



The Bulletin

COURTESY OF:
FLORENCE EXCHANGE CLUB
THE LONGEST SERVING CIVIC CLUB IN THE SHOALS

2017 - 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Brian Maples, *President*
- Bert Bretherick,
Im. Past President
- Doug Evans, *Pres. Elect*
- James Barnett,
Vice President
- Fran Nunnelly, *Secretary*
- Howard Tinsley,
Treasurer
- Board Members**
- One Year
- Olin Mefford, III
- B. W. Gibbons
- Parrish Riedel
- Two Years
- James Barnett
- Jenny Mitchell
- Joe Patterson



Dr. Jimmy Shaw, City School Superintendent, says “come visit our schools, see our progress, and thank you for the Buddy Benches.”

We believe all students, teachers and administrators can grow, succeed, and reach their full potential by being engaged in the learning process.

We believe our school district’s relationships with students’ families and community partners are crucial to our success.

Carl Madewell says his speaker for next Tuesday will be Dr. J. Scott Angle, President and CEO of International Fertilizer Development Center.

We believe our school district must use innovative approaches to meet the needs of our diverse population. We believe in a classroom culture in which students feel safe to learn.

The district’s NGA graduation rate has increased from 73% in 2012 to 95% in 2016

(second consecutive year at 95%). Student enrollment has increased every year since 2008. Through programs such as RESCUE, TOPS, SPAN, and 12 For Life, the needs of the non-traditional student are met.

The 12 For Life program is the only one of its kind in the state. Ten different languages are spoken in the homes of students in Florence City Schools.

The Freshman Center’s goal is to ensure the successful transition of ninth grade students from the middle school to the high school. Freshman students need a caring and consistent educational environment that consistently challenges and encourages them academically.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

Carl Madewell	Oct 3
Fire/Police Awards Lunch	Oct 10
Olin Mefford	Oct 17
Jenny Mitchell	Oct 24

Do you have an idea for a speaker?
 Call Fran

Twenty-first century technology is pervasive in classrooms across the district and is a model for the state. Local support of Florence City Schools accounts for 44% of the district's budget. The high school curriculum is expansive, offering a wide range of courses (283 total courses, including 65 Career Tech, 20 AP, four foreign languages). The district has won the national "What Parents Want" award for the past 20 years. IMPACT 80 provides an avenue for FCS teachers and administrators to acquire advanced degrees at the University of North Alabama for 1/3 of the cost.

FCS participates in 14 different interscholastic sports that encompass 63 competitive teams. FCS provides extensive co-curricular offerings. The FHS class of 2016 was awarded \$14.1 million in scholarship dollars. The FCS Fine Arts program produces state, national, and international award-winning students – over 500 in the 2015-16 school year.

FCS is considered a desirable place to teach as evidenced by an average of 200 applicants per position vacancy and low teacher turnover. Comprehensive health and social services (e.g., nurses, on-campus mental health therapists, homeless counselor, social workers, graduation coach) provide assistance to students and their parents. There are successful ongoing partnerships with post-secondary institutions, community agencies/service clubs, and city government.

Dual enrollment is available through local colleges and the local university. The FCS Education Foundation, now self-supporting, provides financial support for creative classroom endeavors (more than \$100,000 over the past three years).

The district coordinates with Florence City Parks and Recreation to better use both school and city facilities. The concept of teaming in grades 5-6 is developmentally appropriate for the students in these grades as a transition to secondary education.

The Florence Academy of Fine Arts (FAFA) began officially in 2013; providing opportunities for students to earn a major in the exciting field of Fine Arts.

Andrea Holt, Director of CASA, is on the move this week from the office in One Plaza on Mobile Street.

Really! On the move; tune in next week for an update to the new location.

COMMITTEE WORK...



Parrish Riedell reported that the soft drink sales at the State Fair this past week was another success. He thanked all the great volunteers who help for six days and said the final report on proceeds will be next week.

Norm Ross reported that 18 Buddy Benches were installed in the schools. He also mentioned that three more are being worked on for special events.



:Please be aware that Marriott is booked again, thus next Tuesday (Sep. 26) the meeting will be held in **ROOSEVELT ROOM** located in the second floor of the 360 Tower.