps.org](http://www.fccps.org)



Falls Church City Public Schools

## Summer Day Care & Middle School Summer Activities Program 2007

For children entering grades 1-8

**All families eligible**  
June 18<sup>th</sup> - Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>  
7 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. daily  
(Open to Falls Church City Residents and Non-city residents)

Special guests each week!  
Swimming at uptown hill's fun new pool!  
Fun & enriching activities!

Fabulous weekly Field Trips!  
Daily Library Programs!  
Special Projects!

& Much, Much, More!

**Registration begins March 1<sup>st</sup>!!**

Registration packets available online ([www.fccps.org](http://www.fccps.org) click on day care link) or  
From day care office trailer at 601 South Oak Street  
(Thomas Jefferson Elementary) or All Day Care Centers