

The Falcon

Volume 11, Issue 1 • 1st six weeks



Reporter

The Official Fowler Middle School Newsletter

2017–2018

Fowler Parents & Students,

We are so excited to begin our 2017-2018 school year. Much has been planned at Fowler Middle School to ensure a positive and rewarding experience for all students. At FMS, we are committed to providing our students with a learning environment that will ensure success for all students. Our mission and purpose can best be articulated by our campus mission – **Knowing & Advancing Each Child.**

Parents, I would like to encourage you to read all of the information in our six-week newsletters. Our newsletters contain important information about our campus and many programs that we provide at FMS. Because you are an integral part of your child's education, we feel that ongoing communication and collaboration with you is most important. We encourage you to contact teachers, counselors or administrators anytime you have a question. Our receptionist, Mrs. Birckelbaw, will be happy to take a message or connect you with voicemail if we are unavailable. You are also welcome to email us. At Fowler, we utilize our School Messenger phone and email system often to communicate important dates and reminders. Our Fowler website is also an excellent way for you to stay informed throughout the school year. Together, we will make Fowler Middle School the most wonderful and positive experience for your child. We look forward to the wonderful school year ahead.

Sincerely,

Donnie Wiseman

Fowler Middle School Principal

Yearbooks are available for purchase online. Click the "Order a Yearbook" button on Fowler's homepage or copy and paste the link below into your internet browser. If you order before 9/15, you will receive free icons with the purchase of one line of personalization.

<http://jostensyearbooks.com?REF=A01098308>



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Violet Tsai

School Nurse

This is my 9th year as a school nurse with FISD. I was at Taylor Elementary for 6 years prior to opening up Norris Elementary 2 years ago. I am very excited to be here at Fowler Middle School with my 8th grade son, Jeremy and to see my former students from Taylor Elementary! Me and my husband of 23 years have another boy, Jacob, who is currently a sophomore at Liberty High School.

In my free time, I enjoy gardening, crafting, watching my boys swim, and spending time with my family. I am looking forward to a safe and health school year here at Fowler!



Welcome to the Fowler Family

New staff members @ Fowler 2017-2018

Renee' Ehmke

7th Grade ILA



I am so excited to be a Fowler Falcon this year. I am originally from Kansas, but we have lived here in Frisco since 1996. I taught English and coached volleyball for nine years at both the high school and middle school levels after graduating from Friends University in Wichita, KS. I received my master's degree from Dallas Baptist University and just finished my superintendent certification from UNT last spring. I have four children who have all graduated from FISD and two of them are teachers (one in Coppell and one here in FISD). In my spare time, I love to cheer on Kansas State University in any sport and chase around my three dogs. It is going to be a great year!

Eliot Johnson

7th and 8th Grade Percussion Director

Hello Fowler Falcon Family! It is so crazy to say, but I will be the first teacher to be hired here who went to Fowler as a student in middle school. It is an honor to be able to work alongside all of the amazing teachers and staff that were at Fowler or taught me when I went to school here. A little bit about me: I just graduated from The University of Kentucky in May with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education, with a focus in percussion. I was involved in the wind ensemble, jazz ensemble, and percussion ensembles throughout my years at UK and have even performed with the percussion ensemble in China on a weeklong tour. When I'm not teaching, I love to make music in my home studio, play basketball, hang out with my family and two black pugs, and eat delicious food. It is going to be such a wonderful year, and I am so excited to revisit my days at Fowler from a new perspective with great people and students!



Matt Owens

Boys Athletics Coordinator



I am a graduate of Texas Tech University (undergraduate) and Sul Ross University (graduate). After Tech, I was proud to serve my country for 8 years as a Marine Corps officer. Following my military service, I was a teacher and coach at Muleshoe HS, Levelland HS, and Highland Park HS. I then spent 13 years as the president and owner of a construction company building luxury custom homes in the Park Cities. My passion for education never left, so 2 years ago, I sold my company and found my way to Vandevanter MS and now am proud to be a member of the Fowler family. I am married to Cristina, my beautiful bride of 7 great years. We have a 4 year old boy Michael and another boy on the way.

Kim Newman

Dyslexia Therapist

Hello, Fowler Falcons! I am originally from Kansas but have lived in Texas for nearly 20 years. This year will be my 12th year in education, and my third year teaching dyslexia intervention. I received my training as a Dyslexia Therapist through FISS utilizing the curriculum developed by Texas Scottish Rite Hospital. After two years of training, I received my Academic Language Therapist's certification. I love my job and derive so much satisfaction watching a student's self-confidence manifest throughout the year as goals are attained and the love of reading begins to develop. I believe in unlocking the potential of every student by fine tuning areas of growth while capitalizing on the sea of strengths that each child has to offer. I am delighted to be a part of the Fowler family and am eager to seize this wonderful opportunity to work alongside such talented staff members and amazing students.



Julie Sloan

7th grade Science & Girls Athletics

Welcome back, Fowler Falcons! My name is Mrs. Sloan, and I am looking forward to an awesome school year. This is my first year teaching at Fowler and I am so very excited. I will be teaching 7th grade science and coaching girls athletics. I graduated from the University of Texas at Austin a few years ago with a bachelors in Kinesiology and Health. I grew up in Pflugerville, Tx and moved to the Dallas area two years ago. In my



free time, my husband and I love to be outdoors camping and hiking. We also really enjoy doing puzzles and playing board games. A fun fact about me is that the falcon is one of my favorite animals, so I'm thrilled that I am a Fowler Falcon. I look forward to meeting so many of you and wish each of you a wonderful year!!

Diana Robles

ESL Teacher



I am very excited to begin my first year at Fowler Middle School. I grew up in Dallas but made Denton my home after I graduated from Texas Woman's University. I, then, taught in Denton ISD for 25 years. I have two grown children, Joey and Sydney, and two dogs that hardly leave my side. I am looking forward to a wonderful school year and excited to work with the amazing Fowler community.

Haeryun Kim

Orchestra Director

I am beyond ecstatic to be at Fowler, joining one of the best orchestra programs in Texas! I graduated from Southern Methodist University with a Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance and still actively perform with various ensembles in DFW area. This is my 7th year of teaching orchestra classes, previously teaching in Lewisville and Dallas. I live in the community, and you may often see me with my husband and two daughters in 3rd and 1st grade.



Welcome to the Fowler Family

New staff members @ Fowler 2017-2018

Ryan Woodworth

Boys Athletics and PE



I am very excited to be a part of the Fowler Family! I will be teaching Physical Education and coaching football, basketball and track. I graduated from Wayland Baptist University and successfully contributed to the business world for about 10 years. My experience helped equip me for my true calling in positively influencing students for the betterment of their lives and our community. I have an amazing wife and 10 year old daughter that loves to read and figure skate. My family relocated here from San Antonio, TX about 3 years ago for my wife's career. We have three dogs one being a Great Dane named Chef who is larger than both my wife and daughter! I look forward to having a wonderful year. Go Falcons!

Margaux Kinkade

6th Grade Science Teacher

Hello, fellow Fowler Falcons and Families! I am so excited to become part of the amazing Fowler Family and look forward to meeting all of you soon! I am a mom to two wonderful boys and just moved back to Texas with my amazing husband from California. I was born in Texas, and I went to grade school in Roanoke. I have a BS in Biochemistry and worked for several years in the biotech industry in San Diego, California until I decided to answer my calling to become a teacher just over a couple of years ago. I attended SDSU Teacher Credential Program, and this will be my second year teaching. I look forward to learning and growing together with all of you this school year!



August

FMS Calendar



The Falcon Reporter

August 22	Band Parent Orientation Meeting
August 23	Choir Parent Orientation Meeting
August 23	Orchestra Parent Orientation Meeting
August 28	Orchestra Ice Cream Social
August 29 -31	Theatre Auditions
August 29	6 th Grade New Student Breakfast in the Library
August 29	Clubs and Organizations Fair
August 30	Choir Social in the Choir Room
August 31	7 th Grade New Student Breakfast in the Library

September

September 1	8 th Grade New Student Breakfast in the Library
September 4	Labor Day Holiday – No School
September 5	PTA Dinner for the Teachers 4:30-5:30
September 5	PTA Board Meeting 4:30
September 5	PTA General Meeting 5:30
September 5	Meet the Teacher Night 6-7:30
September 6	7 th & 8 th Grade Football vs. Clark MS @ LTHS
September 7	7 th & 8 th Grade Volleyball vs. Clark @ Fowler MS
September 8	Back to School Party 6 th Grade 4-5:45, 7 th & 8 th Grades 6-8
September 9	7 th & 8 th Grade Volleyball Tournament A team
September 11-15	College Week
September 12	7 th Grade Football vs. Pearson @LTHS
September 13	Back to School Book Swap in the Library
September 13	Flight Time Power To Change Introduction
September 13	8 th Grade Football vs. Pearson MS @ LTHS
September 13	Band Plays at 8 th Gade Football Game
September 14	School Picture Day
September 14	7 th & 8 th Grade Volleyball vs. Maus MS @ Maus
September 15	PTA One Check Fundraiser Ends
September 18-22	Celebrate Freedom Week in the Library
September 18	7 th Grade Football vs. Cobb MS @ LTHS
September 19	Pep Rally 3:05 in Competition Gym
September 19	8 th Grade Football Vs. Cobb MS @ LTHS
September 20	Choir Fundraiser Sing-a-thon
September 21	7 th & 8 th Grade Volleyball Cobb MS @ Cobb



AUDITIONS

Auditions for James and the Giant Peach JR will be August 30-September 1. If you are interested in auditioning, please fill out the form at <https://sites.google.com/site/fowlertheatre/home> or via the QR code. Applications for tech crew can also be found there. If you have any questions, you can contact Mrs. Cortez at

cortez@friscoisd.org. Break a leg, Falcons!!



September Cont.

FMS Calendar



The Falcon Reporter

September 22	Assembly to recognize Patience LeBlanc as History Teacher of the Year
September 25	7 th Grade Football vs. Griffin MS @ Wakeland HS
September 26	8 th Grade Football vs. Griffin MS @ Wakeland HS
September 27	Flight Time Power to Change
September 28	8 th Grade Band Performs with LTHS Band @The Star
September 28	7 th and 8 th Grade Volleyball vs. Griffin MS @ Fowler
September 29	Health Screenings in FMS Library
September 29	PTA One Check Fundraiser Drawings during Lunches
September 29	Orchestra Main Event Social 5-7:30
September 29	End of 1 st Six Weeks

Flight Time

Every Tuesday through Thursday, we will be on a Flight Time Bell Schedule. Please don't forget to refer to this schedule when making appointments and planning for absences.

October

October 2	Custodian Appreciation Day
October 2	7 th Grade Football vs. Scoggins MS @ LTHS
October 3	8 th Grade Football vs. Scoggins MS @ LTHS
October 5	7 th and 8 th Grade Volleyball vs. Scoggins MS @ Scoggins MS

Regular Bell Schedule Monday/Friday

6th Grade			7th Grade			8th Grade	
1st period	8:25 - 9:11		1st period	8:25 - 9:11		1st period	8:25 - 9:11
2nd period	9:15 - 10:01		2nd period	9:15 - 10:01		2nd period	9:15 - 10:01
3rd period	10:05 - 10:55		3rd period	10:05 - 10:55		3rd period	10:05 - 10:55
A Lunch	10:55 - 11:25		4th period	10:59 - 11:45		4th period	10:59 - 11:45
4th period	11:29 - 12:15		B Lunch	11:45 - 12:15		5th period	11:49 - 12:35
5th period	12:19 - 1:05		5th period	12:19 - 1:05		C Lunch	12:35 - 1:05
6th period	1:09 - 1:55		6th period	1:09 - 1:55		6th period	1:09 - 1:55
7th period	1:59 - 2:45		7th period	1:59 - 2:45		7th period	1:59 - 2:45
8th period	2:49 - 3:35		8th period	2:49 - 3:35		8th period	2:49 - 3:35

Flight Time Bell Schedule (30 minutes *Tues-Thurs)

6th Grade			7th Grade			8th Grade	
1st period	8:25 - 9:07		1st period	8:25 - 9:07		1st period	8:25 - 9:07
2nd period	9:11 - 9:53		2nd period	9:11 - 9:53		2nd period	9:11 - 9:53
3rd period	9:57 - 10:41		3rd period	9:57 - 10:41		3rd period	9:57 - 10:41
A Lunch	10:41 - 11:11		4th period	10:45 - 11:27		4th period	10:45 - 11:27
4th period	11:15 - 11:57		B Lunch	11:27 - 11:57		5th period	11:31 - 12:13
5th period	12:01 - 12:43		5th period	12:01 - 12:43		C Lunch	12:13 - 12:43
6th period	12:47 - 1:29		6th period	12:47 - 1:29		6th period	12:47 - 1:29
Flight Time	1:33-2:03		Flight Time	1:33-2:03		Flight Time	1:33-2:03
7th period	2:07-2:49		7th period	2:07-2:49		7th period	2:07-2:49
8th period	2:53-3:35		8th period	2:53-3:35		8th period	2:53-3:35

FMS Bell Schedule

Team News

6th

Welcome new 6th grade Fowler Falcons!

In social studies, students will begin their study of world cultures and geography by reviewing their map skills, then identifying the elements that exist within all cultures. We look forward to an excellent journey around the world this school year!

The 6th grade ILA teachers will be getting to know the sixth grade ILA students by having them create a Mind Map. Using their Mind Map, students will write a personal narrative about things that are important to them. We will be working on our summer reading by using the novel My Life in Dog Years by Gary Paulsen. The students will apply their understanding of summarization, sequencing, and the writing process to complete a major project.

Welcome to 6th grade math! We are so excited to have you at Fowler. Here are few tips to help you be successful:

1. Come prepared to class everyday with your math binder and homework done
2. Morning tutorials are an excellent time to ask for homework help
3. Students should reference their textbook pages while completing homework

In Science, we will kick off the year with a unit on safety! We will have our first test over safety on Monday, August 28th. After we finish with our safety unit, we'll move on to process skills – measurement and scientific method. Welcome back!

To begin the year, 7th grade science classes will introduce lab safety and graphing while PreAP science students will begin working on ISEF/Independent Research projects. Texas history classes will be starting the year by studying the four natural regions of Texas and the Native American Indian tribes of Texas. ILA classes will be working on writing a personal narrative and learning the techniques of revising a narrative. PreAP ILA students will engage in activities related to their summer reading novel, Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick. Our 7th grade mathematicians will review some operations with rational numbers and solve two-step equations and inequalities.

7th

8th

Welcome back, Fowler students! We hope you had a great summer break and are as excited as we

are to begin your 2017-2018 journey through 8th grade Science! This year, we will study scientific concepts in laboratory tools and procedures, with our major emphasis on earth sciences. Our topics this year will include the scientific method, the solar system and the universe, and then we come back to Earth to study how our oceans drive atmospheric events including the weather. We, then, take 7th grade concepts a bit deeper as we investigate ecological processes, as well as weathering, erosion and deposition and how these processes affect the Earth's topography. We will also highlight the foundations of physics and chemistry. The 8th grade U.S. History teachers are excited to start a new year. We will be exploring and colonizing America for the first 6 weeks. Students will be encouraged to complete flipped assignments located on our Moodle site on the Student Learning Hub. Our classes will also be conducting special activities during Celebrate Freedom Week (September 18th-22nd). We will kick off the school year in math by studying real numbers and their properties; this includes classifying and ordering real numbers, as well as converting between fractions, decimals, and percentages. Shortly after, we will discover the Pythagorean Theorem and its application in the real world. Please check the Learning Hub to stay current. Finally, our ILA teachers are looking forward to a fun-filled year where we will implement various strategies and activities to strengthen your child's reading and writing skills. Pre-AP ILA will begin with analyzing the summer reading novel, The Messenger, by Lois Lowry, in which Pre-AP students will further explore the themes found within the novel. ILA will focus on a variety of literature selections in preparation for the upcoming unit over heroism and its many forms. We can't wait to get the year started!

Mrs. Silver's Technology Class Info

All the students will have a great time and learn a lot in the computer classes at Fowler. The following is a summary of what we will be doing throughout the school year. Please note – copyright issues are discussed in all these classes.

Multimedia I:

The students will review their file management skills, and they will learn how to create a Google calendar and other Google apps and functions. They will create a Fairy Tale PowerPoint presentation using the 4 different types of animation they will learn in class. The students will learn how to use PhotoShop Elements. They will love this software. They will learn how to edit photos, create and enhance text, as well as lots of other fun effects they will create with this software. If you have any old or damaged photos at home, they will be able to make them look like new! The students will learn about using audio and inputting it into their projects. The students will also create an original E-Book – creating the story, title, and illustrating it themselves. They will use their audio knowledge to record their story. They will be able to see their digital book in an epub software – pretty exciting! Stay tuned for more information later on.

Multimedia II- Video Production II:

The students will review file management and update their Google calendars. They will create CD covers using PhotoShop Elements, using the digital cameras to take pictures of themselves or their phones, then edit them and combine images on the canvas to create realistic photos. It will be a great learning experience for them! Color is another topic we will review as it is important to understand the psychology of color in order to apply it to whatever you are creating. Next, we will be back in PSE creating patterns and textures. The students will use Sketch up to create a building then place it into Google Earth. The students will learn a little about HTML coding and create some web pages. The students will also do work for teachers around the school. If any teachers have the need for our "business". The students will also create a virtual museum to display some of their Photoshop projects. They will also create a website to display their work from MM2 and VP2. Stay tuned for more fun information from this class.

The students will learn more skills related to video production. They will learn how to create different effects such as coming out from behind a pole, mirroring themselves, creating lightening effects, etc. They will work in groups to develop ideas and brainstorm as to which projects they might like to do. We also create some videos for the Broadcast class to incorporate into their projects.

Animation:

Again, the skill of proper file management will be reinforced as well as creating a Google calendar. All the students in class will create a website to display their animations. You will also be able to see what they have worked on in class! Just ask them to show you their site. The students will practice sketching characters for projects; they will learn how to draw different characters and will learn how to draw eyes, noses, mouths, etc. The students will create an original character to use in projects throughout the year. They will incorporate their character to create an original comic strip. They usually come out really cute!

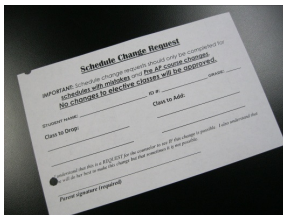
They will work in groups to research the history of animation and choose an animator to research. Then, working with their group, they will put together a presentation to show to the class about what they learned. From there, they will create an animation using an app called "Sock Puppets" on the ipads from the school library. The students will begin with learning 2d animation using FlipBook software. From there, they will go into 3D software. I know I am looking forward to meeting all the characters; they should be very interesting. Look for more information about the Animation class in future newsletters.

Counselors' Corner



The beginning of a new school year is always an exciting time for Fowler Middle School students. This is a great time for all students to step out on the right foot as they journey through many fun and significant opportunities ahead in the 2017-2018 school year. The counselors, along with all of our staff members, value the opportunity to work with students and parents to make the middle school years a positive and challenging time as students learn and grow in all aspects of their lives.

With this goal in mind, we have several exciting events planned throughout the school year and several important dates for you to put on your calendar.



August 21 – 25, 2017- Schedule Change Requests – Students may pick up schedule change request forms in the front office beginning Monday, August 21st, and they must be turned in NO LATER THAN 3:35 on August 25th. These forms are only used for Pre-AP level changes. No changes to elective classes will be approved. Counselors will provide students with a new schedule if it is possible to make the change.

August 29, 2017 (7:55 am) - 6th grade New Student Breakfast in the Library **August 31, 2017 (7:55 am)** - 7th grade New Student Breakfast in the Library **September 1, 2017 (7:55 am)** - 8th grade New Student Breakfast in the Library



September 6, 2017 (9:00-10:00) – Coffee with the Counselors –Counselor Introductions and Services Provided – Fowler Library

September 13, 2017 – Power to Change Introductory Lesson



September 11-15, 2017– This is a week of celebrating “higher education” and giving the students a chance to learn about many of the diverse opportunities available in their future.

September 12, 2017 “My Future” Lesson – The counselors will kick-off the first lesson for 7th graders on college readiness and career planning. These lessons will be provided through Texas History classes.

September 27, 2017 – Power to Change Lesson



Catherine B. Fowler
LIBRARY



The Catherine B. Fowler Library is open from 7:55 a.m. to 4:05 p.m.

Students may come to the library before and after school to use Chromebooks, work on homework individually or in groups, or check out and return books. Printing can only be done in the **integration lab** in the mornings, from 7:55 to 8:15.



Looking for a good book?

Try the FMS Library blog! Here you'll find book reviews on middle grade and young adult novels, tagged by genre and reviewed by your librarian! <http://imallbookedup.blogspot.com>.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ **Book Fair** ★
★ Mark your calendars! ★
★ **The Fall Book Fair** ★
★ is October 16th-20th. ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

3rd Annual *Back to School Book Swap!*

Do you have books you can't use anymore? Don't take them to Half Price Books...swap them instead! On **September 13th**, the Catherine B. Fowler Library will hold our third annual **Back to School Book Swap!** We'll take picture books, middle grade, young adult, or adult books that are in good condition. Each book you donate can be traded for one "new to you" book. Parents and siblings are welcome to join in the book swapping fun. Watch your email--more details coming soon!

****We will also gladly accept donations if you are not interesting in swapping!****

Best Buddies at Fowler is starting its third year. Best Buddies lets you be a part of a growing movement of people with and without disabilities, dedicated to ensuring everyone has the opportunity to have a friend. Students with and without disabilities are invited to serve as chapter leaders who plan events and engaging opportunities for members. Group activities are held each year both in school and outside of school. Some examples are pizza parties, bowling outings, kickball games, and ice cream socials. Most importantly, members will be "matched" in a one-to-one friendship with another student from Fowler. If you are interested, go to www.bestbuddiesonline.org and apply. Also, more information will be given at the Clubs and Organizations Fair and there will be an informational meeting held **September 21st both before and after school**. Be on the lookout for more information.

BEST BUDDIES®



@fowlerbestbuddies

Dates to Remember

2017-2018

September 5th (Tues.)	4:30 pm – PTA Board Meeting 5:30pm – PTA General Meeting 4:30pm-5:30pm – Teacher Dinner (<i>Hospitality</i>) 6:00pm-7:30pm – Meet the Teacher Night (<i>Spirit wear/membership tables</i>)
September 15th (Fri.)	One Check Fundraiser Ends (<i>Ways & Means</i>)
September 29th (Fri.)	One Check Fundraiser Drawing During Lunches

October 23rd-27th (M-F) Red Ribbon Week (*Programs & Volunteers needed on Sunday, Oct. 22nd*)

November 6th (Mon.) 4:30pm – PTA Board Meeting
November 16th (Thur.) 7:30am-9:00am – Career Day Presenter & Staff Breakfast (*Hospitality*)

December 13th (Wed.) 10:45am-1:15pm – Holiday Luncheon for Staff (*Hospitality*)

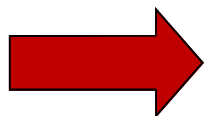
February 8th (Thurs.) 4:30pm – PTA Board Meeting
5:30pm – PTA General Meeting

April 3rd (Tues.) 4:30pm – PTA Board Meeting
5:30pm – PTA General Meeting

May 1st (Tues.) 4:30pm – PTA Board Meeting
5:30pm – PTA General Meeting

May 7th-11th **Teacher Appreciation Week**
May 11th (Fri.) 10:45am-1:15pm – Teacher Appreciation Luncheon & Gift Card Tree

Visit our PTA Website!



<http://fowlerpta.com/>