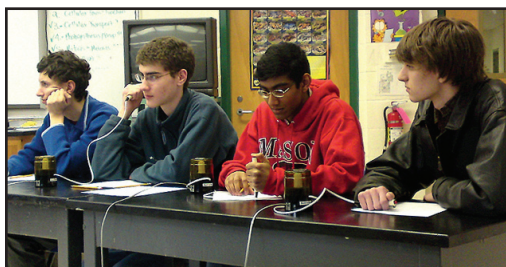


Mustangs Scholastic Bowl Region B Champs

The George Mason scholastic bowl team heads to William and Mary Saturday, on a final mission to reclaim its position as state champion.



Mustang academic team members (l to r) Jonathan Ross, Asher Morse (captain), Anuraag Sensharma, and Ross Wilson prepare to buzz in during last week's Region B tournament.

Already undefeated through the regular season and the district tournament, the team took top honors in unprecedented fashion during last week's Region B tournament. By defeating Gretna High school 370-70, the Mustangs became the first team to win by 300 points in the double elimination regional championship. The Mustangs also defeated Central High (315-80) and Clark County High twice (285-115 and 275-135) in bringing home a new regional trophy.

This past Saturday, the Mustangs returned to the NBC4 television studios to appear in the playoff taping of 2010 season of the popular quiz show "It's Academic." The air date for that program will be announced soon.

FCC-TV Spotlight: Budget Forum

Balancing the budget is a major concern for the City of Falls Church this year. Recently, members of the City Council and School Board asked citizens for their input at a *Budget Forum*. Individuals were given the chance to provide their input as well as have their questions answered, and FCC-TV's cameras were there. If the budget is important to you, then this is one program you will not want to miss. The *Budget Forum* will air on the following dates:



- Friday, February 26 at 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 27 at 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 2 at 1:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 3 at 1:00 p.m.

You can now see FCC-TV programming live at www.fcctv.net anywhere in the world! FCC-TV also airs in the greater Falls Church area on Cox Channel 12, Verizon Channel 35 and RCN Channel 2.



BIE Partner of the Week

Jeff DuBro and Luis Maravi
Novus Construction

School involvement: Using the Novus Construction Bobcat, helped to clear the snow from the Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School playground after the Blizzard of 2010; Participated in Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School career programs; and supported the PTA Home & Garden Tour.

Why Jeff is a BIE partner: "When I heard the students were having recess inside until the playground could be cleared, I felt that Novus had the resources to help. I was happy to provide the equipment needed to clear the playground and to collaborate with a great team of parents, teachers and staff to remove the snow."

For more information about sharing your expertise through the BIE Partnership, visit www.fccps.org or contact Marybeth Connelly at connellym@fccps.org.



Foundation Footnotes

New board members add expertise to FCEF



The board of directors of the Falls Church Education Foundation recently voted to appoint several new members to the group including Patrick Riccards, Tom Saberhagen and Steve Sprague. All of the new members are residents of Falls Church City and demonstrate a commitment to maintaining excellence in education in the schools. The members will be tapped to provide guidance in formulating and executing FCEF policies in the areas of finance and strategic communications/planning.

The Foundation is registered as a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. For information about the Falls Church Education Foundation, visit www.fccef.org or contact Donna Englander at denglander@fccef.org.

School content published in *The Schools 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.

Elementary Schools Adjust Hours, Bus Routes

The FCCPS elementary school calendar is being adjusted to make up for lost instructional time due to snow days and to an error in calculating instructional time at the elementary level.

State law allows the school division to report instructional time in hours (990 hours annually) averaging at least 5-1/2 hours of instructional time per day, not including lunch or recess.

To make up the time, the elementary schools will reduce the number of short Wednesdays per month to two, and each instructional day will be lengthened by 15 minutes.

For the remainder of this year, the elementary school hours at Mount Daniel and Thomas Jefferson will be as follows:

*Monday – Friday: 8:35 a.m. – 3:35 p.m.

*Early dismissal Wednesday

Mount Daniel: 8:35 a.m. – 1:05 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson: 8:35 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Early dismissal days are:

March 10th and 24th April 14th and 28th

May 12th and 26th June 2nd

On the Wednesdays that are NOT early dismissal days, both Mount Daniel and TJ will dismiss at 3:35 p.m. If you have questions please contact your child's school.

Bus schedules have also been adjusted. You may view them at www.fccps.org/bus.

Snow Patrol

A team of parent volunteers, FCCPS personnel and a local construction crew assembled this week to dig out the Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School playground from beneath a foot of snow. To view a slideshow of the effort, visit www.fccps.org/meh.



MARY ELLEN HENDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS!



Calendar for February 25 - March 6, 2010

Testing

- 27 8:00 a.m. Practice ACT Exam (GM)
- 3/2-5 SOL Writing (MEH/GM)

February

- 25 7:00 p.m. "The Music Man, Junior" (MEH)
- 7:30 p.m. Family Life Education Adv. Committee (CO)
- 26 7:00 p.m. "The Music Man, Junior" (MEH)
- 27 7:00 p.m. "The Music Man, Junior" (MEH)

March

- 1 6:00 p.m. EIP/HEP Tutoring (GM)
- 7:00 p.m. Special Education Adv. Committee (TJ)
- 2 7:00 p.m. School Board Work Session & Adoption of FY11 Budget (CO)
- 3 4:00 p.m. Mason @ Hayfield Secondary – Scrimmage (B Tennis)
- 4:00 p.m. Hayfield Secondary @ Mason – Scrimmage (G Tennis)
- 6:00 p.m. International Dinner (GM)
- 5 4:00 p.m. Mason @ Stuart High – Scrimmage (G Tennis)
- 5:30 p.m. PTA March Madness (MEH)
- 6:00 p.m. Hayfield Secondary @ Mason – Scrimmage (G Soccer)
- 7:30 p.m. Hayfield Secondary @ Mason – Scrimmage (B Soccer)
- 6 8:00 a.m. Haiti Relief (GM)

For more calendar information, visit www.fccps.org/calendar.

(MD) Mt. Daniel School (TJ) Thomas Jefferson Elementary

(MEH) Mary Ellen Henderson Middle

(GM) George Mason High (CO) Central Office

www.fccps.org - The official site for Falls Church City Public Schools news



SCHOOLS FOCUS

