



FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FREEDOM HILL ELEMENTARY

1945 Lord Fairfax Road
Vienna, Virginia 22182

August, 2014

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

Freedom Hill Elementary School would like to welcome you to an exciting new school year! We have all taken some time to reflect on our past achievements and experiences, but now it is time to start anew; to achieve new goals and make the most of the upcoming opportunities. The staff at Freedom Hill have been working diligently to welcome our families into an environment that will foster what we refer to as the 4Cs – Critical Thinking, Communication, Collaboration, and Creativity. Through this work, Fairfax County Public Schools has recently published the *Portrait of a Graduate*; the FCPS graduate will engage in the lifelong pursuit of academic knowledge and interdisciplinary learning by being a communicator, collaborator, global citizen, creative and critical thinker, and goal-directed and resilient individual.

We hope that you had an enjoyable summer with family and friends. Our new theme this year is *Thinking Outside the Box!* Students will be provided with opportunities to engage in the 4Cs in order to be the effective problem solvers that our society demands. We are thrilled to continue the exciting learning happening in our STEM Lab (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and teachers are making greater efforts to launch problem and project-based learning experiences. Advanced Academic Program resources are also being leveraged more frequently by all staff to provide enrichment and extensions for students. Too, our intervention systems remain strong as well; moving forward with a sense of urgency to close the achievement gap.

Change is inevitable. As several staff have moved on from “The Hill”, we have searched high and low to invite new staff members to our amazing school. Identifying the most qualified candidates for our positions is some of our most important work – it is people that make the difference.

Our bus run information is included with this letter. It is critical that your children know their bus number and stop. Please note the walking routes as well. For safety reasons, all kindergarten students must be met by a parent or an adult for pick-up.

School begins on Tuesday, September 2nd. Freedom Hill student hours are 9:15 AM – 3:55 PM **EVERY DAY** (we no longer have early release Mondays)! Office hours are 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM. Students may not be dropped off before 9:00 AM, as there is no supervision. Additionally, students will not be supervised in the front office after dismissal either.

The price for lunch is \$2.90 for students. Breakfast costs \$1.75. Milk can be purchased separately for \$.60. Students eligible for free or reduced-price meals will continue to receive benefits until Tuesday, October 14, 2014. New applications for free and reduced-price meals must be received and eligibility approved to receive benefits after October 14, 2014. For further information, please refer to the Food and Nutrition Services website at: www.fcps.edu/fs/food. Breakfast begins September 4th.

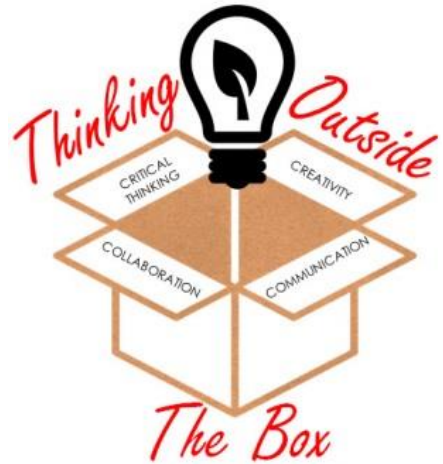
If registration requirements are not completed at this time, please do so before the start of school. Student enrollment is critical in our planning and preparation. On the first day of school, look for several

important documents to come home with valuable information and several forms to be completed and brought back to school as soon as possible.

Never hesitate to contact us for additional information. Be sure to visit Freedom Hill's website (<http://www.fcps.edu/FreedomHillES>) regularly for the most current information for the upcoming school year as well as our blog (<http://hillhighlights.edublogs.org/>).

Sincerely,

Scott E. Bloom & Teresa Davis
Principal Assistant Principal



Homeroom Assignment

Student: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade: _____ Room #: _____

Important Dates:

- Open House will be held on Thursday, August 28, 2014 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM. At that time students and families may visit their classroom and meet their new teacher.
- Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 7:00 PM for grades preschool through six. This night is intended for parents/guardians only.

Kiss and Ride / Walkers – Dismissal Procedures – Like last year, each student has an assigned number located with this letter. Parents keep and display the large number in the kiss & ride line or at the SACC door for walkers at dismissal. Students attach the small number to their book bag. Parents/guardians are not allowed to linger in the main lobby or entrance. This is for your child's safety. Numbers will be distributed at Open House (remaining numbers will be sent home on the first day of school).

Keep In Touch (KIT) – <http://www.fcps.edu/kit/>. Previous users need not reapply. This technology is critical for communication!

FHES & FCPS Mobile APP! – Download these apps from the Apple or Droid market for instant connection to school and County calendars, our blog, school website, and access to the main office and attendance phone lines! Search for *Freedom Hill ES* and *FCPS*.

Staff Update - Follow this link to the blog to see our list of new staff members and those who have changed assignments - <http://hillhighlights.edublogs.org/2014/08/18/new-staff-members-and-new-assignments/>



