



FOX TALES



Newsletter June 2008

Dr. Tim Murph, Principal
Josh Trahan, Asst. Administrator
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PRINCIPAL'S POINT

Though summer is finally here, there are many great aspects of Fox Creek High School I would like to share with you. As you know, we continued to grow during the 2007-2008 year. The school offered its students expanded opportunities to participate in academics, athletics, the arts, and community service. In addition, the school is preparing for the construction of a new facility that will further cement its ties to the community. As we review the previous year and anticipate the coming year, it is an exciting time to be a Fox Creek Predator.

The school added several new programs to supplement its curriculum. The Science Department held its first science fair and the Spanish club traveled to Spain. Our Fine Arts Department saw exponential growth. Fox Creek fielded its first marching band, presented fall and spring theatre productions, and performed in a prestigious choral competition. One student finished in the top 4 in the state at the Poetry Out Loud contest. Another student finished 2nd in the Augusta Regional Airport Art Contest.

Students continued to involve themselves in the community through food drives, the Adopt-A-Highway program, the blood drive, nursing home visitations, and senior community service projects. Each senior volunteered at least 10 hours to the UPWARDS basketball program at Big Stevens Baptist Church. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes contributed to Operation Christmas Child. Our Predator cheerleaders participated in several community carnivals and festivals to entertain local children, most notably at the North Augusta Christmas Parade.

Fox Creek's athletic programs garnered accolades on and off the court. The varsity swim team participated in the state meet with one swimmer finishing as runner up in two events. The varsity volleyball team won its second consecutive region championship and advanced to the state quarterfinals. The tennis team also participated in the state tournament for the second year in a row. Other teams winning consecutive region championships include baseball, softball, and golf. The first year wrestling team was quite a success, finishing with a winning record competing against larger, more established programs. Further, Fox Creek students were chosen to participate in the SCHSL leadership summit, recognized as scholar-athletes, and attended weekly "Winning with Character" seminars.

The SIC's volunteer run communications subcommittee continues to keep parents and community informed by way of monthly newsletters, weekly emails, the daily buzz-by-board, and a dynamic website. We are proud of the school's achievements and remain committed to advancing the academic, artistic, athletic, and service-learning programs. As students, faculty, and staff work together to build our school and its traditions, the SIC extends its invitation to parents and the community to join these efforts.

Dr. Tim Murph, Principal

Mr. Bill Warnken, SIC President

Upcoming Events

- ◆ 7 on 7 Football—
Tuesdays in June
- ◆ Booster Club Mtg—
June 6
- ◆ Fitness Fair--
June 14
- ◆ Softball Camp—
June 23-26
- ◆ Board Meetings—
June 23, July 21

Kudos for Parent Volunteers A+Wonderful

Nancy Cowart

Statistics show that children whose parents are involved in their school activities most often will perform better academically. Fox Creek High School, like many other schools in Edgefield and Aiken Counties, has a good number of parents who give time to serve in support organizations like PTCA, SIC, Booster Club, and the Board of Directors. As a small, community-based high school, Fox Creek depends, probably more than most schools, on parent support and parent time.

Far too often, the time given by parent volunteers is overlooked. As a classroom teacher who might be assigned these duties, I am very appreciative of those parents who are able to come out and help serve the catered lunches, who help take money up or work concessions at the sports games, who continually make efforts to insure a quality education for all the students at Fox Creek.

Undoubtedly, the Board members at FCHS work overtime to make sure our charter is followed, to create an environment that is best for the students' academic growth, to provide opportunity for young people to participate in activities that might not be available to them in a larger setting. The 2007-2008 Board consists of Sherolyn Bishop, Jim Oliver, Ashley Williams, Vernon Ball, Terri Mayson, Sharon Reese, Steve Elliot, and Rod Huffman. Often these folks give blood, sweat, and tears to make sure the students' needs are met.

Giving many hours in fund raising activities to provide needed items to teachers and to students, the PTCA also burns the midnight oil quite often. These ladies have many opportunities to work with the public through the fund-raising activities and to provide great PR for Fox Creek: Karen Bugg, Joy Bryant, Julie Williams, and Maggie Duncan.

Efforts to keep our children active in sports, the Booster Club also does fund raisers to help support necessary items for coaches and team players. Kevin Baker, Deborah Cartrett and Clay Bryant can be applauded for all their work that sometimes goes unnoticed.

Finally, the group that ties it all together is the School Improvement Council. Fox Creek High School has one of the best Communication Committees around. The FasTrack is sent to homes weekly; the Buzz-By Board (with the assistance of Andrea and Jessica Horton—mother/daughter team) is updated as needed; Fox Tales, our news letter, goes out monthly. This group continuously makes efforts to keep families informed and involved. The SIC leaders are Bill Warnken (teacher), Courtney Turner and Alexx Bugg (students), Susie Stewart, Lynn Thomas, and Ronnye Eubanks. Ms. Eubanks, along with Charles Jenkins, has spent an insurmountable amount of hours keeping computers up and running for Fox Creek, a most important aspect of communication.

Our in-house volunteer who not only gives her expertise by serving as librarian but also by recognizing when teachers or students need an extra boost of encouragement is Susan Presnell. Mrs. Presnell keeps students doing research for their various classes on-task, purchases books (on her off-hours which are after school hours because she is there every day, all day), reminds teachers to sign up for library hours, and she is constantly looking for means of improving the media center.

I say "**Hats off**" to each of these volunteers for their time, their energy, and mostly for the love and care they have for the students at Fox Creek High School. Without parents being involved in every area of their children's lives and activities, without them being in and around the school, the family atmosphere, the unity, the success our students have experienced these past four years would cease to exist.

"Hats off, parents!" You are A+ wonderful!!

Student Accomplishments

Congratulations to Fox Creek Student, Kelsey Valentine for placing Honorable Mention in the 2008 Jostens Photo Contest sponsored by Wolfe's Camera. Kelsey's winning photograph, entitled *Flying High*, is one of over 5,000 entries submitted nationwide. The photographs were judged based on proper photography techniques and for the ability to convey the school's story in a meaningful way. Kelsey Valentine, assistant editor of Fox Creek's *Silver Fox* yearbook, learned photography techniques while in yearbook publication and at summer workshop. Mrs. Donna Leopard, Fox Creek's yearbook advisor stated, "Kelsey really has blossomed into a great photographer. She consistently looks for that 'golden moment' and aligns her shots perfectly according to the rule of thirds. I couldn't be more proud." Fox Creek Principal, Dr. Tim Murph believes, "Kelsey's achievement is terrific. It is a testament to her strong work ethic and Mrs. Leopard's excellent tutelage." Look for Kelsey's photograph in Jostens publication of *The Look Book* out in print this August.

FCHS Swimmer Senior, Brittany Gobat, signs to swim with Georgia Tech on an athletic scholarship.

Great Job, Britt, we are proud of you!!!



2008 Merrill Lynch Young Entrepreneur Award

Senior Daniel Mollo is one of five South Carolina students to receive the 2008 Merrill Lynch Young Entrepreneur Award in recognition of his keen financial know-how and entrepreneurial spirit in starting and operating his own businesses.. *Details* is a mobile car detailing business.

"I am honored to be recognized by such a great company and I would like to tell all young people that if they put their minds to it, they can do anything," Mollo said. Daniel received a \$200 cash prize and was honored at a luncheon by Merrill Lynch and the South Carolina Council on Economic Education in Columbia.

CONGRATULATIONS

**2008–2009
FOX CREEK HIGH SCHOOL
PREDATOR CHEERLEADER TEAM**

Kristen Anderson, Alexx Bugg, Ansley Chamberlain, Candace Cordell, Kelsi Henderson, Cindy Horne, Brittany Ivey, Elizabeth Lemack, Sicilee Macklin, Chelsea McLendon, Megan Moxley, Alexis Murphy, Victoria Pack, Claire Parks, Logan Tingler, and Ashton Tobias

Welcome Pat Carpenter—New Cheerleading Coach

More Student Accomplishments



Adam Baker
Aleaka Baker
Derek Baldwin
Cody Barnes
Jordan Brack
Yelena Burceva
Courtney Carter
Sarah Cartrett
Chasity Cason
Heather Chitty
Matt Cox
Kim Culbreath
Amber Elgin
Micki Eubanks
Lucie Georis

Brittany Gobat
Tabitha Grimes
Cheryl Grubbs
Amanda Ham
Jeremy Hargis
Jessica Harris
Chantelle Hill
Nick Jenkins
Alexandria Johnson
Erica Just
Eric Kangieser
Colton Lafon
Heather Linck
Victoria Maner

Tyler Mayson
Brad Mercier
Daniel Mollo
Dennie O'Connell
Victoria Oliver
Jetta Owens
Jessica Ramp
Taylor Randolph
Kristen Schlachter
Courtney Turner
Lyndsey Turner
Jessica Walters
Kristen Williams
Felton Wynn

This graduating class consisted of the first crop of students that completed the all four years of high school at Fox Creek. The graduation ceremony for was truly impressive and memorable this year. Thank-you to every one who made it possible. Thank-you Dr. Mary Rice-Crenshaw, ECSD Superintendant, and guest speaker Richard Rogers, WRDW journalist, for your words of encouragement. Nick and Micki, your speeches kept us laughing and brought back many memories. And remember Dr. Crenshaw quoted and the FCHS choir sang: *“And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance. Dance....I hope you dance.”*

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Our School Improvement Council is proud to oversee some of the finest committees in existence. Additionally we have hosted meetings with relevant topics for the direct benefit of our students. Recent meetings have featured guest speakers such as Dianne Brady, published co-author of Why the Wind Blows, "News from the Front Porch" guest columnist for NA Today and web store owner of Heavenly Resources; Ms. Brady emphasized preparing our children spiritually to handle success. And Susan Swanson, Director of the Augusta Care Pregnancy Center, Former Heritage Director and recent primary candidate for SC State Senate. Ms. Swanson addressed sex education and the need for parents to review their child's Sex Ed curriculum and exercise their right to opt the child out if they find the program unsatisfactory. Additionally our SIC was invited to attend the Edgefield County District meeting overseeing the sex ed curriculum that will be offered next year. Bill Turner and I did attend and we are excited to report that the curriculum on slate for next year is extraordinary, being values oriented and abstinence based.

The SIC is constantly reviewing procedures, curricula and needs to ensure the best possible educational environment for your child, incorporating home and school to increase their overall development. Together, our efforts improve their future outlook (whether college or vocation bound). Please submit your suggestions and ideas to us at S_I_C@foxcreekhs.org. Your suggestions are welcome and will receive timely consideration and response. See our web page for more information and be sure to join us at our (open) monthly meetings.

Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not.
Thomas Huxley

The Communications SubCommittee is excited over the return of the Buzz-By-Boards and we've gotten many encouraging comments from the parents too. (Thank you Andrea Horton!) Our committee is sponsored by the SIC and consists of only four, but we are four of some of the hardest working, most dedicated members you'll run into. Of particular note is the web administrator who is reluctant to take praise, but Ronnye Eubanks has put in more hours than any one at the school, bar none. She works daily, vigilantly updating the countless activities featured on the web, investing a surprising amount of time in communication, solicitation and maintenance. She works weekends and school nights on computers as the needs arise and every weekend issuing the FasTrack. All this without a dime and very little praise; Well, THANK YOU, RONNYE EUBANKS! We would be lost without your efforts. And our newsletter editor (don't delete this Lynn) is to be praised for her work product as well. Join us in CSC accolades for the web, FasTrack, Buzz-By-Board and newsletters. Feel free to pat us on the back or put an arm around us when you see us – it is a love and devotion to the students and teachers that keeps us going.

S. Stewart, Enthusiastic Member

Election News

Your 2008-2009 BoD, PTCA Executive Board, and School Improvement Council Members

<u>Board of Directors</u>	<u>PTCA Executive Board</u>	<u>School Improvement Council</u>
Randy Parks	Karen Bugg (President)	Teacher Members: Bill Warnken,
Keith Holliday	Maggie Duncan (Vice-Pres.)	Vickie Leonard
Sherolyn Bishop	Joy Bryant (Secretary)	Parent Members: Susie Stewart,
Kevin Baker	Lorrie Moxley (Treasurer)	Lynn Thomas
Terri Mayson	Nancy Cowart (Teacher Rep.)	Student Members: Alexx Bugg,
Steve Elliott		Zach Buchanan
Jim Oliver		Ex-Officio Members: Tim Murph,
		others TBA

KEY'S KORNER

Young men—you must register for Selective Service within 30 days of your 18th birthday.



Mrs. Cindy Smith is Fox Creek's 2008-2009 Teacher of the Year

Fox Creek High School recently announced Mrs. Cindy Smith as the 2008-2009 Teacher of the Year. The announcement was made at the annual North Augusta Optimist Club Teacher of the Year Banquet.

Leopard's Spots

- Special thanks to all who purchased a yearbook.
- Reserve your 2009 copy now for \$65 at www.yearbooksonsale.com or see Mrs. Leopard.
- Special thanks to all who participated in Prom 2008. We had a great time!
- Will you do something exciting this summer? Yearbook staff wants to know about it! Students and parents may submit pictures to Mrs. Leopard at any time. Just tell her what you did, who took the picture and where you were. You might be featured in the summer news section of the yearbook!

Athletic Activities

2nd Annual Fitness Fair

This FREE EVENT is for girls ages 5-12 on Saturday, June 14, at Sweetwater from 10-12pm. This is a great way to learn about a lot of fitness and health topics like nutrition, working out, and dental needs. We will have local dentists, DARE officers, nutritionists and fitness instructors. **THIS EVENT IS FREE!!!!** All participants will get a thank you gift for coming. For more info call Amanda Schneider - Head Softball Coach FCHS 706-339-7406

Softball Clinic - June 23-26

Softball Clinic will be held June 23-26 (M-Th) at Sweetwater from 9:00 -12:00 noon. It is for girls ages 5-12. Cost is \$75 and spots are filling up quickly. For more info call Amanda Schneider - Head Softball Coach FCHS 706-339-7406

Summer Football "7 on 7" Practice

Football has 7 on 7 practices every Tuesday in June (June 3, 10, 17, & 24) at Greenbrier HS at 6:00 pm.

June 2008

Remember to check the website for changes and to confirm the dates, times, and locations for all events.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 - Teacher Workday - SIC Meeting 7:00 pm	3 - Teacher Workday - Football "7 on 7" practice at Greenbrier HS at 6:00 pm	4	5	6 - Booster Club Meeting - 6:00 pm	7
8	9	10 - Football "7 on 7" practice at Greenbrier HS at 6:00 pm	11	12	13	14 - 2nd Annual Fitness fair for girls ages 5-12 – FREE!! at Sweetwater from 10:00 – 12:00 noon
15	16	17 - Football "7 on 7" practice at Greenbrier HS at 6:00 pm	18	19	20	21
22	23 - Softball Clinic for ages 5-12 (Mon-Thurs) at Sweetwater from 9:00am – 12:00 noon (\$75) – for more information contact Coach Amanda Schneider 706.339.7406 - Board of Directors Meeting – 6:00 pm	24 - Softball Clinic for ages 5-12 (Mon-Thurs) at Sweetwater from 9:00am – 12:00 noon Football "7 on 7" practice at Greenbrier HS at 6:00 pm	25 - Softball Clinic for ages 5-12 (Mon-Thurs) at Sweetwater from 9:00am – 12:00 noon	26 - Softball Clinic for ages 5-12 (Mon-Thurs) at Sweetwater from 9:00am – 12:00 noon	27	28
29	30					

July 21, Monday, Board of Directors Meeting – 6:00 pm

August 19, Tuesday, First day of school for Students



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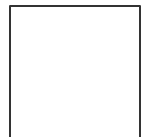
We're on the Web!
www.foxcreekhs.org

FCHS,

Have a great summer.
Thank you students, parents,
faculty, staff, and volunteers for
making this year possible. We look
forward to seeing you and working
with you next year.

the CSC

FCHS Communications Subcommittee
1297 West Martintown Road
N. Augusta, SC 29841



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