



THE EAGLE EYE

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Caring Students • Persistent Learners • Dedicated Educators

11820 Liberty Road, Frederick, MD 21701

240-236-1800

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

September 6, 2019

Principal's Message

I am honored to be the new principal at Liberty Elementary. This is my 25th year in education. I was a teacher for 14 years and this is my 11th year as an administrator. I consider myself a "kid first leader" and always look for ways to improve the school experience for all learners in our building.

In my free time, my family comes first. My husband and I have a 17 year old son and a 14 year old daughter who both attend Linganore High School. We enjoy biking, hiking, visiting with extended family and attending theater performances.

The first week of school has been a week of smiling faces and building classroom communities. I have enjoyed meeting students and families and can already tell that this school community is one of pride and positivity. I am looking forward to a fantastic year as your principal.

I have set-up a Twitter account and will be showcasing all of the awesome things that happen here at Liberty every day. You can follow me at: @LibertyES_FCPS

My door/phone/email is open so please reach out!

Jana Strohmeier



Attendance Matters

Our goal is for each child to have 96% attendance for the year. This means that children should be present for 172 out of 180 days. Please be sure to write a note when you child is absent from school. Please include the date(s) of absence and the reason so that the office can code it correctly.

School Calendar

September 11	Back-To-School-Night (info. Below)
	BOE meeting LOU redistricting Superintendents proposal
September 18	Volunteer Training 6:00 PM PTA Meeting 6:30 PM
September 20	Schools Closed/Fair Day
September 23	Individual Pictures
Sept.30-Oct.4	Book Fair at Liberty
October 1	Grandparents Lunch: Last Names A-L (more info to come soon)
October 2	Grandparents Lunch: Last Names M-Z

***All Dates and Times Subject To Change**

LOU Redistricting Information

IMPORTANT! A school redistricting study, begun in January 2019, includes ALL Linganore-Oakdale-Urbana area schools. The BOE must establish attendance areas and feeder patterns for new schools in response to FCPS enrollment growth*.

As the decision-making phase begins for the redistricting study, this is a reminder of important dates:
Wednesday, September 11, 6 PM, BOE Meeting, 191 S. East St., Frederick
Superintendent Dr. Terry Alban presents recommendations to the Board.
Community members continue to play an important role through opportunities to provide feedback to BOE members, attending public hearings, and/or sharing feedback via email to LOURedistrict@fcps.org.

Board of Education Public Hearings, **7 PM-9 PM** (Signup sheets available 6:30 PM)

Tuesday, September 17, Urbana High

Thursday, September 19, Linganore High

Tuesday, September 24, Oakdale High

Wednesday, September 25, BOE Meeting, 191 S. East St., Frederick- Discussion and public comments

The BOE will make the final decision, expected in October.

*The new schools are Sugarloaf Elementary (housing Urbana Elementary students until the Urbana Elementary replacement opens for the 2020-2021 school year) and Blue Heron Elementary, opening for the 2021-2022 school year. Details are online: www.fcps.org/louredistrict.

Back-to-School-Night

Wednesday, September 11, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. You may choose which sessions you would like to attend from the times listed on the table below.

Principal presentations (gymnasium)	Teacher presentations – Grades K-2 (classrooms)	Teacher presentations – Grades 3-5 (classrooms)
5:30-5:55	5:30-5:55	No Session
6:00-6:25	6:00-6:25	6:00-6:25
6:30-6:55	No Session	6:30-6:55

PTA News

PTA Meeting – September 18 at 6:30 in the Media Center:

We are planning activities for the year. We are always looking for new ideas and volunteers to make this a great year ~ please join the fun!

Volunteer Training:

If you wish to volunteer at Liberty Elementary this school year you must attend the **Volunteer Training** which will be held on **September 18 at 6:00PM in the Media Center.**

STAY TUNED for information about the **Fall Festival, Book Fair, Trunk or Treat, Grandparents day and much, much more.**

Safety Drills

Schools are among the safest places a child can be. One reason is the extensive planning that schools do to protect the children in our care. Every Frederick County public school has a student safety plan, with staff prepared to manage situations from severe weather incidents to power outages and more. In addition, local safety experts—including the Frederick County Office of Emergency Management, Sheriff's Department, police, fire marshal and many others—stand ready to assist as needed. Parents can help keep children safe by understanding and following these school security procedures:

- **Shelter in place:** Sometimes schools protect students by keeping them indoors away from hazardous materials in the air outside and turning air handlers off. This might occur as a precaution, for example, if a truck carrying chemicals had an accident on the highway near a school.
- In a **partial lockdown**, parents and authorized visitors may enter and leave the school. Schools conduct activities as usual inside the building, however, students are not allowed outside unsupervised. • In a full lockdown, interior and exterior doors are locked. Students, staff and others are instructed not to enter or leave the school until the situation is clear. Parents will keep students safest by waiting until the lockdown is lifted, not coming to the school, and staying informed through methods described later in this publication.
- **Evacuate** students to an alternative location: Every school has procedures for moving students out of the building as a safety precaution. This might happen, for example, if a fire alarm is activated. Several times each year, students have practice drills to evacuate the school and assemble at a safe distance until instructed it is safe to re-enter. In addition to outdoor locations, school staff or local safety officials may direct students to a nearby school or other community building.
- There is also a **reverse evacuation** procedure in which students and staff are brought back into the building to protect them from a dangerous situation outside.
- **Drop, Cover and Hold:** In the event of an earthquake, students and staff drop to the ground, taking cover under a sturdy desk or table and holding onto something sturdy until shaking stops; they carefully exit the building afterward.
- **Severe Weather:** During severe weather, such as a tornado, students and staff seek shelter immediately using ground-floor interior hallways. They are brought in from portables and outside activities. They stay away from windows and doors with glass and avoid rooms with free-span ceilings such as gyms and cafeterias.
- **Avoid. Deny. Defend.™** - In the event of violence or the threat of violence on school premises, staff will instruct students to move as quickly as possible away from the threat to avoid danger, to deny access with barriers and remain quietly out of sight and, if necessary, to aggressively defend themselves.

