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FCCHS Monthly



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Construction a campus fact of life

Building transformations to last until March



Photo by: Marquis Briggs

Construction on the restrooms, as part of school renovations.

**By Rayla Elkey
Staff Writer**

The sounds of drills and hammers have greeted Fort Campbell High School students and staff this year from the several construction projects underway on campus.

This year alone, there are five different construction projects in various stages of completion.

The projects range from updating the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning to replacing the roof.

"The biggest project is the HVAC project," said Mr. Mohan Vaswani, principal.

He said the project includes the roof, and air conditioning system. Currently the halls could be mistaken for a horror movie as things are exposed and hanging down from the ceiling and the normally bright halls are dark and dank.

"I just want it to be done and over with," said Adrianna Martin, freshman.

Vaswani said the air conditioning was in desperate need of replacement and should be done by March, if everything stays on schedule.

Another new project is the creation of

"Finally, the school is becoming more modern."

Jordan Villa, Freshman

three Special Education classrooms.

While students and teachers have started to move into the classroom, additional work is being done after school and on weekends so that the sounds of drills and the pungent smell of paint doesn't disturb the students said Vaswani.

The Special Education classrooms are being modified to better suit the needs of those students.

Vaswani said the project is designed to provide sinks and other household items to teach Special Education students life skills and should be completed in the near future.

The last project includes adding to the network bandwidth and the adding to the campus's wireless internet connection.

Soon the school's connection to various networks and the internet will be turned into a wireless connection (Wi-Fi). Vaswani said the bandwidth also will be increased allowing more students to be online at a time.

There has not been any word on when this will be started and/or completed.

"Finally, the school is becoming more modern," said Jordan Villa, freshman.

FCMS offers new classes for 2012-2013

**Brianna Howard
Staff Writer**

Three new classes are being offered this year at Fort Campbell High School. The new classes are Journalism, Speech, and Robotics.

"I think Speech and Journalism have been needed here," said Mrs. Martha Speake, 12th grade guidance counselor. "These classes can be very helpful in college and in jobs."

New FCMS Classes

Journalism

Speech

Robotics

The student newspaper returns to Fort Campbell High School after a year's absence.

Students in the Journalism course take on the role of producing a news magazine, *The Falcon Insider*, centered on the student body here.

For those who are interested in more technical studies, students can try robotics. Robotics is a year-long class. It is a STEM course.

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The robotics class will be used to learn the Engineering Design Process.

"I teach robotics to prepare students for the 21st century work world," said Ms. Lillian Butler, robotics teacher. "I teach it because I like this type of courses that allow students to think outside the box."

"I chose this class because I thought working with robots would be pretty fun.," said Ryan Vanzant, senior.

He added that he likes that students can build something awesome and unique.

"Robotics is a real exciting class," said Speake. "It's new and cutting edge and is a very popular class."

Speech class is a semester long class. It is taught by Ms. Kathy Watts.

The class is designed to prepare student to create speeches that are thoughtfully and carefully planned out.

Students are required to organize, rehearse and share their speeches with the class.

Four new teachers, administrators join staff

Marquis Briggs Editor

Fort Campbell High School opened the year with several new faces in the classroom and the administration office as four new teachers and two assistant principals started work.

Mr. Josh Fry - Band

There's a new sound coming from the band room this year as the Falcons welcome a new band teacher Mr. Josh Fry.

Fry comes to Fort Campbell High School from Florida.

"So far, I really am enjoying this school and all of the students," said Fry. "I see that there is a lot of potential here."

He said he really wants to teach students all that he knows about music.

"My main focus is in percussion, but I enjoy teaching it all," said Fry.



Mr. Josh Fry

Mr. Jeremy Heckler - Digital Photography, Journalism



Mr. Jeremy Heckler

The Falcons get a taste of high rolling as Mr. Jeremy Heckler joins the staff.

He started teaching here after six years teaching in Las Vegas.

Heckler teaches Digital Photography, A.P. U.S. History as well as Journalism. In addition Heckler takes on the role of student council advisor.

"I am having the most fun teaching the digital photography class," said Heckler. "I have learned a lot over the years, and I would like to pass the information on."

Mr. Nelson Torres- Drama and Read 180

A new face also sits in the director's chair on the stage of Fort Campbell's Drama Department as Mr. Nelson Torres joins the staff.

Torres came from Puerto Rico, teaches Drama and Read 180.

"I have been teaching since 2008 and I really enjoy teaching new information to all my students and I love seeing the look on their faces when they realize that they learned something new, that I taught them," said Torres.

He said he already has plans for drama productions for both the fall and spring.

He added that one of the things he likes most is being able to touch people's minds.



Mr. Nelson Torres

Mr. James Strait and Mr. Demetrius Thomas- Assistant Principals

Down the hall in the administration office are two new faces.

One of them is a lean and tall assistant principal with a laid back personality, the other is a familiar face from middle school.

Mr. James Strait comes to Fort Campbell High School after being a principal of a school in Minneapolis.

"I decided to come here because I like the DoD system, and always wanted to work for it," said Strait.

He added that he liked the military atmosphere and working with parents because

of his experience in the Army before becoming an educator



Mr. James Strait

"I do wish for parents to become more involved in their students education at the high school, but other than that I like everything," said Strait.

As the enforcer of the school's rules and policies he gets many questions about various discipline topics.

"Many students ask how I feel about the dress code, and if it were up to me, everybody would be in uniform,"

Down the hall from Mr. Strait is a familiar face for many students, Mr. Demetrius Thomas. Thomas spent last few years as assistant principal at Mahaffey Middle School.

Most can hear Thomas as he walks down the halls with a big smile and a kind word for each student.

Thomas said he wants to be involved with students and families.

"I think being an assistant principal here is great," said Thomas, Mr. Demetrius who once was a student Thomas here. He added that he wants to give back to the Fort Campbell community.

"I used to help out here a lot, I coached soccer, basketball, and girls tennis," said Thomas. "I enjoy working here because I feel like I am giving back to the military."

Editor's Note: More new teachers will be profiled in the next issue of FCHS Monthly.



Get a head start on this year's memories

Buy a Yearbook now

for the Early Bird Special of \$55.

Now until Oct. 1

AVID recognizes new members, gets to work

By Katie Wallace
AVID Advisor

We are certainly kicking this year off with a bang. The AVID students spent the first few weeks getting themselves organized and prepared for the school year.

On August 31, we inducted 61 new members into the FCCHS AVID program. The students were adorned with a graduation cord during the ceremony. This cord will be returned the week of their graduation as long as they remain in the program and earn at least a 3.0 GPA. Junior Devon McBreen and Senior Janna Moore shared outstanding speeches with the parents and the inductees. Parents as well as their children left with an overwhelming feeling of pride that evening as we honored their commitment to the AVID program and their future success.

Finally, the AVID Club is ready for a great year of fun activities. We had our first interest meeting Aug 17th where we learned a little about AVID Club and enjoy eating popcorn and drinking soda while socializing with our friends.

Our next AVID Club meeting will be September 14th for dues paying members. AVID Club dues are \$8 and can be paid up until that meeting time. The club is still working on what the theme will be.

You do not have to be an AVID student to be a member of the AVID Club. An AVID Club member can bring a friend for \$1-2 to any meeting.

We are also taking orders for AVID shirts. The cost is \$10. The last day to pay for these is Sept 20.

Coming up in September: Goal Setting, Time Management, College Applications and College Visits!



Courtesy Photo

Members of the Fort Campbell High School AVID Club are inducted for 2012-2013



FCCHS Monthly

Principal: Mohan Vaswani Editor: Jeremy Heckler

FCCHS Monthly is a newsletter for the Fort Campbell High School community.

Writers, photographers, layout artists: Allie Alfeld, Marquis Briggs, Rayla Elkey, Britney Ellis, Garret Gates, Brianna Howard, Henry Hutcherson, Roshel Lumbang, Liz Pelfrey, Austin Randolph, Cody Renz, Ambrosia Sinegal

Journalists on FCCHS Monthly staff will publish only legally protected speech, following the legal definitions of libel, obscenity and invasion of privacy. FCCHS Monthly will meet all policies and regulations as stated by DODEA.

Need to know about student grades?

Check out the Parent Portal at:

<http://www.dodea.edu/myData/>

Students learn leadership in nation's capital

By Austin Randolph
Staff Writer

While most kids were sitting at home playing video games or sitting by the pool, a group of 18 Fort Campbell area students attended a leadership conference in the nation's capital.

The students were part of a program sponsored by the Department of Defense. While the students all came from different high schools, they all were regular attendees to Taylor Youth Center.

The eighteen students were selected based on the observations and recommendations of Taylor Youth Center staff members, said Anil Cole-John, junior. Cole-John attended with fellow Falcons, Tre'von Thompson, and Jessica Rodriguez.

While on the trip the students toured Washington, D.C. and spoke with government officials and people from the White House, included President Barack Obama's advisors.

"It was like a live social studies class," said Cole-John.

In addition to meeting political movers and shakers, the students toured the Smithsonian Institution and many of the monuments that graced the capital.

The students learned more about other people from across the country by sharing their hotel room with them.

Cole-John said that each room had two people from the center and two other people from a different part of the country. During the day the students went to differ-



Courtesy Photo

Anil Cole-John, 11th Grade, is discussing a chart during one of the leadership workshops held in Washington, D.C. in July.

ent workshops.

He said 15 to 20 students from youth centers from all across the country participated in each workshop. Each workshop included a topic for students to debate.

"Getting to stay in the nice suites and meeting new people was my favorite part of the whole trip," said Thompson.

In addition several speakers spoke to the students on various topics.

The speakers included Attorney General Eric Holder and Vice President Joe

Biden, and vice president as Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan.

"The trip was very fun," said Tre'von Thompson "I learned a lot about our country that I didn't know before."

The students said the key of this trip to Washington, D.C., was to increase their political knowledge.

"I learned a lot about our government and the history of our country," said Cole-John "I enjoyed the trip, it was a great experience."

Fort Campbell High School remembers the fallen of 9/11



Photo by Garrett Gates

Members of the FCHS JROTC color guard present the colors Sept. 11.

From Staff Reports

Students and staff from the Fort Campbell High School community took time out to remember those who gave their life on Sept. 11 in a ceremony held in the Commons.

The day started off with a moment of silence at the time the World Trade Center was struck as well as presentations from the campus JROTC detachment and choir during the lunch period.

The choir sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" and Col. Mitchell Sartain read something he wrote about 9/11 how the world changed afterward.

Many Fort Campbell High School students have parents who made the decision to serve their country based on the events of that day.

Healthy meals center of new cafeteria staff

By Britney Ellis
Staff Writer

School lunch can be a dreary time for many, but the new cafeteria staff is working to create healthy meals that taste good for students and staff.

The cafeteria added seven new staff members who came from schools all across Fort Campbell.

"I am a people person, and coming from Lincoln Elementary, I like the older kids much better," said Mike Ray, cafeteria worker.

The staff have contributed to a new menu that offers a wide variety of foods each day as well as salad.

The cafeteria has offered bacon cheeseburgers, pizza, tacos, and many types of pasta.

"The goal is to have a healthier meal," said Barbara McConnell cafeteria manager,

"Everything served is now whole wheat," said McConnell.

Meals Michele Obama's program, through the United States Department of Agriculture, USDA, called My Plate.

My Plate states, "every student's plate should consist of half fruits or vegetables, a grain, protein, and dairy produce for a



Photo by Britney Ellis

A member of the cafeteria staff gets bacon cheeseburgers ready for lunch. Seven new people have joined the cafeteria staff this year.

healthy lunch.

"The My Plate program should push kids to eat more during school and much more nutritious," said McConnell.

Plans are underway to make the My Plate program nationwide.

The team gets along really well and

even a couple staff members have worked together before.

Most students are even enjoying the new lunch food and service as well.

"The best part of lunch was the new chicken wings," said Dustin Armendariz, senior.

Student organization helps newcomers adapt to Falcon life

By Ambrosia Sinegal
Staff Writer

For students, the first day on campus can be a scary thing. The members of Student 2 Student, S2S, work with new students to make their first days more comfortable.

"The purpose of S2S is to welcome students to a new environment and make them feel comfortable," said Ms. Christina Jackson, advisor.

S2S members could be seen showing students, who are new to Fort Campbell High School, around. The sponsor of S2S, Ms. Christina Jackson, wanted to be involved with S2S because she was an Army brat.

"I remember being the new face in school," said Jackson.

The organization also helps spread school spirit among the student body. In addition to helping new students, S2S also plans events to help in the community. Next month, students from S2S will head to Texas for a refresher course.

Jackson said members will learn and

share with other S2S programs from across the country to find ways to better Fort Campbell High School. The club goes and carols at local hospitals.

In addition to the trip to Texas, students will also be travelling to West Point, N.Y.

for an event.

Many students join S2S because it's a way to meet new people and learn new experiences. "I really like S2S a lot because it's really fun," said Quinesha Smith, junior.



Photo by: Marquis Briggs

S2S practice an ice breaker activity during Freshman Orientation.

Sports

Fall sports are in full swing at FCHS

By Allie Alfield
Writer

Football

The Falcon football team started their season off strong, clawing their way to a 3-2 record with come from behind wins against Russelville, Clarksville, and Fort Knox High.

The Falcons took to the road for the first game of the season at Clarksville High School Aug. 17. Even mother nature seemed against them early as a power outage hit Clarksville. When the power came back on the Falcons turned out the lights on Clarksville, with a 26-20 victory in double overtime.

"The boys went up against a big school but never gave up; they kept their moral high and pushed through all the obstacles," said Mr. Shawn Berner, Falcons' head coach.

Next up was Russellville High in the home opener which the Falcons won in another nail bitter, 34-27. The Falcon's captured the Army Bowl trophy against Fort Knox for the tenth year in a row Sept 7, winning 65-0.

"Everything is starting to pay off" said Koty Hix, senior left tackle.

Girl's Soccer

The Lady Falcon's soccer team enters this week with a 3-1-2 record. The team brought home a 4-0 win Sept. 11 against Todd County. The next day the Falcons lost 5-4 on penalty kicks against University Heights Academy.

"We don't plan on letting this loss get us down," said Larissa Massie, right back. "We are going to come back from it."

Many of the players are also looking forward to playing Hopkinsville again in the district playoffs.

"I want to win and prove that we can beat a team like Hoptown," said Shelbie Bell, sophomore.

Boy's Soccer

The boys soccer team is well off in their season, with a 6-2 record.

"Our team is so close, said David Sahms, forward. "It makes it that much better when we win."

The team lost to Hopkinsville 3-2, but followed it with an 8-0 victory against Hopkins County Central.



Photos by Marquis Briggs

Levi Gibson goes for a pass, during a game versus Hopkinsville High School, on August 23rd. The Falcons lost the game 3-2.



The Falcons stuff the opposing team's runner during a game versus Russellville High School.

Falcon Notes

Flu H1N1 vaccinations

For the parents of Fort Campbell students: In a few weeks, you will have the opportunity to help protect your child against seasonal influenza, the flu, and the H1N1 flu virus during your child's school day.

Blanchfield Army Community Hospital (BACH) staff members want to help you keep your children safe and healthy during the upcoming flu season. The flu vaccine is the single most effective measure that can be taken to resist the flu!

The following information will assist you in making an informed decision about allowing your child to receive the vaccination during the school day.

- This is a voluntary program. Your child will be vaccinated only if you give permission.

- You are welcome to be there when we give the vaccinations, but this is not required.

- The child may refuse the vaccination even if you have given permission.

- o If this happens, we recommend that you take your child to their assigned Primary care or immunization clinic so that you are by their side to offer support.

- We have the flu mist as well as the flu shot this year. We rely on the Influenza screening sheet (explained below) to determine which type of vaccination to administer.

- Children aged 6 months through 8 years need only 1 dose of vaccine in 2012–13 if they have received any of the following: 1) 2 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine since July 1, 2010. 2) 2 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine before July 1, 2010, and 1 or more doses of monovalent 2009(H1N1) vaccine; or 3) 1 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine before July 1, 2010, and 1 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine since July 1, 2010.

**Children for whom one of these conditions is not met require 2 doses of influenza vaccine in 2012–2013, 2nd dose must be obtained at your child's Primary Care clinic at least 4 weeks after administration of dose #1 at your child's school.

- Your child's school will send you four sheets (only one of these sheets should be signed and sent back to your child's school):

- o The Reason for Not Consenting sheet (on the back of this sheet) to be filled out ONLY if you do not want your child to receive the flu vaccination. If you fill out this sheet you should not fill out the Annual Influenza Vaccine Screening & Consent

sheet.

- o The Annual Influenza Vaccine Screening & Consent sheet (1 sheet) is the health screening and health history. Completing and signing this sheet gives BACH staff permission to vaccinate your child. Sign and return this sheet to allow your child to receive the vaccination.

- o The Vaccine Information sheet (2 different sheets, both front and back) is simply an informational document on influenza shot and mist. No signatures are required and you may keep this sheet.

We thank you for your support in helping to keep your child and other children healthy by participating in annual vaccinations. We look forward to helping your child avoid the seasonal and H1N1 flu this year!

Your Preventive Medicine Team

YEARBOOK

Attention all Seniors, do you think you were a cute baby? Do you have baby pictures that make your grandparents go "awww" and pinch your cheeks?

Bring them to room 26 so we can show just how cute you were with the whole school in the yearbook. The deadline to turn in baby pictures is September 28th.

Underclass proofs were delivered on Monday during seminar. If you intend to order pictures they need to be returned to room 26 by Tuesday September 25th. If you did not receive your proofs, see Ms. Loucks in room 26.

JEANS DAY

Fridays will be declared a Jeans Day. All jeans must have no holes or rips. A school approved dress-code shirt still needs to be worn.

In addition, any Fort Campbell activity t-shirt or school appropriate t-shirt from the parent's unit can be worn on Jeans Day Fridays.

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

After school tutoring will start next Wed., Sept. 19. Ms. Duerr (English and Social Studies) will be offering tutoring on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Mr. Nelis (Science and Math) will be offering tutoring on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

1. Hours will be from 2:45 pm–3:45 pm.

Students must be there on time.

2. Location: Math/Science Room 8, English/Social Studies Room 21

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent teacher conferences will take place on four Tuesdays throughout the year during early release time. The dates are: Sept. 18, Nov. 13, Feb. 5, and April 23.

The dates were chosen so that parents, teachers, and students can meet to discuss concerns with grades.

Parents can call Ann Camp at (270) 640-1219 ext. 5762 to set up 15 minute appointments for those dates.

In addition, parents can always contact individual teachers to meet with them during their ADA (planning time) each day.

Please give the teachers at least 24 hours to respond to a request. Parents can also schedule group meetings with all their student's teachers through guidance counselors for Tuesday afternoons for the times of 2:15 – 2:50.

MYDATA PORTAL IS OPEN

The Parent Portal is now open for parents to access student grades and attendance online: www.dodea.edu/myData/

If you have already filled out an updated Form 700, expect 2 emails within the next few days containing your username and password.

Parents who wish to obtain an account must submit DoDEA Form 700 for Consents and authorization to your child's school via e-mail, fax or in person.

SHOW YOUR

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Falcon Pride!