

Newsletter

March 21, 2024

WHAT'S IN THIS NEWSLETTER?

- **Updates** - Gala Donations Needed, Spring Sports, DC Trip Meeting
- **Sign-ups** - April Lunch Orders, Basketball Camp, Lunch Volunteers, New HS Hoodies
- **Profile of the Week** - Stephanie Brooner, 3rd Grade Teacher



NEW SPORTS CO-OP

Exciting News About a Sports Co-op for FIT Academy!

Randolph Schools and FIT Academy have agreed to a full sports co-op beginning in the fall of 2024! Randolph, located about 30 minutes away, has very strong sports programs. Several of their high school teams have participated in state tournaments in recent years! This co-op will involve all high school sports and some middle school sports. *Look for further communication from Mr. Cassidy, including information about Fall sports!*



SPRING BREAK BASKETBALL CAMP

FIT Academy will be hosting a basketball camp for students age 4 through 8th grade on March 25-27. The fee is \$65. The basketball camp is run by **Mr. Peter Everett**. Here's a [video introduction of Peter Everett](#).

REGISTER FOR
BASKETBALL
CAMP

To register, you can stop by the main office at school or click the button. The camps are divided by age group as follows:

9:00-10:00am - 4-7yrs
10:30-12:00pm - Grades 3-5
12:30-2:00pm - Grades 6-8

IMPORTANT DATES

Mar 22-29 - Spring Break (NO SCHOOL)
Apr 13 - Annual Gala Event
May 4 - HS Prom
May 10 - Spring Fling Dance Party (4-8 Grade)
May 17 - Spring Carnival
May 31 - Senior Kayak Trip
June 4 - FIT Graduation, 5pm

APRIL LUNCH ORDERS - DUE
BY 3pm TODAY (3/21)

K-8 APRIL LUNCH
MENU

9-12 APRIL LUNCH
MENU



PROFILE OF THE WEEK

Stephanie Brooner, 3rd Grade Teacher

Did you know that one of our FIT teachers enjoys scuba diving as a hobby? Yep, that's right! Our 3rd grade teacher, Stephanie Brooner, loves to scuba dive!

Ms. Brooner is originally from Ankeny, Iowa, and attended Iowa State where she completed a four-year degree in Agronomy. But she says that, "halfway through my junior year I realized I wanted to go into Elementary Education. I was so far into the Agronomy program that I decided to finish it out while starting Elementary Education. Two years after my first graduation, I graduated again with my degree in Elementary Education. I'm so glad I did!"

On a typical school day, you will find her teaching in her 3rd grade classroom, planning with Ms. Pierson for what 3rd grade will be learning next, and at the copier getting materials ready. Ms. Brooner loves teaching everything related to reading--phonics, fluency, working in small groups. "I also enjoy teaching math because you can see the moment it makes sense to a student. They get so excited and proud of themselves!"

Outside of school, Ms. Brooner enjoys reading, gardening, finding new house plants to buy and, of course, scuba diving--when she has the opportunity. She also participates in Iowa State's alumni band where she plays piccolo. She loves spending time with her family, and she is especially close to her sister.

Ms. Brooner, thank you for investing in your 3rd graders every day. We appreciate the work you do!



MUSIC SURVEY

Our music teachers Mr. Paul and Ms. Lopez would like to survey our families about your interest in after-school music opportunities. Please complete the survey below to help them as they create a plan for this new opportunity!

[Click to take the Music Survey](#)



VISIT TO THE CAPITOL

On Wednesday, March 13th, FIT Superintendent Allaire and parents Kim Bauer and Christine Hubel attended **Charter School Day at the State Capitol**.

This was an opportunity to meet with our legislators and advocate for charter schools. Charter schools are underfunded and don't always have the same resources as traditional schools so meeting with legislators to educate them about the needs of our school is crucial!

We met privately with State Representatives Jeff Witte, Mary Frances Clardy and Robert Bierman as well as Senators Robin Maye-Quade and Zach Duckworth. All were very receptive and benefited from the background we provided about charter schools and FIT Academy specifically. We invited all of them to visit the school and hope to see them here in coming weeks!

We encourage ALL parents to help us educate people about charter schools and particularly your local and state officials. We found the following talking points to be the most important: *In Minnesota, charter schools are much more similar than different from traditional schools. We have to follow all of the same laws and rules in providing a free public education to all. Where we differ is in our mission and the fact that we are a small school community with our own independent school board.*

Pictured: Superintendent Claud Allaire & FIT parent Kim Bauer



SPRING GALA: AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!

As we look forward to the Spring Gala, we are collecting donations for the Silent Auction! *So what kind of donations are we looking for?* You can donate tickets to sporting events, services like home cleaning, or gift cards for a free oil change. These things will be auctioned off, and the proceeds will support the school!

Please contact [Angie Halama](#) if you would like to donate!



CALL FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS

On Wednesday, May 15, we will elect members to our FIT Academy Governing Board, and we need your nominations! This Board governs and oversees the school.

Minnesota law requires that charter school boards include at least 5 members who are not related. Members must include at least one of the school's licensed teachers; a parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled at the school; and an interested community member. In addition, members cannot have conflicting interests with the school.

Our school board is currently 7 members strong. For this election, the ideal board composition to be seated is no less than 5, and no more than 7. There can be no group majority on a school board.

We will have the following vacancies this election:

- 1 Parent Seat
- 1 Teacher Seat
- 1 Community Seat
- 1 Other (the next highest vote recipient from any of the three groups)

New board members will begin their terms in June 2024.



WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP

On Wednesday April 17th at 4pm in Room 201, we will have the final meeting about the Washington, D.C. trip. **This meeting is required and only for the parents/students who are already signed up.** We will be going over important travel information



HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION

Mr. Allaire and our secondary coordinator Mrs. Halama have recorded an introduction and orientation to next year's high school program. You can view the orientation here and email any



NEW HS HOODIE!

We now have a new high school hoodie available for sale! The fabric is Sport-tek, and the pattern is blue/black camohex. You can order through the SchoolBelles website.

including flights, where we will be meeting, pack list, and the final agenda for the trip. We are excited about this trip! See you on April 17th in Room 201.

questions to Mrs. Halama at ahalama@fitacademymn.org or Mr. Allaire at callaire@fitacademymn.org.

School Code is s3052
Cost is \$35
Sweatshirts are listed under Spirit/School Wear

Please make your final payment ASAP.

[WATCH VIDEO!](#)

ORDER NEW HS HOODIE



SPRING SEASON INFO

Middle School Volleyball: FIT won both games in their double-header last night against Nova! Last week, we beat Seven Hills so the team now has a 4-0 record! Their next game will be Wednesday, April 3 at Yingua Academy (4:30 & 5:30).

High School Golf: Started practices this week at Valleywood and Birnamwood.

Flag Football: Practices started on Monday! First game is scheduled for April 25.

Clay Target: Practices start after spring break.



LUNCH VOLUNTEERS!

We would love for you to volunteer in our lunch room! It's a fun way to connect with your kids and other students. You will help students open milk and lunch items as well as clean the tables after each lunch period. Click to sign up!

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER



HEALTH REMINDER

We want to remind parents to keep your children home from school when they are ill. As a refresher, **school policy requires students to stay at home if they have had a fever or vomited in the last 24 hours.**



AFTER-SCHOOL CARE

We offer after-school care again this year from 2:45 pm to 5:00 pm. Open to students in grades K-5. You must enroll by Wednesday, if you plan to use after school care the following week. If you have questions, please email [Jen Iten at jiten@fitacademymn.org](mailto:jiten@fitacademymn.org).

REGISTRATION FORM



Would you considered leaving our school a review?
Your perspective could be helpful in leading other families to our school. Just click above!



We want to invite everyone to join our 2 Facebook groups!
[FIT Academy](#)
[FIT Academy Families](#)

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