



Fairfax High School PTSA News

Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA 22030 (703) 219-2200 <http://www.fcps.edu/FairfaxHS/>

School Calendar

October

- 20 PTSA meeting- 7PM in Career Center
- 24 Football vs. Falls Church HS- 7:30PM
- 29 Music Dept. Masquerade Concert- 7:30PM
- 31 End of First Quarter
- 31 Football vs. Robinson (Senior Night)- 7:30PM

November

- 1 Fairfax Academy's Dance-A-Thon
- 1 *Time Changes tonight- don't forget!*
- 3 NO SCHOOL- Teacher Workday
- 4 NO SCHOOL- Teacher Workday
- 4 ELECTION DAY- VOTE!!!
- 5 Academic Recognition Ceremony- 7PM
- 9 Jimi Gibson Hypnotist Show- 7PM
- 11 **Rebel Roundup**- 7:30-9:20AM
Students arrive @ 10:20AM
- 13 Financial Aid Night- 7PM
- 17 PTSA Meeting- 7PM in Library
- 18 Fall Sports Banquet- 6:30PM
- 20 African American Achievers- 7PM
- 20 Improv Club Show- 7:30PM
- 23 Drama Boosters: Capitol Steps- 7PM
- 24 Winter Sports Parents Night- 7PM
- 26 Early Dismissal @ 12:05PM
- 27 Thanksgiving
- 28 NO SCHOOL



A Message from the Principal

Dear Rebel Parents,

We are already well into the school year. I hope your son or daughter is having a positive experience this year at Fairfax High. We are continuing to focus on the 3 goals of increasing student achievement, strengthening school climate, and expanding professional learning communities to enhance student and faculty learning.

Here are some frequent questions I've been asked about the school and our programs:

How is the Rewards and Remediation (R&R) program going?

R&R is a program that rewards students for academic achievement while providing extra help during the school day for struggling students. The program has already had tremendous success. Fairfax High School had almost 40% fewer Fs at 1st Quarter interim time compared to three years ago. Our transition program for our freshmen students is stronger than ever and we have opened up R&R earlier than ever for all of our students. We will continue to assess the impact of R&R on student achievement throughout the school year.

What is Rebel Roundup?

Mark your calendar now on November 11th at 7:20am for Rebel Roundup! This new program for parents allows you to have brief (2-3 minutes) but meaningful mini-conferences with your son or daughter's teachers. You will have their 1st quarter grades and can get great feedback on how they are doing in school. We hope this program strengthens

the communication process between parents and the school. We know that together, we can make sure every student does his or her very best at Fairfax High School.

Thank you for all your support of Fairfax High School!

Sincerely,
Scott S. Brabrand, Ed.D.



Join the PTSA

PTSA Meeting Dates

- (Mondays 7PM)*
- October 20 in the Career Center**
- November 17 in the Library
- December 15 HOLIDAY LUNCH
- January 12
- February 9
- March 16
- April 20
- May 18
- June 8 END OF YEAR SOCIAL

It's Academic

A team of outstanding students from Fairfax High School competed with teams from Herndon and Madison High Schools on an episode of IT'S ACADEMIC which aired on October 11. Hopefully many of you were able to watch the spirited competition. Madison High School won the match.

The Fairfax team consisted of Captain Catherine Treyz, Chloe Sevilla and Luke Warnock. Their faculty coach is Dave Carr.

IT'S ACADEMIC is the world's longest-running television quiz program and is sponsored by GIANT FOOD and the US ARMY. Mac McGarry is the long-time host.



Senior Parents- Please Read This!

Did you know that you can buy space in the upcoming yearbook and write a message for your graduate? There are many different options to choose from, including pictures! Check it out by going to the Fairfax High School home page and then clicking on the News Events heading that says **2009 Yearbook baby ads now being accepted**. The deadline to include your ad is October 31!

What's Happening with The FCPS Budget?

Fairfax County is projecting a **budget deficit** of more than \$400 million for FY 2010 which must be addressed through a combination of spending reductions and other strategies. The challenge is to develop a budget with an appropriate level of services. There are still **10 Community Dialogue Sessions** left and the Fairfax County Government

and Fairfax County Public Schools desire comments from the public. Your comments could be a key factor in deciding where those budget cuts will come from. Below are the dates, times and locations of the remaining meetings. **Reservations are required- call (703) 324-2391.**

Thurs., Oct. 16 7-9:30PM

- South County Government Center

Tues., Oct., 21 7-9:30PM

- Oakton High School
- South County Secondary
- Marshall High School
- Herndon High School

Sat., Oct. 25 9:30AM-Noon

- Centreville Regional Library
- City of Fairfax Regional Library
- Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library
- Pohick Regional Library

Wed., Oct. 29 7-9:30PM

- McLean Community Center

Thurs., Nov. 13 9:30AM-Noon

- Oakton Library
- Woodrow Wilson Library
- John Marshall Library
- Burke Centre Library

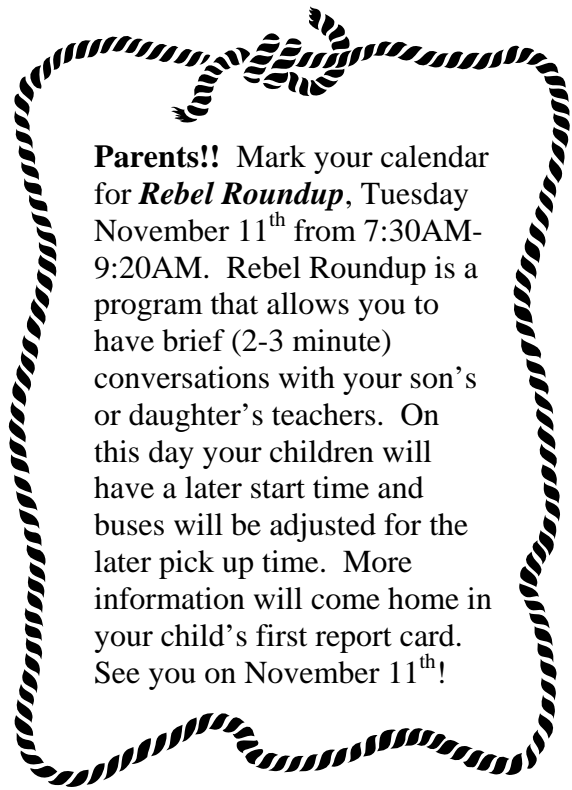
Thurs., Nov. 13 7-9:30PM

- Mason Governmental Center



We Need Cameras!

The high school photography class is in need of SLR film cameras. If interested in donating, please contact Pat Washburn, (703) 219-4011 or email her at patricia.washburn@fcps.edu. A donation letter will be provided.



Business & Information Technology Department News

We have had a great beginning to the new school year in the Business Department with over 400 students enrolled in our classes.

Our Finance classes are engaged in learning about personal finance as well as keeping abreast of the amazing amount of financial news that is hitting the headlines now. Students in Finance have been learning about credit cards, consumer purchasing strategies, and personal budgets.

Our Information Systems classes have been busy learning how to use Microsoft Office in a business environment and how to be more efficient in their use of computers to get tasks done for school or on the job.

In Web Page Development, we have already produced our first web pages using HTML and we are now working on our first multi-page website using colleges and universities as our subject.

Soon, we will move on to using Dreamweaver to create ever more complex and interesting websites.

Our students in Cooperative Office Education (co-op) are busy keeping up with their business classes in conjunction with working at jobs that enhance what they are learning in the classroom.

Our students in Business Management/Virtual Enterprise have chosen their virtual businesses to start and have applied for and gotten “jobs” within the company. Soon they will be producing a business plan for their virtual business and presenting the plan to a panel of experts from the business world.

A final note on the pride of our Business Department, FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America). We have had a tremendous recruitment campaign and have 140 members (and growing) this year! We have a full year of activities planned. We had a very successful car wash fundraiser on September 20th and attended a leadership conference at Marymount University’s School of Business on October 14th.

-- Mark Campbell, Dept. Chair, Business & Information Technology

SENIORS

College Admission Help Sessions

Do you feel overwhelmed with the college admission process? Do you need someone to help you stay on track this semester? Student Services has Help Sessions planned for you!

Location: Career Center

Time: During R&R, 8:46-9:30AM

Mini-workshop topics:

Thurs., Oct. 16- *Tips for College Fair/Night*

Wed., Oct. 22- *Resume Writing/Student Activity Sheet*

Tues., Oct. 28- *Letters of Recommendation*

Fri., Nov. 7- *The College Visit*

Thurs., Nov. 13- *Application Proofreading and Critiques*

Tues., Nov. 25- *2-Year College Options/Articulation Agreements*

Tues., Dec. 9- *College Interview Tips*

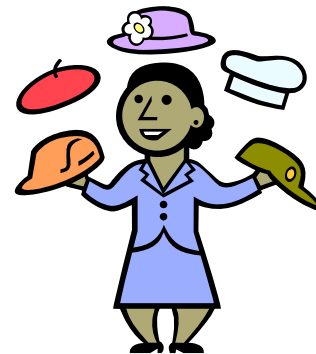
Mon., Dec. 15- *Financial Aid/Family Connection Scholarships*

More info, contact Maureen Kim, (703) 219-2204.

Class of 2010 News

October 21st and October 22nd are big days for the Junior Class. During all lunches **juniors can order class rings**. Packets can be picked up in the main office. Also on these days, Five Guys has agreed to donate 10% of the all receipts left in the Class of 2010 box for purchases made that evening. Please come out and support the Junior Class these nights by having dinner there. We are also beginning to start planning for Prom. Any student interested should watch the daily announcements for dates and times of upcoming meetings.

-Trisha Colclaser, Julia Varanavage



Career Center News... Career Day – April 23, 2009

Fairfax High School’s First Annual Career Day will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2009 from 8:00 am – 10:30 am. We have three goals for Career Day:

1. To increase student’s career awareness;
2. To connect what students are learning in the classroom with the world of work; and
3. To have informative, yet interactive, sessions where students can ask questions of professionals in a variety of career fields.

We are currently looking to secure 50-70 professionals to speak to our juniors and seniors in three, 30-minute sessions. If you are passionate about what you do, feel you have great advice for students thinking about a career in your field, then we would love to invite you to be a Career Day speaker.

If you would like to be a Career Day speaker, or just a volunteer for the day (we need those too!), please contact me at 703-219-2204 or Maureen.Kim@fcps.edu.

African American Achievers

AAA held their first meeting on October 9th with a packed crowd in attendance. The theme for this school year is “Changing the Mindset,” with goals to initiate study groups, establish scholarship workshops and to fund their own new scholarship to be awarded in June. All African American parents and students are encouraged to participate in this group. Next meeting is Thursday, 11/20 at 7PM.



Amazing Hypnotist Show

FHS All-Night Grad Party Committee is hosting a family event, sure to entertain and impress. Jimi Gibson, noted hypnotist, is making his annual appearance on the stage at FHS on Sunday evening, **November 9 at 7PM**. Mr. Gibson has quite a reputation from past shows. You will definitely want to go see what he does this year. Audience members are chosen as volunteers to be hypnotized on stage. Mr. Gibson demonstrates the amazing

capacities of our minds, all in a fun and family-friendly show.

Tickets for this event are \$10 and will be for sale during lunch hours in the cafeteria starting 10/21 or at the door. All proceeds go to help fund the All Night Grad party in June.



Tuesday, November 4 is a student holiday.

Enroll your younger student now for the **Fairfax High School Theatre's One Day Drama Camp, Tuesday, November 4, 2008**, from 9am-3pm at **Fairfax High School**. The camp costs **\$40** and is **for students in Grades 1-8**. The camp features an exciting day of theatre activities, including acting, improvisational games, makeup, costuming, lighting and more - taught by Wendy Knight, Fairfax High School Theatre Director, and her experienced high school theatre students who are raising funds for their spring 2009 trip to London. No previous theatre or acting experience is necessary for students to participate. For more information and a registration form, visit www.fxplayers.org or call 703/818-0926.

How funny is that...

The Fairfax High School Improv Club holds its first show on Thursday, November 20 at 7:30pm at the Blackbox Theatre at Fairfax High School. Come see students think fast on their feet – often with hilarious consequences! Students are randomly teamed and given scenarios for which they must perform – unrehearsed! The shows are free (but of course, donations are most appreciated.)

Parents – an evening for You.

The Fairfax High School Theatre Department presents the acclaimed **Capitol Steps**, performing **one night only**, on Sunday, **November 23 at 7:00pm** at **Fairfax High School**. Parking is plentiful and free. Tickets to the show are **\$28.00**.

The Capitol Steps are Washington DC's only Bipartisan Political Comedy Troupe and perform to sell out audiences all over the nation. Tickets, and additional information, can be found on the FX Players website: www.fxplayers.org. *Proceeds from the show go to support the Fairfax High School Theatre Department's student trip to London in April, 2009.*

Coming up...

FX Players production of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, a comic tragedy about two minor characters in Shakespeare's major work "Hamlet". Performances are on **Thursday December 11 through Sunday December 14**. Showtimes are **7:30pm** Thursday through Saturday and **2:00pm on Sunday**. Tickets may be purchased online at www.fxplayers.org.



FHS Bands

The bands would like to thank the entire community for the tremendous support we received during our Tag Day fundraiser. We continue to receive the "Sorry we missed you tags" in the mail and are extremely grateful for the donations. Also, thank you for supporting the bands by attending the ZPizza night. The funds raised will help the bands in many ways throughout the year.

The band program has a major up-coming fall fundraiser. This is the largest fundraiser of the year for the students as it helps them earn money for their spring trip. This March the bands will be traveling to Disney World to compete and enjoy the sunshine. This will be an expensive trip and your support of this fundraiser could help a student attend the trip who might not otherwise be able to do so. The fundraiser is sponsored by the FHS Band Boosters and includes the following:

Holiday Greens (wreaths, roping, centerpieces, and mail order items)
Citrus Fruit (delivered within days of being picked in Florida)
Frozen Cookie Dough (pre-shaped, just bake what you want)
Frozen Cheesecake
Poinsettias
Nuts (cinnamon roasted pecans and almonds, chocolate covered pecans and almonds, and Virginia Peanuts).

The holiday greens will be picked up by band members on November 20 and should be delivered by Thanksgiving. The rest of the items will be picked up on December 6.

If you have any questions about the FHS Bands fall fundraisers please e-mail Joan Szabo at sailboatjs1@verizon.net.

Diane Smith
Band Booster Communications Director

Chorus

The Fairfax High School Choral Department started off the new school year with an outstanding **Choral Unity Picnic** on September 21st. It was a beautiful day and a perfect opportunity to meet new friends, enjoy some great picnic goodies (special thanks to Grillmasters Dave and Wayne!), learn about the upcoming year, and, of course, throw water balloons! Watch for pictures to be posted on the website --- www.fhschorus.net. Thanks to all the parents who made time to support this event and congratulations to Ms. Christina Altieri for winning the \$50 student trip credit door prize.

Here's another reminder about next week's **Masquerade Pops Concert** on Wednesday, **October 29th at 7:30 p.m.** in the FHS auditorium. Call time for performers is 6:30 p.m., so you might consider dropping them off early and grabbing a quick bite before show time. This is an excellent **"date night" or quality family time** opportunity, with some fine musical entertainment to boot. Remember that students are encouraged to wear **costumes**, and the evening will also feature band and orchestra groups. Various fundraiser items, including the popular **White House Christmas ornaments**, will be available in the commons. Like Bill S. says, "If you're getting a tree, you need an ornament!"

Information on the music department's **spring trip to Orlando** has been promulgated. This is always a popular trip, but still somewhat expensive even though traveling by luxurious motor coach (bus). Proceeds from our fundraisers help defray costs of the trip, so students interested in attending are working hard to bring you some tasty and seasonal merchandise. Your support for them and the FHS Choral Department is greatly appreciated.

Please reserve **Thursday, December 18th** for the Music Department's Winter Concert. Students will wear their formal concert attire (to be distributed in early November) for this event and also the dress rehearsal on Wednesday, December 17th. Mark your calendars now for this holiday-mood-setting and December "date night" concert.

Reserve Your Yearbook Now!

This year's upcoming FHS yearbook is available for sale through our publishing company, Herff Jones. Yearbooks are \$62, with an additional \$5 if you want a personalized nameplate on your yearbook. You may order NOW by calling 1-866-287-3096 or going to their website, www.yearbookordercenter.com. You will be asked for our ORDER NUMBER- it's **5671**. Yearbooks will be delivered in June!

Fairfax Varsity Dance Team News

Fairfax Varsity Dance Team has had a busy fall! We have performed at the football games, held a successful fund-raiser at Patriot Harley Davidson, and had a mid-season tryout. The team would like to welcome **Maria Eduarda Cardoso** to our team. Maria is an exchange student from Brazil who has come to spend a semester at Fairfax High School.

Our team will be performing as "entertainment" at a cheer competition and at a family day at Fairfax Corner! We then have two more home halftime performances before the end of Football season. We are so proud of our Varsity Football Players and for such a great season! **GO REBELS!**

Fairfax Athletic Boosters

Congratulations to all of our fall student athletes. Fairfax is represented well by this talented group. Our fall sports teams have performed at the highest levels and experienced success. Football, field hockey and volleyball all boasted winning records through September and into October. The cross country team competed throughout the week and on the weekends, placing well in each meet. Our golf team posted great scores and is looking forward to competing again next year.

If you haven't attended a Fairfax High School athletic event, we invite you to come and see why we are so proud. The fall sports season will wrap up at the end of October/beginning of November.

Each team is preparing for District and/or Regional play and competitions. Please check the website: www.fairfaxhighsports.org for current competition schedules.

Mark your calendars now for the fall sports banquet which will be held on Tuesday, November 18th. Our student athletes will be honored for their academic and athletic performances on this night.

Are you planning on trying out for a winter sport? All students must have a current VHSL sports physical on file in order to go out for a team. Additionally, an emergency care form and extracurricular activity pledge must be completed and given to the coach to be eligible. All of the required forms can be found on the school's athletic web page: www.fairfaxhighsports.org. If you competed in the fall, you do not need another physical – but you do need to turn in a new emergency care form and sign another activity pledge.

Try-outs for all winter sports begin on November 10, 2008. If you have any questions regarding winter sports – check with the current coach. Many teams have started pre-season conditioning to get ready for try-outs. Coach contact information and pre-season conditioning information is posted on the athletic web site.

Purchasing a booster pass is a good investment and a great deal. Owning a pass can save you money through the school year and all of the funds raised directly support our sports programs. Passes can be picked up at any HOME game and at the Athletic Director's Office. Buy one now and use it often. Show your school spirit and come cheer on our athletes.

Come and find out what athletic boosters is all about. Meetings are open and new members are encouraged to attend. The athletic boosters meet the first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the classroom in the field house lobby.

FAIRFAX ACADEMY NEWS

COLLEGE PLANNING: Because Fairfax Academy students are nearly all juniors and seniors, college planning is very much on their minds in the fall. Teachers, along with Tracy Hartley, the Academy's School Counselor, actively assist students with the college application process, including preparation for auditions and portfolio reviews. A number of colleges will hold information sessions for Academy students during the school day this fall:

- Emerson College (10/20)
- Columbia College of Chicago (10/21)
- Rhode Island School of Design (10/28)
- Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD) (11/17)
- VCU School for the Arts (12/4)
- RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences (12/8)
- The Art Institute (multiple visits) and
- Boston University's Center for Digital Imaging Arts (10/6)

In addition, students are encouraged to participate in area college fairs and portfolio review days, especially the Performing & Visual Arts College Fair, November 2, at the Washington DC Convention Center. Typically 96-98% of Fairfax Academy graduates pursue post-secondary education, with a significant percentage pursuing majors related to their Academy program of study.

DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!: Fairfax Academy's Dance students are holding a Dance-A-Thon on **Saturday, November 1**, to raise money in support of visiting Master Class instructors later this year. Each student will ask sponsors for an hourly pledge of money to cover the number of hours danced. Six area dance instructors are donating their time to lead the students in dance classes for the day. The more classes a student participates in, the more money he/she raises. It's a win-win day for all!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: This month, be watching for students from the Professional Musical Theatre & Actor's Studio program at the **October 25th** Fairfax City Community Market. They will be dressed as Pirates -- performing for families and

using their theatrical make-up skills to paint faces on young children.

FREE4ALL ANIMATION & FILM FESTIVAL:
Plans are underway for the second Free4All Animation & Film Festival in May 2009, organized collaboratively by Fairfax Academy’s Professional Graphics Studio program and the FHS Computer Graphics program. Winning student entries of the Free4All are automatically entered in the international Shortie Film Festival sponsored by MHz Network. Currently we are accepting corporate sponsorships to support student awards for the Free4All Festival. If interested, please contact Academy teacher Roxanne Kaylor at roxanne.kaylor@fcps.edu. Details can be found at www.thefree4all.org.

Academic Boosters

Mark your calendars! Fairfax High School’s annual Academic Recognition Ceremony will be on November 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. The ceremony recognizes National Merit Commended Students, Varsity Letter recipients, and others. (Academic Letters are awarded to students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher for the previous high school year.) Eligible students will receive an invitation from Student Services in the near future. The ceremony will have a guest speaker, Larry Kelly, President/CEO of Apple Federal Credit Union. Following the ceremony, there will be a dessert reception in the cafeteria. Parents and family members are invited to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Additionally, the Academic Boosters extends a big thank you to all families who contributed to our organization. To date, your generous donations total \$1320. We tip our hats to the following parents/families:

Carol and Tom Allen, Caroline Tompson, Sue Newman, Laurie Barnes, Ruth and Wayne Spong, Tom Bradley, Michelle McCrave, Patty Ryan and John Riley, Marlene Auble, Cheryl Sturgeon, Tom and Diane Scibilia, Julia Mason, Janice Wyatt, Tammy Harper, Pam Jones, Mary Ann Latko Groetsema, Supriya Bhatnagar, Kelly Baugh, Teresa

Andreatos, Michel and Lisa Smyth, Patricia White, Lori Rousseau, Kim Atteberry, Tom and Dawn Southerly, Maichi Nguyen, Clai Jorgensen, Ken and Susan Kuck, Lesley Hatch, Debbie Mattocks, Dr. R. Mark Gritz, Doris Garlock, Mary Hacker, Susan Rawls, Marina Kossobokova, Tammi Price, Beverly Wise, William Burns, Shelly and Fred Bechert, Ok Ran Kim, Lisa Evers, Eileen Gorman, Vilas Pendharkar, Hye Sook Suh, Judy Reihing, and several donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Don’t forget, many businesses will match donations of their employees. If your place of employment offers this, please submit your paperwork to your company. Matching funds can be mailed to FHS, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA 22030, Attn: PTSA Academic Boosters.

-Susan Kuck, Shelly Bechert

Auto Tech

We are taking donations of **CAR-BOAT-VAN-JET SKI**. All donations are **fully tax deductible** as they are used for teaching purposes only. If the vehicle is worthy, we will fix up and it will be resold thru the student auto sales program with the proceeds going to the Fairfax auto tech program. We also do minor automotive repairs in the shop by **appointment only**. For further info contact Less Steger (703)219-2247 or (703)591-8589.

FHS Phone Numbers

Main Office	(703) 219-2200
Attendance	-2211
Career Center	-2204
Clinic	-2210
Student Services	-2218

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

This PTSA newsletter is a monthly publication. Deadline for next newsletter is November 13 (usually the 2nd Thursday of each month).

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sailboatjs1@verizon.net
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gthur39322@aol.com

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Next PTSA Meeting

20 October, 7 pm
Career Center



The PTSA is happy to mail you this newsletter each month. But would you prefer to NOT receive it by mail and read it online? That is an option. It saves us money and saves paper. But our goal is to keep you informed.

If you would like to be TAKEN OFF the mailing list for this newsletter you may do one of two things:

1. **Email** Clai Jorgensen – claij@cox.net – and put TAKE OFF MAILING LIST in the subject line. Please include the name of the oldest child you have at Fairfax HS and indicate their grade

OR

2. **Call** Judy Thurston – (703) 266-2288 – and ask to be removed from the mailing list. Please spell your last name and indicate your child and their grade.

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