

Crabapple Crossing Elementary School  
**Principal's Newsletter**

George B. Freiberger, Ed.S, Principal

November 11, 2011

[www.fultonschools.org](http://www.fultonschools.org)  
[www.crabapplecrossing.org](http://www.crabapplecrossing.org)  
Newsletter is sent out the 2nd Friday of the month

**From the Principal's Desk.....**

Dear Parents,

We have so many things to be thankful for as the Thanksgiving holiday approaches. Thank you to the PTA for your unwavering support. Thank you to the parent volunteers for your time and effort; you make CCES better everyday. Thank you to the bus drivers for getting our students safely to and from school everyday. Thank you to our teachers and staff for your amazing work ethic and commitment to our children. Last, but certainly not least — thank you to the students for making CCES the wonderful school that it is!



The Boosterthon fundraiser was a huge success and we achieved our PTA and school goal. **TOGETHER WE RAISED \$31,724.39!** The funds continue to trickle in so this number may end up even higher. I want to personally thank you for your annual support of this wonderful fundraiser and opportunity for CCES. With our two main fundraisers completed I have been impressed with the generosity of our community. Each year we ask for your financial support, and each year you respond so generously.

The funds will be allocated to improve the technology in the classroom by purchasing LCD projectors and Mimio Teach systems. For more information : <http://www.mimio.dymo.com/en-US.aspx>

We are also planning some upgrades to our playgrounds and making the necessary repairs to the Habitat Pond. None of this would be possible without your support.

Next Friday, November 18, 2011, because we made our school fundraising goal, the students will get to tape me and Ms. Bowsher to the wall. I know the students are very excited about this unique event and I am sure there will be plenty of pictures and videos to capture this spectacle!

Today- November 11, 2011, two of our wonderful employees were recognized at the “The Main Event”, a luncheon sponsored by the Fulton Education Foundation. This is the way the Fulton County School System recognizes outstanding employees. This year we honored Michelle Cygielman (Music Teacher) as our Teacher of the Year and Marty Nation (School Technology Specialist) as our School Professional of the Year. We gathered at the World Congress Center to enjoy lunch, watch a fun program, and celebrate exceptional employees and a business partner. One of our many business partners, The School Place of Roswell, was our 2011 winner and recognized as Blue Ribbon Partner. Thank you to this business partner for their positive impact on our school.

Lastly, I have been visiting classrooms frequently, and I am always impressed with the teaching and learning that I see. Students are engaged through a variety of instructional strategies, including technology as a tool for problem solving and for skills practice. Our hallways are lined with evidence of standards-based instruction and student mastery, and I can see and hear it in action with each visit. Thanks to our teachers for their dedication to our students, and thanks to our students for their eager attitude in school!! Thanks to you parents for fostering a love and appreciation of learning among your children.

Happy Thanksgiving! Go Colts!  
George B. Freiberger, Ed.S  
Principal

**Emergency School Closing**

Now is as good a time as any to remind you where to check for school closings. Keep in mind, the decision to close school is not a local school decision. It is made with much care and consideration from the Superintendent's office. Please check the FC School homepage at [www.fultonschools.org](http://www.fultonschools.org) and other media outlets to find out when or if school will be closed.



### Giving Tree Donations

The Giving Tree Collection has become a holiday tradition at Crabapple Crossing. This event is sponsored by the Helping Hands Committee of our PTA, and will take place Dec. 5-9.



Our 5th grade Student Council representatives will set up collection stations in the hallways each morning to accept contributions that will be used to purchase Christmas trees in support of the Trees For the Troops Program sponsored by Hunters Tree Farm, Fedex, and The Spirit Foundation.

### Have You Joined the Crabapple Crossing PTA?

Help us reach our goal of 100% membership!!! We're very close, so please consider joining the CCES PTA. If you need a membership form or have questions about joining the PTA, please contact Kim Dore, kimike424@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!

### Intruder Drill

In the interest of safety and being prepared for emergencies, we conduct several kinds of drills during the school year, such as fire and tornado drills. Another type of drill we schedule is an intruder drill. Through this drill we practice what we would do in case an intruder entered the building. During the week of December 5th -9th, we will have an intruder drill. Conducting the drill involves procedures such as keeping students inside classrooms behind locked doors, covering the windows, turning off the lights, and closing the blinds. We will try to explain the drill to children in terms they can understand and handle. You may wish to speak with your child about our drill.

### Crabapple Crossing Evening of the Arts is Here!

**December 14, 2011, 5:30 - 7:30 PM – CCES Gymnasium**



**Don't Miss It!** Every student in our school, including your child, will have a framed masterpiece on display! This one-night-only show is a wonderful opportunity for family and friends to celebrate success in the arts. Your child will have their artwork

beautifully framed and proudly displayed. Please feel free to bring family members and friends to our special event!

Our fine arts night will include both the visual and the performing arts! Let's Pretend (5:30 pm ) and Music Matters (6 pm) will put on fabulous shows for you to enjoy in the cafeteria.

We will also offer the framing as a courtesy to our families who wish to purchase it. We have worked hard to bring costs for this service down during these tough economic times. Of course, if you do not wish to purchase the frame, we definitely hope you will still join us for this special fine arts event. It is going to be a first for the CCES students and we are very excited!

### National School Psychology Awareness Week

The theme for National School Psychology Awareness Week , November 14-18, is "Every link matters. Make a connection." Crabapple Crossing is fortunate to have a wonderful psychologist, Judy Jones, as a resource for our school. She conducts evaluations, participates in SST meetings, and performs consultations with parents, students, and school personnel. We appreciate her contribution to meeting the needs of the CCES community.



### Book Fair Begins!

Our Fall Book Fair begins Monday, Nov. 14th! All classes have been scheduled for a 30-minute time slot to Browse-and-Buy during the week. Please feel free to meet your child in the atrium at their assigned s hopping time to help them select books.



Additionally, students and parents can shop before and after school beginning at 7:15 a.m. and ending at 3:00 p.m. We will stay open for Family Night on Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup> until 6:45 p.m. Anyone making purchases after 3 p.m. on Thursday will be entered in a drawing to win a free paperback book.

The Book Fair raises funds for the Media Center and our classrooms to purchase new books and materials while also giving students an opportunity to add popular new titles to their home collections. Don't forget, books make wonderful holiday gifts! Get a little shopping in before Black Friday this year and support reading here at CCE!

### Looking Ahead.....



#### November

Nov. 14-22

Book Fair

Nov. 14-18

No lunch visitors due to 3rd gr. musical

Nov. 15

Katie Reeves' Community Meeting

9:30 a.m., New Prospect ES

Nov. 15

5th gr. Rock Eagle Chaperone Mtg, 7 pm, cafe

Nov. 17

3rd Gr. Musical - 7 pm

Nov. 21-22

5th Gr. Rock Eagle Trip

Nov. 23-25

Thanksgiving Holidays

Nov. 30

LSAC, 9 a.m., media center



#### December

Dec. 1

Walk to School Day, "Jingle all the Way",  
Wear red and green

Dec. 4-9

Giving Tree Collections

Dec. 6-8

Checkpoints Testing

Dec. 8

Chorus Concert, 7 p.m.

Dec. 14

Evening of the Arts, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Dec. 17

Check Lost & Found - items left donated to  
North Fulton Charities

Dec. 20

Katie Reeves' Community Meeting - 9:30 a.m.  
Webb Bridge MS

Dec. 21

Winter Holiday Parties

Dec. 22

1st Day of Winter

Dec. 22

Last Day of 1st Semester

Dec. 23-Jan. 3

Winter Holidays



#### January

Jan. 4 Teacher Workday - no school for students

Jan. 5 First Day of 2nd Semester



### **Character Education:**

**November: You can count on me to  
be.....A Good Citizen**

**December: You can count on me to  
be.....Respectful**

## Please Be Mindful of These Important Policies

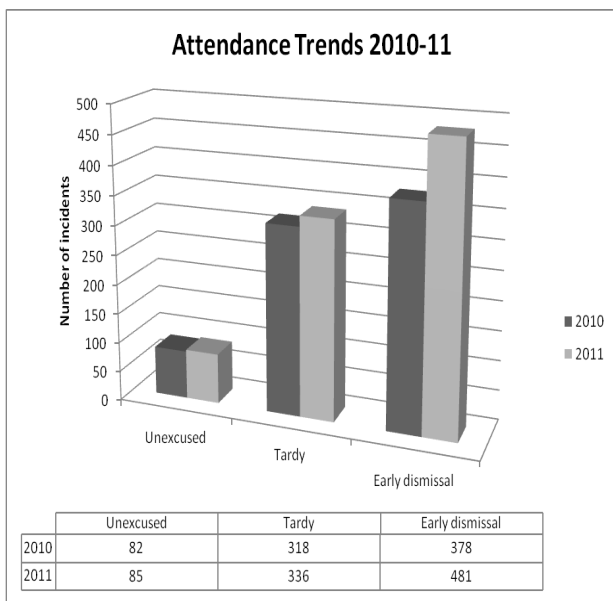
- There is no cell phone use in the building.
- The clinic parking spot is reserved for parents picking up a sick child only.
- If tardy, please park your car and walk your child in the building. Late students must sign in at the front office.
- Absolutely no checkouts after 2:00 p.m.
- All dismissal changes must be in writing and before 2 p.m. Phone calls, faxes, and e-mails are not accepted for dismissal changes.
- The church across the street has generously allowed us to use the Blue Zone in their parking lot. Please be sure to park only in the Blue Zone.



## Planning to travel? Check this first!

Attendance is vital to the success of your child and CCES. If you are planning to travel during the school year, please review your child's attendance record first. Fulton County Schools' attendance policy can be found online and in your child's agenda. FC School's attendance policy clearly outlines the accepted excuses for absences and what a parent may do if s/he anticipates an absence that is not listed. Please note that in order to have any planned absence excused, a letter from the parent must be submitted to the principal PRIOR to the planned absence. The principal may or may not approve the absence. As well, if your child has missed 10 or more total days of school this year, you may be asked to provide medical notes for additional absences to be considered excused (in accordance with Fulton County's attendance policy). Please consider scheduling your family travel/vacation time to coincide with school breaks and avoid missed class time whenever possible.

The graph below shows a comparison between last year and this year in regards to unexcused absences and tardies, and for the first time CCE is tracking early dismissals. We have had an increase in all three categories this year. Please schedule appointments outside of school times, and try to keep tardies and early dismissals to a minimum. Not only do these negatively impact your child's learning, but they disrupt instructional time for other students as well. Thank you for your support!



## Bus Safety

Let's be safe! Whenever riding the bus, please make sure you are following the proper bus safety rules. Riding the bus is a privilege contingent upon proper conduct. Behavior on the school bus is an extension of classroom behavior. School bus drivers have the right to assign seats or move students. All bus riders must behave in a manner which is conducive to the safety and welfare of everyone. Maintaining proper conduct while on the school bus shall be the joint responsibility of the student, the parent, the bus driver and school officials. Please take time to review the rules below with your children. Let's make travel to and from school as safe as possible. Thank you for making CCES the best it can be!

Students may be subject to disciplinary procedures when bus rules are violated. A few rules are:

1. Appropriate behavior on bus and at bus stop.
2. Display respectful behavior to others and the driver.
3. Sit in assigned section.
4. Remain in seat and facing forward at all times.
5. Keep hands and feet out of the aisle.
6. All body parts must remain inside the bus windows.

The bus violation process, a list of major offenses, and more Bus Information can be found on page 19-20 in the Parent Handbook or on our web-site.



## WHAT is LSAC?

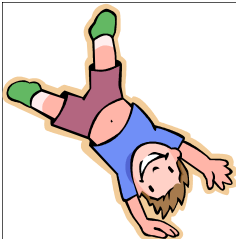
The Local School Advisory Council (LSAC) is a team of Crabapple Crossing Elementary school administrators, teachers, and parents whose purpose is to provide for ongoing two-way communication to improve school performance.

The council provides input on school specific issues including:

- Curriculum
- School codes of conduct and dress
- School calendar
- School budget priorities including capital improvement plans
- Extracurricular activities in the school
- School-based and community services
- Recommendations concerning school board policies
- Preparation and distribution of school profile to the community
- Strategies for improving communication between school and community
- Methods for reporting information to parents and communities
- Receiving and reviewing reports from the school principal regarding progress toward the school's goals
- Updates from the Fulton County Board of Education



A brochure will be sent home next week to solicit feedback and to get ideas and/or suggestions for school improvement. Our LSAC wants CCES to be the best it can be. Please take a few moments to share your idea or suggestion on the brochure. You may deposit it in the new LSAC mailbox just outside the front door or turn it in at the front office. All ideas are welcome! Thank you.



### Sensational Science Lab Success

By: Veronica B. Krapf, M.Ed.

From October 24-28, around 90 kindergarten students had a “sensational” science lab learning about “gravity” and the forces of “push and “pull”.

The Kindergarten “scientist” with their name badge and lab coat, rotated to 3 different stations where they took part in a “down, down spin around” activity, a “what goes up must come down” activity” and a “shapes on the move” activity. Some of the things that the students did at each station included, making elephant & bunny helicopters with big & small paper clips and dropping them to the floor to see which one would fall quicker, dropping objects down a ramp, and rolling cars down a race track.

The kindergarten science lab would not have been possible without the effort of Michelle Banich and parent volunteers from all 5 of our kindergarten classrooms.

<b><u>D. Jones</u></b>	<b><u>N. Jones</u></b>	<b><u>S. Melroy</u></b>	<b><u>G. Middleton</u></b>	<b><u>K. Williamson</u></b>
M. Harris    K. Snell A. Marshall   P. Collins A. Chutani    J. Barlow C. Farmer	B. Jones    H. Fletcher A. Mauldin   R. Bardakjy K. Athimuthu	B. Chatham   L. Moore L. Goodling   H. Brinson S. Shivaiah	A. Bhatia    C. Fell M. Phen    L. Rector A. Cundiff	D. Moore    M. Lynch S. Doddi    H. Nguyen N. Deakins   J. Wade

November 10-18 we are looking forward to the 1<sup>st</sup> grade science lab and having the students learn about “sound”.

### **Crabapple Crossing is Using netTrekker!**

Fulton County Schools has recently purchased a new product that’s going to keep our students safe when they’re using the Internet and will also help our teachers find resources that match each of our students’ learning needs.

The netTrekker Search is an award-winning educational search tool created just for students, teachers, and parents that delivers safe, educator-selected resources every time we use the Internet. Searching is fast and easy. The netTrekker Search contains over 300,000 educator-selected digital resources that are organized around the K-12 curricula as well as by grade level so searching is logical and easy. The netTrekker is a great resource for homework help. Students can access netTrekker at school and at home by going to <http://school.nettrekker.com>

*Username:* **crab123**      *Password:* **student**



### **Clinic News**



Fulton County Schools funds our clinic aides, Denise Weinstein and Susan Salter. This position comes with much responsibility and very little compensation. Most clinic aides are not L.P.N.’s, R.N.’s, M.D.’s, or any other medically-trained personnel. There are things that the school clinic can do for your child and things it cannot do. There sometimes appears to be a misunderstanding between what parental expectations for the school clinic are and the Board of Education’s guidelines for how the clinic can operate. Despite the name, “clinic,” this important office in the school building is essentially for providing a kind and warm place to make children feel comfortable for a few minutes, until a parent can come to school and pick them up. Most will be given an icepack, a band-aid, and a pass to return to their class.

Serious injuries to the head, limbs, or lacerations needing more than a bandage will generate a phone call to the parent. There is no room to have children rest for a few hours because they are not feeling well and the parent is not available to pick up the child until their lunch time. The school clinic is one of the busiest places in our school; seeing an average of 40-50 children on a daily basis. During the winter cold and flu season, that number can climb to 75 children.

#### **What Crabapple Crossing Clinic CAN do for your child:**

- Provide basic first-aid
- Coordinate with the Cluster Nurse on communicable disease reporting and letters to be sent home to alert parents
- Dispense daily medication that is needed for medically fragile children (as per doctor’s orders)
- Dispense over-the-counter medication provided by parent
- Assist with organizing field trip medications
- Assist in training staff on how to administer medications while on field trips

#### **What Crabapple Crossing Clinic CANNOT do for your child:**

- Cannot make diagnosis
- Cannot give medical advice
- Cannot assess injuries or illnesses
- Cannot dispense medication without proper authorization
- Clinic assistants are not nurses or doctors



Please help us establish a safe environment for our students with peanut allergies. A child with a serious peanut allergy can suffer a reaction merely by touching a peanut-containing food. You can help by reading the ingredients label carefully on all treats that your child may share with other students, and informing the teacher if it is a nut-based product.

**“Choose and Cut” your Christmas Tree this year at Hunters Christmas Tree Farm ....**

and support our PTA Fund-raising efforts. The Hunters are once again offering a donation to our school if you purchase a tree at their farm. Remember to sign in on the PTA sheet placed near the registers. Hunters will be open Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, 9 AM ‘til dusk. Regular Hours are Monday thru Friday -4pm ‘til dusk; Saturday 9 am ‘til dusk. Closed on Sundays. For directions or more information, call 770-475-0713 or visit [www.hunterschristmastreefarm.com](http://www.hunterschristmastreefarm.com).

This year, there are **Leyland Cypress and Carolina Sapphires** in the field. **Weekly fresh cut Fraser Firs** are brought to the farm from North Carolina –white pine garland, fresh fir wreaths, and honey are available also. Hunters always has complementary Hot Chocolate and cookies! **Again this year-- Santa visits Fridays/ Saturdays 11-2. Enjoy all day Hay Rides. Pony Rides with donations to Canine Assistants – times announced on web site.**



**HUNTERS CHRISTMAS TREE FARM is celebrating “THE 500th YEAR OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE” by again partnering with FEDEX AND THE SPIRIT FOUNDATION to support the TREES FOR TROOPS PROGRAM. Customers of Hunters Tree Farm can participate by purchasing a discounted 6’ to 7 ‘tree. Stationary and cards will be available to write a personal message to the troops, which will be attached to each tree donated.**

The farm is also a drop-off site for the North Fulton Community Charities Holiday Assistance Program. Please bring a toy or food to add to the “ Christmas box.”

We would love to donate to your PTA!  
Enjoy the Holidays,  
Gordon and Brooke Hunter and family

**Safe Routes To School Project**



The contractor will be moving in their equipment this week. They are beginning on the Broadwell Rd sidewalk and will move north from that project. The contractor is still working out some utility conflicts and will provide notice as to actual construction beginning once the conflicts are resolved. The work should not interfere with school traffic and the contractor is only allowed to work in the road/close lanes between the hours of 9 am and 2 pm. The project is estimated to be complete by 3/31/12. Some work will need to be done during school breaks to not interfere with access to the schools.



**More Box Tops and Campbell’s Labels Electronic Collection and Online Shopping**

Electronically collect Labels for Education points using your shopper card. Get 100 Labels for Education Bonus Points with the purchase of any (4) Labels for Education products at a participating Kroger Family of stores retailer. Applies for every 4 products purchased.

*Not currently registered for e!Labels for Education?* Register today – go to [www.elabelsforeducation.com](http://www.elabelsforeducation.com) to find out more information.

Shop online at <http://www.boxtops4education.com> and CCES will earn Box Tops points for your purchases.

Our next collection is Friday, November 18th, plenty of time to make sure your class is the winning class! The class turning in the most items will win a prize from one of our awesome Business Partners! With all of the upcoming holiday gatherings, we’re expecting lots of labels and Box Tops for our upcoming collections! Don’t forget to ask family and friends for their Campbell’s Labels and Box Tops.



**PurchaseEdge - Earn Points for Recycling Program**

Thank you to all who have participated in this program. Please continue to bring in your empty cartridges (**HP only**) and place them in the bin in the hallway on the way to the cafeteria. What a great way to dispose of your cartridges, help the environment, and support the school at the same time!



**Make Money For Crabapple Crossing, The Easy Way! TrueBlue Schools Program**



Many thanks for your participation in the TrueBlue Schools program with Georgia Natural Gas. We earn funds by getting more parents, family, and friends in the community to participate. If you are a current Georgia Natural Gas customer, Crabapple Crossing will receive a one-time \$25 donation, plus an additional \$5 per month for each month that you remain a customer. If you become a new Georgia Natural Gas customer, the school will receive donations, and you will also be eligible to receive a \$25 VISA gift card. It’s that simple! Please visit [www.trueblueschools.com](http://www.trueblueschools.com) to sign up and view the program details. Thank you for supporting our school!

**Milton Moms and Dads presents The 3rd Annual Holiday Bazaar!**

Come do your holiday shopping with more than 60 vendors with Unique Gifts! Raffles!

Saturday, November 12, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Milton HS Cafeteria, 13025 Birmingham Hwy.

**Proceeds benefit the PTSA Scholarship Fund.**

More info:  
[WWW.MILTONPTSA.COM](http://WWW.MILTONPTSA.COM)

Pass the word on to your neighbors and friends.



**Home Access Center:**  
**Points to Remember**

We hope that Home Access Center is providing you with up to date information on your student's performance. The following points are provided to support your understanding of the grading information included in Home Access Center.

1. Student grades are displayed according to the assignments entered into the system and may not represent all assignments completed.
2. Avoid comparisons among different students. Classrooms are comprised of a variety of learning levels.
3. Data on the website is updated in real time, so questions about missing assignments or other data should be directed to the teacher responsible.
4. Remember, teachers have five business days to enter assignments.

If you have not had the opportunity to pick up your Home Access login information, feel free to stop by during school hours and pick it up at the front desk. Identification will be required.



**Character Heroes are Making an Impact at Crabapple Crossing!!!**



Character Heroes have definitely taken over at Crabapple Crossing Elementary!!! Character Heroes is an outstanding Character Education program that was adopted two years ago. Each month the students learn a character education word. During the month, the students place the names of their peers that exhibit that trait into a decorative shoebox in their classroom. At the end of the month, each teacher will draw one name out of the box and the lucky winner will receive a FREE kid's meal at Shane's BBQ. We are so excited about our "Character Hero" program and we thank our very generous business partner Shane's BBQ for their support in this endeavor.

Your continuous support at home is always appreciated!

**Character Education Words of the Month**

September :	Responsible	January:	Fair
October :	Trustworthy	February:	Caring
November:	A Good Citizen	March:	Honest
December -	Respectful	April:	Cooperative

**How to be  
a Good Citizen**



- ◇ **Share in making your school, your community, and the world a better place.**
- ◇ **Take responsibility for what goes on around you.**
- ◇ **Help take care of the environment.**
- ◇ **Be a good neighbor.**
- ◇ **Treat other people with Respect and Dignity.**
- ◇ **Follow the Rules of your Family, your School, and your Community.**

**Parents...**

- ◇ **Have a FAMILY DISCUSSION about what things you can do together to take more responsibility for the environment.**
- ◇ **Watch a television program together, and TALK about ways in which the characters were either good citizens or bad citizens.**
- ◇ **When YOU do things that demonstrate good citizenship, be sure to point it out to your child... Your child will learn a lot from watching what YOU do.**

Equal opportunity employer and service provider.  
Reasonable accommodations and modifications made for the disabled.  
404-763-4585 TTY 1-800-255-0135

# Crabapple Crossing Elementary Business Partners

## **Educational**

Crabapple Tutoring  
The School Place of Roswell

## **Services**

Air Control Atlanta, Inc.  
Artome & Sweet Pea Designs  
Ashley Blencoe Photography  
Buckhead Document Pros  
Cansler Dental  
Chapman Orthodontics  
Crabapple First Baptist Church  
Georgia Natural Gas  
Hometown Carpet  
Kurvature Concrete  
LawnSouth  
Oasis Health Center  
Scottsdale Farms  
Straight Nails Construction  
Strawberry Fields Gallery  
Vivid Finish

## **Entertainment**

Alpharetta YMCA  
Aurora Cinema/Area 51  
Brunswick Zone  
Just for Giggles

## **Restaurant & Food**

Baskin Robbins Peachtree Hills  
Chick-fil-A at Roswell Corners  
Domino's  
Harry's Farmers Market  
Kroger  
Papa John's  
PizzaVito  
Publix  
Sam's Club  
Scoops  
Shane's Rib Shack  
Target  
Village Tavern  
Vintage Pizza