



Dragon's Lair

October 2016 ~ 1st Nine Weeks

A Publication of Fred Moore High School

Fred Moore Welcomes new faculty and staff.

Susie Guardo
Angela Holl
Marilyn Rabsatt
Amy Redding
April Siver



An Interview with the Principal

- by Omar Martinez, Kelcie McDonald, Max Osborne and Kendrick Williams

What made you want to become a principal?

"I was hesitant for several years about applying for a principal job, and was quite content with being an assistant principal. One day it hit me that it was time to move forward. So, I first asked my principal if he thought I was ready to spread my wings. He encouraged me to start by getting principal interview experience. That was my goal when I first applied for this job; however, the interview process continued and went all the way!"

Principal's Message

The new school year is well under way and off to a successful start! This year Fred Moore High School is focused on improving our methods and frequency of communicating with stakeholders. First, the rebirth of the quarterly "Dragon's Lair" newsletter will provide updates about all the great things happening at Fred Moore, and hopefully encourage readers to get involved. Second, School Messenger is now being utilized to disseminate information in the form of voice messages and emails. Lastly, parents and students have 24 hour access to OdysseyWare and the Home Access Center (HAC) for real time feedback on academic progress.

Fred Moore is a place where students, parents, and the community are welcomed. In addition to keeping stakeholders informed, we are equally as committed to helping students achieve their postsecondary goals.

Marilyn Rabsatt,
Principal

What plans do you have for the school? What are your goals for this year as a new principal?

"The very first thing I did when hired at Fred Moore was look at data from accreditation surveys completed by staff, students and parents last Spring. One thing that jumped out to me were the numerous comments about the building itself. All stakeholders felt that we needed some upgrades. Before Ms. Kelly left, she arranged for the gym floor to be renovated. One of my goals is to continue that work and upgrade the dining area. I want Fred Moore students to have experiences as good as, if not better than, what the other schools have. Hopefully the work will be finished over Winter break."

What issues are you willing to take care of at this school?

"The biggest issue I see is attendance. My goal is to work with students and parents to improve attendance. I will work with our attendance liaison and the district in supporting students and parents in reaching our attendance goal of 98% through numerous interventions."

If you didn't become a principal, what other plans did you have for your career?

"I would have continued in my assistant principal role. It's a very stressful job, but I love it. I also have a newly formed non-profit organization where I work to provide academic scholarships to at-risk students."

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

"In 10 years, I'm hopefully still a principal." One day at a time, I'm very blessed to be in this position."

Why can't we listen to music?

"Honestly, that rule about electronic devices came from the district and the state, and I'm a rule follower. However, I try to be lenient by allowing students to use their devices during your down time at lunch."

Why make such a small school so strict? i.e. the need for hall passes?

"The reason for the hall pass is because I was informed by staff early on that in previous years there was a problem with too many people leaving class, staying too long, and sometimes no one knew where the students were."

What are your strengths and weaknesses?

"My biggest strength is my faith; my biggest weakness probably is being overly passionate for kids who are less fortunate. In the past I would interact with families on such a personal level that I literally took my work home with me. Now, because Fred Moore is a small campus, I can do all the things I want to do to support students academically and socially that I couldn't do at the larger campuses."

What was the biggest adjustment after getting so much authority?

"The biggest adjustment is that I had to make a lot of big decisions right away instead of just easing in to the role and observing as I had planned."

Why did you get rid of the bell ringers?

"Bell ringers are not gone. I'm just trying something different because many students are not making daily or weekly progress in their classes. So, to preserve as much instructional time as

(continued on page 2)

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IMPORTANT DATES



INTERVIEW (continued from page 1)

possible, instead of stopping class every single time someone graduates, we will have one big bell ringer for everyone before the graduation ceremony. I'm also making it a bigger celebration for graduates and their families by adding a banquet. The bell ringer in December will include all the graduates and their families. Students and teachers will have the opportunity to speak about their favorite graduates, and afterwards, the graduates, their guests, and the staff will enjoy a meal."

October

- 14 Project Achieve Visit
UNT Emerald Eagle
Scholarship Visit
- 15 DISD College
and
Career EXPO 
- 19 Blood Drive
- 20 Flu Shots Faculty /Staff
- 24 Josten's Renaissance
Field Trip Chisolm Trail
Performing Arts Center
- 24 Ryan's Story - Denton H.S.
6:30 - 8:00 p. m.
-  24 - 28 Red Ribbon Week
(see back page for more details)
- 26 College and Career Day
12:00 - 4:00 p. m.

Additional Comment:

"I am very appreciative of this interview and I care about and want to hear students' opinions about our school. My door is always open. Any time students, staff, or parents have a question or comment, they can come by my office, call, or email me. You don't have to make an appointment."

The Denton ISD Adult Education and Literacy Program provides free English, GED, and EL Civics classes that are open for all people 18+.

<http://www.dentonisd.org/adulted>

(940) 369-0400



TEA Accountability Rating

For the 2016 TEA Accountability Ratings for Student Achievement, Closing Performance Gaps, and Postsecondary Readiness, Fred Moore High School not only met, but exceeded, the Alternative Standards ratings in all 3 areas.

Attendance Goals

At Fred Moore High School, our attendance goal is **98%**.

Students must be at school on a regular basis. When a student is absent, the parent has 72 hours to provide the school office with a signed note documenting the reason the child missed school. Phone messages explaining absences are not acceptable forms of documentation.

All attendance notes must include the following information

- Child's first and last name
- Parent or guardian's first and last name
- Date of absence
- Contact phone number or email if further information needed
- Description of symptoms and/or reason for absence - "feeling ill", "felt sick" and "family emergency" will not be accepted as a reason with out additional information.

November

- 7 - 11 Canned Food Drive
- 21 - 25 Thanksgiving Break

December

- 5 - 9 End of Course Testing
- 14 Graduation Rehearsal &
Senior Banquet and Bell
Ringer
- 15 Fall Graduation 
7:00 p.m.
UNT Gateway
Center (doors open at 6:00)
- 19 - 30 Winter Break

Be Here! Every Day. All Day. All The Way!

The students listed below have had perfect attendance since they started at Fred Moore this school year.

Christopher Alanis

Gavin Clark

Joseph Davis

Trevor Durante

Bryan Fuentes

Omar Martinez

Kelcie McDonald

Warren Moore

Max Osborne

Dalton Smith

Kendrick Williams

Perfect Attendance! 

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Student Spotlight

OFF TO A GREAT START...

The winners of the 9-week Student Recognition Awards:



**Student of the 9 Weeks -
Ethan Bourns**

**High Academic Achievement -
Ekaterina Farwell**



**Most Positive Influence -
A'Larya Cruz**

**Best Attendance -
Christopher Alanis**



**New Leaf -
Briana Moores**



Mentoring



Fred Moore High School is extremely proud of our collaboration with Strickland Middle School and Texas Woman's University (TWU) on a powerful mentoring initiative. The mentoring program matches Fred Moore and Strickland students with students from TWU's College of Education. Matches are made based on the interests of the mentees to include: hobbies, expected majors, and career goals.

Approximately one-fourth of the students currently enrolled at Fred Moore are taking advantage of this opportunity. Mentors are still available for Fred Moore students who desire assistance with planning for their future, or, who simply need a role model to help navigate life's obstacles. Contact Ms. Barbara Amanchuku, school receptionist, at (940) 369-4000 or bamanchuku@dentonisd.org for more information.

The time is always right to do what is right.

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Teacher Spotlight

The "Teacher Spotlight" for the 1st 9 weeks of the 2016-17 school year is Ms. Julie Phillips.


Ms. Phillips is in her 2nd year serving Fred Moore students and families. Currently she teaches several math subjects and the new Character Counts curriculum which challenges students to explore their strengths. Prior to coming to Fred Moore, Julie taught middle school math for several years and worked as a Director in the corporate communications world.

Ms. Phillips models excellence for her students and colleagues by: 1) arriving to school early every day and working late most days, 2) exceeding campus and district expectations of her and her students through inquisition and purposefulness, and 3) masterfully monitoring student progress and providing timely, meaningful feedback to students and parents.

In addition, Julie shows commitment to improving campus culture and climate by co-sponsoring the Interact Club and facilitating the credit recovery program after school. Ms. Phillips does these things gracefully as she balances the duties of being a teacher, wife, and mother. Her positive and caring personality have inspired her daughter to follow in her footsteps and become an educator.

Ms. Phillips, the faculty, staff, and students of Fred Moore High School proudly salute you!



 KEEP CALM WE'RE HERE TO HELP	TEACHER	Content Area(s)	DAY	TIME(s)	Room #
	Brackeen, Cathleen	English	Tuesdays	8:15am – 8:45am	203
	Phillips, Julie	Mathematics; Character Education	Tuesdays	8:15am – 8:45am	303
	Schultz, Melinda	Social Studies	Wednesdays	8:00am – 8:45am	107
	Siver, April	The Learning Center	Daily	8:15am – 9:00am 4:00pm – 4:30pm	105
	Swindle, Molly	Career & Technology	Thursdays	8:30am – 9:00am	205
	Thomason, Toby	Mathematics; Spanish	Wednesdays	8:15am – 8:45am	201
Ware Jones, Countressa	Science	Tuesdays	8:25am – 8:55am	202	

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Nurse News



Fight the flu

- Protect yourself, protect others—get a flu vaccine every year.
- Prevent the spread of germs—cover coughs and sneezes.

To learn more, visit www.cdc.gov/flu



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

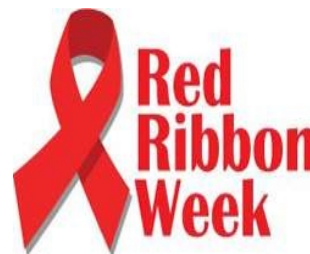


Blood Drive

Wed., October 19

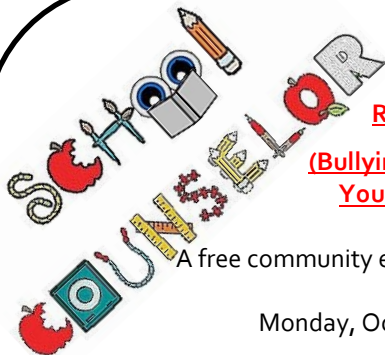


Tree Planting-
Oct. 27th
INTERACT Club will foster campus beautification by planting 3 trees donated by Keep Denton Beautiful.



October 24th – 28th

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| Monday | Hugs Not Drugs |
| Tuesday | Team up against Drugs |
| Wednesday | Career Day (Parents Invited) |
| Thursday | Put a Cap on Drugs |
| Friday | Shade Out Drugs |



RYAN'S STORY

(Bullying, Cyberbullying & Youth Depression)

What?

A free community event for all Denton ISD parents

When?

Monday, October 24, 6:30P – 8:00P

Where?

Denton HS

Who can answer questions?

Kati Willis 940-369-4708

LIVE LAUGH LOVE

Well

Often

Much

What do you call a fat jack-o-lantern?



Pumpkin

DID YOU KNOW?!?!?

Students that qualify for **Free or Reduced Meals at School...** qualify for a Voucher to take the SAT and ACT

*Qualifying Voucher Students will have one full year's FREE access to ACT's Online Live Prep

When registration is complete.

--- Full price is \$399 to access this prep service.



DID YOU KNOW?!?!?

You may qualify for these **FREE programs**, but you must **start before you graduate** (complete all paperwork):

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Certified Nurse's Aide | Instrument Technician |
| Office Assistant | Computer Help Desk |
| Welding | Phlebotomy |
| Electrical Pre-Apprentice | Pharmacy Tech |

DID YOU KNOW?!?!?

You may qualify to take **CBE's or Credits By Exams.**

Email Ms. Willis for more information twillis@dentonisd.org

Thank you to all the faculty, staff and students who submitted content and ideas to help revive the Dragon's Lair.

C. Ware Jones - Editor

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