



15 February 2013

### **Upcoming Events**

**Monday, 18 February** – President's Day, **NO SCHOOL.**

**Thursday, 21 February** – MACSA Bible Quiz-a-thon, Black Rock Retreat, Lancaster Co., PA

**Friday, 1 March** – **CHANGE OF DATE** for Science Fair research rough drafts. Postponed two weeks to Friday, 15 March

**Wednesday-Friday, 6-8 March** – MACSA Bible Quiz Retreat, Black Rock Retreat, Lanc. Co., PA

**Friday, 8 March** – 2013 FJS Spring Banquet at Shady Maple Banquet Center

**Friday, 15 March** – NEW DATE for rough draft for Science Fair research

**Monday, 25 March - Monday, 1 April** – Spring Break. **NO SCHOOL.**

### **FJS Mission Statement, Part 1**

*Followers of Jesus School exists to provide a **quality, academic education** from an Anabaptist perspective to Christian families in the Cypress Hills community. Our mission is to partner with parents in equipping their children to become lifetime learners who embrace Truth and become servant-leaders.*

What is the FJS definition of a "quality, academic education"? FJS students who successfully complete the academic requirements of the school are well-prepared for college or the work force.

1st and 2nd graders are firmly grounded in the fundamentals of phonics, reading, writing, and basic math skills. The math program continues incrementally up through the elementary and high school years through Algebra, Geometry, and Pre-calculus. Nearly all students graduating from FJS and going directly to college have been admitted into college level math without the need to take remedial classes. FJS uses the Basic Christian Education (School of Tomorrow) individualized curriculum for English grammar from 3rd grade through the high school years. Students learn all the parts of speech, verbs tenses, and sentence structure. The grammar PACEs compliment the literature, composition, and public speaking classes in the junior high and high school. Graduates have said that they are ahead of many of their college classmates in college English Composition classes in grammar and composition skills.

Students are also introduced to the world around them through science and social studies classes. The new "Living History Threads" curriculum tells the story of the world's history from a biblical point of view through grades 1-4. History classes at the high school level continue to integrate secular history with the biblical record. Students are prepared for the U.S. History and Government and Global History and Geography Regents tests. Science classes are taught from the viewpoint that we live in a world that God has designed and created. We are not the result of random evolutionary processes – we have been placed here by God for his special plan and purpose.

FJS graduates have been accepted at many local colleges and universities, in fact, every student who has applied to college has been accepted at one or more of the schools to which he/she applied.

FJS students do not have a lot of extra-curricular activities such as a sports program, band, or other electives. FJS does work, however, to build up students in other, perhaps more important, ways as illustrated by the rest of the Mission Statement. More next week.

Have a great holiday weekend!  
James E. Gochnauer, Principal