

April 3, 2009

*"Excellence is not a skill. It is an attitude."* - Ralph Marston

## Former FRCS Students Achieving Excellence; One Family's Update

It is always wonderful to hear from our former students and families. The Grays, who moved to New Jersey in 2005, checked in with me recently. Mr. Gray agreed to share his letter with the FRCS community:

"This is Steve Gray...Sarah & Laura Gray's Dad. Sarah graduated in 2005 from FRCS and we moved Laura to NJ that following summer.

I just wanted to let you know how the girls are doing. Sarah is preparing to graduate from Mt. Holyoke College this spring with a major in Neuroscience and a straight A average (Sorry to brag but...). It is hard to believe it has been four years since she graduated from FRCS. She has developed a passion for rowing as she is the "Stroke" person of their first varsity boat. In the past few months, she has decided to apply for a Teach for America position and is waiting to hear the results of her interview.

After two years of high school in Howell, NJ (graduated 2 of 434 in her class), Laura is now a sophomore at Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY. She doesn't play basketball anymore but is on their Cross Country team. She is a Resident Assistant, founder and President of their Ski & Snowboarding Club and holds an A- average.

Both of the girls are active in their community - Sarah is the Girl Scout Coordinator for the 4 troops located at Mt. Holyoke and Laura is doing a National Skiing program to help handicapped youngsters this winter.

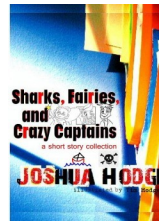
I share this with you because I wanted you to know that I believe it was FRCS that gave them the opportunity to blossom as leaders and I thank you for that. They are both independent and mature well beyond their years. Thanks go to you and your FRCS administration and faculty for the great work that you did with my daughters and the great work you continue to do. - Bonny and Steve Gray"

## FRCS Graduate and Author Josh Hodge Continues to Showcase His Writing Talent

One of our other graduates reached out recently to keep us updated on his happenings. Josh Hodge, who became a published author while a senior here at FRCS, has written a new book and has traveled during his studies. The following comes directly from Josh:

"Currently I'm studying Spanish and Latin American literature and history in Mexico City. I am studying full time at la Univer

sidad Iberoamericana and part time at UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico).



I also wanted to inform you of my new book publication "Sharks, Fairies, and Crazy Captains." It was published January 1, 2009 through Preston Press. The book features a collection of my stories, illustrations by my brother, Timothy Hodge, as well as some work by Bryanna Thoener - current FRCS 4th grader. This book features two FRCS alumni and one current student. It is also dedicated to the Foxborough Regional Charter School."

Preston Press: The Hodge brothers, Josh and Tim, have combined their creativity in a book dedicated to their native charter school. In this collection of interwoven short stories, Josh Hodge shares the comical adventure of the tooth fairy's worst nightmare, the suspense and danger of Sharkshadow's journey through the passage between the worlds, the strangeness of babysitting a robot, and the drama of Captain Searls' hopeless voyage in search of Capn' Crunch.

The kid-friendly book features a lively design with high school brother, Tim, telling the stories through comical illustrations. It is also a new and unique type of book which correlates with downloadable web tie-ins from [joshhodge.com](http://joshhodge.com). Web tie-ins include audio dramatizations of stories and an accompanying e-book download filled with illustrations from FRCS' Bryanna Thoener. Sharks, Fairies, and Crazy Captains is rich in creativity and ready for the evolving young reader of today.

Congratulations to Josh on his latest endeavor! If you would like to keep up with Josh and his accomplishments, please visit [www.joshhodge.com](http://www.joshhodge.com).

## Please Join Us for Lobby Day at the State House to Help Protect Charter School Funding

On April 29th at 10:00 a.m., we will be participating in the Massachusetts Charter Public School Association Rally at the State House. The House of Representatives will be debating education funding and it is important that we are heard and seen! The Association is paying for lunch and transportation, and will work with me to schedule individual and group meetings with our legislators.

Please let your voices be heard. Attached please find the brochure. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, please contact Heidi Berkowitz here at the school, [HBERKOWITZ@foxboroughrcs.org](mailto:HBERKOWITZ@foxboroughrcs.org) or 508-543-2508 x390.

Thank you!

- Mark Logan