

Happy Friday, Yellow Jacket Universe,

Today—February 1st—marks the official start of Black History Month. This is an important time of year, where special attention is called to the culture, heritage, and history of African Americans. Black History Month encompasses so very much. It is about joy, activism, representation, and much more. It's a time to celebrate art, literature, and leadership. At Fort Mill High School, we believe that Black History Month should not be the only time that the contributions of African Americans are taught and celebrated, but rather view it as a special time when a national spotlight brings these contributions and achievements to the forefront of societal attention. Part of this year's celebration at Fort Mill High School will include a speaker series in the Fort Mill High School Auditorium each Tuesday during FLEX. Featured speakers include a community activist, radio personalities, a professional stuntman, and a renown storyteller who will all share in celebrating African American culture in our community. I encourage all students to participate.

Below are several resources and items of interest that I would like to share.

FLEX—Beginning next Tuesday, February 5th, Fort Mill High School will resume operating on a FLEX schedule each Tuesday and Thursday during the 2nd semester. FLEX is an invaluable time for students to make up missed work, seek extra help from their teachers, and find time to study in the content area of their choice. We believe that FLEX also provides our students with an opportunity to practice self-advocacy and self-direction, as they have to make decisions about which teachers they will visit and how they will govern their time. These are important skills for them to have as they transition to college and the workforce. Please encourage your child to make responsible decisions about how they spend their FLEX time.

Wrestling Playoffs—The FMHS Wrestling Team participates in the first round of the state playoffs tomorrow at 11:00 am at Woodmont High School in Greenville, SC. Our wrestlers have had a great season (28-2), and will look for two wins: one against Boiling Springs HS and the other against the winner of the Gaffney and Woodmont match. I'll be there to cheer them on, and I'm sure the entire Yellow Jacket Universe will be behind them as well.

Polar Plunge—Fort Mill High School has joined forces with the Fort Mill Police Department, Tega Cay Police Department, and the York County Sheriff's Department to raise money to support Special Olympics in South Carolina. Participating organizations are raising money to send a representative plunging into the icy cold waters of the Baxter YMCA pool. We have already reached our minimum goal to ensure my participation, but if you would like to support our efforts, you may do so by donating at [this link](#). There is a friendly competition between the schools in our district, and we are currently standing in a close 2nd place behind Banks Trail Middle School. We trail by less than \$200. If you would like to support the Yellow Jackets, please consider donating.

Important Links

[The Buzz](#)—Click this link for episode 18 of our national award winning student television program: *The Buzz*.

[The Loudspeaker](#)—This link will take you to the 4th edition of our school newspaper: The Loudspeaker.

[Faculty & Staff Directory](#)—This link will take you to a directory of teacher and staff email contacts.

[Parent Portal](#) – This is the window for students and families to access our online gradebook system. If you need a login or assistance please contact your child’s counselor.

[Athletic Information](#) –This website has links to schedules for all our athletic teams, forms, and booster club information.

[Weekly Announcements](#)—This link will take you to a list of weekly announcements about club meetings, upcoming events, important guidance information, and other activities on campus.

Important Dates

February 1 FMHS Basketball vs Clover (Girls JV @ 5:00 pm, Girls Varsity @ 6:30 pm, Boys Varsity @ 8:00pm)
February 4 FMHS Basketball vs Northwestern (9th Grade Boys @ 6:00 pm and JV Boys @ 7:15 pm)
February 5 FLEX Schedules Resume on Tuesdays and Thursdays
February 5 FMHS Basketball vs Northwestern (Girls JV @ 5:00 pm, Girls Varsity @ 6:30 pm, and Boys Varsity @ 8:00 pm)
February 7 FMHS Curriculum Fair @ 6:30 pm (for rising 9th grade students)
February 7 FMHS Basketball vs Nation Ford (9th Grade Boys @ 6:00 pm and JV Boys @ 7:15 pm)

In More Detail

- The 9th Grade Curriculum Fair is scheduled for Thursday, February 7th at 6:30 pm in the Fort Mill High School Auditorium. This event is held for rising 9th graders (current 8th graders) and their parents. I will introduce parents to the special supports we offer in the 9th grade transition model on our campus. I will also discuss the various pathways and course options available at Fort Mill High School before releasing families to the commons where they can speak with teacher representing the diversity of course offerings that we have on our campus.

Be sure to follow us on Twitter at @MrScroggs and @fmhsnews, visit our website at <http://fmhs.fortmillschools.org/>, and like us on Facebook at We Are FORT MILL.

Go Jackets!

Gales

Gales Scroggs
Principal
Fort Mill High School
215 N. Highway 21 BYP
Fort Mill, SC 29715