



The Foundation Schools Flyer

Providing a Foundation in Education Since 1975

Winter 2010

Volume 11, Issue 1

The Buddy System Is Always Best! Buddy Reader Program Gets Underway at Largo Campus

Many of our students have fully diagnosed learning disabilities or learning deficits and come to us reading well below grade level. Reading is at the core of both academic and personal success. We are committed to improving the academic experience for all our students, especially by increasing their literacy skills. A 45-minute reading class is provided each school day to all students in need of intervention, and the progress we have seen as a result has been impressive with many students improving up to two grade levels during the course of a year.

To augment our literacy efforts, the Foundation School in Largo has begun a Buddy Reader program. Over the semester, four high school students have volunteered to be a buddy reader for the students in the Elementary School's youngest classroom. The program is beneficial to both the older and younger students. The older students get to hone their oral literacy skills and earn Student Service Learning credit, while the younger students become excited about reading by hearing the wonderful stories and getting extra attention from the high school students.



Our community can be a "buddy" to our Largo campus library! The library is expanding its efforts in serving the school's older students by establishing a "Teen Zone" in the media center. A small sofa, chair, and rug are needed, as well as novels and magazines appropriate for teens. If you have any of these gently used items that you would like to donate, please contact Jo-Anne Foster at JFoster@fs-dms.org.

What They See Is What They'll Be... 100 Black Men Begin Mentoring at FSMC

In 1995, a group of concerned and motivated associates recognized the importance of bringing the 100 Black Men of America's goals of community involvement and leadership by example to the Greater Washington DC Area and began a local chapter. Their mission is to improve the quality of life for young African American males, and mentoring is the cornerstone of their programs. They put their motto - "Real Men Giving Real Time" - into action as they began to work with a group of our male students at FSMC.



Eight men from the club, including the Chapter's President, a retired two-star Army General, entrepreneurs, attorneys, and business consultants, came to the school on December 4th to eat lunch with ten of the students. The volunteers introduced themselves and took turns telling the young men about their personal stories of success. The students are already looking forward to the next meeting where they will provide topics they would like to have the men address, such as relationships, careers, and goal-setting.

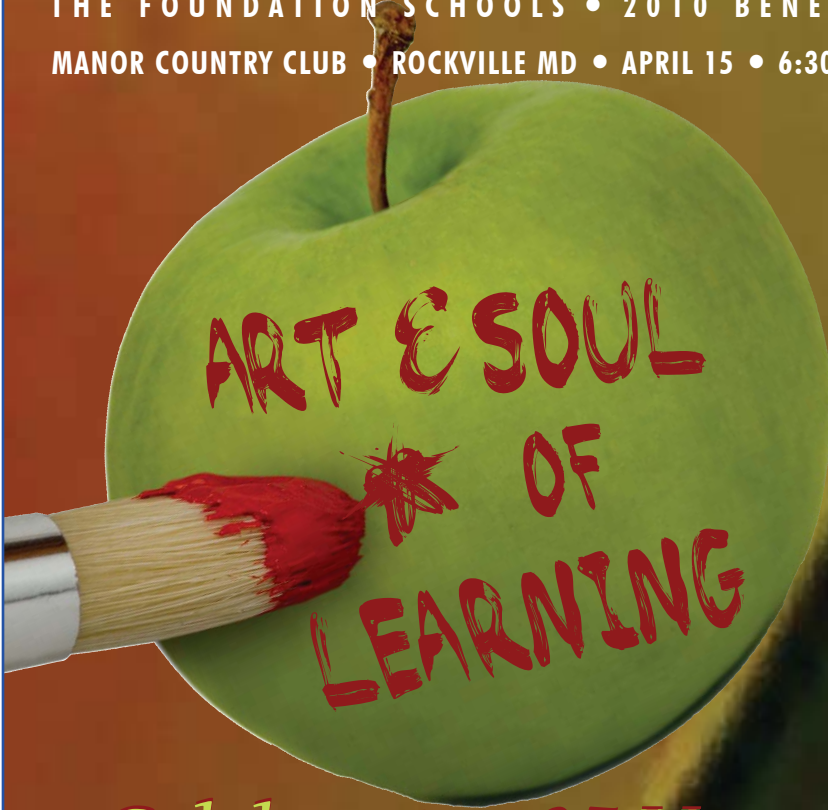
PESSE Spells Peace at The Foundation Schools

Physically and emotionally safe school environment (PESSE; pronounced "peace") Week was held Foundation School-wide from November 16th through the 20th. The week was designed to encourage students to take responsibility for bully-proofing the school and to encourage student/staff unity. Continued on page 3...



William Savage, FSEM Director of Behavior Management, addresses the students during the PESSE Summit. Jack Gilbert, FSMC Director of Behavior Management, looks on.

THE FOUNDATION SCHOOLS • 2010 BENEFIT
 MANOR COUNTRY CLUB • ROCKVILLE MD • APRIL 15 • 6:30 PM



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THE ART & SOUL OF LEARNING is the primary fundraiser for The Foundation Schools. Proceeds benefit our students and their families by funding essential **ASCEND** programs and services.

Contributions to The Foundation Schools, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, are tax deductible to the extent of the law. Tax ID # 23-7425256

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INVEST AS A SPONSOR

For a complete listing of benefits, please contact our Development Office. To ensure full recognition, **sponsor confirmations are due by Thursday, February 18.**

- Masterpiece Sponsor** \$10,350
 - Sixteen tickets; reserved seating for ten
 - Full-page ad; premier placement
- Impressionist Sponsor** \$5,350
 - Ten tickets; reserved seating for four
 - Full-page ad; premium placement
- Expressionist Sponsor** \$2,535
 - Eight tickets • Full-page ad
- Canvas Sponsor** \$1,035
 - Four tickets • Half-page ad



ADVERTISE IN PROGRAM BOOK

Ads must be **camera ready** and received by **Thursday, March 18.**

- Inside Front Cover** (7-1/2 wide X 10") \$1,035
- Inside Back Cover** (7-1/2 wide X 10") \$1,035
- Full Page** (7-1/2 wide X 10") \$535
- Half Page** (7-1/2 wide X 4-3/4") \$235
- Quarter Page** (3-1/2 wide X 4-3/4") \$135



PURCHASE INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

Number of tickets _____ x \$100 each = \$ _____

Attendee name(s) _____



DONATE AN AUCTION ITEM

Donors will be acknowledged in the event program book. **Donations must be received by Thursday, March 11.** We will contact you for details and to arrange pick-up.

Item _____

YOUR SUPPORT WILL ENABLE OUR STUDENTS TO EXPERIENCE THE SWEET TASTE OF SUCCESS

Contact Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

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PAYMENT INFORMATION

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

Check (Payable to The Foundation Schools)

Visa **Master Card** **AMEX** Exp Date _____

Credit Card # _____

Security Code (3-4 digits on back of card to prevent fraud) _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Please complete this form and **MAIL, FAX** or **EMAIL** to:

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 301-881-8515 (fax) 301-881-0078 x113 or x114
 PDupont@fs-dms.org ERyan@fs-dms.org

...Continued from page 1 - PESSE Spells Peace at The Foundation Schools

The week emphasized the Foundation's belief that each individual as a member of the school community has a responsibility to help keep the school community safe. Each school has a Bully Task Force which chose activities for the week to engage their school's staff and students. The Largo High School worked on respect and conflict resolution, and held an essay/rap/poetry contest on the topic of "what can I do to bully-proof my school?" The Montgomery campus held similar activities where students wrote slogans and poetry. The Largo Elementary and Middle School's morning announcement crew produced skits demonstrating bullying and how to respond when it occurs. Their activities also included a speaker from the Prince George's County Police Department and a PESSE-themed hallway decorating contest. Select students from all three schools participated in a special PESSE summit held at the Administrative Office where they discussed barriers to a "PESSEful" school, developed a PESSE Bill of Rights, and came up with suggestions for future PESSE activities. The week concluded with awards ceremonies at all three school locations.



Staff Spotlight

Core Values At Work and Play

Each year, we survey parents and community stakeholders regarding our performance and the services we provide. When asked about our greatest area of strength, parents overwhelmingly comment about the care, ability and compassion of our staff. We have approximately 175 dedicated teachers, therapists, assistants, administrators and support staff who really are at the CORE of our success.

In the two years leading up to this, our 35th Anniversary year, we identified and integrated our five Core Values of Teamwork, Work-Ethic, Integrity, Respect and Leadership. This fall, special activities were held at both school campuses and at the administrative office to continue to



build teamwork and cohesion, and to thank staff for their hard work and commitment. The FSEM staff used the "Amazing Race" T.V. show for their theme. Teams of staff

members had to complete a series of tasks using the core values. Staff ran from one station to the next competing to see who could earn all their green cards and finish first. The Administrative Office's



activities included a leadership word game and a work ethic dress-up day. The highlight, though, was a bridge-building contest between three small teams of staff. The Blue

Team pulled out a narrow victory with their glue guns and popsicle sticks. Everyone at all locations exhibited great sportsmanship in addition to the core values, and a terrific time was had by all.

FSMC Students Help Their Community

FSMC Students were involved in two major activities recently to help the needy in Montgomery County. In October, nineteen middle and high school students walked to raise awareness and funds to help the homeless. The one day event began with the students listening to a speaker from the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless. Students then participated in a one-mile walk which raised about \$100 to support the Coalition in their efforts. The students were not alone in their endeavors. Staff members from the school and administrative office, and the school's therapy dog, Ollie, joined in along with a Volunteer America member who is serving at the Coalition for a year.



The homeless walk service project was started several years ago when the school was located on Marinelli Road in Rockville. Staff and students were very excited to be able to resume the tradition now that they are fully settled in their new location.

In December, three of the school's seniors worked very hard distributing toys as part of the Salvation Army Christmas Drive. The students worked at the Salvation Army's warehouse, and assisted customers with carrying and loading bags of toys and brand new bicycles. It was a wonderful experience for the students to be in a position to show empathy and support to others.

Recent Grant Awards

The Foundation Schools would like to acknowledge the generosity of the many Foundations, Corporations and Individuals that provide their support of our programs. We would like to publicly recognize the Herb Block Foundation, Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Dollar General, Food Lion Charitable Foundation, Anthony Francis Lucas-Spindletop Foundation, Prince George's County, Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation, John Ben Snow Memorial Trust, and the Venable Foundation for providing grant funding during the first half of the 2009-2010 School Year. We also rely on generous in-kind support, and appreciate the donations we recently received from IBM, and the members and staff of Money One Federal Credit Union and the Prince George's County Chamber of Commerce. Special recognition is also offered to Payless ShoeSource for donating Shoes 4 Kids vouchers so some of our students could receive a new pair of shoes this holiday season.





The Foundation Schools

Providing a Foundation in Education

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CFC# - 65212
UWNCA# - 8805



The Foundation Schools was chartered in 1975 as an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit psychoeducational services organization. For over three decades our mission has been to provide a specialized educational and therapeutic program for students with emotional disturbance and prepare them to be productive and successful in their future academic and career paths. For more information visit our website at www.foundationsschools.org.

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or service for the auction. DETAILS ON PAGE 2

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