

Forest High School News

BANK OF AMERICA - PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 2009

<http://users.mfi.net/forest>

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Forest Parents,

“Let’s get it started” was the welcome message we delivered to the faculty as the new school year began. Our mission is to re-establish FHS as an “A” school. FHS slipped to a “C” this past year barely missing a “B” by one point. Our FCAT data suggests that we have students in our bottom quartile requiring additional support and specific focus. Many teachers spent part of their summer training to provide just that. This training, along with evaluation of our data generated this fall and winter, will support our efforts to improve student performance by the end of the year. Our remaining students must continue their quest for excellence as well. State and national education standards are changing again beginning in the 2011-2012 school year. We are determined that our students will be ready.

Forest High School begins the year with an enrollment of over 2,350 students. We are certainly the largest high school in terms of student enrollment in the county! Our students have adjusted well, especially the freshmen, and this is a tribute to the fine leadership of our upper classmen and the faculty and staff. “Open Campus” was a huge success for our freshmen as it allowed them an opportunity to tour FHS, pick up a draft of their schedule, and seek answers to their many questions.

FHS offers a variety of activities for you and your student to become an active “Wildcat.” Academics, extra-curricular activities, sports, and others offer the student the opportunity to enjoy a meaningful high school experience. You, the parent, can play a key role in being involved not only in your child’s activities, but also their education. Organizations such as School Advisory Committee (SAC), Booster Clubs, and support groups are great ways to become involved.

Our newsletter will be available monthly on line at www.foresthigh.org and a printed version will be sent out quarterly. Please review the newsletter for important dates and information relating to your child’s education. I would also like to mention that many of our athletic teams kick off their season this week. Thank you for your support as FHS looks forward to a great year. Let’s get it started!

Go Wildcats!

Chester Gregory, Principal

HOSA NEWS

Congratulations to the following students who were elected as FHS HOSA officers for the 2009-2010 school year:

President: Justine Morales
Vice President: Jhanay Williams
Secretaries: Brianna Walker, Alexandra White
Treasurers: Ashley Venegas, Jaclyn Goff
Parliamentarian: Josh Millman
Historians: Alex Lucas, Kimberly Grant

YEARBOOK NEWS

It’s Yearbook time again. Yearbooks will be sold from August 30th until Friday, October 2nd. The price for the book is \$65.00. The Spring Supplement (Prom, Grad Bash, Graduation, etc.) can be added for an additional \$15.00. Nameplates are an extra \$5.00. Please bring checks made payable to Forest High School or cash to Room C-215 or C-238.

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK-UP

Parents –please remember

- Student drop off is on the west side off campus only. Please keep right as you enter campus and go all the way around to the drop off area by the auditorium and gym.
- Stay in the right lane until you have safely picked up your student, then you may proceed to the left lane to exit.
- The left lane is for exiting after you have picked up your student. **WE DO NOT DOUBLE LINE**. Continue to pull forward in line until your student is picked up.

There is **no student drop off or pick up in front of the school** except by special needs students with written permission. Please make arrangements to pick up your student on the west side of the school.

SPIRIT T-SHIRTS

Spirit T-shirts are being sold by the sophomore class for \$10.00 each. The T-shirt is green and says “One Team, One Dream, Their Nightmare” with a scary wildcat. T-shirts must be pre ordered starting Sept. 1st. Order forms can be picked up at the reception desk, from room D140, or you can email Ms. Pohlers for a copy. The T-shirts will be great to wear at any sporting event and around campus to show school spirit.



CLASS OF 2012 T-SHIRTS

Sophomore class T-shirts (class of 2012) can be pre ordered starting Sept. 1st. One is a white T-shirt and reads “We Are The Year That You Better Fear” with a big 2012. The other is a black T-shirt with a big white paw and will have the class of 2012 and FHS inside. There is also a splash of yellow that gives it a paint splatter look. Students can purchase one or both for a cost of \$10.00 each. They would make great Birthday or Christmas gifts. Order forms can be picked up at the reception desk, from room D140, or you can email Ms. Pohlers for a copy.



SMILE! IT'S PICTURE TIME!

Senior pictures will be taken for the last time on Tuesday, September 8th. Life Touch Studios will provide the tuxedos for the boys and the drapes for the girls. A \$10.00 sitting fee will be charged. Stop by room C-238 to make an appointment. This is the absolute last day for formal pictures to be taken if they are to appear in the yearbook.

Underclassmen will have their pictures taken on Thursday, September 3rd or Friday, September 4th. Students should receive an information sheet/order form from their English teacher. Picture packages are purchased at the time the student's photograph is taken. The make-up picture date will be announced later.

IMPORTANT TESTING DATES

Sept. 1 & 2 – DBMA (Benchmark)
Sept. 3 & 4 – DBMA Make ups
Sept. 8-11 – District Writing Assessment
Sept. 14-18 – FCA
Sept. 21 – Oct. 19 - FAIR

BOOKKEEPER'S NOTES

Checks submitted for payment of participation fees, club dues, uniforms, debts, etc. to Forest High School must be made payable to Forest High School, include a physical address, 2 phone numbers including area code, and a student number in the memo section. Post dated checks are not accepted.

JCL OFF TO A GREAT START!

The Junior Classical League (Latin Club) has begun a new year with lots of exciting activities planned. Parents will be meeting during Open House (September 1st) in Mrs. Renick's room to hear about the club and sign up their son/daughter. Some of the events for the year will include the induction dinner, "turkey clash," Saturnalia party, regional, state, and national competitions, National Latin Exam, Roman Week, Roman banquet (installation of officers), and induction of Latin Honor Society members. Officers for the year are **Rebecca Garrison** (consul), **Danielle Geckler** (proconsul), **Carley Ray** (scriba), **Kadeem Morrison** (quaestor), **Chris Bendall** (praetor), **Claire Kent** (aedile), **Janine Roberts**, **Katie Cummins**, & **Adlin Gordian** (historians).

Congratulations to **Maurice Boetger**, who travelled to California this summer to participate in the national competition. Maurice attained first place in the nation in Greek history, third place in Greek Life & Literature, and third and fifth places on his two projects. Way to go, Classical Cat!!

DRAMA NEWS

The Drama Club will have a meeting September 14th from 6-7 to plan for the year. Main topics of discussion will include productions, state, and districts. Parents are encouraged to attend as some critical decisions will be made. If you have any questions, please contact Miss Keenan at Kerry.Keenan@marion.k12.fl.us.

GUIDANCE INFORMATION

The guidance counselor grade levels for the current year are as follows: Freeston Smith (9th), Teri Strykowski (10th), Kathryn Warren (11th), Mary Beth Kerkela (12th), Elaine Cox (EMIT, ESOL, and department chair). You may contact the guidance department at 671-4715 and also through the school's website. Parent/Teacher conferences can be arranged by calling the guidance office and speaking with Mrs. White.

It is imperative that parents of seniors stay informed about their senior's status with regard to graduation. A successful senior year is a close collaboration between the student, parent and the school. Do not hesitate to contact teachers through the website to keep up with progress, or to contact the senior counselor, Mrs. Kerkela.

There have been some changes to the Bright Futures' Scholarship Program. Please refer to FACTS.org under 'News and Information.'

College application deadlines are coming SOON! Please refer to the chart below. Many of these deadlines are the priority deadlines which include the school scholarship deadlines. In these days of economic challenge, it would be advisable to adhere to these deadlines to have the best chance of being awarded an institutional scholarship.

Counselor presentations in classrooms – The counselors will be making the rounds of classrooms this fall to discuss many important issues with the students. They will give every student a booklet that covers the wide range of information that all high school students need to know such as: graduation requirements, study skills, college admissions, career information, and testing information. These presentations will generally last for the entire 90 minute class period, and the counselors are able to answer student questions. Let your student know that you expect to see the booklet given to them by their counselor this fall.

The Career and College Expo 2009 will be held this year on September 24th at the Ewers Center at Central Florida Community College from 5:30-8:00 PM. The guidance counselors encourage all students and their parents to attend this free event. Much valuable information can be learned through discussions with college and career representatives. We'll see you there!

CADET GAZZETTE

Testing –

On October 14, 2009, all 10th grade students will be administered the **PSAT** (Preliminary SAT). This is offered free of charge for all 10th grade students. If your student is in the 11th grade and would like to take the PSAT to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program, they may sign up in the guidance office. There will be a fee to take the test as an 11th grader.

FCAT Reading and Math Retakes for 11th and 12th grade students will be October 20th & 21st. Make-up days will be October 22nd & 23rd.

College admissions deadlines for Florida

***All colleges will accept your application sooner than these established dates. The sooner the better!!

October 14, 2009 – Florida State University

November 1, 2009 – University of Florida
University of Central Florida

November 13, 2009 – University of North Florida

November 15, 2009 – Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida A & M University

December 1, 2009 – Florida International
University

January 2, 2010 – University of South Florida

February 1, 2010 – University of West Florida

February 15, 2010 – Florida Atlantic University
New College

Welcome back to another exhilarating year in ROTC. This year we are starting off with 260+ cadets and growing every day as new students hear about our awesome program. We have grown this year to a Wing level and the largest per cadet organization in Marion County.

We would also like to welcome our newest instructor MSgt Chuck Elder to Forest High School. MSgt Elder comes to us from the Ocala Recruiting station where he was assigned as the Flight Chief. He has been in recruiting for the past 10 years and spent the previous 10 years in the medical field, bringing to us 20+ years of experience. We look forward to his expertise and all that he has to offer.

We are also planning on a great year with many new adventures to include, Air shows, Tops in Blue performances, local and out of state Flight challenges, parades and our famous Military Ball. We are very excited about our growth and will continue to produce quality leaders from our program.

The Wing Staff has many events planned and will keep all our cadets and parents up to date as we go through the new year. Our 1st event will be the FHS open house where parents are invited to come out and meet the instructors as well as the new leadership. This will include:

Lt Col Baranowski, Sr Aerospace Science Instructor
MSgt's David Fletcher and Chuck Elder, Aerospace Science and Leadership Education instructors
Wing Commander – Cadet Col. Michael Sullivan
Vice Wing Commander – Cadet Lt Col. Jose Torres
Operations Group Commander – Cadet Major Aaron Low
Support Group Commander – Cadet Major Christina Gaudy
Command Chief– Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Kyle Davis

We encourage all parents to get involved; you are invited to all activities in ROTC and we look forward to meeting you. Until next month, Hooah!

**SEPTEMBER
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sept. 01	Boys Golf	North Marion	Ocala Palms	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 02	Girls Golf	Villages	Away	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 03	Varsity Volleyball	Mainland	Away	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 04	Varsity Football	Union County	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 08	Girls Golf	Buchholz	Away	4:00 p.m.
	Boys Golf	West Port	Stone Creek	4:15 p.m.
	JV & V Volleyball	Brooksville Central	Home	6/7:00 p.m.
Sept. 09	JV & V Volleyball	Lake Weir	Away	6/7:00p.m.
Sept. 10	JV & Freshman Football	North Marion	Home	5/7:00 p.m.
	Girls Golf	Lecanto	Away	4:00 p.m.
	Boys Golf	Lake Weir	?	4:00 p.m.
	JV & V Volleyball	Santa Fe	Home	6/7:00 p.m.
Sept. 11	Varsity Football	North Marion	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 12	Cross Country	Wildcat Open	Home	8:00 a.m.
Sept. 14	Bowling	North Marion	AMF Central	4:00 p.m.
	Slowpitch Softball	North Marion	Away	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 15	Boys Golf	Belleview	Away	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	Girls Golf	Lake Weir	?	?
	JV & V Volleyball	North Marion	Home	6/7:00 p.m.
Sept. 17	Freshman & JV Football	West Port	Home	5/7:00 p.m.
	Girls Golf	Vanguard	Away	4:00 p.m.
	Slowpitch Softball	Belleview	Home	6:00 p.m.
	JV & V Volleyball	West Port	Home	6/7:00 p.m.
Sept. 18	Varsity Football	West Port	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 19 a.m.	Cross Country	Lecanto	Away	leave @ 6:00
Sept. 21	B & G Swimming	MCIAC Conf Meet	CFCC	9:00 a.m.
	Bowling	Belleview	AMF Central	4:00 p.m.
	Slowpitch Softball	Vanguard	Away	6:00 p.m.
	V. Volleyball	Meadowbrook	Home	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 22	Boys Golf	Lake Weir	Shores	4:00 p.m.
	JV & V Volleyball	Springstead	Away	6/7:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	Slowpitch Softball	Lake Weir	Home	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 24	JV & Freshman Football	Belleview	Away	5/7:00 p.m.
	Cross Country	Wildcat Run	Home	5:00 p.m.
	Bowling	Vanguard	AMF East	4:00 p.m.
	Boys Golf	Vanguard	Pine Oaks	4:00 p.m.
	B & G Swimming	Dunnellon	CFCC	6:00 p.m.
	JV & V Volleyball	Eastside	Home	6/7:00 p.m.
Sept. 25	Varsity Football	Belleview	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	Bowling	Lake Weir	AMF Central	4:00 p.m.
	Girls Golf	Jim Yancey Invitational	Pine Oaks	10:00 a.m.
	Boys Golf	MCIAC Championship	TBA	TBA
Sept. 29	V. Volleyball	Brooksville Central	Away	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 30	Cross Country	Wildcat Run	Home(Greenway)	5:00 p.m.
	Slowpitch Softball	North Marion	Home	6:00 p.m.
	V. Volleyball	Dunnellon	Away	7:00 p.m.