



The Sleepy Hollow Legend



Sleepy Hollow Elementary School Parent Teachers Association (PTA)

September 2011

Annandale Regional Study Process Concludes

In July 2011, the Fairfax County School Board approved the boundaries for the new elementary school at the Lacey site as well as took steps to alleviate overcrowding at Annandale High School. As background, in April 2010, the School Board approved an ad hoc committee process to facilitate a regional school planning study based on:

- ◆ Overcrowding at Annandale High School and Poe Middle School.
- ◆ Review attendance area options for a new elementary school at the Lacey Site.

Sleepy Hollow Elementary was involved in the planning process as it was identified by FCPS as a school whose boundaries could potentially be affected by the re-drawing of elementary school boundaries to accommodate the Lacey Site school. Sleepy Hollow boundaries did **NOT** change in the process. The schools surrounding Sleepy Hollow, including Annandale Terrace, Beech Tree, Belvedere, Pine Spring, and Woodburn Elementary Schools, will have new boundaries as some children who currently attend these schools will be going to the new school, slated to open in September 2012. For a summary of the School Board actions and a map of the new boundaries, please consult: <http://www.fcps.edu/fts/planning/annandalestudy/regional/>

A special thank you goes out to those involved in representing Sleepy Hollow's views during this process including members of the PTA, the SHES Administration and Mason District School Board member Sandy Evans.

Special Needs Students

Adjusting to a brand new school year can be quite challenging, especially for students with special needs. Fortunately, Sleepy Hollow has a vibrant community of special needs families and students receiving special education services. Talking with parents who have experienced similar challenges can be a great source for information and support.

Please contact Staci Alexander, Special Education Liaison, at staci.j.alexander@cox.net to learn more about connecting to the special needs/special education community at SHES.

FCPS' Parent Resource Center is also a great place to go for information. The PRC hosts workshops for parents (day and evening) on a variety of special education topics from developing successful IEP goals to managing problem behaviors. The PRC has a lending library where families can borrow books, videos and other materials on a variety of special education topics free of charge. The best way to learn more about the PRC is to, become a Keep in Touch (KIT) Plus subscriber and receive Keep in Touch emails about special education services and Parent Resource Center events. Subscribe today at <http://www.fcps.edu/kit/>.

Splash into Fun with Dolphin Academy!

Dolphin Academy returns to Sleepy Hollow this fall with 15 classes! We are pleased to offer some tried-and-true favorites (Chess, Creative Writing, Flag Football, Dance Theater and Sports Spectacular) as well as some brand new classes (Arts and Crafts with a Storybook, Tennis, Video Game Design and Book Making!).

The fall session begins Monday October 17 and will end Friday December 9. The dates for the winter and spring sessions are as follows: Monday February 6 through Friday March 30; and Monday April 16 through Friday June 8. Please make a note of these dates and look for the winter and spring registration forms in your child's Wednesday folder in the coming months.

The registration deadline for the fall session is Friday September 30, so if you need to wait to confirm other commitments, you still have plenty of time to submit your forms. We will email registration confirmation to all students' parents/guardians soon after September 30. If you haven't already received a fall registration form, please visit the SHES website and click on the PTA link to connect to the Dolphin Academy forms. You may also call or email Debbie Ratliff, debbie.ratliff@gmail.com 703.597.5706.



Mark Your Calendar!

Sept 26	Back-to-School Night, grades PS-2, 7 pm
Sept 30	Dolphin Academy Fall Registration Deadline
Oct 4	PTA Meeting: Meet the Specialists, 7:30 pm
Oct 10	Columbus Day Holiday (No School)
Oct 17	Dolphin Academy Fall Classes Begin
Nov 8	Election Day Bake Sale

Election Day Bake Sale: Tuesday Nov. 8, 2011

Campaign signs are in your neighbors yards and on the highways. This can only mean one thing. The Election Day Bake Sale is coming and, we need you to help us make it yet another record breaking year. Once again in addition to your fabulous baked goods, we need your best pre-made pasta dishes, casseroles, quiches, soups and stews. And of course, we need you to give an hour or two at the sale table.

Watch the Wednesday folders for more information and table sign up instructions. Contact Linda Carter at 703.241.1616 or jlzcbba@yahoo.com with question or to help solicit baked goods from local bakeries.

Dollars for Dolphins

In an effort to streamline fundraising efforts, the Dollars for Dolphins campaign was introduced last year. Based on its success, the PTA is continuing it for the 2011-2012 school year. Dollars for Dolphins invites families and friends of SHES students to make a donation directly to the SHES Parent Teacher Association to support the many programs run by the PTA. 100% of your tax deductible donation goes into these programs!

To make a donation, please complete the Dollars for Dolphins form that was in the back to school folder and return that to SHES via your child's backpack with your check. If you lost your form, another will be coming home in the Wednesday folder in October. Thanks to the parents who sent donations in during the first (very short) week of school. We are on our way to meeting our \$8000.00 goal! If you have any questions, please contact Kim Wilkins at 703.916.9166 or kimberlywilkins@yahoo.com.

New Principal for Sleepy Hollow

By now, you probably know that Craig Rowland will be leaving Sleepy Hollow in November. The process of selecting a new principal is already underway. Want to weigh in with your thoughts and views? Contact Alison Oleson at 703.599.7644 or alisonoleson@gmail.com to find out how to get involved.



For Your Information...

Attention Sleepy Hollow Artists! This year's *Reflections* theme is "Diversity Means..." More details coming soon!

Like the Sleepy Hollow PTA? Then, 'LIKE' us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sleepy-Hollow-PTA/164810473594193>

Get Outside and Play! The National PTA is a sponsor of Nickelodeon's 'Worldwide Day of Play', now in its 8th year! <http://www.nick.com/nick-assets/thebighelp/rtwwdop/pdf/playbook-2011.pdf>

The American Diabetes Association Walk is scheduled for November 4. Stay tuned for details!



Featured Teacher

Meet the Sleepy Hollow Teachers and Staff!

Miss Greta Michaelson
First Grade Teacher

Fifth year as a teacher and second year at SHES!

I was born and raised in the Fairfax County Public Schools System. I went to Camelot Elementary, Luther Jackson Middle, and Falls Church High School. I took art classes and was in the marching and concert band playing flute and piccolo. I also swam on the varsity team for 4 years and sang in a few musicals. I swam on the Holmes Run Swim team growing up and raced against Sleepy Hollow many times.

I always played teacher with my sister and friends growing up. I loved creating worksheets, grading them, and teaching those younger than me the ways of the world. I babysat starting at age 12 and still do today. I nanny for my brother's children during the summers and we always have a blast! When I have time, I tutor as well.

My favorite part of being a teacher is the priceless look on a child's face when they realize that they have discovered how to do something on their own; whether it's reading, learning something from a book, writing a whole sentence, or creating something fantastic. They have this glow and twinkle in their eye which makes everything worth it!

Sleepy Hollow Elementary School PTA Contacts

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