New Bell Schedule for 2015-2016

Dear Spring Hill ES Parents:

There are only a few more months left in this school year, but at Spring Hill School we are already busy preparing for the 2015-16 school year.

Last year, the Fairfax County School Board approved a recommendation to change start times:

- High schools will start between 8 and 8:10 a.m. and dismiss between 2:45 and 2:55 p.m.
- Middle schools will start at 7:30 a.m. and end at 2:15 p.m.
- The new bell schedule means that every elementary school in FCPS will be in session for 6 hours and 45 minutes per day
- As a result of the time change, Spring Hill Elementary School will start 10 minutes later than our current bell schedule. Beginning in September, school will commence at 8:50 a.m. and dismiss at 3:35 p.m.
- The earliest students may be dropped off at school will be at 8:20 AM as no coverage/supervision is provided prior to that time

Superintendent Garza and the School Board have indicated that the changes to the bell schedules are just a start. They want to work on making adjustments to the middle and elementary school schedules in future years.

The transportation team has been performing dry runs of all the bus routes in preparation for next fall. The bus schedules will be shared with families prior to the start of the school year, as has been done in previous years.

Continued on pg 2
As background, the School Board adopted a resolution in 2012 to seek solutions that will establish high school start times at 8 a.m. or later. In 2013, they awarded a contract to the Children’s National Medical Center to develop a proposal to achieve the goal. In total, the School Board held six work sessions since June 2012 to discuss the issue. Eight community meetings were held in 2014 during which approximately 1,000 participants shared their opinions on four options. In addition, more than 2,000 comments were gathered from an online feedback form. The School Board voted to approve the recommendation and cited research which demonstrates that school schedules should be aligned with the biological sleep rhythms of adolescents in order to improve their mental and physical health, academic performance, and safety.

You may have questions about the bell schedule and I invite you to join me at the Friday, April 10th, PTO meeting at 9:00 AM. I will be happy to answer your questions at that time. If you cannot attend, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Roger Vanderhye

Roger Vanderhye, Principal
**SOL TEST RESOURCES / PRACTICE TESTS**

**Virginia Department of Education Standards of Learning Released Tests**

The link below will connect you to the Virginia Department of Education site where you can print out copies of the tests students across the Commonwealth of Virginia took as part of the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) Assessments. The test questions are representative of the content and skills included in the Virginia SOL tests and are provided to help you understand the format of the tests and questions. The answer to each question can be found in the back of each test section.

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/released_tests/index.shtml

**SOL Pass activities for Science & Social Studies**

For all grades: [http://www.solpass.org/elementary.html](http://www.solpass.org/elementary.html)

- Click login
- Enter the school password “panther1”
- Click on Elementary School
- Choose a subject

**Jefferson Labs Practice Tests for Science and Math** - [http://education.jlab.org/solquiz/](http://education.jlab.org/solquiz/)

- Choose the number of questions
- Choose the subject

**VDOE-SOL Practice Items**


These practice items provide examples of the new content and increased rigor represented by the revised Standards of Learning (SOL) and illustrate the new Technology-Enhanced Item types for the mathematics, reading, science, and writing SOL tests. Technology-Enhanced Items (TEI) require students to indicate their responses in ways other than a multiple-choice format.

**IMPORTANT SOL TESTING INFORMATION**

Students in grades 3 – 6 will be taking the state Standards of Learning (SOL) tests beginning May 13 – June 5, 2014.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would not schedule doctor or dentist appointments or family trips during this time period. Thank you.
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| Grade Level/Subject | 4th Grade Math | Make-Ups |
Yabe

This summer, two of our teachers, Ms. DeWispelaere and Ms. Fitzsimmons, will accompany 10 of our students from Spring Hill Elementary school in McLean, VA on an exchange program to Spring Hill's sister school, Yabe Elementary near Yokohama, Japan. Our Spring Hill students will live with Japanese families and attend school with them.

We are raising funds for our two teachers to travel with the students and related transportation costs.

Our teachers will help organize the trip, help our students while there, and work with the Yabe school staff. It will be our third such exchange since the program began. (In the fall, Yabe students will come to the US and stay with Spring Hill families.)

It's a great way for students to learn about Japanese culture and life, to make a lasting bond with their Japanese host families, and vice versa. It's a unique exchange program for 3rd to 5th graders that we hope will grow!

Please donate and play a part in making this happen.

Please spread the word by sharing this link too.

Thank you for helping the teachers, the students, and Japan-US cultural exchange!

http://www.gofundme.com/springhillyabe

Calendar

Time Out of School

Please schedule your family vacations during FCPS designated holidays / breaks, which you can see at this link: http://www.fcps.edu/cal.shtml Be aware that missing school for extended periods of time negatively impacts your child and your child's teacher.

Spring Break March 30-April 3

Week of April 6:
Monday, April 6: Student Holiday, No School

Wednesday, April 8: 1st GR FT, Mt. Vernon & Riverside Park, 9:15 am - 1:30 pm
Thursday, April 9: Cultural Arts (World of Robotics), Cafeteria
Friday, April 10: 4th GR FT, Jamestown, 7am-7pm
PTO meeting / Parent University-Dr. Alan MacFarland, Cafeteria, 8:30-10:30 am

Week of April 13:
Wednesday, April 15: Spring Individual & Class Photos, Gym, All Day

Thursday, April 16: End of Quarter, 2 hr Early Dismissal
Friday, April 17: Teacher Workday, No School

Langley Pyramid Art Show Opening Today, March 25

March is Youth Art Month; celebrate with us by viewing artwork by Spring Hill students and other Langley Pyramid schools, today, March 25 through April 4, at the McLean Project for the Arts’ galleries at the McLean Community Center. **The reception for the show is tonight, Wednesday, March 25, 4:30-6:30 pm.**

The following students have artwork on display in the show:
- **Kindergarten:** Alicia Yee, Aliana Yee, Jay Khodzitsky, Mindy Bao, Angela Chea, Mackenzie Ross, Brianna Wang.
- **First Grade:** Lydia O’Quinn, Alex Andrews, and Daniel Kim.
- **Second Grade:** Isaac Oh, An Doan, Owen Slamowitz, Kristina Naydonova, Ethan Lebkisher, Holly Murphy, Vivian Xue, and Catherine Dunn.
- **Third Grade:** Hannah Gitau, Billy Piper, Daiki Toyota, Sophia Naydonova, Leen Alomar, Jessica Pak, Eden Canellos, Dean Park, Nicoleta Hoffman, Reem Halawi, Álexia Gherisi, Abdullah Al-Saloum, Arman Macchiavello, Brandon Nguyen, and Emma Trembler.
- **Fourth Grade:** Markus Ramsey, Athena Georgelas, Drew Ambrose, Jacob Hammond, Apurva Bala, Amy Chen, Sidrah Asghar, Lorelei O’Brien, Arina Maryams, Deenah Kamran, Owen Sullivan, and Jenna Cai.
- **Fifth Grade:** Zara Adams, Alexa Fretwell, Joseph D’Alessandro, Eleanor Lavin, Liam O’Grady, and Max Moser.
- **Sixth Grade:** Sohee Kim, Luke Flaxman, SooJin Jung, Tammy Ding, Hannah Tsai, Jennifer Lee, Ayda Shakeri, Misha Somogyi, Seri Hahn, Ian Sitilides, Adelaide Loving, Annie Woo, and Alexandra Gagnon.

Emerson Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 4 pm, and Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm. The Ramp and Atrium Galleries, where most of the elementary school art will be on display, are open when the Community Center is open, Monday through Thursday, 9 am-11 pm, Friday-Saturday, 9 am –midnight, and Sunday, 12 noon – 6 pm.

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COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL COFFEE –
SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for coffee with the Principal of Cooper Middle School, Arlene Randall, on Tuesday, April 14 at 9:30 am at the home of Linda Campbell – 522 Haven Ln, Great Falls, VA 22066. This coffee is for parents of rising 7th graders and is a great opportunity to visit with Mrs. Randall and meet other parents. You do not need to RSVP. Just come by. We look forward to seeing you there.

Directions to the Campbell home: From Cooper, go west on Georgetown Pike (Rt. 193) towards Great Falls. Turn right onto Walker Rd. Turn left onto Squires Trail. Turn left onto Haven Ln. 522 is on the right.

For additional information, please contact Tania Hosmer at TaniaHosmer@gmail.com.
2015 Web Page Drawing Contest

Spring Hill needs your help with designing the front page pictures for the Spring Hill Website. We are looking for a colorful picture that represents what Spring Hill means to you.

**Contest Guidelines:**
- Your picture should be drawn in color using markers or crayons on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. No other sizes or materials will be accepted.
- Your picture should represent what Spring Hill means to you.
- Your picture should include our school colors: Burgundy and Gold.
- Your picture should be neatly drawn.
- Include your name, teacher’s name and grade level on the back of your picture. Do not put your name on the front.
- Turn in the permission slip at the bottom of this form with your drawing.

*Please submit your drawing to your classroom teacher by Friday, March 27th, 2015*

We will be selecting one drawing per grade level. If you are our winner, your drawing will be posted on our website! All entries will receive a prize!

Enjoy and Have Fun!

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**Last Year’s Winners:**

Please Print your name and have your parent’s sign the form below:

I understand that if my child’s drawing wins, it could be published on the web site with their first name.

Child’s Name:_________________________________________________________

Parent’s Signature:____________________________________________________
Where do you like to read? Under a tree? In a hammock? With your pets? Show us just how much YOU love to read by finding a creative place to read over Spring Break and have someone snap your picture!

Fill out one of the forms on the next two pages (Make sure to fill out the form that matches your grade level), glue your picture to it, and return it to Spring Hill by Friday, April 10th, 2015.

All pictures will be posted for viewing around the school!

Please direct any questions to

Reading Teacher, Janis Lefcourt, at Janis.lefcourt@fcps.edu or Librarian, Janet Hugger, at Janet.Hugger@fcps.edu
FOR students in Kindergarten, First & Second Grades

Look Who Got Caught Reading!!

I, ________________, in ____________________ class was caught reading the book ____________________________________________ over Spring Break. I read the book ____________________________________________ ____________________________________________ ____________________________________________ ____________________________________________ ____________________________________________ ____________________________________________ ____________________________________________ ____________________________________________.

Glue your 4x6 picture here!

Your name

Your teacher’s name

Title of book

Location where book was read
Look Who Got Caught Reading!!

I, ________________________ , in __________________________ class was caught reading the book _____________________ over Spring Break. I read this book ______________________________. I enjoyed this book because _____________________________________________.

Glue your 4x6 picture here!

Your name
Your teacher’s name
Title of book
Location book was read

I enjoyed this book because _____________________________________________.

FOR students in 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades
Congratulations to Spring Hill Elementary School for winning the Regional Science Olympiad Tournament held on March 8th 2015 at Marshall High School. The team competed in all 23 events and was placed 5th overall. Spring Hill competed against 18 middle schools and 4 elementary schools.

In addition to bringing home the 5th place trophy, we placed 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th and 6th in various categories.

1st place medal – Picture This- Caroline Sun, Tammy Ding and Kacy Lee

2nd place medal – Bridge Building- Grace Shvodian and Lukas Yi

4th place medal – Write It, Do It- Yuv Singh and Luke Flaxman

5th place medal – Experimental Design- Caroline Cassidy and Tammy Ding.

6th place medal – Solar System – Luke Flaxman and Arul Nigam

Outstanding effort and dedication was put in by the entire team to get the overall rank, congratulations to Ishan Dogra, Katie Shvodian, Zach Baker, TJ Takis, Caroline Osbourne and Jackson Frankel. Spring Hill Elementary exceled to the State Tournament, which will be held on April 11th in Fairfax. Thank you to all the coaches for their time and commitment to support the Science Olympiad team.
Fun Fair Was A Success!
Thank you to everyone who attended and volunteered for the Fun Fair. This is our largest, most beloved community event at school - the kids had a wonderful time, parents got to greet each other and we raised funds for the school! Although we are still waiting on some money to come in, the overall proceeds were in-line with prior years. Another successful event for sure!

Blast Off To Fun T-Shirts Half Price!
Order your Blast Off To Fun T-Shirts for only $10! Please see the order form attached below.

Thank You To Fun Fair Raffle Donors
Thank you to all of the following families who generously donated to the Fun Fair raffle this year! Without your contributions, we would not have been able to make this part of the Fun Fair such a success and offer 60 wonderful raffle prizes. Your generous support is much appreciated.

Al-Salom/Khair       Ho/Yeung       Pashai
Andrews             Jalili         Piper
Arslanagic          Kass           Polat
Baker               Khorrami       Prewett
Bali                Kilduff        Raheb
Bao                 Kuebler/Braunstein Ramsey
Bector              Lee (John & Mia)  Rebhan
Bush                Leonardson     Rockamore
Camacho             Liu/Que         Roman
Cardenas            Loving         Sahebi
Chaze               Luposello/Ternisky Shen/Chen
Connery             Magur           Speidel
Doss                McFadyn        Sunkar
Dzwonczyk           McMichael      Tuomey/Feldman
Faneca              McMillan       Vargas
Gibb                Mushtaq        Vera
Gitau/Bupe          Natarajan     Wilson
Gonzalez            Noshin/Hanip   Zhang
Guidi               Pak
Last PTO Meeting and Executive Board Vote

Please join us at 8:45 am on April 10 for the last PTO Meeting and Parent University of the year. We will discuss the second round of Appropriations, the changing bell schedule for 2015-16 and vote on the PTO Executive Board for the 2015-16 school year. The nominees are: President - Holly Piper; President Elect - Jessica McMichael; Past President – Amy Prewett; Treasurers - Karen DeFilipps and Renée Petitpas Boudreau; Secretary - Megan Roberge; Vice President for Enrichment - Christina Murphy; Vice President for Community Services - MaryAnn Rebhan.

Parent University on April 10th

Immediately after the PTO meeting, Dr. Alan MacFarland will be our featured speaker about “Brain Development in Youth and Adolescents.” Dr. McFarland will be speaking in regards to brain development cycles based on age while correlating the effects of drugs or alcohol on the brain.

Dr. MacFarland is a board certified and expert in Clinical Psychology. He specializes in therapeutical situations resulting from high conflict relationships, children of abuse along with rehabilitation as a result of drug or alcohol addictions.

He is high respected in the Court System as an expert witness and practices in Annandale, VA.

Save the Date for Fun Run on Sunday, May 17th

The 8th annual Spring Hill 3K Fun Run will take place Sunday, May 17th at 8:00am. There will be music, a fun warm-up and breakfast after the race. Sponsors are needed! What are the benefits of being a sponsor? Sponsors receive:

- Name and logo printed on the back of the Fun Run T-Shirts
- Acknowledgement on Fun Run print and display materials
- Complimentary family registrations and event T-Shirts

If you or someone you know is interested in being a sponsor, please contact Krista Page at krista.page333@gmail.com.

Thank You!

Each week there are so many volunteers that take time to make our school a little better. Many thanks to:

- Kitty Gonazalez for doing Bus Notes last Friday
- Kathy Swenson and Calli Harris for delivering the Food Drive food to Hybla Valley ES
- Sue Cardenas, Margaret Smith, Mendy Crews, Holly Piper, Molly Chen and Julianna DeLong for setting up for Fun Fair Friday morning
- Karen DeFilipps and Ros McMillan for preparing for the cake decorating contest and getting prizes and certificates ready for the assembly on Friday
- Jim Isler, who made not one, but two Frog Whomp machines immediately before Fun Fair
- Sam Fitzsimmons for all her assistance coordinating karaoke performances with our teachers and staff and standing in for our administrators as needed
- Tracy Comstock, JoungHyo Lee and Ivana Kriznic for coordinating the delicious International Foods
- Our teachers and staff Linda Shaheen, Debbie Bulford, Nicole Swiers, Marisa McCaffrey, Jamie Iesue, Jackie Fishbone, Melanie DeWispelaere, Amy DeOrnellas, Deb Rudd, Merideth Fisher and Christine Fowler who sold tickets for Fun Fair
- All of our wonderful parent volunteers, without whom Fun Fair wouldn’t be possible!
CULTURAL ARTS

Is pleased to present

World of Robotics with Jack Burrus!

Jack Burrus brings the world of robotics to life with captivating images and interactive demonstrations guaranteed to engage students at any grade level.

Your students will be amazed as they learn how robots are used today, and the much larger role they will play in our future.

Student volunteers will help demonstrate a computer-programmable, mobile robot using its electronic voice, multi-sensors, arm, wrist, and hand.

Robot pets with video vision, vocal recognition, artificial intelligence and balancing sensors will “wow” the audience with their playful antics.

On the Cafeteria stage Thursday April 9, 2015

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grades 8:50-9:20 a.m.

3rd & 4th grades 9:30-10:00 a.m.

5th & 6th grades 2:05-2:50 p.m.
Earth Day Celebration at Spring Hill
Art Contest / Talent Show

What: Use any form of art to express:

“Why Recycle? How I can make a difference!”

When: Due date Mon 4/13 at 8:30am
Assembly & Awards ceremony Earth Day Wed 4/22 during school

Judging 1) Originality
Criteria: 2) Usefulness and ability to inspire others
3) Use of Recyclable material

Use your imagination! Work alone or in groups, act out a play, sing a song,
submit a painting, sculpture, clothing, poem, video, or anything else. Artwork
will be on display in Large Pod for all to see!

The best from each of the 3 categories will win 6 MOVIE TICKETS!
1) Best 3D (sculpture, video, any 3-dimensional artwork, etc.)
2) Best 2D (anything on paper; written work, painting, picture, etc.)
3) Best Performance (music, play, performance, fashion show, etc.)

Plus, one person from each grade will win a spirit Panther.
And every participant receives recognition.

All works must be registered on the google form and turned in to the science room
by 8:30am on Mon 4/13: Registration Form _ Earth Day Celebration at Spring Hill Art Contest / Talent Show. Performances must submit video in .mov format only, limited to 5 min.

For assistance or questions of any kind, contact Nancy Bao @ nihao100@hotmail.com.
Spring Hill Elementary
“Blast Off To... Fun!” Spirit T-Shirts

Child’s Name ____________________________________________________________

Teacher____________________________________ Grade_______________________

PAYMENT:
Cash or check payable to Spring Hill PTO
Send to: Spring Hill Front Office, attention of: Amelia Steiner, PTO

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$10
Tie-dye Lime green 100% cotton
Available sizes while supplies last:
Youth: XS, S, M & L
Adult: L & XL
(adult small & adult medium are sold out)
Does your child like basketball? Do you need a fun and safe place for them to spend their Spring Break? Well, enroll them in the Hoop Life Spring Basketball Camp.

Hoop Life is a premier basketball training organization that trains players ranging from beginners to professionals. Our camps will raise your child’s basketball skills and IQ in a fun, safe, and competitive basketball environment. All of our coaches have playing or coaching experience on higher levels of basketball including the NBA.

Each child will leave with a wealth of basketball knowledge and a renewed sense of the value of the game.

Go to www.myhooplife.com to register online for any camp

Spring Basketball Camp Registration Form

Head of Household (first/last name) ______________________ City________________ State______ Zip________

Home Ph. __________________ Work Ph. ___________________ Cell_________________

Email______________________ Camper Name________________________

Gender M__ F__ Grade____ Dates of Birth__/__/__ Camper T-Shirt Size________

(Spring Basketball Camp Registration Form)

(Check All that Apply)

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<td>McLean, VA Location</td>
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For more information: Call Coach Kevin Harris @ 571-241-1486 or email him at kevinharris@myhooplife.com

Spring Basketball Camp Registration Form

Register online at: www.myhooplife.com

Total Enclosed $________

Mail completed registration form with payment to: Hoop Life, Inc.

P.O. Box 25672 Alexandria, VA 22313

Make Checks Payable to: Hoop Life, Inc.

Hale for Harmless Agreement: In consideration of Hoop Life, conducting various programs and allowing the above to participate in such programs, the undersigned realizing the risk of injury attendant to such programs, does hereby and forever discharge Hoop Life and its officers, agents, and employees from any and all action, claims or liability resulting from or arising out of or based upon any bodily injury or property damage which may be sustained by the undersigned or the undersigned’s child while participating in such programs.

Signature required of adult participant, parent or guardian of child ______________________ Date____

These materials and the activity described herein, are not sponsored or endorsed by the School Board of Fairfax County or School Board of Alexandria County.