



REBEL SIGNAL

January 2012

For the students, patrons and friends of Douglas S. Freeman High School

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Principal's Letter

Welcome to the beginning of second semester! In preparation for their first high school exam week, ninth graders were offered numerous review sessions with their teachers and we hope that many of them took full advantage of these useful opportunities. Now that first semester exams have come and gone, the main focus is on helping students make the best possible course selections for the 2012-13 school year. Students will receive their course selection sheets in a special homeroom on Monday, February 6, and should return them by Monday, February 13. Please refer to the school counseling portion of this issue of the Rebel Signal for more specific information regarding the scheduling process. The addition of the economics and personal finance course for the Class of 2015, as well as the possibility for students to take an online course during the school year, will create a few changes in the look of the master schedule for 2012-13.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the parent survey during January. Your feedback is important as we continue to work to make improvements based on your suggestions. Another way of offering timely input is to attend the Principal's Coffee, which is held the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Teachers' Cafeteria. If you were not able to attend the coffee on Wednesday, February 1, the next Principal's Coffee will be on Wednesday, March 7.

Mark your calendars now for a number of important upcoming events. The next round of Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held On February 16, from 4:30 to 7:30. On that evening, you will have the opportunity to meet with your student's teachers for a progress update. The Second Annual Rebel Run is a great warm-up for the Monument Avenue 10K and a wonderful way to support the athletic program at Freeman. The Rebel Run will be held on March 24 – please see the ad in this newsletter for more information. We look forward to seeing you at any or all of these activities.

Anne Poates

**Visit the PTSA website
at www.freemanptsa.org
for the latest information
on PTSA committees and
events.**

PTSA President

Happy New Year, Douglas Freeman Families and Community:

Your vote counts. On Fee Night in September, an overwhelming majority of our members supported the following on the PTSA ballot: state funding for the additional Virginia PE requirements; local school divisions determining the start and end date of school year; and supporting virtual and online schooling.

Your vote counts. The PTA legislation was adopted at the 90th Annual Virginia PTA Convention in November. Your delegate voted in favor of a resolution calling on Governor McDonnell to allocate a portion of the state surplus to K-12 Education.

In January, two members of Freeman's PTSA Board participated in a conference call with Governor McDonnell to preview his "Opportunity to Learn" Education Agenda. The Governor supports the following:

- Allowing localities to choose when school starts and ends;
- Streamlining diploma requirements;
- Increasing the dual enrollment program;
- Funding for 10th graders to take the standardized PSAT;
- Increasing participation in advanced placement courses and SATs;
- Proposing a reading intervention program; and
- Establishing annual evaluation and contract for teachers and administrators.

Your Virginia PTA Legislative Committee delivered packages of PTA legislative priorities and bills to all 140 members of the Virginia General Assembly on January 11. Learn more about this education legislation by visiting Virginia PTA website at vaptasite.org. Click on Legislation and click on Legislative Activity and Positions for more information. Please contact your state delegate and senator stating your position.

Your voice is being heard. Pat O'Bannon, the Henrico County Board of Supervisor for the Tuckahoe District, invited the DSF Booster Club President and the DSF PTSA President to attend the Henrico County Board of Supervisors Work Session held in December to see the presentation concerning practice fields for Freeman. The County Manager and the Supervisors listened to presentations by members of the Henrico County Public Schools and the Henrico County Recreation and Parks outlining several options including the acquisition and development of the property at 8401 and 8201 Three Chopt Road. The consensus of the Board of Supervisors was to send the matter back to the Henrico County School Board for further consideration. Later that evening at the Board of Supervisors meeting, parents from Freeman spoke in favor of the purchase of additional land for practice fields. Our School Board will discuss the matter on January 12. Visit the DSF PTSA website at freemanptsa.org for updates.

Stay informed, ask questions, let us work together to improve the educational environment, curriculum and success of every one of our children. Please contact me with your concerns and proposed solutions. Together we can make a difference.

Go Rebels!

Ann Slough

DSF PTSA President 2011-2012

EveryChild.OneVoice.



Freeman Bands



All-County Band

January 12-14, 2012 at Glen Allen High School

Emily Shull	Kevin Niu
Amelia Cohen	Claire Brunner
Vince Borrero	Shane Allen
Gabe Kawugule	Joey Greene
Adam Kronk	Jason Diaz
Joe Pittman	Laura Cross
Jesse Woon	Patrick Evans
Keith Rosenborough	

All-District Band

February 2-4, 2012 Atlee High School

Symphonic Band:

Kevin Niu	Emily Shull
Lilo Ryan	Claire Brunner
Amelia Cohen	Vince Borrero
Joey Greene	Joe Pittman
Jesse Woon	Patrick Evans

Concert Band:

Shane Allin	Gabe Kawugule
Adam Kronk	Laura Cross
Michael O'Brien	Keith Rosenborough
Brennan Jeretina	

The following students have qualified to audition for the 2012 All-Virginia Band. Auditions are at JMU on February 25th.

Amelia Cohen	Claire Brunner
Kevin Niu	Joey Greene

Help Us Recycle and Earn Funds!



We are participating in a fundraising program which collects empty printer cartridges and used cell phones to raise much needed funding. We are helping to keep the earth clean while we earn new equipment or even cash!

Won't you please help our Freeman Bands by donating your empty printer cartridges and used cell phones?

Just drop them off in the Rebel Recycling box in the DSF Main Office.

Freeman Rebel Cards

Super Bowl Sunday!
Kroger on East Ridge
10am – 4pm

Stop by to support your Freeman Band!

Fundraiser for Spring Trip to New York City contact
Annette McKelvey at 741-6412

Do you have your REBEL CARD yet?

Chorus News

The Choral Department had a very busy first semester with many successful concerts and auditions! Congratulations to the following students who auditioned and made District Chorus: Victoria Wornom, Virginia Tilley, Dana Wolinski, Wanangwa Mkandawire, Cameron Murphy, Lily Edris, Sydni Jackson, Holly Norwood, Taylor Carrington, Mary Chris Werner, Abby Reamsnyder, Patricia Blackmon, Carter Lafoon, Bryn Mersereau, Chris Echols, Ben DaCosta-Kaufman, Hunter DeShazor, Lee Gray, Devin Hatcher, Ben Curley, Tim Webb, Sean Boyce, Scott Key, and Aaron Young. Congratulations to these 24 students who will represent Freeman at Deep Run High School, February 9, 10 and 11, 2012.

Choral Auditions for the 2012-2013 school year were held January 17-23, 2012 in the chorus room. If you missed these auditions, please contact Mrs. Hruska to schedule an audition time. We have four auditioned groups. If you still want to be in chorus next year, but don't want to audition, we'd love to have you in Concert Choir. All you have to do is sign up! Please join us.

The Choral department is preparing for competitions! All choruses will compete in New York in the spring. We will be travelling to NYC with the band and the strings to not only compete, but enjoy a Broadway show and some educational sightseeing. Also, our Show Choir is preparing for competitions at Powhatan High School, February 25; Manchester High School, March 2; and Hanover High School on March 17. Wish us luck!

Choral Upcoming Events

Valentines fundraiser (Downbeats and Syncs) – on sale the week of Feb. 6-10

NYC trip – April 19-21

Spring Concert – May 15

Choral Night at Chick-Fil-A

DSF Choral department has a fundraiser EVERY 3RD Wednesday of the month at CHICK-FIL-A on Parham from 6-8pm.

Please remember to mention the DSF fundraiser, and we will receive 15% of all sales!

Thank You!

FACT/Parent Programs

Wednesday, February 8, 9 - 10a, Freeman HS Teacher's Lunchroom

"What Personal Finance information does my Child need to Know before leaving High School?" Financial literacy information for all parents, and also an update on the new HCPS Economics and Personal Finance course that will be required of all rising HS sophomores for 2012 - 13. Speakers are Dr. Mary Eckert, HCPS Business and Marketing Specialist, and Mr. Michael Halsey, HCPS Social Studies Specialist.

Wednesday, March 14, 9 - 10a, Freeman HS Teacher's Lunchroom

"Concussions... from Time of Injury to Return to Play" Ever wonder why your child may have to sit out games after a head injury? Come learn how concussions are treated in Henrico County and Douglas S Freeman HS. Speaker is Freeman team trainer Dennis Spurrier MS, ATC from Virginia Sports Medicine and PT.

Senior Baby Pictures for After Graduation All Night Party

Calling all Seniors and Parents of Seniors -

This is a REMINDER to bring or send in your senior's baby pictures for the After Graduation All Night Party baby portrait wall!

Bring your photo to the DSF office

email them to Holly Snow: gregory.snow@comcast.net

mail them to:

Holly Snow
9101 Burkhart Dr.
Henrico, VA 23229

We must receive the photos before May 1, 2012. Photos will not be returned. Please mark the back of the photo with the name of the senior. Thank you.

Senior "Baby Advertisements" for Yearbook

Purchase a tribute advertisement for your senior or a group of seniors! The yearbook staff is selling advertisement space to congratulate **THE CLASS OF 2012** on their achievements. Advertising space is varied to fit any budget. Also, the staff can design a page for your senior or you can create it. All submissions must be digital. Place your order early to guarantee availability. The payment deadline is **February 3, 2012**.

Library Lowdown

As the second semester begins, research continues to be a priority in the Douglas Freeman High School Library. Many Juniors and Seniors are beginning the term paper process. The librarians and teachers work collaboratively to provide students with the tools necessary to communicate academic ideas clearly. Students are learning the techniques of reviewing critical analyses of literary works and compiling this information to highlight particular themes. They also are learning to cite sources they use, to employ parenthetical notations as necessary and to recognize and avoid plagiarism. Students are reviewing search strategies for both print and non-print materials. Douglas Freeman High School Library has an excellent collection of print sources to support this type of academic research. Also, HCPS provides a wide variety of electronic resources that augment print material. These online databases can be accessed from the HCPS library web page. Students are provided the passwords that allow them admittance to these databases when they are not at school. We encourage students to use these databases for academic research rather than Yahoo or Google. Password protected databases provide valid, factual information that is not always available through general web directories.

Again this year, we will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with our annual participation in "Read Across America" day. Children in our feeder elementary schools are invited to the DSF Library. Students enrolled in the student teacher intern class read aloud to the children and showcase activities they have developed that encourage individual participation. We always look forward to this evening because we get the opportunity to interact with the younger children.

Don't forget to consider a "Legacy Book" to honor your graduating senior. Donations of \$25.00 will purchase a classic piece of literature for our Library. We will place a bookplate in the selection inscribed with the name of your graduate and his/her date of graduation. If interested, please contact Ms. Schmid or Miss Wheeler in the Library.

The fourth annual DSF Library Book Fair will be held at the Libbie Place Barnes and Noble Saturday, June 2nd. Student summer reading selections will be available for purchase throughout the day. The DSF Library will receive a percentage of all sales when you mention DSF at check out or enter our fair code when purchasing online. Last year, thanks to the great support of parents, patrons, students and staff, the Library received a gift card from Barnes and Noble in excess of \$1200.00. We are planning for a bigger and better Fair this year! Mark you calendar for this special DSF date.

Baccalaureate

Please mark your calendars! Baccalaureate will be June 11, 2012.

The Freeman Baccalaureate is an inter-denominational service held off campus the night before graduation for the students of the senior class and their families and friends. This program is a wonderful opportunity for students to share their reflections on faith in words or in musical performances.

This year's Baccalaureate will be held at West End Assembly of God on June 11, 2012.

If you are interested in helping to organize Baccalaureate this year please contact committee chairpersons. We are in need of one or two Junior class parents who would be interested in helping this year's committee and chairing the event next year.

Chad Nystrom chad.nystrom@verizon.net

Liz Siebers esiebers@richmond.edu

Congratulations Freeman Reflections Winners

The Freeman PTSA congratulates and extends sincere thanks and appreciation to all participants in this year's National PTA Reflections Program "Diversity Means..."

The following were selected from the Freeman entries:

Outstanding Interpretation - First Place Freeman Winners

Visual Arts - Bennett Porter

Literature – Lee Palmer

Dance Choreography – Michelle Press

Musical Composition – Jack Lohmann

Award for Excellence - Second and Third Place Winners

Visual Arts – Colleen Choate and Mac Wood

In accordance with the state PTA Reflections guidelines, the first place entries advance to competition at the County level. Acknowledging the additional time and work for participation in the Reflections project, the PTSA and Freeman High School greatly appreciates all student efforts in submitting entries. We certainly have a wealth of talent at Freeman! Best wishes for continued success.

Freeman Fund



Dear DSF Parents:

The **Freeman Fund** Needs Your Help!

Did you know the **Freeman Fund** is our only **academic fundraiser**?

Did you know the **Freeman Fund** benefits all of our students?

Did you know that donations are 100% tax deductible?

Funds are used for supplies, equipments, books and enrichment programs.

Please consider making a donation to the **Freeman Fund** if you have not done so yet. Donations can be sent in to the DSF front office in an envelope marked "**Freeman Fund-DSF PTSA**"; Please make checks payable to: DSF PTSA.

Your contribution will make a difference at DSF!

Questions? Contact Renee Riggs at riggs9506@yahoo.com.

French Club News

December 12th, Freeman's French Club had a Bûches Throw down (Yule log competition) with Deep Run H.S. The students had to make a Yule log from scratch and enter it in the competition (this piggy backed on a project, where students had to pretend to be on a cooking show and tape the whole making of their Bûches in French). Prizes were awarded to student groups under two categories. The first category was for best tasting. The second category was for best looking. The school awarded with the best Bûches was determined by the school with the highest number of cakes voted in the top of both categories. Freeman had 16% of their cakes ranked in the top versus 14% of Deep Run's cakes. Freeman won this year's challenge. Ribbons were awarded for both categories to groups for 2nd and 3rd place. 1st place in both categories went to a Deep Run group.

School Counseling Information

The Scheduling process has begun! We had a Curriculum Open House on **January 19th from 6:30-8:30** in the small gym. It was an opportunity to see what classes we will be offering next year. Students will receive their course selection sheet in homeroom **on February 6th**. The forms are due back on **February 13th**. Parent Override forms are due March 15th and are accepted until April 27th. The final day to make any changes to next year's schedule is **June 15th!!!**

Please contact School Counseling if you have any questions.

Art Department News

It has been an exciting month in the art department! We have many students who have artwork being shown around the area. Freeman has the honor of having an art display at Henrico County central office throughout the month of January. The following students have artwork in the show: Jannatul Pramini, Thomas Smith, Victoria Holm, Sakura Lim, Kaitlin Wright, Annie Ward Love, Mac Wood, Hannah Shadowen, Matt Nelli, Tam Nguyen, Kelsey McLaughlin, Meredith Eudailey, Connor Fad, Amy Zhao, Katherine Rountree, Amir Dennis, Briana Walters, Janay Darlrymple, Lauren Decker, England Rozum, Marina Yousof, Reilly Gemmell, Anna Friedrich, Alecsys Brown, Jasmine Brunson, Ganga Adhikari, Halle Edinboro, Ereny Shawki, Marc Reiner, Anna Laughter, Layla Abifalah, Anna Tucker, Bentley Logue, and Jay Guan. The show looks amazing! Freeman student art is also on display at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. Colleen Choate, Kara Adams, and CeCe Auton are representing Freeman with their beautiful botanical work. Charlie Bonner's art is part of the Henrico County Black History exhibit and Ian Brown is also on display in a special exhibit at central office. Congratulations to all!

Advanced placement Art History took an epic field trip to Washington, DC in mid-December. They toured the incredible Washington National Cathedral, and got to experience a Gothic style cathedral after studying architecture for weeks. They spent the afternoon at the National Gallery of Art looking at art that they had never seen before. It was a wonderful learning opportunity.

The entire art department is working hard to prepare for March which is Youth Art Month. We will have lots of art on display here at Freeman and around the county. Stay tuned!

We have finished the diversity ceramic mural of a tree and we are waiting for it to be installed.

DSF Educator

The DSF literary-art magazine *The Educator* just received notice of a winning edition for 2011. The American Scholastic Press Association awarded First Place with Special Merit for last year's magazine.

They were awarded 985 points out of a possible 1000, with full points awarded in coverage, design, and presentation. If your student is a writer, photographer or artist, please have them drop their work digitally to Mrs. Boyles at skboyles on our virtual share- drop into the magazine drop box! The staff can also take a digital picture of your artwork and you can take it right back home for security. Come to Room 119.

Publishing in a school magazine does not encroach on any possible copyright issues, and you may enter other contests without a conflict.

Your student may wish to join the after school club *The Inklings* for ideas and community. This group meets on every other Monday right after school in Room 119.

Freeman Sports Page

District/Regional Tournament Information

Boys' Varsity Basketball

- District Tournament– Week of Feb 14 @ higher seed – semis & finals @ Douglas Freeman
- Regional Tournament - Week of Feb 20 @ higher seed – semis & finals @ Siegel Center

Girls' Varsity Basketball

- District Tournament – Week of Feb 14 @ higher seed – semis @ John Marshall – finals @ Douglas Freeman
- Regional Tournament – Week of Feb 20 @ higher seed – semis & finals @ Siegel Center

Wrestling

- District Tournament – Feb 4 @ Godwin
- Regional Tournament – Feb 10 & 11 @ Hanover

Gymnastics

- District & Regional Tournament – Feb 11 @ Deep Run

Indoor Track

- District Meet – Feb 10 & 11 @ Ashe Center
- Regional Meet – Feb 17 & 18 @ Ashe Center

DSF Hall of Fame Web Site

The Douglas S Freeman Athletic Hall of Fame now has a web site! We hope it will prove invaluable in finding out information about the Hall itself and the induction events that will be held this May. The address is <http://dsfhof.com>.

***** Save the Date *****



2nd Annual Rebel Run/Walk



March 24, 2012

The Douglas Freeman Athletic Booster Club is proud to announce the 2nd annual Rebel Run/Walk. The Rebel Run is a 5K open to all students, faculty and the Freeman community. The Rebel Run will begin and end at Freeman High School with the racecourse covering the surrounding area. **New this year will be a one-mile run/walk held on the Freeman track for elementary school students who choose not to participate in the 5K.

Sponsorship opportunities as well as race packet donations are welcome.

Sponsorship information and registration details can be found at
dsfathleticboosters.org

??? meganmccreary@hotmail.com



Douglas S. Freeman High School
8701 Three Chopt Road
Henrico, VA 23229

Principal Anne L. Poates

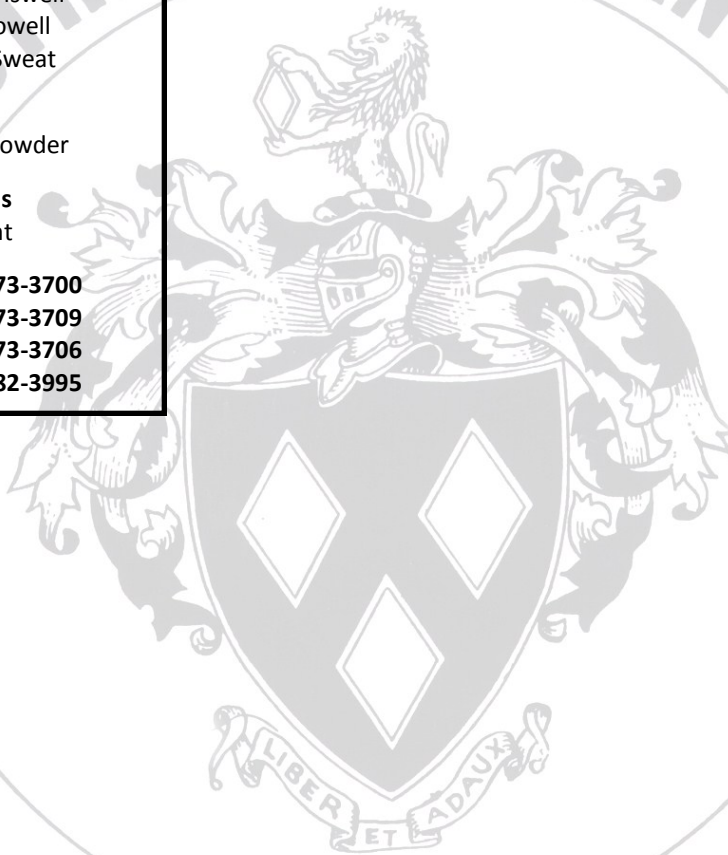
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Julia Cunningham Rose

Administrative Aides
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Gretchen Sweat

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