



June 2014

Horizon Elementary Comet Courier

JUNE EVENTS

Mon Jun 2 - Fri Jun 6

Bus Driver Appreciation Week

Mon Jun 2

SOL Testing

8:30am - 10:30am 1st Grade Hawaii Day

Tue Jun 10, 2014

8:15am 4th/5th grade Awards Assembly

Wed Jun 11, 2014

6:30pm 5th grade Farewell

Thu Jun 12, 2014

11am - 2pm 5th Grade Picnic

Fri Jun 13, 2014

Last Day for Students

Wed Jun 18, 2014

Report Cards mailed home

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Greetings Comets! It is hard to believe how quickly this year is flying by. A lot will be happening in the last two weeks of school. Please stay current with the upcoming events posted on the Horizon calendar.

We have included a copy of the 2014-2015 adopted calendar for LCPS and Horizon's Back to School Nights/Kindergarten Parent Orientation/Open House information. Please refer to these dates as you begin your long-range planning for next year.

The first week in June (6/2 – 6/6) Horizon is celebrating our own annual Bus Driver Appreciation Week. Please help us to show our appreciation for the work our bus drivers and bus attendants do each and every day. Your children can make cards, write notes, or just use their words to show their thanks.

Mrs. Sborz, teacher in first grade, will be out for the rest of the year as she and her family prepare for the arrival of twin boys this month. Her last day was Tuesday, May 29th. We wish her well as this new chapter begins for the Sborz Family. We are happy to have Katie Sheehan as the long term substitute teacher for the remainder of the school year. She is a familiar face to students and staff because she was one of our student teachers who worked with Mrs. Robinson in fourth grade and then with Mrs. Tate in third grade.

On Tuesday, May 27th the School Board recognized many LCPS employees for 25 years or more of service with Loudoun County Public Schools. Two of our staff members were recognized for their 25 years of service: Bobbie Lee, Reading Teacher and Pam Toth, Kindergarten Teaching Assistant. This is such a great accomplishment for them both!

I wish everyone a great last quarter! Together we can maximize the last ten days we have together until summer is here.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ewing ☺

Clinic Reminders

**Reminder for Parents/Guardians of
Rising 6th Grade Students:**

Tdap Booster:

All students entering middle school must have received diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (Tdap) vaccine booster prior to entering school this Fall. Documentation of the Tdap booster should be turned in to the clinic at Horizon by June 13th. After that date, please submit documentation to your child's middle school this summer. Your child will not be allowed to start school without this immunization or a medical exemption. There will be no grace period for your child to begin middle school on September 2, 2014 without the vaccine.

Reminder for Parents/Guardians of ALL Horizon Students:

Leftover Medications:

Does your child have any medications in the clinic? If so, please pick them up by June 13th. Medications cannot be stored in the clinic over the summer and will be discarded if not picked up by parents/guardians.

Horizon Elementary School
46665 Broadmore Drive ♦ Sterling, VA 20165 ♦ Telephone 571.434.3260 ♦ Fax 703.444.7418
Absentee Line 571.434.3261
Absentee Email hrzabsentee@lcps.org
Horizon Elementary School website: www.lcps.org/horizon
Principal: Mrs. Jennifer Ewing Bookkeeper: Mrs. Jeanne Becker
Assistant Principal: Mr. Chris Painter Attendance Secretary: Mrs. Violet Sowa-Badders

CRUMBS FROM THE CAFETERIA

ROSE CUSTER

The school year is coming to an end and it seems as though we have just started. I would like to remind all parents and guardians as of June 1, 2014 each child purchasing a lunch will need to have \$3.00 on their account or cash in hand. Check or cash will still be accepted until the last day of school. The \$3.00 lunch includes 1 entree, 1 milk, 2 choices of vegetables and 2 choices of fruit. If there is no money then the child will be given a cheese sandwich and milk for that day's lunch. Any funds remaining on the students account will carry over to the next school year as long as they remain in the Loudoun County School District.

My staff and I have enjoyed preparing a hot healthy lunch for your child and look forward to doing it again next year.

Odyssey of the Mind

Two teams represented Horizon in the Odyssey of the Mind competitions this year.

The Balsa Team of Nimay Goradia, Levi Platko, Mazen Himdan, Maddie Platko, Medha Mani, Niyathi Jag, and Mihir Ganguli were coached by Satish Goradia. They placed 5th in the Regional Tournament at Park View on March 29th.

The Vehicle Team of Alex Downey, Jacob Wesoky, Stephen Economou, Tia Bhatnagar, and Nikhil Mangat were coached by Tracey Downey and Valinder Mangat. After placing 1st in the Regional Tournament, they went on to represent Region 16 in the State Tournament in Roanoke on April 26th.

Congratulations to all the team members and thank you to the coaches and parents.

The Long-Term problems for 2014-2015 have been posted on the Odyssey of the Mind website. If you are interested in participating on a team for next school year, please feel free to contact Mrs. Tate at linda.tate@lcps.org

POETRY MASTERS

Congratulations to the following students who successfully memorized and recited the May poem to Mr. Raye:

Divya Lobo	Tess Durham
Lillian Loftin	Jasmine Hus
Julia Hus	Rachel Kidwell
Roshni Lobo	Mihir Ganguli
Grace Meehan	Ryan Kidwell
Calian Flatla	Connor Phelps
Edward Christopher	Aidan Van Voorhis
Marium Khawaja	Matthew Mentzer
Matthew Godek	Mercedez Greene
Cady Litteral	Sophie Guilfoyle

Congratulations to all students who have participated throughout the year. Great job by all.

Horizon Elementary

Offers Special Recognition to:

BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

6/2/14 – 6/6/14

*Thank you for caring for our
students!*

Math Superstars

Math Superstars is a Math enrichment program designed to provide extra challenge to self-motivated students. It provides opportunity to students to practice math skills appropriate for their grade level. Participation was voluntary.

We are pleased to see the great response from students from K-5. Many of them have consistently accepted this challenge throughout the year.

Congratulations to the following students who have successfully earned 100 or more stars throughout the year in this program.

Faith Garrett	Katherine Yashina	Melia Wallace
Hailey Thompson	Andrew Woodall	Nikkil Jag
Ethan Jakka	Alesandro Alfaro	Kysa Castillo
Zayd Qidmar	Martin Kanchev	Veronica Perez
Logan James	Edward Christopher	Isabel Tao
Ava Paparello	Josephine Lee	
Jenna Pugsley	Jacquelyn Lee	
Ainsley Love	Mohammed Mohammed	
Aarushi Shukla	Rhea Singh	
William Finke	Jackson Summers	
Kayla Tock	Brendan Charen	
Colin Hoover	Stephen Economou	
Keira Van Voorhis	Marissa Miller	
Adam Abshire	Nicholas Inra	
Tommy Wall	Mia Simpson	
Jack Malone	Aram Najarian	
Colleen MacGoy	Katelyn Winters	
Ryan Fedigan	Jaelyn Huynh	
Michael Sterin	Madhav Krishnaswamy	
Delilah Teylor	Kyra Lim	
Tara Smitka	Justin Lee	
Gavin Linnell	Alina Alfaro	
Grace Dettmer	Andrew Wiggs	
Kevin Buena	Mia Paparello	
Ria Vasanthan	Zachery Cerniglia	
Elsie Papdopoulos	Kayla Wallace	
Kylie Sutphin	Hannah Hagos	
Jonathan Tran	Julienne Galie	
Abigail Vasak	Christopher Liang	
Sophia Parris	Maya Papdopoulos	
Karis Yang	Arian Abdolahi	
Hassan Rizvi	Uma Pillai	
Samarea Bass	Layla Abshire	
Megan James	Mia Strein	
Sienna Bogar	Aaron Chesson	
Ryan Kidwell	Caleb James	
Isabella Reuss	Raynad Chishty	
Chloe Marion	Rahil Shivjani	
Reanna Saxena	Lillian Prelewicz	
Joshua Sullivan	Abdullah Qidwai	
Adithi Selvamohan	Diya Reddy	
Aidan Van Voorhis	Kristin Lurie	

TWENTY – FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE



BARBARA C. LEE

AUGUST 1989
EMERICK, LINCOLN & WATERFORD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
TEACHER-READING

AUGUST 1993
ASHBURN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHER-READING

AUGUST 1996
SUGARLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHER-READING

AUGUST 1999
HORIZON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHER-READING

AUGUST 2002
HORIZON & POTOWMACK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
TEACHER-READING

AUGUST 2003
HORIZON ELEMENTARY SCHHOL
TEACHER-READING



PAMELA D. TOTH

AUGUST 1989
MEADOWLAND ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
SPECIAL EDUCATION AIDE (AT RISK)

AUGUST 1994
SULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHER ASSISTANT-STEP

AUGUST 1999
HORIZON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHER ASSISTANT-KINDERGARTEN

SEARCH

DENISE CORBO
KAY O'SULLIVAN

GIFTED EDUCATION IN LOUDOUN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

For parents/guardians seeking information about gifted education in Loudoun County Public Schools, there is no better place to begin than on the LCPS Gifted Education website: <http://cmsweb1.lcps.org/Page/617>

The first and most basic question is often, "Why does gifted education exist"? The website answers it this way: "All students need to be challenged to their utmost potential. For students who are rapid-paced learners, who have high intellectual aptitude, or who are very talented in a specific field, these programs help ensure that they are challenged academically and intellectually."

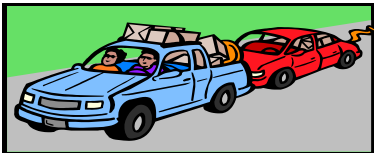
A British gifted education blog express it this way: "In reality, giftedness is a learning difference. Like any other learning difference, it is identified through careful testing and evaluation. Although guidelines for identification and standards for the provision of gifted services differ from state to state, there is widespread agreement that gifted children and adults are different. They learn at a faster pace, absorb information with greater depth and complexity, have exceptional abstract reasoning skills, and are creative and innovative in their thinking."

(<http://giftedchallenges.blogspot.co.uk/2013/01/lets-not-call-them-gifted.html>) To find out specifically about gifted identification in LCPS, look at the Eligibility section of the LCPS Gifted Education website.

If your child attends an LCPS elementary school in grades K-3, he/she has participated in SEARCH this year, the LCPS Gifted Education Department's early elementary program. The purpose of the SEARCH program is twofold: "to provide opportunities for students to use higher level thinking skills, and to identify students with exceptional ability." Through the SEARCH program, students are observed by both the classroom teacher and SEARCH teacher as they experience their first introduction to the LCPS SEARCH gifted curriculum.

Please take some time this summer and before beginning of the new school year in September to investigate the LCPS Gifted Education website. There will be announcements next fall about Gifted Information Night opportunities, as well as current information and news, FAQs, links to forms, and lists of school contacts.

It's been a pleasure working with your children this school year, and we all look forward to another wonderful year in SEARCH beginning in September!



Are you moving?

For planning purposes, please let us know if your child will not be attending Horizon Elementary next year.

If you are moving, we wish you the best of luck!

Child's Name: _____

Current Grade: _____ Current Teacher: _____

We will be moving to - New School: _____

New Address if known: _____

Please return to Horizon ES front office.

THE READING CORNER

Dear Parents:

Summer is here! We are sure you have many fun activities, trips, and vacations planned for the summer. While these are important, we also want your child to continue to read regularly throughout the summer break.

In order to encourage summer reading, we are promoting Horizon's summer reading program. We are challenging students **to read 1000 pages**. Students are welcome to read books of their choice. Parents are encouraged to read to their children, as well. Enclosed with this letter is a log to record the titles of the books read and a place to record the number of pages read. On the reverse side is a form on which your child should illustrate and write (or dictate for younger students) five or more sentences about his/her favorite book. (Additional logs are available on the school's web page.) During the open house in August and the first two days of school, we will have a table in the lobby where students can drop off their reading logs. For those who met the challenge, the celebration will take place during the first month of school. Each child's name will also be entered into a drawing for a gift certificate from Books-A-Million.

NO SUBSTITUTES FOR THIS READING LOG WILL BE ACCEPTED, AND NO LOG WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE SECOND DAY OF SCHOOL. A PARENT SIGNATURE IS ALSO REQUIRED.

PARENTS: Reading aloud to your child is just as important as children reading independently. We encourage you to include read-aloud books on your child's log, as well as books read for the Loudoun County Library Summer Reading Program. Lists of books are available on the Horizon website. These lists are suggestions, not requirements, although we do encourage students to read grade appropriate books. Above all, the most important thing is to keep our children reading.

Have a great reading summer.

Mrs. Lee Mrs. Carnill Mrs. Hitrik



"A Climate For Success"
LOUDOUN COUNTY
Public Schools

The Loudoun County School Board adopted the calendar for the 2014-2015 school year at its Tuesday, November 12th, meeting.

It should be noted that Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) cannot open before Labor Day in 2014 under state law.

Following is the adopted 2014-2015 school calendar:

- September 1:** Holiday (Labor Day)
- September 2:** First Day of School
- October 13:** Holiday (Columbus Day)
- October 31:** End of the Grading Period
- November 3-4:** Student Holidays (Planning/Records/Conference Days)
- November 26-28:** Holiday (Thanksgiving Break)
- December 22-January 2:** Winter Break (Classes Resume January 5)
- January 19:** Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- January 23:** End of Grading Period
- January 26:** Moveable Student Holiday *(Planning/Records/Conference Day)
- February 16:** Holiday (Presidents' Day)
- March 27:** End of Grading Period
- March 30-April 3:** Holiday (Spring Break)
- April 6:** Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Day)
- May 25:** Holiday (Memorial Day)
- June 16:** Last Day of School/End of Grading Period

*NOTE: Parents with childcare or other weekday scheduling concerns – The date of the Moveable Planning/Records/Conference Day between first and second semesters may change if the school calendar must be changed due to school closings for inclement weather or other emergencies.

Back-to-School Night

****The Horizon Staff requests that only adults attend this event. ****

- 🕒 **Tuesday, August 26th @ 6:30 PM** - Grades 3-5 in classrooms
- 🕒 **Thursday, August 28th @ 6:00 PM** - Kindergarten Parent Orientation begins
in the Multipurpose Room
- 🕒 **@ 6:30 PM** -Grades K-2, ECSE/STEP Pre-K Programs,
MD/ID Programs in classrooms
- 📍 **Open House Friday, August 29th 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM** (Entire School)

Horizon Elementary PTA News

The PTA would like to thank all the members and countless volunteers for all our events this past year! We could not have done it without you! We are celebrating a record fundraising year! The PTA voted at our May general membership meeting to fund Phase 1 of the new Playground Project, 20 New Ipad Minis, 30 New Ipad Cases and helped to fund the final purchase of 46 Google chrome books. We successfully completed our goals of technology enhancement and starting our playground renovation! The work can't stop now! We are in need of volunteer help for all our social events next year. If you would like to help with these events please contact Joanne Canellos at jcanellos@gmail.com. A sign up genius will also be going out so keep an eye out for that. The events are: Walk-a-Thon, Bingo, Jingle Bell Shoppe, Skate Night and Fun Fair.

Please welcome our new 2014-2015 Executive Board!

President: Gail Godek
Treasurer: Teresa Demangos
VP of Education: Ginni Arcuri
VP of Fundraising: Joanne Canellos
VP of Membership: Meredith Pilaro
VP of ASEP: Karin Cerniglia
VP of Staff Relations: Tina Ward
Recording and Corresponding Secretary: Christy Sharn
VP of Spirit Sales: Tisha DuHaime
Volunteer Coordinator: Resa Kiersten
VP of Social: Open

Again, thanks to all for a wonderful year. Please help us make this next year even better! Phase 2 of the playground is our new goal and we can't do it without you! Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Horizon Elementary
PTA
everychild.onevoice.

If you have not done so already, please consider joining our PTA. The PTA sponsors many social and educational activities to enrich your child's experience at Horizon Elementary. You can view the many activities and volunteer opportunities on the PTA portion of our webpage: www.lcps.org/Horizon.



“Horizon Elementary School and PTA”

www.horizonpta.org

OFFICE REMINDERS

The school day begins promptly at 7:50 AM. Students MUST be in their classrooms at 7:50 AM, arriving after that time results in an UNEXCUSED tardy, unless a doctors note is provided. Students coming in after 7:50 AM must be escorted into the building, by an adult. School dismisses at 2:35 PM. Parents picking up students prior to dismissal are required to sign them out in the main office. All visitors to the building should begin their visit in the main office. Once in the office, you may sign in using the computer located on the front counter. Any forgotten items should be brought to the office. This will cut down on interruptions to the class.

ABSENTEE/TARDY

Please email the Horizon absentee email at hrzabsentee@lcps.org, or call the absentee line at 571-434-3261 to report the absence or late to school information for your child.

AFTER SCHOOL PLAN

Anytime your child has a change in his/her after school plan, please send a note in with your child in the morning. The office cannot redirect children after school on the basis of a phone call. If an emergency necessitates a change during the day, you may fax the instructions to us at 703-444-7418.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If, due to a disability, you need assistance to enable you to participate meaningfully in any of our school programs, please contact Mrs. Ewing, Principal at 571.434.3260 at least five working days prior to the activity.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP)

The Horizon staff is dedicated to improving our strategies for increasing student achievement and in closing the achievement gap. A formal School Improvement Plan is developed by staff, with parent input. If parents are interested in participating in this process please contact Jennifer Ewing at 571-434-3260. The plan is reviewed and revised throughout the year according to the results achieved.

The 2013-2014 SIP can be found on the Horizon website at <http://www.lcps.org/domain/7051>.

LOST AND FOUND

Horizon Elementary has areas designated for lost items such as lunch boxes, and clothing. Students that misplace their belongings can check in the Lost and Found that is located outside the music room. Items of value or importance such as glasses, jewelry, and keys are kept in the front office. If your child has lost an item, please encourage them to check in the Lost and Found or with the office secretary. Items that go unclaimed will be donated at the end of each quarter to a local charity.

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Debbie Rose, Algonkian District - debbie.rose@lcps.org.
You can also follow her on Facebook, "Debbie Rose- School Board"

Brenda Sheridan, Sterling District - brenda.sheridan@lcps.org

Tom Reed, At Large - thomas.reed@lcps.org



HORIZON NOW ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER!

Visit Horizon's new Facebook page to keep up to date on school events and happenings! Check us out at: [facebook.com/HRZSterling](https://www.facebook.com/HRZSterling) and be sure to Like our page to get your updates.

We are also on Twitter. Click the links below our calendar to follow us!

<https://www.facebook.com/HRZSterling>

<https://twitter.com/HorizonElem>