



February 7, 2018

FCPS Focus



Proposed Budget Seeks Funds to Address Growth and Student Needs

Schools Superintendent David Sovine presented his [FY19 budget](#) proposal to the School Board on February 6 and stated resources are needed to help the division address enrollment growth, meet individual student needs and be competitive in attracting and retaining high quality staff. Sovine is seeking an additional \$5.8 million in local funding for the School Operating Fund.

Funding Requested to Replace Aylor Middle School

The Frederick County School Board took action on February 6 to request the Board of Supervisors appropriate \$52 million to build a replacement [Robert E. Aylor Middle School \(REAMS\)](#). The replacement school, which is planned to be larger than the current school and able to accommodate more students to account for enrollment growth, is the top priority on the school division’s 2019-2023 Capital Improvements Plan. REAMS opened in 1969 and has not undergone any major renovations since that time. If the Board of Supervisors appropriates the funds requested, the school division will be positioned to begin design work and keep the project on schedule to open in August 2021.



Rowan Recognized Nationally

FCPS Instructional Technology Coach Jennifer Rowan has been named a semi-finalist in the [Consortium for School Networking/EdScoop NextGeneration Leaders program](#). The program is an initiative to recognize and support emerging leaders who are passionate about K-12 education technology and are ready to take their career to the next level. The 2018 NextGeneration Leaders will be named in the coming weeks.

Chain of Checks Supports Students

Frederick County Public Schools and Winchester City Schools recently received a total of \$77,646.63 from the [2017 WINC Chain of Checks Campaign- “A Stronger Me...Developing Systems of Support for Teen Mental Health”](#). The proceeds from the campaign will help provide training and resources to identify and properly help students with mental health issues. Frederick County Public Schools’ share of the proceeds was \$46,587.98.

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New Opportunities for Students

A number of new courses will be made available to students during the 2018-19 school year. The courses that have been added to the [Secondary Program of Studies](#) include: Entrepreneurship, Building Trades I, Building Trades II, Cybersecurity Fundamentals, Cybersecurity Systems Technology Advanced, Emergency Medical Technician I, Emergency Medical Technician II, AP Studio Art I, Anatomy and Physiology II, AP Environmental Science, Spanish for Fluent Speakers I, and Career Investigations.

General Assembly Visit

Schools Superintendent David Sovine and School Board members John Lamanna, Seth Thatcher and Shontya' Washington participated in the Virginia School Boards Association's Capital Conference last month. As part of the event, the group met with Frederick County's Delegates and State Senator to discuss [legislation](#) that could impact K-12 education in Virginia.



Colonels to Compete in College

James Wood High School seniors Kevin Konyar and Morgan Biggs will continue their athletic careers in college next year. Konyar will compete in cross country as well as track and field at Bloomsburg University. Biggs will play volleyball at Dickinson College.



Student Athlete of the Month

Congratulations to Sherando High School senior Amber Strosnider who was named Frederick County Public Schools' Student Athlete of the Month for January.

School Board Appreciation Month

February is [School Board Appreciation Month](#) and a great opportunity to thank John Lamanna, Seth Thatcher, Kali Klubertanz, Michael Lake, Shontya' Washington, Jay Foreman and Frank Wright for their work as members of the Frederick County School Board.

Homeless Numbers Grow

As of January 24, there were 214 homeless students attending Frederick County Public Schools. Research shows that homeless students often experience significant academic, social, and socio-emotional challenges as well as an increased risk of dropping out of school. FCPS offers many supports to homeless students through school counselors, student support services staff and partners such as [Bright Futures-Frederick/Winchester](#).



FCPS 101

Participants in the FCPS 101 Community Engagement Program participated in their third session last month. The session included a presentation about the nationwide teacher shortage and teacher recruitment efforts, a tour of the FCPS Transportation Department and an activity designed to highlight the challenges of developing the school division's budget each year.

Calendar Reminders

There be [no school](#) for students on Friday, February 16 and Monday, February 19. February 16 is a Professional Development Day and February 19 is Presidents' Day. School administrative offices will be closed on February 19.



Download the FCPS Mobile App

[Frederick County Public Schools' custom mobile app](#) can be downloaded for free at any time from Apple's App Store or Google Play. The app provides instant access to a variety of school and division information including school breakfast and lunch menus, school calendars, news and access to student grades and assignments through Parent/Student 360.

SpeakUp, StaySafe

Everyone plays a role in keeping schools safe and secure. If you notice any suspicious activity, be prepared to give a detailed report to school staff and the authorities. Pay close attention to things like: what, specifically, you observed; when and where you saw it; who you saw; and why it seemed suspicious. Being able to provide details of what you observed will help school staff and the authorities as they work to keep our schools and students safe. Please report any suspicious activity noted in the vicinity of schools to the Frederick County Sheriff's Office at 540-662-6168.

What's in the FCPS Spotlight?

FCPS Spotlight is a program available on the [FCPS Media Network and YouTube Channel](#) that provides a quick look at the people and programs that make Frederick County Public Schools successful.



Cardinal Learning Center Coffee Cart

The Cardinal Learning Center's Coffee Cart is a small business established this year by students with special needs at Orchard View Elementary School. In this program, teacher Shane Hoyt and two students discuss the coffee cart and how it provides engaging learning opportunities while teaching students valuable vocational skills.

Free and Reduced Meals Program

Applications for the Free and Reduced Price Meals Program are accepted at any time during the school year. The application process is relatively simple and can be completed [online](#). Anyone who has questions about the program or needs assistance completing the application, is encouraged to contact School Nutritional Services at 540-662-3888 x88109.



Easy School Payments with MySchoolBucks

Payments for student meals, fees, activities and other purchases can be made online at any time using [MySchoolBucks](#). Payments can be made through MySchoolBucks using VISA, MasterCard or Discover. Parents can also view current cafeteria account balances, review recent purchases, receive low-balance alerts and setup recurring payments on a weekly or monthly basis through MySchoolBucks.



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