

## Weekly Memos – November 27, 2017

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### The Most Wonderful Time of the Year



This season is a time to reflect and be thankful for the many blessings that have been bestowed upon us. Also, it is a time to reconnect to enjoy family, friends, and fellowship. Well, that is not all that is happening in my world. It is a time to begin thinking around goals to improve our system for 2018-19 academic year. It is time to begin the budgeting process for the new school year that will begin in August '18. This year's budget will address these critical areas: increase teacher and leader compensation package, decentralize board office employees roles and reduce salaries, institute adequate programs and equipment to improve outcomes for students, and create a better inventory system to identify overage and shortage in supplies and materials. With these priorities at the forefront, I think we will be able to have a solid budget to present to commission in early May. I will continue to observe the instructional programs and offerings to our students to ensure that we are receiving the best return on our investment. In the coming weeks, I will be discussing in detail and providing more explicit information around the critical areas aforementioned. Stay tuned.



### Teacher Tuesday

***Audience: All***

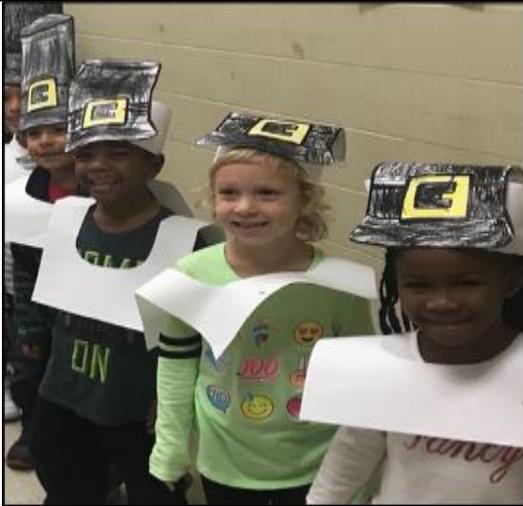
FCPS is committed to the vision and outcomes in the district's 5-year strategic plan, Imagine 21. As an effort to continue our work toward achieving the goals outlined in the plan, we will have Teacher Tuesday. This will occur once a month for all FCPS staff. Students will attend for a half day while staff will remain to engage in intentional professional development around rigorous instruction and student outcomes. The first Teacher Tuesday will be held on December 12, 2017. Early schools will have PD from 11:00 PM-3:00 PM and late schools will participate from 12:10 PM-4:10 PM.



### Celebrating Thanksgiving

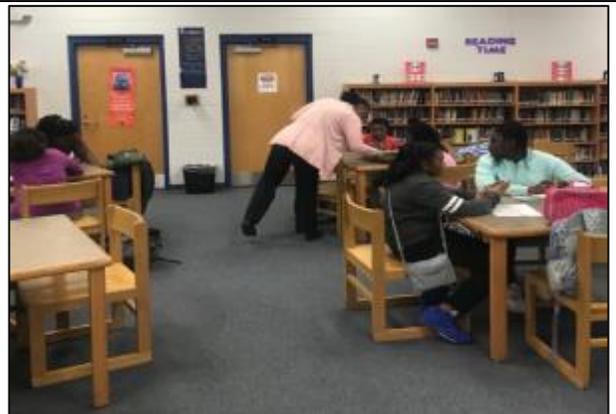
In the spirit of Thanksgiving, schools and students across the district celebrated in many ways. From painting turkeys to dressing the part, signs of Thanksgiving could be seen in every direction!





## Beyond the Bell in Full Swing

Students at East Junior High are sharpening their math concepts under the watchful eye of Ms. Annette Pugh, courtesy of the Beyond the Bell program. This after school program offered at the middle and high school levels offers academic support, enrichment and physical activity through a series of station rotations for ELA, math, and enrichment. Transportation is offered to students for this free program.



## Families Get Prepared During FAFSA Night

Families were getting their seniors ready during Fayette-Ware's FAFSA Night! In order for students to receive federal grants, federal student loans, work-study, and in some cases, state and university grants, students must file the FAFSA. During the FAFSA Night at Fayette-Ware, families got help filling out the FAFSA and questions were answered. Don't forget to file!





## Thanksgiving Lunch with My Favorite

No matter how old you get, your mom will always be your number one! These moms came out to enjoy Thanksgiving lunch at school with their guys. Spending quality time with family is an integral part of Thanksgiving, and these moms did not want to miss a moment.



## Oakland Outlasts Buckley-Carpenter to Claim Boys' Elementary Title

The boys' elementary tournament title game matched up the Oakland Stars with the defending champion, Buckley-Carpenter Mustangs. Both teams had split their two regular season meetings, with each team winning on its home court. The title game did not disappoint. The packed house at West JR HS was treated to another exciting finish as Oakland held on for the 43-40 win over Buckley-Carpenter to claim the boys' title.

A nearly standing room only crowd was treated to an even contest throughout the first half as the teams were tied at 9 to end the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and again at 17 at halftime. The Stars used a full court trap defense to force the Mustangs into turnovers which were converted into easy baskets. Fredrick Motley and Jayden Williams each had 7 points for Oakland in the first half. Tacarion Freeman paced the Mustangs as he scored 8 first half points. The Mustangs turned up their own defense in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter forcing Oakland into turnovers of their own and only trailed 30-26 headed into the fourth quarter. Oakland's Zach Portwood scored 10 of 14 points in the fourth quarter including 6-8 from the free throw line to put the game away. A last second three-point attempt by the Mustangs fell short and Oakland claimed the boys' championship title. Oakland's Motley was named tournament MVP. Freeman led the way for the Mustangs with a game high 19 points.





## Families Celebrate Thanksgiving Lunch Together

Thanksgiving is a time to remember our blessings, one of which is family. Families showed up in full force throughout the district to enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving lunch with their children. We are thankful for our families and the support they show our schools.



## Student Unity Through Service

East and West Junior High Schools joined forces to serve the community by collecting canned goods for Fayette Cares. With the holidays approaching, these donated items will certainly be appreciated! Together we are stronger and are able to accomplish more.





## LaGrange-Moscow Girls Win Elementary Basketball Tournament

West JR HS was the scene for last week's season ending elementary basketball tournament. After defeating the Buckley-Carpenter Mustangs in the semifinals, the Southwest Eagles squared off against the LaGrange-Moscow Tigers, who had defeated the 3-time defending champion, Oakland Stars. In a back and forth classic, LaGrange-Moscow was able to hold off a late Southwest rally and claim the girls' trophy with a 35-34 victory. The Tigers jumped out to an early first quarter lead, thanks to Kemyah Morrow's 6 first quarter points. The Eagles rallied to tie the game at 18 headed into halftime. Raven Foster led the way for Southwest with 13 first half points. Both teams turned up the defensive pressure in the third quarter as the turnovers and fouls began to mount. Southwest took a 24-23 lead into the fourth quarter as they looked to claim the championship. But tournament MVP Harmony Benson had other ideas. She scored 10 of her team high 18 points in the fourth quarter, including a layup with under 10 seconds to go to give the Tigers a four-point lead. The Eagles weren't done as Raven Foster hit a late three-pointer, giving her a game high points 27 points, to cut the lead to one but time expired and the Tigers were crowned champions.

