

Student enrollment requires documentation

Parents and guardians who wish to enroll a child in a Prince George school will require the following documentation:

- ✍ Certified state issued birth certificate
- ✍ Comprehensive physical examination (K-5 only)
- ✍ Immunization record
- ✍ Social Security number
- ✍ Proof of residency
- ✍ Court issued custody papers (if applicable)
- ✍ Previous school records

Parents must produce all required documentation before a student may attend classes.

Most schools in Virginia have similar requirements to those listed above and clarified as followed. Parents are advised to check with schools other than Prince George as soon as possible for local variations to these guidelines.

Clarification of Documentation

Certified State Birth Certificate

1. A certified copy is acceptable
2. If a parent cannot produce a birth certificate, a notarized affidavit may be accepted to complete enrollment until the birth certificate can be produced.
3. Birth certificates cannot be copied. The file number should be recorded at the time of registration.

Comprehensive Physical Examination

1. Parents of children entering a elementary school for the first time in Virginia must furnish a report of

comprehensive physical examination conducted no earlier than 12 months prior to the date of enrollment.

2. Fort Lee Exception: A student may enroll if the parent furnishes written documentation that an appointment has been scheduled for the physical (such as, appointment card, written note on physical letterhead, etc.)

Immunization Record

1. Note Attachment A for required immunizations.
2. Immunization record should appear on the third page of the school entrance health form signed by a physician.
3. Fort Lee Exception: A complete immunization record (such as immunization card) will be accepted for enrollment, if the parent furnished evidence that an appointment for a physical has been scheduled. The record must show that all required immunizations have been completed.

A copy of this record should be kept in the student's file until the completed School Entrance Form has been submitted.

4. Grades 6 - 12: A complete immunization record must be furnished. The record must show that all required immunizations have been completed, including date that immunizations were administered.

Social Security Number

1. Original Social Security card should be furnished.

Proof of Residency

Schools serving Fort Lee

Several schools, public and parochial, are located close to Fort Lee.

The Prince George County School System has been designated as the agency responsible for the education of family members residing on Fort Lee.

In order to register for school, all children must have proof of a physical and immunizations and parents must also provide proof of their residence, on-post residents can obtain a memorandum from the Fort Lee Housing Office.

School bus service is provided for children attending Prince George schools, with stops at designated locations within the housing areas.

Prince George schools also provide bus services for temporary housing on post, and the Youth Center and Child Development Center for Before and After School Care.

1. Copy of lease or rental agreement with current address and parent/guardian name.
2. Copy of deed with current address and parent/guardian name.
3. Real estate tax receipt with current address and parent/guardian name.
4. Military housing document (SBO-0121-0898)

See **REQUIRED** on Page 3

Emergency School Closing

In case of emergency school closing the following will carry school announcements: Closures will also be listed on school Web sites as listed on this page

Television Stations

Channels 6, 8, 12

Radio Stations

K-95.3FM

1140AM

Q94.5FM

XL102.1FM

88.9FM

106.5 FM



Translation services for transcripts

Military Families who need help translating their child's school transcript from or to another language can get assistance from the Fort Lee School Liaison Officer by calling (804) 765-3857 or sending an e-mail to nickelsonl@lee.army.mil.

Assistance is also available for more than 100 languages from Army One Sources Toll Free number 1-800-464-8107.

School Physicals at Kenner
Call Toll Free 1-866-645-4584

Special Needs Education POCs

Prince George
Canice Razlaff
(804) 733-2700

Petersburg
Dr. Christian Silas
(804) 861-4563

Hopewell
Dr. Shelia Bailey
(804) 541-6400

Colonial Heights
Don Schmidt
(804) 524-3445

Dinwiddie
Shirley Cashwell
(804) 469-4190

Chesterfield
Jackie Wilson
(804) 560-2732



Information and articles inside this special pullout was provided by the Fort Lee school liaison.

Contents

- Page 2**
School bus routes
Children's safety
- Page 4**
School Phone Numbers
Immunizations
- Page 5**
Schools' orientation
- Page 6**
Check lists
- Page 7**
Dress Codes
- Page 8**
Dealing with war news

Education Web sites

Fort Lee Morale Welfare and Recreation

WWW.LEEMWR.COM/CYSD/SLOHTML

Prince George Public Schools

www.pgs.k12.va.us

Colonial Heights Public Schools

www.colonialhts.net/

Dinwiddie County Public Schools

www.dinwiddie.k12.va.us/

Hopewell City Public Schools

www.hopewell.k12.va.us/

Petersburg City Public Schools

www.ppsk12.com/schools.htm

Chesterfield County Public Schools

http://chesterfield.k12.va.us/html/ccps_pages/ccps.htm

U. S. Department of Education

www.ed.gov

Environmental Organization

www.ea.org

Virginia Department of Education

www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE

Va Dept of Education for Parents

www.nclb.gov/next/parentsguide.pdf

No Child Left Behind

www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Parents/index.html

Standard of Learning

www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Superintendent/Sols/home.shtml

Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center

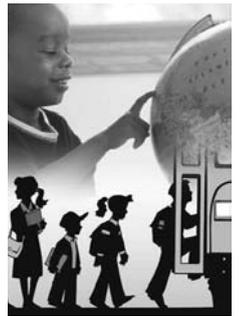
www.peatc.org/

Home Educators Association of Virginia

www.heav.org/index1.html

Military Child Education Coalition

www.militarychild.org/SETS-MOA.cfm



Safety tips for bus riders

Walking to the Bus Stop

□ Always walk on the sidewalk to the bus stop, never run. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left side facing traffic.

□ Go to the bus stop about five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. While at the bus stop, wait quietly in a safe place well away from the road. Do not run and play while waiting.

Getting On and Off the Bus

□ Enter the bus in line with younger students in front. Hold the handrail while going up and down the stairs.

□ When entering the bus, go directly to a seat. Remain seated and face forward during the entire ride.

Riding the Bus

□ Always speak quietly on the bus so the driver is not be distracted. Always be silent when a bus comes to a railroad crossing so the driver can hear if a train is coming.

□ Never throw things on the bus or out the windows. Keep the aisles clear at all times. Feet should be directly in front of you on the floor and book bags should be kept on your lap. Large instruments or sports equipment should not block the aisle or emergency exits.

□ Never play with the emergency exits. If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.

□ Hands should be kept to yourself at all times while riding on the bus. Fighting and picking on others creates a dangerous bus ride.

Exiting the Bus

□ If you leave something on the bus, never return to the bus to get it. The driver may not see you come back, and she may begin driving the bus. Make sure that drawstrings and other loose objects are secure before getting off the bus so that they do not get caught on the handrail or the door.

□ Respect the "Danger Zone" which surrounds all sides of the bus. The "Danger Zone" is 10 feet wide on all sides of the bus. Always remain 10 steps away from the bus to be out of the "Danger Zone" and where the driver can see you.

□ Always cross the street in front of the bus. Never go behind the bus. If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver before you attempt to pick it up, so they will know

□ Never speak to strangers at the bus stop and never get into the car with a stranger. Always go straight home and tell you parents

if a stranger tries to talk to you or pick you up.



Keeping your child safe

Getting Ready for School

□ Have your children put everything they carry in a backpack or school bag so that they won't drop things along the way.

□ Have them wear bright, contrasting colors so they will be more easily seen by drivers.

□ Make sure they leave home on time so they can walk to the bus stop and arrive before the bus is due.

Walking to the Bus Stop

□ Walk your young child to the bus stop and have older children walk in groups.

□ Practice good pedestrian behavior: walk on the sidewalk, if there is no sidewalk, stay out of the street.

□ If you must walk in the street, walk single file, face traffic and stay as close to the edge of the road as you can.

□ Stop and look left, right and then left again if you must cross the street. Exaggerate your head turns and narrate your actions so your child knows you are looking left, right and left.

Waiting at the bus stop

□ Don't let your child play running games or push and shove at the bus stop. It is dangerous near traffic.

□ Make sure your child stands at least 10 feet (5 giant steps) from the road while waiting for the bus.

Getting On and Off the Bus

□ Warn children that, if they drop something, they should never pick it up.

Instead, they should tell the driver and follow the driver's instructions.

□ Remind children to look to the right before they step off the bus. Drivers in a hurry sometimes try to sneak by busses on the right.



Transitioning tips for new students

These 10 tips will help your child make a smooth transition to your new school.

1. Make it a team effort. If you're choosing among a few schools, talk with your child about what each school has to offer.

When it comes time to select specific classes, make sure your child is part of the process.

2. Keep a positive focus. As the first day draws near, begin talking to your child about his expectations, hopes and fears for the upcoming school year.

Reassure him that other children are having the same feelings and that he's sure to have a great year.

Present school as a place where he'll learn new things and make friends.

3. Encourage school involvement. Though you don't want your teenager to become over-committed, it's important to encourage participation in one or two activities that particularly interest him.

He's more likely to be engaged academically if he feels connected through a school activity, club or sport.

Talk to him about his goals for the school year and how he might like to be involved in school outside of the classroom.

4. Early to bed, early to rise. If your child has enjoyed a vacation of late nights and lazy mornings, getting him up for school on the first day can be difficult.

Fort Lee School Bus Schedule

Harrison Elementary School School Opens 9 a.m.

BUS NO. 15: Start Time: 8 a.m.

Bus Stops: Youth Center, 25, Child Development Center 24

BUS NO. 16: Start Time 8 a.m.

Bus Stops: 16, 14, 7, 6

BUS NO. 21: Start Time 8 a.m.,

Bus Stops: 15, 17, 13, 22,

BUS NO. 29: Start Time 8 05 a.m.

Bus Stops: 29, 18, 8

BUS NO. 30: Start Time 8 a.m.

Bus Stops: 4, Youth Center

BUS NO. 33: Start Time 8 a.m.

Bus Stops: 5, 19

BUS NO. 62: Start Time 8 a.m.

Bus Stops: 23, 18, James Child Development Center Van at Prince George Education Center

BUS NO. 76: Start Time 8:05 a.m.

Bus Stops: 3

BUS NO. 79: Start Time 8:10 a.m.

Bus Stops: 26, 2

BUS NO. 87: Start Time 8:15 a.m.

Bus Stops 20, 30

BUS NO. 87: Start Time 8:15 a.m.

Bus Stops 20, 30

BUS NO. 94: Start Time 8:15 a.m.

Bus Stops 27, 28



South Elementary School School Opens 9 a.m.

BUS NO. 82: Start Time 8:05 a.m.

Bus Stops: Youth Center, 10, 11

BUS NO. 83: Start Time 8 a.m.

Bus Stops: 12, Prince George Dr.(Charleston Est.)

BUS NO. 91: Start Time 8:05 a.m.

Bus Stops: 9, 10 (Ewell Court., 542, 553, 600, 601, 602, 610, 633), Child Development Center, 8

Walton Elementary School School Opens 9 a.m.

BUS NO. 36: Start Time 8:20 a.m.

Bus Stops: 46, 45, 47, 44, 43, 42, 41, Child Development Center, Youth Center

BUS NO. 47: Start Time 8:10 a.m.

Bus Stops: 38, 33, 34, 31, 32, 8

BUS NO. 61: Start Time 8:07 a.m.

Bus Stops: 39, 40, 35, 36, 37

J. E. J. Moore Middle School School Opens 7:40 a.m.

BUS NO. 15: Start Time 6:50 a.m.

Bus Stops: 15, 17, 13, 22, 7, 14, 16, Youth Center

BUS NO. 36: Start Time 7 a.m.

Bus Stops: 25, 24, 23, 26, 27, 29, 15, 17

(This bus also stops at N.B. Clements Jr. High School.

BUS NO. 61: Start Time 6:45 a.m.

Bus Stops: 9, 10, 11, 12, 8 - Clements only

(This bus also stops at Prince George High School and N.B. Clements Jr. High School).

BUS NO. 76: Start Time 6:55 a.m.

Bus Stops: 2, 3, 19, 5, 8

BUS NO. 82: Start Time 6:45 a.m.

Bus Stops: 9, 10, 11, 12, 46, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 41, 42, 43, 44, 47, 45, 40, 38, 33, 37, 36, 39

BUS NO. 83: Start Time 6:55 a.m.

Bus Stops: 20, 4, 18, 28

SCHEDULE from Page 2**N.B. Clements Jr. High School
School Opens 7:40 a.m.****BUS NO. 16: Start Time 7 a.m.**

Bus Stops: 2, 3, 4, 5

BUS NO. 30: Start Time 6:50 a.m.

Bus Stops: 26, 28, 25, 24, 20, 19, 6, 7, 14, 13, 17, 15, 18, 22, 16

BUS NO. 36: Start Time 7 a.m.

Bus Stops: 25, 24, 23, 26, 27, 29, 15, 17

(This bus also stops at J.E.J. Moore Middle School).

BUS NO. 37: Start Time 6:55 a.m.

Bus Stops: 44, 47, 42, 35, 37, 36, 40, 33, 31, 30, 26, 27, 28, 43, 45, 39

BUS NO. 61: Start Time 6:45 a.m.

Bus Stops: 9, 10, 11, 12, 8 - Clements only

(This bus also stops at Prince George High School, and J.E.J. Moore Middle School.)

**Prince George High School
School Opens 7:40 a.m.****BUS NO. 5: Start Time 7 a.m.**

Bus Stops: 18, 15, 17, 13, 22, 19, 5, 6, 7, 14, 16

BUS NO. 61: Start Time 6:45 a.m.

(This bus also stops at N.B. Clements Jr. High School and J.E.J. Moore Middle School).

Bus Stops: 9, 10, 11, 12, 8 - Clements only

BUS NO. 44: Start Time 7 a.m.

Bus Stops: 8, 2, 3, 20, 4

**BUS NO. 74: Start
Time 6:50 a.m.**

Bus Stops: 46, 45, 40, 36, 37, 32, 31, 34, 47, 44, 43, 42, 41, 35, 30, 25, 24, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29

**REQUIRED from Page 2**

5. If the parent indicates they are residing with someone, Form SBO-0121-0898 must be completed. The person with whom they are residing must furnish a, b, or c listed above.

6. If the parent indicates they are renting/leasing but do not have a written rental/leasing agreement, Form SBO-0121-0898 must be completed by the Landlord. Line 8 must have a signature.

7. If the family is waiting for a home to be completed or military housing, they must contact Robin Gay at the School Board Office to obtain permission for the children to be

TRANSITION from Page 2

Help make this transition easier by starting his school-year sleep routine a week or two in advance.

5. Take a trial run. Take some time before the start of school to make sure you and your child know where to go and what to do on that first morning.

Show your child where the bus stop is, or, if he walks, map out the safest route to school, avoiding vacant lots and places where there aren't a lot of people.

Warn your child to always walk with a friend and scout out safe houses to go to in case of emergency.

If you can find out what classroom your child will be in, visit the classroom ahead of time so he knows exactly where to go in the morning.

You may even want to call the school in advance to find out about any special first-day procedures.

6. Stock up on supplies. On or before the first day of school, make sure you or your child finds out what school supplies and materials are required.

Most schools should provide a handy list for the younger grades, but if not, take it upon yourself to ask and then purchase them as soon

enrolled (see Policy 912).

Custody

1. Court Order

2. Divorce decree that states either full custody awarded to one parent or joint custody

3. Petition for custody: Follow-up is necessary after the scheduled court date to determine if custody was awarded to the petitioner.

4. Power of Attorney is not acceptable.

5. Fort Lee Exception: A power of attorney is accepted if a single parent is sent out on TDY.

as possible.

Middle and high school students should be sure to take along a notebook and pen or pencil on the first day.

7. Prepare the night before. To avoid the morning rush, organize what you can the night before.

Lay out clothes, make a lunch and assemble any supplies your child may need.

Be sure to get everyone up extra early so you'll have plenty of time to calmly get ready and get out the door on time.

8. Get a healthy start. Encourage your child to eat a good breakfast and pack a healthy snack to help him get through the day.

9. Accompany your little one.

Even if your elementary-school child will be regularly riding the bus or walking to school, you may want to take him yourself on the first day, particularly if he seems nervous.

10. Introduce yourselves. Young children are often shy with a new teacher.

If you take your child to school on the first day, you might want to go into the classroom and introduce your child to the teacher. Let the teacher know about any special interests or challenges that your child has.



Local School Numbers

Fort Lee has a school liaison officer to assist parents with any questions or concerns they may have about local public schools Kindergarten through 12th.

The school liaison officer also acts as a point of contact for the home schools and general information and questions relating to such things as registration, bus routes and school policies.

Fort Lee School Liaison Officer

Building 10612
1100 Lee Ave, Suite 119
Fort Lee, Va 23801-1720
(804) 765-3857
FAX: (804) 765-3846

Public Schools Serving Fort Lee

Prince George County School District
(804)733-2700

Grades K-5

Harrison Elementary School
(804) 991-2242
South Elementary School
(804) 733-2755
Walton Elementary School
(804) 733-2750
L.L. Beasley Elementary
(804) 733-2745
North Elementary
(804) 458-8922

Grades 6-7

J.E.J. Moore Middle School
(804) 733-2740

Grades 8-9

N.B. Clements Jr. High School
(804) 733-2730
Prince George High School
(804) 733-2720

Other School Districts

Family members of military personnel residing off post will enroll for the school in the area they live in.

Chesterfield County Schools

(804) 748-1405

Colonial Heights City Schools

(804) 526-0811

Hopewell City Schools

(804) 541-6400

Petersburg City Schools

(804) 732-0510

Dinwiddie County Schools

(804) 469-4190

Required Immunizations for Virginia Schools

TRICARE School Physicals (Needed prior to registering when transferring or initial enrollment)
Toll Free 1-866-645-4584

Kindergarten

3 DPT (One after fourth birthday)
3 OPV (One after fourth birthday)
2 MMR (First must be after 1st birthday)
3 HEP B
1 Varicelles (Chicken Pox) after 12 months. Not necessary if proof of disease documented by doctor.
1 Hib

First Grade

Same as kindergarten

Second Grade

3 DPT (One after fourth birthday)
3 OPV (One after fourth birthday)
2 MMR (First must be after first birthday)
3 HEP B
1 Hib

Third Grade

Same as Second Grade

Fourth Grade

3 DPT (One after fourth birthday)
3 OPV (One after fourth birthday)
2 MMR (First must be after first birthday)
1 Hib

Fifth Grade

Same as Fourth Grade

Sixth Seventh and Eighth Grade

3 DPT (One after fourth birthday)
3 OPV (One after fourth birthday)
2 MMR (First must be after first birthday)
3 HEP B

Ninth through 12th Grade

3 DPT (One after fourth birthday)
3 OPV (One after fourth birthday)
2 MMR (First must be after first birthday)

Schools' Orientation Days

Prince George County Schools

Beazley Elementary Sept. 2
 Kindergarten 10 a.m.
 Grades 1 - 5 11:30 a.m.

Harrison Elementary Sept. 2
 Kindergarten 9 a.m.
 Grades 1 & 2 10:30 a.m.
 Grades 3 - 5 noon.

North Elementary Sept. 1
 Pre-K 9 a.m.
 Sept. 2
 Kindergarten 9 a.m.
 Grades 1 - 5 noon

South Elementary Sept. 2
 Kindergarten 9 a.m.
 Grades 1 - 5 noon

Walton Elementary Sept. 2
 Kindergarten 9 a.m.
 Grades 1 & 2 11 a.m.
 Grades 3 - 5 noon

Moore Middle Sept. 3
 10:30 a.m.

Clements Jr. High Sept. 3
 8:30 a.m.

PG High School Aug. 31
 7 p.m.

Petersburg City Schools

Headstart Aug. 27
 Pre-K and Kindergarten Aug. 31

Call for times
(804) 732-0510

Colonial Heights

North Elementary School Sept. 3
 3201 Dale Ave.
 Kindergarten 10 - 11:30 a.m.
 Elementary 9 - 10 a.m.

Tussing Elementary School Sept. 3
 5501 Conduit Rd.
 Kindergarten 10 - 11:30 a.m.
 Elementary 9 - 10 a.m.

Col. Heights Middle School Sept. 2
 3600 Conduit Rd.
 Grades 6 - 8 New Students 1- 3 p.m.

Col. Heights High School Sept. 3
 3600 Conduit Rd.
 9th Grade Students Only Call for time

Hopewell

Virginia Preschool Sept 2,
 Preschool 10:a.m.
 Head Start Sept. 2
 9: a.m.

Harry E. James Elementary Sept. 2
 (Kindergarten - 5:30 -6:30 p.m.
 Grades 1-5 - 6:30 -7:30 p.m.

Patrick Copeland Elementary Sept. 2
 Kindergarten Orientation 4:30 p.m.
 Grade 1-5open house 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
 Teachers will be in their classrooms to meet par-
 ents and students.

Dinwiddie County Schools

Meet the
 Teacher Day will
 be held at all ele-
 mentary schools,
 as well as Grades
 7 and 8 on Sept. 2,
 noon - 7 p.m.
 Sixth Grade
 Open House will
 be Sept. 1, noon-
 7 p.m.
 High School

9th grade Orientation and Open House will be in the
 Dinwiddie County High School Auditorium Aug.
 30, 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Dinwiddie Elementary K-5

13811 Boydton Plank Rd.

Midway Elementary School K-5

5511 Midway Rd.

Rohoic Elementary School K-5

23312 Airport St.

Southside Elementary School K-5

10305 Boydton Plank Rd.

Sunnyside Elementary School K-5

10203 Sunnyside Rd.

Dinwiddie Middle School 6-8

12318 Boydton Plank Rd.

Dinwiddie High School 9-12

11608 Courthouse Rd.



Parents check list

1. Does my child need a physical? If yes call 1-866-645-4584.
2. Check kids' clothes with school dress code.
3. Gather documents
4. Make sure registration is complete.
5. Make time for orientation day
6. Buy and SET alarm clock
7. Post school and emergency contact numbers on fridge.
8. Brief my child on emergency plans.

Children's to do list

1. Do MoM and DaD need a break? If yes, talk them into dining out.
4. Clean and organize room for homework.
2. Get list of phone numbers from MoM and DaD.
3. Start Going to Bed earlier -- Yuck
5. Know what to do in an emergency if MoM and DaD aren't home.
6. Pack book bag for school.
7. Go play until school starts.



Standards of Learning ensure good education

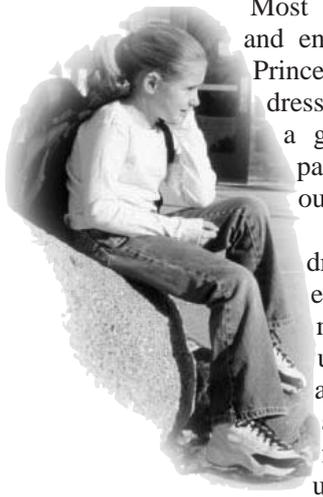
The Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools describe the commonwealth's expectations for student learning and achievement in grades Kindergarten through 12th in English, mathematics, science, history/social science, technology, the fine arts, foreign language, health and physical education, and driver education.

These standards represent a broad consensus of what parents, classroom teachers, school administrators, academics, and business and community leaders believe schools should teach and students should learn.

In the four core areas of English, mathematics, science, and history/social science, a curriculum framework also is provided that details the specific knowledge and skills students must possess to meet the standards for these subjects.

Standards of Learning currently in effect are listed on the Virginia Department of Education home page. School children are tested annually to ensure their education meets the state SOL requirements.

Dress codes keep children's attention on school



Most Virginia schools have and enforce dress codes. The Prince George School District dress code, printed below, is a good example of what parents will find throughout the local area.

Being familiar with the dress codes can help parents avoid spending money on clothing unsuitable for classes according to the districts and prevent parents from making an unscheduled trip to their

child's school with a change of clothing.

For more information on dress codes visit your child's school home page as listed on Page one or call your child's school, numbers listed on Page 4.

Dress Code Violations

Students in violation of the dress code will be required to change their dress to meet the established expectations or they will be sent home. Offenders who have repeated violations will receive progressive disciplinary measures (such as after school detention, Saturday school, and suspensions).

Prince George dress codes

1. Shorts may be worn in grades Kindergarten through 12th during the normal school day throughout the regularly calendar school year provided that they do not distract from or interfere with the orderly process of instruction. The length of other articles of

clothing such as skirts, dresses, and etc. should be of similar length.

2. Shoes or sandals must be worn for health and safety reasons.

3. In the interest of safety and/or health, the school may require specific dress or grooming for certain activities (such as shop, physical education, driver training, etc.) in which a particular danger may exist.

4. Students acting as official representatives of the school in the band, on athletic teams or any other organization may be required to subscribe to an appropriate code of dress and grooming as determined by the nature of the school sponsored events.

5. Hats, caps and head coverings will not be worn inside school buildings.

Prohibited clothing items

- Sunglasses
- Head coverings (i.e. sweat bands, bandannas, hats)
- Rakes, combs, picks, curlers, rollers, and other grooming articles
- Pajamas and bedroom slippers or exposed undergarments
- See-through/sheer clothing, tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, muscle shirts, oversized armholes, spaghetti straps, and plunging necklines or those that otherwise reveal excessive cleavage
- Clothing bearing profane, obscene, lewd, vulgar, illegal, and racially/ethnically offensive illustrations, emblems, or statements
- Garments promoting the use of illegal substances, including alcohol and tobacco
- Tears or holes in clothing above the knees
- Items of clothing which may be considered as weapons including studded jewelry and wallet chains

of more than 12 inches

Clothing associated with gangs or gang membership

Bottoms that are excessively long and/or unhemmed posing a safety hazard

Secondary Schools

Prince George County secondary schools are institutions that are not only devoted to the business of education but to the proper training in appropriate social skill and employable characteristics.

Based on this belief, the dress code requires the appropriate appearance and self-respect necessary to foster a positive learning environment.

Grooming and dress that is hazardous to the health and safety of the student or to that of his associates, or is disruptive to instruction or good order and discipline in the school shall not be permitted.

The following regulations and stipulations are in effect for Prince George students:

- Shoulders must be completely covered.
- The bottom of the shirt, blouse, or other top must overlap or be tucked into the pants, shorts, skirts etc., worn so that the midriff, belly, and/or undergarments are not exposed.
- Pants will be worn at the waist.
- Shorts/shorts may be worn at a length no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Dresses and skirts must be at least mid-thigh in length. Students are not allowed to wear dresses or skirts with splits which goes higher than mid-thigh.
- A principal or his designee may require a student to remove any item of outer clothing that could readily conceal a weapon while in school.
- Shoes or sandals must be worn for health and safe-

Parents, teachers: Caution children about war news

by Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

Parents and educators must warn children they can't believe everything they see on TV, a Fox News Channel commentator said recently at the Military Child Education Coalition's annual convention in Colorado Springs, Colo.

John Gibson, host of "The Big Story with John Gibson," an hour-long news-analysis program, made his comments to the more than 400 attendees at the conference's closing session.

The commentator said there's a problem with news coverage of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"You have to bear in mind (that) in most cases there is an agenda from the news, from news managers, from news executives," he explained. "They try to hide it. They say there isn't, but there is."

He also admitted that reporters often report things erroneously. Gibson called it "the collateral damage of the news business."

If, for instance, kids hear about an improvised explosive device going off and some soldiers getting killed, children with a deployed parent might get kind of panicked about that.

"You have to caution them that these early reports can be wrong," he said. "You must understand that news is the

first draft of history, and there are many drafts to come."

Gibson also warned the audience about children watching and listening to the "non-news media," entertainers who make outrageous claims in their work.

He used the statement that President Bush brought down the World Trade Center twin towers as an example of such outrageous claims.

Gibson shared some of his experiences in covering the U.S. military.

He recalled traveling to Mombassa, Kenya, several years ago for NBC News to cover U.S. troops delivering food to the country's starving population.

What caught his attention most, he said, was that there was an American at every phone booth on the big base from which the food was being distributed. "There was some American military person standing there and talking to home about car payments, kids in school, bills, roof leaks, plumbing that doesn't work and the bathroom overflowed," Gibson told the audience. "You just looked at it and your heart broke.

"They are doing a really good job in a really hostile environment ... and they've still got to deal with these issues that are hard enough to deal with when you're home."

Gibson said reporters had been told

not to use their satellite phones more than necessary because they cost an exorbitant amount to operate.

Still, one night in his hotel he felt compelled to let five "dusty, bedraggled, tired-looking American Marines" use his phone to call home.

Gibson sat down and watched each of them call home and talk for about a half hour.

"It was all 'Yeah honey, I do love you. Now:

What about the car?

What about the kids?

What about the school?

What about the insurance?

What about the house?

What about the roof?

What about the dog?" he recalled.

Gibson said all he had to do was write his story, and when his wife called, he normally just had to say, "Okay, fine," about everything.

"These guys have got people shooting at them and they have to make decisions about shooting people," he said. "They are living on (meals, ready to eat). They are in these tents with scorpions crawling all over them, and

"You have to bear in mind (that) in most cases there is an agenda from the news, from news managers, from news executives."

— John Gibson, host of
"The Big Story with John Gibson"

this is what they've got to deal with? I really felt bad about it."

Gibson said over the years he has thought about the plight of military personnel and their families, particularly National Guard and reserve families.

"I begin to see these stories about National Guard families, where the Guardsman is pulled out of a \$100 grand a year job and deployed for a year," he said. "And now the family is at home coping with whatever the military pay is. And things are rough."

In comparing the Cold War with the war on terrorism, Gibson said a major difference is that the United States could always negotiate with the Russians. They were sometimes "thick headed, maybe they cheated, maybe they really had ulterior motives that you couldn't trust. But you could negotiate with them," he said. "There's no negotiating with (the terrorists)."