

*Excel in Mind, Body and Character*



# George Mason High School Newsletter

Tyrone Q. Byrd, Principal

June, 2012

Dear Mustang Parents & Guardians:

Congratulations George Mason community members! We've completed another successful school year peppered with academic, artistic, athletic, and civic accomplishments throughout. We are proud of our collective successes and are eager to begin anew with the promise of helping all children reach their individual goals for the 2012 – 13 school year.

Last week we joyously bid farewell to the graduating class of 2012. The students of this amazing class worked diligently throughout their careers to distinguish themselves from their peers at neighboring schools and accepted the challenge of earning excellence in mind, body, and character. Valedictory scholars Genevieve Jordan and Lia Cattaneo did an outstanding job of reminding everyone of the journey that leads to graduation. The George Mason symphonic band and chorus, along with individual and duet offerings from seniors Stephen Cotner, Sarah Rodock, Trevor Simpson, and Lu Sevier demonstrated both their talents and appreciation for their years at George Mason. Bearing witness to these amazing outpourings of ability, commitment, and pride for ones community filled me with a bittersweet sense of loss. Our collective angst is assuaged by the knowledge that our school continues to be populated with young people with equal passion for education, service, and each other.

We will miss the class of 2012, but we are eager to continue to journey with the classes of 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and our newly arrived Class of 2017. These classes are filled with inquiring and knowledgeable risk-takers, principled, open-minded thinkers who seek balance and are caring, reflective communicators. Our teachers are steadfastly dedicated to provide each of our students with relevant, engaging, and challenging educational opportunities. The members of our outstanding counseling department are prepared to work collaboratively with our children and their parents to develop and implement a plan to successfully accomplish academic goals. We are confident that we can reach our long-term academic and social goals through careful attention to that very next step. The nature of our close-knit community compels us to rely on the contributions of each member. I challenge you to do your part and help us make George Mason the best that it can be as we collectively strive for Excellence in Mind, Body, and Character.

Your child's final report card for the 2011 - 12 school year will be mailed by Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. If your student took the writing and/or non-writing SOLs in the spring, their scores will be included. We are quite pleased with the preliminary reports of our students' collective performance on the SOL battery of exams which show that we continually surpassed state accreditation targets. We are very proud of our students' performance and the superb level of instruction they are receiving in the classroom.

Have a great summer and please look for another letter from your partners at Mason some time in August.

Sincerely,

Tyrone Q. Byrd  
Principal

***Our summer hours in the high school office are 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Monday - Friday***

**SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOUND IN THE  
REPORT CARD ENVELOPE:**

- IB and AP Examinations Results (if applicable)
- New & Returning Registration Instructions w/SNAPCODE. Infosnap registration for the 12-13 school year must be completed no later than August 3 to ensure that the required Student Health Information Form (Form D Regulation 9.60.1) is received and that the August mailing is sent to your correct address. This registration is also available in hard copy - English and Spanish – and can be requested from Ms. Bird in the Counseling office at [birdb@fccps.org](mailto:birdb@fccps.org) / 703-248-5526.
- Fines or Fees owed (if applicable)
- SOL results (if applicable)

### ***Senior Portraits***

Senior pictures (coat and tie for men, black drape—provided by the photographer—for women) will be taken July 9, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

### ***News from the Counseling Office***

- Homeroom assignments will be posted in the George Mason High School office on Thursday, August 30. Student schedules will be distributed in a special Homeroom session on the first day of school.
- Students who wish to take the SAT or SAT subject tests on October 6, 2012 may register online over the summer. Please consult the College Board website regarding the registration deadline. The web address is [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Students without access to the Internet can also register by requesting a 2012-2013 registration form from the Counseling Office in the fall. Students may also register for the ACT given on October 27, 2012; the deadline is September 21. The web address is [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

### ***INFOSNAP Registration***

New and returning student registration instructions were mailed with report cards. It is **extremely important** this data be updated no later than **August 3** to ensure the required Student Health Information (Form D Regulation 9.60.1) is **received and that the August mailing is sent to your correct address.** This registration is also available in hard copy - English and Spanish – and can be requested from Ms. Bird in the Counseling office at [birdb@fccps.org](mailto:birdb@fccps.org) / 703-248-5526.

**REQUIRED SUMMER PROGRAM LETTERS WERE INCLUDED IN  
REPORT CARD PACKETS (if applicable).**

***There is no required summer reading assignments for Grade  
10; General, CP, and SL 11; or General, CP or SL 12 English  
classes.***

***Provided by GMHS English Department***

**Back-to-School Night  
Thursday, September 13  
7:00 p.m.**

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation**

***(sponsored by Mustang Ambassador Program)***

**Wednesday, August 29, 2012**

**1:30pm - 3:00pm**

**George Mason High School Mustang  
Café**

***Details to follow in mid-summer***



# MASON

## ATHLETICS

### FALL 2012 PRACTICE INFORMATION

The table below indicates the first scheduled practice dates for Fall Sports. Most teams have summer conditioning or events and new students should check our website for coach contact information: [www.masonathletics.org](http://www.masonathletics.org)!

No student, returning or new, will be allowed to participate in any tryout or practice session until they have turned in a completed VHSL Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physical Examination Form #2. This form is different than the school entry physical and the school entry physical is not sufficient for athletic participation - even for tryouts and practices.

**NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE PHYSICAL RULE CAN BE GRANTED - PERIOD!!!**

*The Form is available on-line at: [www.masonathletics.org](http://www.masonathletics.org).*

Program	First Date/ Tryouts	Time	Location	Summer Contact
Football 9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	August 2, 2012* Equipment Issue	4:00 PM	Equipment Room	Coach Green <a href="mailto:greent@fccps.org">greent@fccps.org</a>
	August 3, 2012	4:00 PM	Stadium Field	Coach Green
	August 4, 2012	10: AM	Stadium Field	
	* All 9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> graders will report on this day. Practice will run Monday – Saturday throughout August. Check Website for Summer Workout Schedule! 8 <sup>th</sup> graders report on August 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2PM!			
Cross Country	August 6, 2012	7:00AM	Stadium Field	Coach Bravin <a href="mailto:Bravinj@fccps.org">Bravinj@fccps.org</a>
Golf	July 30- Aug 1, 2012	TBA	Cafeteria	Coach Snyder <a href="mailto:snyderw@fccps.org">snyderw@fccps.org</a>
	Please email Coach Snyder for tryout times and information!			
Varsity /JV Volleyball	August 6,7,8 2012 *	9AM	Mustang Gym at MEHMS	Coach Healey <a href="mailto:healey@fccps.org">healey@fccps.org</a>
* Please check with Coach Healey about camp at GMHS July 31- Aug 3! Daily Practice begins AFTER Tryouts – August 9, 2012				
Sideline Cheer	July 31, 2012	3:45PM	GM Aux Gym	Coach Bird <a href="mailto:Birdb@fccps.org">Birdb@fccps.org</a>
Competition Cheer	August 6, 2012	5PM	GM Aux Gym	Coach Bird <a href="mailto:birdb@fccps.org">birdb@fccps.org</a>

**NEW STUDENTS** - Please check with the Guidance Dept. to be sure you are ELIGIBLE and ask them to contact Coach Horn at [horn@fccps.org](mailto:horn@fccps.org) when you register!

**SUMMER SCHOOL STUDENTS** - Please contact your coach IMMEDIATELY if you will be unable to attend ANY sessions because of summer school.

Please check our website daily over the summer for news and notes from the coaches!

**STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING HOURS!**

At: [www.masonathletics.org](http://www.masonathletics.org)