

1205



Morman's Corner

March 30 2015

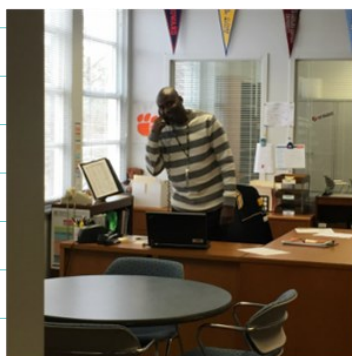
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Not Too Soon

Before we can start the countdown to June 8, we have to make sure we complete the tasks at hand. Second semester goes by so quickly due to spring break and end-of-year testing. Each student is challenged to turn in every assignment on time in every class. You are challenged to study daily and participate in class. You have the support of your teachers who are available before and after school for tutoring. As I mentioned at parent night, I want to kick every 8th grade student out of FVMS, but only when it's time. We have some unfinished business in the classroom, so finish strong!

Behavior, Maturity, Responsibility

The last three years have passed quickly, in my opinion. Many students will not agree, but one day, they will look back and see that 6th-8th grades were the best times of their lives. Despite the occasional drama flare ups and brief disagreements with friends, middle school



years are still good. It is going to be crucial for my 8th graders to display the maturity and responsibility required for leaders on campus. Traditionally, middle school students' negative behavior increases as spring begins. You have to remember that you are closer to being a high school student with only a few months left in 8th grade. Your behavior must be an example to the rest of the students. We know you are still 13-15 year olds, but we also know you have demonstrated great behavior in the past, and we want that behavior to continue.

"Your behavior must be an example to the rest of the students."

Future Events

I hope you had a chance to relax and to get recharged during spring break so you can finish the school year off strong!

The **8th grade dance** will be held on June 5. This dance truly hits home that your middle school days are coming to an end. Enjoy yourself! Also, in June, you will attend your **final awards assembly** of middle school. For those who have worked hard, you can appreciate the various awards, and soon you will value those moments of getting recognized in front of your peers. If you are attending Fuquay-Varina High School, you should look forward to your invitation to **Freshmen Camp**. This is a great day for you to tour the school, play games, meet future classmates and catch up with some classmates from previous years.

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School Counselor of the Month: Mrs. Phillips

1205: How long have you been a school counselor?

Mrs. P: I have been a school counselor at FVMS for 3 years.

1205: Why did you decide to become a school counselor?

Mrs. P: When I was in high school, I remembered our school counselor helping students that did not have a support system. I always had a passion for helping others, and this job became a possibility as a future career. I did not pursue this career initially (undergrad degree was English); however, because I enjoyed working with young people so much, I decided to return to college some 25 years later to get my Master's degree in School Counseling. It was the desire to help others and to impact young people that led me to be-

come a school counselor. There is nothing greater than to plant a seed in someone's life and to watch them grow and develop into a successful individual.



1205: If you could be anything else besides a school counselor, what would it be?

Mrs. P: Most likely it would be another career that deals with helping or impacting others such as a Social Worker.

1205: What is the best part about being a school counselor?

Mrs. P: The best part of school counseling is the relationships that develop with students and families and the knowledge that I have made a difference or impacted their life. I enjoy seeing students become independent and responsible individuals and take great satisfaction in watching their accomplishments through the years.

1205: What do you do in your spare time and on the weekends?

Mrs. P: I enjoy spending time with my family, and we love camping, boating, playing games and exercising.

And the Guidance Award Goes To...

On February 12, 2015, The **2nd Quarter Performance Awards** ceremony was held in the auditorium, and the following students received the **Guidance Award**:

6th Grade

Leonard Williams has worked hard, completed his assignments, and positively participated in class.

Ryan "Lizzie" Currin has a positive, friendly attitude and is well-mannered and helpful in the classroom.

Ashley Zarate-Sanchez has worked hard to bring up her

grades and is willing to put in the extra effort to succeed.

7th Grade

Nevaeh Jenkins has raised her grades and improved in self-esteem and personal growth.

Katelyn Leddy is kind, considerate, resilient, and attentive in class.

8th Grade

Samantha Kittrell, Chandler Phillips, and Quincy Goldsmith worked hard, were determined to be ready for class, were ready to give their best, and improved in 5 classes earning their place on the

A/B Honor Roll! Congratulations to all of the recipients of the 2nd Quarter Guidance Award!



The 6th to 7th Grade Transition

Spring is here, and snow days are behind us. As we look toward 4th quarter, students tend to experience several emotions with ending their sixth grade year and the anticipation of being a seventh grader.

- social issues
- grades

Parents, Scholastic.com gives advice on **How to Help Your Child Cope**

For more information on this topic, please visit the school counseling website.

Resource: www.scholastic.com/parents/resources

In the midst of this transition, it has been documented that Tweens seem to worry most about the following areas:

- the health of someone they love
- Distinguish facts from fears
- Empower them
- Create calm
- Know when to seek help.



Career Cafe

Ms. Bonawitz and Mrs. Sanders, the 7th grade school counseling interns, are currently conducting Career Café during the 7th grade lunches. Students from both 7th grade teams participated in a large group guidance lesson on exploring future careers earlier in the quarter. From that lesson, Career Café was formed. Career Café consists of small groups of students who share a common

interest in a particular career. The students and the school counselors meet during lunch in the cafeteria to discuss and explore careers in depth. During Career Café, students learn about career concepts such as job responsibilities, salary, level of education, job outlook, and related careers. Students are also given a list of postsecondary institutions where they can further their education after high school graduation

and specific courses offered at Fuquay-Varina High School that will prepare them for their future career. Most importantly, students find the relevance and connection between their middle school education and a future career choice.



Morman's Corner cont...

Mentally Tough Group

As I close, I want to tip my baseball hat off to my students who I consider mentally tough. This toughness has nothing to do with your physical size or your gender. It could have been instilled in you from your parents, guardians, or someone you have met along the way. However it was birthed in you, you have it. You have been through situations that would break many adults, but you continue to strive. You continue to press toward your goal. You continue to come to the one place

that makes sense—school. I am proud of so many of you who achieve in spite of your situations. There is no need to call you by name; you know who you are. My hat goes off to you for pressing on even when things at home are far from peaceful. My hat goes off to you for producing good grades despite your parents' lack of encouragement. My hat goes off to you for impacting FVMS even though others make ignorant comments about you without knowing your story. My

mentally tough students, my hat goes off to you for keeping your cool when a foolish rumor is spread or an insensitive comment is made. Thanks for your toughness. My mentally tough students, I finally tip my hat off to you because your toughness has helped me become not only a better counselor, but a better person.

Thank you,

Alvin Morman
Counselor

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The **mission** of the Fuquay-Varina Middle School counseling program is to establish a comprehensive counseling program by providing a challenging and engaging curriculum addressing the academic, career and personal/ social development of all students. The program specifically focuses on the diversity of our school population. At FVMS, we believe all students can learn. Through partnerships with our stakeholders, our students are well-prepared as 21st century learners providing opportunities to achieve excellence in all aspects of life.

www.fvmschoolcounseling.weebly.com

Upcoming Events

- 6th and 7th Grade Registration

Did you know....?

- It's impossible for most people to lick their own elbow (try it)!
- Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different.
- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar bill.

<http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/games/jokes/trivia.htm>

