

“Make A Difference” Student Opportunities
Folly Quarter Middle School
2010-11

According to The Search Institute, a Minneapolis-based organization that specializes in research on young adults, “development of positive assets forms a strong foundation for life.” To assist interested Folly Quarter in the development of their 40 assets, our staff has consciously created the following groups which we hope students will take advantage of. For more information on the 40 assets, log onto www.search-institute.com.

Leo Club – sponsored by Mrs. Watt and Ms. Bader as an intramural. Works with the Glenwood Chapter of the Lions Club International on community service projects such as coat and food drives throughout the school year.

Change Matters – Mrs. Bortz is staff contact. For this year's 7th grade SSL project, we are incorporating lessons from Howard County's Change Matters curriculum. The 7th grade students will be focusing on the implications of poverty and homelessness. They will be holding bake sales during fall and winter parent conferences in order to raise money for local charities including: Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Neighbor Network, and The Help A Child Fund. They will also complete a Math-a-thon to raise money for the above charities. Students will research various aspects of poverty and its implications in reading; they will research diseases related to poverty in science; and they will study poverty in developing vs developed nations in social studies. Finally, students will reflect upon and write up their SSL experience in English class. Last year, the 7th grade raised over \$3,714 and donated to the local charities mentioned above.

Peer Tutor – Mrs. Newman

Student Helper- Counselors are staff contact. Seventh and eighth grade students are permitted to miss one quarter of PE to volunteer to work as a staff assistant. The majority of student helper experience involves clerical duties, running errands, and preparing material of instruction. Some students also assist other students in the classroom under the direction of a staff member.

Green School Environment Club – Mrs. Watt, Ms. Morisco and Mr. McCauley

Greenhouse for Grassroots – Mr. McCauley

“Youth Empowerment Summit” participant - Counselors are staff contact. A cadre of 20 students each year participate in a day of leadership training coordinated by the middle school counselors of Howard County. Trained Y.E.S. students are then given leadership opportunities such as assisting at Back-to-School-Night, reading Civility week announcements, teaching leadership lessons to sixth grade student government, etc.

Outdoor Education Peer Leader – 8th graders are given the opportunity to teach and mentor 6th graders at Outdoor Education. The 8th grade ODE Peer Leaders attend training

sessions on Leadership, First aid and Mediation as well as facilitate group activities for all 6th graders during ODE.

New Student Assistant - Counselors are staff contact. FQMS students volunteer to host new students if they enroll after the beginning of the school year. The guide orients the new student to the building, including scheduled classes, assists with locker usage, and helps the new student navigate through the building and become familiar with FQMS procedures and routines

Falcon Friends – Mrs. Rodriguez and Mrs. Korman are staff contacts. A group that promotes social interaction by working with students with disabilities and their peers to develop friendships with others within their school community. This group sponsors 10 meetings a year where we have different social activities and get to know one another. We teach and promote the life lesson of compassion and friendship towards others.

Horizon Foundation Student Representative – 8th grade volunteers attend monthly Horizon council meetings to discuss the concerns of Western Howard County. The council consists of various people living and/or working in Howard County who are committed to making a difference in and around their community.

Student Service Learning Project leader – Grade-level team leaders

Asset Development TV announcements – under the direction of Mr. McCauley, representatives from various student groups share 1 of the 40 Developmental Assets on Monday's via TV announcements. They will also share details of their activity so other interested students can join.

Hall Monitor – staff contact is Mr. Wilson. In an effort to give as many students an opportunity to show leadership skills as we can, we will train students to be Safety Patrol members. We will have “Safeties” stationed in halls, along the front walkway, and stair wells during entry and dismissal times. Safeties have to understand the difference between giving prompts to "be safe" versus being "in charge" of other children.

Class Council Member – grade 6 – Ms. Willging, grade 7 – Mrs. Stratmeyer, grade 8 – Mr. Ceglia

Folly Quarter Newspaper – Mrs. Ault

Band Peer Mentor – Students in 7th Grade who are members of the Symphonic Band have the opportunity to provide leadership / one-on-one mentorship to new students in the Concert Band. Students will have a direct impact on the FQMS Band Program and on another student's musical development! Interested musicians should speak to Mr. Spang.