

# Crabapple Crossing Elementary School Principal's Newsletter

George B. Freiberger, Ed.S, Principal

December 9, 2011

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

## From the Principal's Desk.....

Dear CCES families,

I hope all of you had a nice Thanksgiving holiday. You may have noticed that our calendar this year looks a little different than past calendars. Our Winter Holiday break will begin on December 23 and will end on January 4, 2011. We have a lot of work to do in the next few weeks and a lot of activities taking place as well. Please refer to our Looking Ahead calendar so that you are aware of the important activities.

We are very excited for the upcoming Evening of the Arts on December 14, 2011 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. here at CCES. This wonderful show is an opportunity for family and friends to celebrate success in the arts. Our students will have their artwork beautifully framed and proudly displayed. This night will also include performances by two of our after school enrichment programs, Let's Pretend (5:30 p.m.) and Music Matters (6:00 p.m.) We hope to see you at this great schoolwide arts celebration.



I wish everyone a safe, enjoyable Holiday Break  
and a Happy New Year!  
See you in 2012! Go COLTS!  
George B. Freiberger, Ed.S  
Principal



### **Lost and Found Items To Be Donated!**

Coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, lunch boxes!  
The CCES Lost and Found is overflowing  
with all of these types of items. Please come  
check for your child's lost items.

All items left in Lost and Found will be donated to a charity  
at the end of this semester. Please be sure to put your child's  
name in personal belongings. *Thank you!*

### **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. Thank you.



### **Fulton County Annual Technology Competition**

Crabapple Crossing Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to enter  
Fulton County's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Technology Competition to be held on January 28, 2012 at Riverwood HS.

**Registration dates for this event will begin on December 12, 2011 and run through January 13, 2012.**

Students interested in participating in the competition may choose to enter any one of the categories listed below:

[Digital Video Editing](#)

[Hardware](#)

[Case Modification](#)

[Non-Multimedia](#)

[Multimedia](#)

[Digital Photography](#)

[3-D Modeling](#)

[Animated Graphic Design](#)

[Non-Animated Graphic Design](#)

[Project Programming](#)

[Internet Applications](#)

[Individual Programming Challenge](#)

[Robotics](#)

Students who move on to the state competition will attend the GA Educational Technology Fair  
<http://www.techfair.org/> on March 10, 2012.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Marty Nation, CCES Technology Specialist,  
at 770-740-7055 ext 151 or visit the website: [www.fultonschools.org/itdivision/techfair](http://www.fultonschools.org/itdivision/techfair)

**\*Snow date for Fulton County's Technology Competition is February 4, 2012**



**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.



**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!



**Volunteer Needed to Work With Business Partners**

We need a volunteer to help solicit new business partners, coordinate family nights, and find other creative opportunities for business partners and CCES to work together for mutual benefit. If you would like to be involved with these activities, please contact Kimberly Bowsher at 770-740-7055 or Bowsher@fultonschools.org. Thank you.

**Book Fair a Success!**

Thank you to the many volunteers who contributed to the success of our CCES Book Fair. We could not have done it without you!



The Book Fair raised funds for the Media Center and our classrooms to purchase new books and materials and also gave students an opportunity to add wonderful titles to their home collections.



**Giving Tree Donations**

The Giving Tree Collection, a holiday tradition at Crabapple Crossing sponsored by the National Elementary Honor Society, took place last week.

We are excited to be able to donate Christmas trees for our troops as well as assist those in need. Once the numbers are tallied, we will let you know the total collected. Thank you for your generosity!

***Looking Ahead.....***



**December**

- 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
- Jan. 6 December Read to Succeed Calendar due
- Jan. 9 PTA Meeting - 10 a.m.
- Jan. 10-12 Checkpoints Testing, gr. 2-5
- Jan. 11 "Snowman Stride"  
Walk to School Day  
*Wear your favorite scarf!*
- Jan. 13 Writing Assessment - Informative, gr. 1-5
- Jan. 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—No School
- Jan. 18 Katie Reeves' Community Meeting  
Northwestern MS - 9:30 a.m.
- Jan. 27 Box Tops due



**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!

**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. Through the intruder drill we practice what we would do in case an intruder entered the building. Originally scheduled for the week of 12/5-12/9, this drill has been moved to the week of 12/12-12/16. 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 explain the drill to children in terms they can understand and handle. You may wish to speak with your child about our drill at home.

**Character Education:**  
**December: *Respectful***  
**January: *Fair***

### 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**



#### 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.



#### Checkpoints Testing

This week students in grades 2, 3, 4, & 5 participated in Checkpoints Testing. These tests are utilized by all of our teachers for planning and assessing individual student needs/performance. This assessment covers the previous 18 weeks of instruction in each subject area. The schedule is listed below as well as the subjects that were assessed by each grade.

##### **December Check Points Semester 1 Post-Test Schedule**

		<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>In</b>
Reading/LA	12/6/11	X	X	X	X	
Math	12/7/11	X	X	X	X	
Science	12/8/11		X	X	X	

January, all of these grades will again be participating in an 18 week second semester pre-test. This pre-test will give our teachers a snapshot of their classroom and each student's individual performance level. We will then take this information and build on previous skills and support areas of need. Below is the schedule as well as the subjects that will be assessed by each grade.

##### **January Check Points Semester 2 Pre-Test Schedule**

		<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>
Reading/LA	1/10/12	X	X	X	X
Math	1/11/12	X	X	X	X
Science	1/12/12		X	X	X

#### Colt News Network Off to a Great Start!

The Colt News Network is broadcasting LIVE from the CCE Media Center. Students are enjoying watching their peers each morning on T.V. as they make announcements and say the pledge. Our CNN Crew is made up of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students working in 3 week rotations. Each crew directs, produces, and films the Morning News Show to keep the teachers and students of CCES informed and updated on current events around the school.



**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.

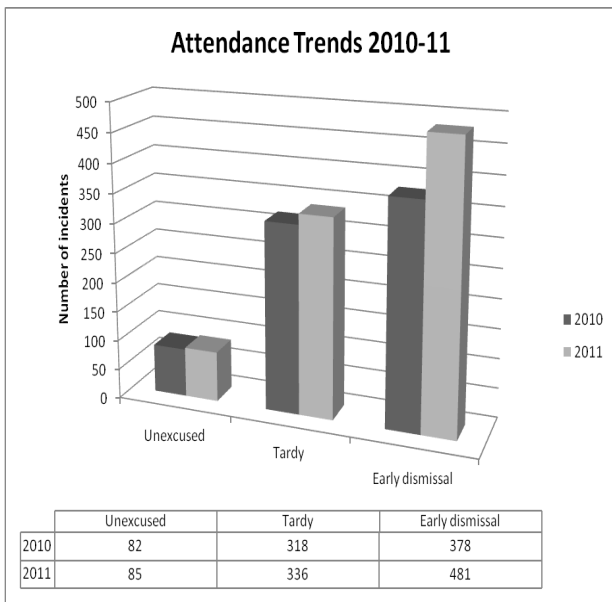


**Planning to travel? Check this first!**

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



Our LSAC wants CCES to be the best it can be. Please take a few moments to jot down any ideas or suggestions you may have. You can drop them off in the LSAC mailbox just outside the front door or turn them in at the front office.

All ideas are welcome!  
Thank you.

**“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. 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



**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, December 16th, 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.



**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!

**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!



**Crabapple Crossing Elementary Business Partners**

**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

**Educational**

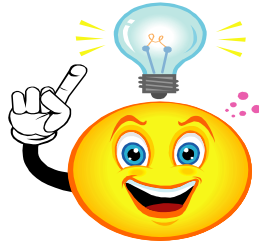
- Crabapple Tutoring
- The School Place of Roswell

**Entertainment**

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

**Restaurant & Food**

- Baskin Robbins Peachtree Battle
- 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



# How to be Respectful

1. Follow the **GOLDEN RULE**:  
Treat others the way **YOU** would like to be treated.

2. Be Courteous and Polite.

3. **LISTEN** when your **PARENTS** are talking to **YOU**.  
**LISTEN** when your **TEACHER** is talking to **YOU**.

4. **Don't insult** people, or make fun of them, or  
call them names.

5. **Don't bully** or pick on others.

6. **Don't judge** people until you get to know them.



**I knew you could do it!**  
**Way to go!**