

**Update on “Meet the New Superintendent”
November 14, 2011**

Dr. Alban promised to follow-up with staff members on several questions raised at the “Meet the New Superintendent” meeting sponsored by the PTA Council, as follows:

1. Cumulative GPAs on High School Report Cards

It is possible to put a cumulative GPA on the end-of-year report card. Based on the feedback from many stakeholders, this will be a positive change. Staff will work to develop the necessary reporting tools to include GPA on report cards. We hope to include this information on report cards beginning in June 2012 if development proceeds smoothly. Parents who wish to know their child’s GPA status may get information from the guidance counselor throughout the school year.

2. Encrypted Email

FCPS does not have the capacity to encrypt email at this time, nor is it a high priority as we have other means to handle confidential data and records. Furthermore the cost is prohibitive, at approximately \$302,000.

3. Cell Phone Use on Buses

Regulation 400-18 indicates that students must power off electronic devices when aboard a school bus or other school-sponsored vehicle. A supervising adult may allow students to use their cell phones if circumstances warrant such use, for example to notify parents in the event major traffic delays are encountered and a field trip will be late arriving back at school.

4. Policies for Staff Behavior

Many policies and regulations identify expectations for staff members, including:

Regulation 400-48	Bullying-Harassment-Intimidation
Policy 308	Personal and Academic Freedom
Policy 318	Sexual Harassment
Policy 323	Support Personnel Discipline Policy
Policy 503.1	Character Education and Development

FCPS has established a process for parents to follow if they have a concern about a staff member’s actions. It can be found on page 5 of the 2011-2012 Calendar Handbook under *Parents: Follow These Steps to Resolve Concerns*. The Calendar Handbook can also be found on the FCPS Web site, www.fcps.org/chb.

Dr. Alban will offer another informal discussion opportunity for community members on February 27, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at 191 S. East Street, Frederick.