



2 June 2017

## *5 Days to Go!*

Monday, 5 June – **Reward Day**. Students who are entirely up-to-date on their PACEs and have all of their homework turned in are excused from school on this day. Teachers will be contacting parents to let them know if their students are eligible to stay home this day.

Thursday, 8 June – **Teacher Work Day**. No school for high school students. **12:00 noon early dismissal for grades 3-8**. No lunch this day.

Friday, 9 June – **8th Grade Graduation and Awards Ceremony**. Students report to school as normal at 8:30 a.m. Assembly begins at 10:30 a.m. Parents invited. A carry-in meal will follow the awards assembly. Miss Jen will be contacting parents to see what they are planning to bring. 1:30 p.m. dismissal or whenever students are excused by their homeroom teacher.

Monday-Friday, 12-16 June, **Regents Week**. This is a high school week of school. Students registered for Regents Tests must be at school in regular school uniform as for any class day. High school students wishing to/ needing to complete PACEs during this week **MUST** make arrangements with Mr. Gochnauer or Mrs. Gochnauer ahead of time to be sure there is someone at school.

Tuesday, 13 June – **U. S. History & Government**, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 13 June – **Algebra 1 (Common Core)**, 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 14 June – **English Language Arts (Common Core)**, 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 14 June – **Living Environment**, 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, 15 June – **Global History & Geography**, 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, 17 June – **High school Graduation**, 2:00 p.m. Graduates meet in the library at 1:15 p.m. for robbing, final instructions, prayer, etc. **NOTE: Graduates will NOT receive a valid diploma in their folders unless ALL school tuition and fees are paid, Community Service reported up-to-date, and all textbooks and library books returned.**

## *It's Time to Say "Good-bye!"*

After 12 years here, this month it will be time for me to say, "Good-bye!" as principal at FJS. It has been a privilege and a challenge to serve you, our FJS families. I have grown in ways I could never have imaged 12 years ago. At 5:00 on Sunday evening, we will also celebrate 20 years of school at FJS. All are welcome to attend.

- ❖ Over 275 students have attended FJS over these 20 years.
- ❖ 23 students have graduated from high school, 18 with NYS Regents diplomas. No other high school in our neighborhood has a better record.
- ❖ About 15 faculty and 4 office assistants have served at FJS; Dwight Nisly for 20 years, Eleanor Allert for 19 years (15 years as full- or part-time faculty, 4 years as DOE Resource Room teacher), Karen Graybill for 16 years, Jim Gochnauer for 12 years, Erleen Detweiler for 11 years, Arlyn Nisly for 9 years, and others for shorter periods of time. Volunteer staff too numerous to easily tabulate have given uncounted hours as quiz coaches, tutors, librarian, teachers, and in many other capacities.
- ❖ 4 graduates are married and 3 are raising Christian families in this community. 18 or 19 graduates have gone on to college; 6 have graduated with 4 year degrees. All but one of our grads still live in NYC and are giving back to their community in various ways.
- ❖ Most of our grads are walking with Jesus and participating in the life of a local congregation here in the city. Several of our grads have served on missions experiences in the US and overseas.

As I close this last essay, I recognize that you have all impacted my life in many ways and I am a much richer person for having served here these last twelve years. I don't have space to affirm all of you who have helped me grow. A special shout-out, however, to three people: Ruthi, my wife, who has been a faithful co-laborer on this journey, volunteering countless hours, picking up after students, and listening to my rants at the end of a frustrating day; Angel Vasquez, school board chair for eleven of my twelve years. You weren't afraid to call me out when I failed and you loved me and cared enough to get in my face when I wasn't being culturally sensitive. Jen Vasquez, you have seen me at my worst, both professionally and emotionally, and have cared and encouraged and picked up after me. It is an honor and a privilege to call you and Angel our friends.

So, Good-bye! God bless FJS and its new leadership, and God bless each our FJS families as we grow in faith. James E. Gochnauer, Principal (for a month yet)

