

# Communication 101: Best Practices for Communicating with the Camelot School Community

# Meet the Camelot Staff--Flipgrid



## Clinical/Mental Health Staff

- ▶ Tracy Marquina-School Counselor
- Gihea Schwartz -School Counselor (M, W, F)
- Laura Wisotzkey-School Psychologist (M, W, Th)
- Tara Rice-School Social Worker (M, Th)

# Clinical/Mental Health Staff, continued

- Parent/Guardian consults for incidents, longer term situations
- Observations
- Community resources
- Short-term work with students (not therapy)

#### Parent Liaison-Jessica Vergara

- Liaisons help parents better understand the school system and help parents advocate for their student's education.
- Liaisons secure interpreters for families (individual/group meetings, phone calls).
- Liaisons help with translations (written).
- Liaisons connect families with resources.

#### Teacher Communication

- ▶ All teachers have email and voice mail.
- Some teachers use websites/programs these cannot involve student data.
- Teams/teachers send home newsletters (weekly, biweekly, monthly)
- CONFERENCES! We will ask for parent/guardian input about conference preferences in mid-October

# Teacher Points of Contact

- In 2nd-6<sup>th</sup>, teachers should let parents/guardians know who is teaching their child for each subject.
- Teachers expect to hold "team conferences" with parents when sharing students.

- ▶ The teacher is the first point of contact.
- Administrators can be the first point of contact!

## Ask your child's teacher:

- What is my child's reading level? They will share a level as well as show you text that your child is reading.
- What are my child's reading strengths and needs?
- What are my child's math strengths and needs?
- What is my child's behavior like?
- What are my child's social strengths and needs?

#### Score reports we share

- K-6 Universal Screener—iReady reports for reading and math (3x year)
- 1st Grade Naglieri Noverbal Ability Test (NNAT) score
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Cognitive Abilities scores (3 domains, and composite
- → 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade Standards of Learning scores
  - ▶ 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Math and Reading
  - ▶ 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Studies
  - ► 5<sup>th</sup>-Science

#### Special Education Information

- Parents may make a referral to our Local Screening Committee which consists of the classroom teacher, a special ed teacher, school psychologist, social worker, administrator, other providers as needed (speech, OT, PT, hearing, vision, adapted PE, etc)
- ► The Local Screening Committee determines whether there is a need for testing for special education or whether there is a need for 504 (accommodation) plan

#### **Best Practices & Considerations**

- Know your teachers' preferences for communications and respect their time.
- Share relevant family background & history so the school can best help your child.
  - Know that this is always confidential
- Keep teachers informed of major changes or stresses in your child's life.
- Don't let issues linger...
  - Contact the school if you hear something that bothers you or seems out of sync
- Getting your child to share information on a day to day basis is an important component of creating an open flow of communication.

#### When will the school contact you?

- Attendance—daily call outs beginning at 9:50
- Health Issue
- Behavior/Office Visit
- Positive reports- a teacher may call you just to touch base
- Response policy on emails, phone calls....

#### Not sure who to ask?

Reach out to

Lotta Moschopoulos in the office (Admin.'s Administrative Assistant)

café, bus, band/strings, field trip, etc, etc, etc

#### Office

Call us!

- ► Attendance Reporting Line: 703-645-7011
- ▶ Online
- www.camelotes.fcps.edu

#### REPORT AN ABSENCE

Use our online attendance form

#### **ATTENDANCE**

**Prearranged Absence Form** 

# Principals & Parent/Guardian Coffees

- 8:30am (staff to watch kids)
- 3x this year—watch for our Save the Date and Parent Input flier soon
- Topics to include Positivity Project, Zones of Regulation, Testing.....

## Thursday News

► Thursday Folder: Weekly communications and updates from teachers, the school and PTA. It also includes work your student does throughout the week for your review.

News You Choose Emails: Dates to Know, School News, and PTA News

#### FCPS e-communication

- Electronic mass notification via email, text, phone--weather
- FCPS Transportation- buses will be late
- FCPS- News and updates as well as emergency messages

#### School Website



#### School Website Continued



Upcoming Events at Camelot Elementary School

ANONYMOUS
BULLYING
REPORTING

Report Bullying Online

THURSDAY TAKE HOME

These items went home in the Thursday Take-Home

#### Camelot Student Handbook

The Student handbook outlines an overview of the schools policies and procedures as well as answers many parent FAQs.



### Twitter

▶ @ CamelotFCPS



#### PTA Website and Facebook

#### Camelot PTA:

www.camelotpta.org

Facebook: search Camelot Elementary School

#### SIS and FCPS 24-7 Parent

#### **ACTIVATE**

You will need the activation key that you received in the letter from FCPS to complete the registration process.

SIS Parent Account

#### SUMMARY of <u>SIS PARENT ACCOUNT</u> and <u>FCPS 24-7 Learning</u>: <u>PARENT VIEW</u> DIFFERENCES

SIS Parent Account Provides: access to view your child's student information, including attendance, report cards, class schedules, gradebook (for Middle and High School students), course history, discipline, health, and school information.

FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View Provides: access to view all of your child's available courses and content, Family Connection to view Academic and Career Planning (for Middle and High school students), and Bus Stop Information. You can also update your child's Emergency Care Information through <a href="mailto:weCare@school">weCare@school</a>.

# Here Comes the Bus Mobile App

#### Here Comes the Bus Mobile App

#### Here Comes the Bus will be available starting Monday, August 26th

As a result of the Transportation Services' strategic plan, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) has decided to **pilot the Here Comes the Bus® mobile app at all FCPS locations.** Know when your bus is approaching your stop! Here Comes the Bus® app is a school bus tracking app that can simplify morning and afternoon routines for parents and students by giving them real-time bus location and text or email notification alerts, helping them get to the bus stop on time. Here Comes the Bus® utilizes our GPS data and an easy to use customizable map that works on one or multiple devices, such as a tablet or smartphone.



#### How to Get Started

**Using the app is EASY!** You will need the FCPS school district code **28982** and a <u>Student Information</u> <u>System</u> (SIS) Parent Account (<u>contact your child's school</u> if you do not have an SIS Parent Account). Once signed-in, you can customize or edit features, including how the app will communicate with you, and the size and location of the notification radius around your child's bus stop.

From a smartphone or tablet, download (for free) the Here Comes the Bus® app from the App Store or Google Play.

#### FCPS Parent Resource Center

An FCPS center focused on providing help to parents.

- ▶ Library
- Parent Workshops
- Support Groups/Respite Care/Summer
- Confidential Consultations

2334 Gallows Road—Dunn Loring Building

703-204-3941 or email at prc@fcps.edu

#### FCPS Parent Info Phone Lines

Lines available for:

Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Korean, Spanish, Urdu, Vietnamese.

Parents/guardians leave a message and receive a callback within 24 hours, M-F

