

Falcon News

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Mr. Tekin

I have had a great 2 years here at Frontier School of Excellence. The hard work that our students have put in, added to the strong team work among the staff, has paid off very quickly. Based on the data collected for the 2013-2014 school year Frontier School of Excellence was ranked among the very few high progress school

amidst the thousands of schools in the state. We hope to have continued this trend when the 2014-2015 data is collected and analyzed. I feel so fortunate to have such great staff who works well with each other. Our students exceed all the expectations we set for them. As a result of all this, we have had a huge demand from parents

who wish to enroll their students at our school. Enrollment is over 300 this year, a record for FSE. So far this year we are looks good and I am confident that we will have another great year.

Mr. Barber

Welcome back Falcons to an exciting 2015-2016 school year. We have over 300 students in our school, more after school programs than ever, and we were recognized as a top charter school in the state.

As your dean of academics, I look forward to helping teachers reach and teach everyone more effectively while helping your child excel in their academics.

Ms. Tustison



I am excited to be starting my 4th year here at Frontier School of Excellence! This year I will be teaching the same as last year, Algebra II and Pre-Calculus. While I am teaching the same classes, I am changing how Algebra II looks for both me and the students. A big change this year is that I will be

integrating test prep into all of the lessons, quizzes, and tests. The juniors have a lot of tests this year that can determine college acceptance and possible scholarships, so I want them to do their best. These tests include the PSAT/NMQST which is in October, and the ACT which will be in April. In Pre-Calculus, I

look forward to preparing the students for college-level math by setting my expectations even higher than last year. I am also looking forward to second semester when we begin our unit on trigonometry.

Mr. Wallace

Hello all! My name is Richard Wallace and I am excited to be taking over as the Spanish teacher here at FSE. I have 13 years teaching experience both at the secondary and post-secondary levels.

In my last position I was the Lead Foreign Language Instructor and Program Coordinator at Crowder College; after having been in that position for 11 years, I am truly grateful to be back home in Kansas City and to be part of the FSE family.



Student Council Elections

Student Council elections will be held next week. The officers will be announced in the next newsletter.

Ms. Amsler

The Art room has had some fun adventures these past couple of weeks. With the start of each new school year comes a set of new opportunities. The high school students have learned how to create drawings using a technique called pointillism. This involves students taking a fine sharpie marker and creating a drawing using only a series of dots, and helps students understand how much

patience it takes to make a really unique drawing. For the middle school students, we have had some fun using candy wrappers to create a painting. Students gained the skill to mix paint to the desired colors they wanted, while also making a painting that looks like a candy wrapper. During the enrichment part of the day students were given the chance to dress a fellow student up by only using newspaper

and masking tape, with a fashion show at the end of the enrichment time. Students really liked this activity and came up with some crazy dresses!



Newspaper fashion show

Ms. Slagle

Hey FSE! My name is Ms. Slagle, and I am the new music teacher this year! This is my first year teaching, as I graduated in May. I am extremely excited to begin my teaching career, and FSE staff and students have already made me feel at home! There is a vast amount of music making opportunities within the department this year! Each music class is getting the opportunity to learn a new instrument or genre of music based on

grade. One new addition to our music classroom is fifteen beautiful ukuleles that arrived earlier this week. Middle school students are exploring and performing on the instruments which are predominantly known within Hawaiian culture. Freshman through juniors are tackling the piano this semester. Right now we are covering basic finger patterns and scales, but after a few weeks of hard practice we will be moving to

popular tunes! Seniors are busy learning about the history of rock and roll, and the impacts various genres (jazz, soul, and Motown specifically) had upon the rock culture of the 1960s. Last but certainly not least, we are busy organizing band during enrichment period and an after school Glee Club for all my lovely singers out there! The music department is rife with opportunity; don't miss out on any musical experience!



Mr. Zinicola

Hello, I am Mr. Zinicola the Biology teacher. I was born in Las Vegas Nevada but grew up in Saudi Arabia. I have travelled extensively and have a great appreciation for diversity. I've had various jobs and careers that have provided me with a unique

perspective on life. I bring these skills to my teaching career and will endeavor to provide your students with the best education they can get. This year the students will be learning about how all life in interconnected. We will also focus on genetics and how traits are

passed down from parent to offspring.

Ms. Delgado

Hello Parents!!! I am Laura Delgado and I teach 6th and 7th grade communication arts. I am also the English Department head. I have been teaching for 14 years. I taught for 10 years in Las Vegas, Nevada and this will be my 5th year at FSE. I am excited to be

working with your children to help them excel in English. My goal is to give your child the necessary tools to be a successful reader and writer. The most important activity in my class will be your child's AR (Accelerated Reader) goal. This requires students to read

at home every night. When they are finished reading a novel, they need to take a quiz over the book in order to accrue points. The 6th grade point goal is 15 and the 7th grade point goal is 20. I look forward to working with everyone and if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Mr. Lawson

Hello parents, students, colleagues, and friends. I am so thrilled to be returning to FSE for my second year of teaching. Ever since I was in the third grade I can always remember my love for math and the fact that I wanted to share this love of the subject with others. I decided to attend Truman State University for their excellent math program and dedication to

making effective teachers. I will be teaching Algebra to 8th and 9th graders just as I did last year. I hope we can achieve the same high level of performance we did last year with the state EOC exams. On top of teaching this year I will also be leading middle school mathletes to competition in order to showcase their young but brilliant mathematical minds. I know that with

dedication, ambition, and hard work these students will achieve great things both inside and outside of the classroom!

Mr. Ceviz



I graduated from Erciyes University in Turkey and came to the US 6 months ago. This is my first year and first experience as a Turkish language teacher. I am very eager to teach Turkish to my students. They will be able to learn Turkish daily and they will be able to speak Turkish fluently.

This year we will use Acilim 1-2-3-4 work and class books as well as Turkish-English dictionaries and some worksheets. We will be participating in the Turkish Olympiad again this year. We will choose some Turkish songs for this event with some willing students.

I hope we will have a good school year. Thank you!

Mr. Bilgen



I have a Master degree at teaching math and I am certified Math teacher at both middle and high school. This is my second year at FSE. I am teaching Geometry this year. This is going to be my 5th year of teaching Geometry. Each year I am adding new things to imply in my Geometry class. I have 10th

Graders and some 9th graders. I have total of 57 students. I am teaching also 9th grade math enrichment and 7th grade math enrichment. I am so excited teaching math to our students.

Have a nice year.

Mr. Isgandarli

We will have two college visits this month. The first visit is on September 15th to University of Central Missouri with seniors and the second visit will be to Rockhurst University with sophomores on

September 22nd. All high school students may attend the National College Fair at the Kansas City Convention Center on September 28 from 8:30-11:30. They will have a chance to talk to admission representatives from

around 100 colleges, to get information about financial aid and attend sessions about resume building, essay writing and etc. Students must register online through our school website.

Ms. Columbatto

Hi FSE! My name is Mrs. Columbatto at I teach English here at FSE. I teach 8th grade English, as well as an English 3 class for high school. This is my second year as a falcon and am excited to see what this year brings us! I moved here from St. Louis at the beginning of 2014. In St. Louis, I also worked at a charter school and love what they

represent. As an English teacher at FSE, I'm a huge advocate for reading and lend access for all students to check out books from my personal library in addition to the books in our school library. My classes and I are also building a class website, so please check it out and let us know what you think!

www.columbattoclass.weebly.com.

Here's to a great year!

Ms. Kenepaske

Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year! I'm very excited to get to know all my new high school students as I continue to teach social studies at FSE. I am pleased to be able to help students

understand the historical context of the world around them and how U.S. society and culture has been shaped by the past. I hope this year will be full of intrigue and excitement as we unlock the events of the

past to open the doors of understanding for today.

Ms. Fuemmeler

Hello! I am Miss Fuemmeler, and this year I am teaching middle school math. I graduated from the University of Central Missouri in 2013 with a Bachelor's degree in Middle School/Junior High

Education. I have worked at the Frontier School of Excellence since Spring of 2014. I am excited to be working with our students, and I'm sure it'll be a wonderful year!

Special Education Department

Hello from the Special Education Department! We are very happy and excited to be back at FSE this year. We are looking forward to a successful school year with our students and fellow staff members. The SPED team is made up of Amy Bellmann, Jan Jackson, Anna Murawaka, and Karen Albertin. The team members are under SPED Director, Lorie Friend, who has been affiliated with FSE for eight years. Lorie has been a SPED Director for Kansas City Charter schools for seventeen

Ms. Davis

Hello Parents, I am the middle school science teacher. This is my third year at FSE and I am looking forward to another exciting and rewarding year working with your students. I would like to welcome Mrs. Melton to the science department here at FSE. She is a returning faculty member from a few years back. There is a big change this year in that we will not be

years. New to the SPED team is Amy Bellmann, Process Coordinator. Mrs. Bellmann has recently retired from Lee's Summit School District as their Process Coordinator. She brings great insight and energy to the school and is excited to be here. Returning SPED members are Jan Jackson, Anna Murawka and Karen Albertin. We are all very happy to be here and ready to make this school year the best yet!

hosting our annual science fair. We would like to spend more time on the core curriculum to help our students prepare for the state tests to be taken later this year. We do encourage any student that would like to enter the City Wide Science Fair to do so with help and support provided by us. This will be an exciting educational experience for your student as we are

planning more field trips this year which will enhance my focus and encourage more student engagement.



We will not be hosting our annual science fair this year.

Ms. Peach

Hello! My name is Mary Peach and I am the English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher. I'm excited to be in the classrooms with the students helping to support our English Language Learners (ELLs) in their core classes. We have

almost doubled in size over the last few years, and I'm excited to work with so many wonderful students. Our ELL students have many different talents and abilities—some know almost five languages, others are competitive chess players. I know

the more they grow the more we will enjoy them as a school. I look forward to all the ways they continue to impress us this school year.

Ms. May

Howdy! My name is Cameron May and I'm one of the high school social studies teachers at FSE! This year I have the pleasure of teaching Early 20th Century History, African-American History and Government. My goal is always to help students increase their critical thinking skills. I try to make learning as much fun as possible while still challenge my students academically. I will also be preparing some

of our several students to participate in Youth in Government (YIG) in Jefferson City, MO this December. YIG is a program sponsored by the Jefferson City, MO YMCA that offers students an opportunity to participate in the democratic process. Students spend three days in the Missouri capital debating legislation in the House or Senate chambers, act as attorneys to try their cases in a mock trial, or work as part of a media team covering the entire event.

The YIG motto is "Democracy Must Be Learned By Each Generation" and this program will give our students the opportunity to be an integral part of the democratic process. Last but certainly not least, I am the sponsor for the class of 2016! I will be helping them navigate their senior year along with Mr. Elyar and Mr. Celik. I look forward to working with you and your student during this academic school year!

Ms. Kemp

Hi there! My name is LeAnna Kemp. I am the Physical Education teacher for all grades. I am also the Athletic Director and will be point person for the athletic programs here. I recently finished my Master's in Physical Education Pedagogy at the University of Kansas and spent three years as the Graduate

Assistant Rowing Coach. This is my first year at Frontier School of Excellence and I'm excited for this year and getting to know the students. I have a passion for physical activity and helping students understand the value of being active. I love to teach and encourage students to strive for more every

day and help instill belief that they can achieve great things. Looking forward to a great year!



Ms. Frye

Looking forward to my 4th year at FSE.

In 6th grade geography we are working with maps and physical features.

7th grade is studying Ancient Egypt in world history.

The Revolutionary War and states quizzes can be seen in 8th grade. Your state project is due Oct 9th!

The seniors sociology class is trying to understand society and culture around the world.

“...Second Annual Foreign Language Festival...!”

Ms. McCracken

I am very pleased to be able to say that the amount of French that students remember from last year has jumped greatly. They were able to breeze right past several sections with little review. All grades will finish their 1st chapter in record time. We completed 6+ chapters last year and I hope to finish the entire book this year.

We are trying to include more spoken French in the classroom. We are doing this by using French phrases for the more common questions you would hear during class. They are doing a great job remembering and pronouncing them.

We are also proud to announce our Second Annual Foreign Language Festival this year! It will

be held in late March or early April (date to be confirmed later). It will feature students from the Frontier School System presenting songs, poems, dances, and other forms of art. These will be done representing the various foreign languages we have and teach in our schools. Please join us!



Yearbook Sales Information

The 2015-2016 Yeabook is already on sale!!! Don't miss out on your chance to share the memories!

Purchase now will reserve your book. If you wait until after Spring Break we might run out.

Yearbooks only cost \$20.

You can pay with cash, check, or credit card at the front office.

Buying a yearbook will allow your student to ***dress down*** the last two weeks of the school year.

Don't wait!

Buy one now!

Ms. Bates

“Greetings!” My name is Dawn Bates and I’m one of the English teachers at FSE. This year is my fifth year here and I’m teaching 9th and 12th graders. This year, the 9th graders are focusing on using text-based evidence to support their discussions and essays, as well as drawing information from several sources to use in one argument. So far, we’ve read several short stories and poems with similar themes. Soon, they will start reading their first novel of the year, “Lord of the Flies.”

Seniors are focusing on reading collegiate level texts and writing scholarly responses as they prepare for the Capstone. As for the Capstone project, we are quickly approaching the due date for choosing a mentor.

All mentors need to be chosen by Friday, October 9.

The students are working hard on creating their research questions, and will be taking a trip to the Kansas City Public Library, Central Branch next week to hone their

research skills. I’m looking forward to helping all my students step outside their comfort zones this year and accomplish all they set out to do.



Don't forget your AR tests!!!

Ms. Melton

I am Amy Melton and I'll be teaching Chemistry and Physical Science to the 9th and 11th graders. Several students know me as Ms. Miller, because I taught here part-time, summer school, and as a substitute a few years ago while I was working on my Masters degree. Since then I've gotten a degree, moved, gotten married, had a child, and, obviously,

changed my name. I hadn't intended to teach full-time this year at all. With a little one at home, I only wanted to work part-time. But then, I saw this posting...in a great district...teaching two of my favorite subjects...with students I knew and that I'd missed...how could I say No? It's great to be back! We're going to have a fantastic year,

with lots of cool activities and experiments!

It's great to be back!

Mr. Mercan

My 6th grade students will be taking a 12 lesson typing mastery course and show their abilities through the typing tests. My 7th grade students will be working on MS Office, Word, Excel, and Powerpoint projects. High school students will be creating their

own web page as well as doing graphic and video design. They will learn HTML5, CSS, and a variety of Adobe programs. I am also working on a master program online through Texas A&M University Instructional Design. It is going well. I was hoping to teach Project

Lead the Way this year but that was moved to next year.

Ms. Meyer

Hi Everyone! My name is Melissa Meyer. This is my third year as the Family Resource Specialist at FSE. I work with the students, teachers, staff, and families to help students be successful. I provide

case management services, family resources, behavior interventions, and triage services. I am looking forward to this school year and working with your students. Please feel free to contact me

anytime. I am looking forward to a great school year.

Ms. Wisdom

Ms. Wisdom teaches English 1, English 2, and English 3. This year in Ms. Wisdom's classes, students are working diligently to develop complex analysis and communication skills. One of the ways the students love showcasing this is through Socratic

Seminars. This gives the students a chance to break down and defend their interpretations of the text.