

The Firelands Express

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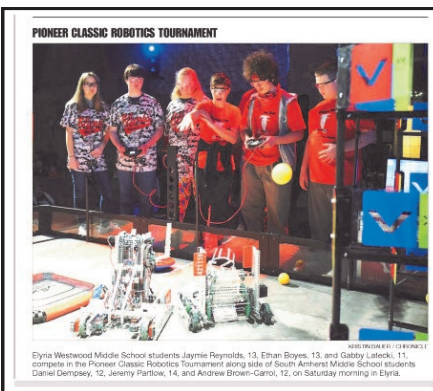
FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

How do you define student success? Too often, schools are ranked and sorted and then praised or condemned based entirely on student test scores which are compiled onto a district report card. While Firelands was one of three districts in our county to receive an overall grade of a "B" on our most recent report card, only a small portion of our students' achievement and growth can be measured via state tests. If you would like to view our report card you may do so by visiting reportcard.education.ohio.gov; however, a far more authentic means of understanding all that Firelands offers is to visit our **2nd Annual Falcon Showcase** on March 7th from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Firelands High School Gym. Students and staff from across the district will be highlighting information regarding our academic, art and athletic programs.

The following snapshots are just some of the many examples of our students' accomplishments:



The SAMS 7th grade boys basketball team are the PAC Champs! Congratulations!!



Our robotics team at South Amherst Middle School designs, builds, programs and competes in official VEX Robotic competitions. The students had an excellent day at the Pioneer Classic Robotic Tournament and again at Lorain High School where they competed against 60 teams from across Ohio. The Chronicle Telegram caught one of our teams in action!



Logan Willis is the first Firelands High School student to earn the honor of being

selected for the Ohio Music Education Association All-State Band. Logan performed in early February at the Cleveland Convention Center Grand Ballroom with 95 of the best band students from the state of Ohio.



Payton Burgdorf won his third consecutive PAC Wrestling Championship at 120 lbs. The Falcons travel to Bay this Saturday to begin the road to Columbus at the Sectional Tournament. The Falcons had 10 wrestlers make it to the Finals or Consolation Finals. Congratulations to our wrestlers and Payton, on his third straight PAC title.



For the second time, Devon had his work also displayed at the Cleveland Clinic eXpressions competition. Devon employed his experience in wood and metal fabrication to build a set of gears that illustrate the data set for determining hearing aide and cochlear implant potential.



Congratulations to the 5th/6th grade Firelands Academic Challenge Team! The combined team placed 1st at McCormick Middle School in Wellington for the Lorain County Middle School Academic Challenge Competition.

5th grade): Logan Parker, Max Dougan, Daniel Kothe, and Jordyn Simpson

Back Row - (All 6th grade) : Val Schuster (Elementary Guidance Counselor), Aiden Bokulich, Andie Eberhardt, Telaysia Kraus, Claire Ohle, and Char Muth (6th Grade Writing Teacher)

Congratulations to Firelands FFA officers for earning a Gold Rating on their officer books. The following members will be recognized at the FFA State Convention in May.



Taylor Ostrander:
Secretary



Tad Miller:
Treasurer



Taylor Kenska:
Reporter

This is the 12th year in a row that all Firelands FFA Officer Books are gold rated! Well done, officers!

To receive regular updates regarding our students' achievements, sign up to receive our blog at <https://ffalcons.wordpress.com>.

You may view this issue online at: www.firelandsschools.org

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The Communities we serve: Amherst, Amherst Twp, Birmingham, Brownhelm Twp, Camden Twp, Florence Twp, Henrietta Twp, Kipton Village, New Russia Twp, South Amherst Village, Vermilion and Vermilion Twp.

South Amherst 7th and 8th Grade Musical



by Vera Morris

Come one, Come all to the 25th annual South Amherst Musical. The 7th and 8th grade choir members will be presenting on the SAMS stage, *The Enchantment of Beauty and the Beast*. Come and see many familiar characters and even some new ones perform at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 26 and Wednesday, March 27. Tickets are on sale now during school hours. Reserved floor seats are \$5.00 and General bleacher seats are \$3.00. You may also purchase tickets on the nights of the performances. Come support the arts!!

FIRELANDS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCEPTING OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2019 - 2020 SCHOOL YEAR

The Firelands Local School District is now accepting open enrollment applications for the 2019 - 2020 school year beginning on **Monday, February 4, 2019 and ending on July 1, 2019**. Firelands Open Enrollment is tuition free, however parents are responsible for their child's school fees.

Parents from ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT in Ohio are welcome to apply for their child/children. **SPACE IS LIMITED AND WILL BE AWARDED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.**

If a grade level closes, we still encourage parents to complete the open enrollment application, and those children are placed on a "waiting list", until those seats are made available.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING WITH YOU:
YOUR CHILD'S LAST REPORT CARD OR TRANSCRIPT
(ONLY APPLIES FOR STUDENT'S IN GRADES 9 - 12)
CURRENT IEP, WEP, OR 504 PLAN IF APPLICABLE

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 440-965-5821 OR
EMAIL: LSEMAN@FIRELANDSSCHOOLS.ORG

The Pitchfork Pals 4H club had it's monthly meeting on February 17, 2019. At this meeting we elected our new officers for 2019. We also voted to donate a Movie night basket for the Endowment Fund Dinner/fundraiser. Our officers for the year are as follows:

President- Ryan Ortner

Vice President - Donald Crawford

Secretary - James Steindl

Treasurer - Patrick Finnegan

Historian - Ethan Hozalski

News Reporter - Pierce Finnegan

Health and Safety - Katie Steindl

Recreation - Jared Ives

Four Leaf Clovers 4-H Club Successful at Lorain County 4-H Horse Banquets

Brownhelm, OH – On November 10th, the Lorain County 4-H Small Equine High Point Banquet was held in Avon. Two Four Leaf Clovers 4-H members were invited to the banquet for qualifying for high point awards. Katelyn Konicek was recognized for earning 5th in Lorain County in Miniature Horse Gelding Halter B. Callie Finnegan was recognized for being County Champion of In-Hand Trail, Reserve Champion Showmanship, and 5th in Miniature Horse Mare Halter B. She also earned a duffle bag for her successes at Ohio State Fair, Ohio 4-H Skillathon, State Communications Contest, State Horse Bowl, Ohio Hippology, and Ohio Horse Judging.

On January 13th, the Lorain County Saddle Horse Banquet was held in Wellington. Macy Paller was recognized for being on the 8th in State Horse Bowl Team and as 3rd overall/Honorable Mention in Beginner Showmanship, 5th overall in Walk Trot Western Pleasure, and 5th in Walk Trot Horsemanship.

Callie Finnegan was recognized at this banquet as well for state achievements and also for earning Reserve Champion in 9-13 year old Showmanship, Reserve Champion Walk Trot English Equitation, Reserve Champion Walk Trot English Pleasure, Champion Walk Trot Western Pleasure, Champion Walk Trot Western Horsemanship, and Honorable Mention 9-18 year old Ground Roping. At the end of the banquet she was awarded the revolving trophy as the Champion Walk Trot Horseman for 2018. The Walk/ Trot Award was originally donated by the Lorain County Junior Horse Council and is now funded by Amherst Critters & Such 4-H Club. This award is presented to the 4-H participant with the most accumulative points in 1st year or Age Division Showmanship W/T English Equitation, W/T English Pleasure, W/T Western Horsemanship, and W/T Western Pleasure. Callie joins Four Leaf Clovers 4-H Club alumni, Callie Stevens 2010 and Shelby Balint 2011 in having her name added to the trophy.

Congratulations to our hardworking equestrian showmen. We are proud of your representation of our club!



Callie Finnegan & the Walk Trot Overall Champion Revolving Trophy



Macy Paller with the Honorable Mention Beginner Showmanship Trophy

SAMS NEWS

Sixth Grade Gets New Books

Thank you to the Firelands Endowment Grant Committee from all of the Sixth Grade Readers! Books do not stay on the shelves very long at South Amherst Middle School when every student is challenged to read 40 books in one year. Those books are already in the hands of eager 6th grade students as they learn that "Reading Is A Life Skill"!



The Firelands FFA is holding the annual Share the Love Food Drive in partnership with Firelands Alumni Association and The Firelands Local School District. The food drives runs February 19 - 26th.



Food pantries experience a decline in donations after the holiday season. With this information in mind, the FFA is taking charge to make a difference. All buildings will be collecting non-perishable food items that will be donated to a local food bank that serves The Firelands Local School District. Food that is out of date (up to one year) will also be collected and sent to Harvest for Hunger. Our FFA students will collect, weigh and deliver the donated items.

More than one in five children from our area lived in a food insecure household in 2017. Please help us make a difference in our community by promoting this service project with your students. As a thank you, the top donating classes will receive a breakfast from The Friends of Firelands.

Let's make this the biggest food drive of the year!

Assistance is Available

Short-term or long-term breakfast and lunch assistance is available, with application, for FLSD families.

Firelands Schools has implemented an online portal for meal assistance. Parents/Guardians can quickly and easily fill out free and reduced meal applications in a secure, step-by-step portal. You may apply any time after July 1 or during the school year. The step by step instructions are listed below. You will need the student I.D. to register (same student number as PowerSchool). You will be asked to complete the following steps:

- Click register
- Select parent
- Enter your first and last name along with a password you create
- Complete the required information
- Click finish
- It will take you back to the Log-in screen

You can now complete the necessary information to complete the application process.

Paper applications will be available in each school office or can be found here:

<http://www.firelandsschools.org/Downloads/18-19%20Meal%20application%20Use%20this.pdf>

Online meal application / Preferred Method – Visit this link: <https://firelands.payschools.com/>

Step by Step Instructions can be found here: <http://filecabinet.eschoolview.com/F4C84C50-30F3-40EF-9617-FA792282DD6C/onlineappstepbystepinstructions.pdf>

For additional assistance, contact FLSD Food Service Director, Mrs. Judy Baumann at (440) 965-5821 ext. 1011 or by email at jbaumann@firelandsschools.org.

Kindergarten Registration

Firelands Local Schools will be utilizing our online registration system for all new Kindergarten students starting on March 4th. Kindergarten families can register using our online system, Firelands OneView, by accessing the Firelands website at www.firelandsschools.org.

Click on the "Student Registration" tab found on the left side of the home page. Then, click the "Firelands OneView Portal" link located above the diagram. Click the "Create a New Account" button to get started. The set-up process includes you creating your own username and password to log in to the system. The district does not provide that information.

Beginning March 4th, you can complete the registration at home by using the link above, or you may attend one of the following registration events at the Firelands Board of Education, located at 112 North Lake Street in South Amherst to complete the registration process:

**Monday, March 4th
8:00 AM-12:00 PM**

**Tuesday, March 5th
1:00 PM–5:00 PM**

**Wednesday, March 6th
3:30 PM–7:30 PM**

If you are planning to attend one of the registration events listed above at the Firelands Board of Education, please bring your child's birth certificate, 2 proofs of residency, parent/guardian photo id, shot records, and custody papers (if they apply).

If you have any questions about the registration process, please contact the elementary school office at 440-965-5381.

4th Annual
Friends of Firelands

Basket Raffles

Live Band!

Celebrate Firelands Fundraising

50/50 Raffle

Games

Dinner

Saturday
March 9, 2019



6 - 11pm

New Russia Township Hall
46300 Butternut Ridge Rd
Oberlin, OH 44074

\$25/Person
Buffet Style Dinner from 6:00-7:30
Beer Included
(21 & over ONLY)

For more information call (440) 320-3198
or e-mail Friendsoffirelands@gmail.com

Supporting Firelands Students & Community

FHS Art Students Exhibit in the 2019 Regional Scholastic Art Show

The Lorain County Regional Scholastic Art Exhibition has been providing a program to recognize, exhibit and honor excellence in visual art from 7-12 grade students for over 50 years. The 2019 exhibition kicked off Jan. 15 and includes 28 works from 13 of our students!

The Scholastic Art Awards program is the largest annual art competition in the country. Students in schools across the United States and Canada create the 150,000 entries each year. The Lorain County region includes public and private middle and high schools from Lorain, Erie and Huron counties. Over 1,709 works were entered by 20 high schools and 12 junior high schools from the three counties. Work was juried by an esteemed panel of art and design professionals and professors from northeast Ohio. Work was judged by originality, technical skill and emergence of personal vision and voice. Grade 7-8 students compete in one division

with all categories mixed. The high school students are competing together, grades 9-12, at the "varsity level" within various separate media categories. Students earn third place "Honorable Mention", second place "Silver Key" and the first place of "Gold Key". Placing among the 550 pieces in this show is like placing in "districts" in sports. Those works earning a regional "Gold Key" here advance directly to national jurying in New York City this spring.

Gold Keys; Kaya Loyd, Kayla Palmer (2) and Sophia Prideaux
Silver Keys; Bailey Borer (4), Sarah Drury, Jacquie Hogan, Kayla Palmer and Nick Street
Honorable Mentions; Bailey Borer (2), Cora Born, Sarah Drury (3) Michael Durdak (2) Alex Krebs, Kaya Loyd, Devon McGinnis, Sophia Prideaux (2), Nick Street, Gillian Striker and Brianna Toledo.

The exhibit is hosted at the Stocker Center gallery on the campus of Lorain County Community College and sponsored by the Nordson Corporation with additional funding from the C. Paul Stocker Arts Foundation

and Lorain County Community College. The exhibit runs from Jan. 15 - Feb. 22 and is open to the public. A special reception for all artists is was held Jan. 13. A Gold Key awards ceremony and reception was held on Feb. 10 for the Gold Key winners. Beth K. Stocker Gallery hours are Mon. - Fri. 10:30-2:30 with Tues., Wed., and Thurs. evenings 4-6:30pm and Sundays 1-5. The gallery is also open during Stocker Center Hoke



Senior Kayla Palmer with one of her Gold Key works at the Scholastic show

Brownhelm Perfection & BB 4-H Club

Brownhelm Perfection & BB 4-H Club is meeting the first & third Mondays of every month in the basement of The Brownhelm Congregational Church on N Ridge Rd in Brownhelm Twp from 7-8 p.m. The meetings in March are the 4th & 18th. New members are welcome! It's for any children K-12th grade.

The club is celebrating 100 years and is planning a fun filled year. Any current & past members mark your calendars for the 100th year celebration on July 14th. Watch for more details to come.

4-H has much to offer with a wide variety of different fair projects and fun filled events. The club participates in community service such as litter pickups, Wreaths Across America & Brownhelm Santa. In November some members met and made no sew blankets for the Blessing House in Lorain.

In addition to the club's 100th year the club would like to recognize Bonnie Cutcher who has been a club advisor for 50 years & has kept it going strong! Thank you for your dedication to this club.

If interested in joining Brownhelm Perfection & BB Club, please attend the March 4th mtg to learn more. Go 4-H!!!

It's the annual:

Falcon Showcase

The evening will focus on students demonstrating their
accomplishments



March 7, 2019

FHS

6:30 - 8:00pm

SOUTH AMHERST FIREMENS ASSOCIATION 2019 STEAK FRY



When? SATURDAY, March 2nd, 2019

Where: The Lodge (New Russia Twp. Hall)

Music by: DJ Studio Free Productions

Tickets: \$25.00

21 Years & Older - Beer / Wash / Ice / BYOB

DINNER & DANCING - 5:00p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

**Get your tickets from any South Amherst Firefighter, or
call the station**

(440) 986-5901 and leave a voicemail message.



SAVE LIVES

Your Eyes & Ears Could Save Lives!

YOU can anonymously report anything that is suspicious or endangering you, your friends or your school.

**Text or Call
1-844-SAFEROH**

Interested in joining the MFMB Color Guard team for the 2019/2020 season??

We are looking for some new smiles ☺ to join us as we march our way down to Disney World this fall. Any students currently in 8th to 11th grade are invited to join Coach Donna Boucher as she hosts a fundamentals clinic March 11th, 14th, and 15th at SAMS small gym from 3pm-4:30pm .

This clinic will provide basics to assist any future team member with the skills necessary to perform confidently for tryouts in April. The cost is \$25 per person for all 3 days and all proceeds go towards the Firelands Color Guard Team. We hope to see many new smiling faces as we prepare for an extremely exciting marching season. For more information, contact Donna Boucher through email at doodlebug624@gmail.com

WANTED

ClayBusters Youth Shooting Team



We are looking for school age youth who want to learn the sport of trap shooting.

We are **ClayBusters Youth Shooting Team**. We average about 30 youth from the Lorain, Erie, Cuyahoga and Medina Counties. We currently have 6 NRA certified coaches who will teach your child first and most importantly gun safety. We will also teach the sport of trap shooting and team camaraderie all while having fun.

OPEN HOUSE

March 30th 2 pm.-4pm.

Come out and meet the coaches and some of our current team members. If you have a gun, please bring it . All guns will be checked for safety before allowing any shooting.

We will be doing some shooting.

WE PRACTICE AT KIPTON SPORTSMENS CLUB - 14980 GIFFORD ROAD ,OBERLIN OH 44074

For more info please call 440-320-6841 or email: claybustersohio@gmail.com

Blankets for the Valor Home

Thanks to everyone who donates to the Firelands Endowment Grant Fund! This is just one of the many ways your donations are teaching our students at South Amherst Middle School how to give back to our community! SAMS is a Purple Star school which means that we are committed to educating our students about the needs of our Veterans and their families. This year we have adopted a local veteran transition home, The Valor Home. As a result of the grant awarded to sixth grade teachers, Mrs. Neal and Mrs. Budweg, the students gave of their time and energies every Thursday in January after school to make warming blankets for our local veterans. The students were so engrossed in this service project that when one of those Blanket Club meetings had to be cancelled due to a Calamity Day several of the students requested to take some material home to make a blanket on their own because "our veterans need these blankets to stay warm".



The Firelands High School Concert Band will be performing at Kent State University at the Kent State Symphony Band's Concert on Friday, March 1, 2019. This concert is free and open to the public, and will take place at:

University Auditorium, Cartwright Hall
650 Hilltop Dr., Kent OH

The concert is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. with the doors opening 30 minutes prior to the start of the concert. Come out and support our students and enjoy an evening of the talents of both high school and collegiate musicians.



Best Wishes to all of our vocal and instrumental musicians

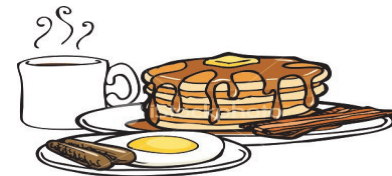


as they perform at the Large Group OMEA adjudicated event this upcoming March!



**Firelands
Band
Boosters**

Proudly Presents the Annual PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Come on out and let Band do the Cooking!

50/50 Raffle, Basket Raffles!

When: Sunday, April 7th, 8 AM – 1 PM

Where: South Amherst Fire Station

All proceeds will go to supporting the Firelands Instrumental Music Department

INFOhio
OHIO'S PreK-12 DIGITAL LIBRARY

www.infohio.org

INFOhio is Ohio's PreK-12 digital library, offering digital resources to every parent, and their child, in Ohio. And, there's no log in required! INFOhio transforms student learning by providing equitable access to quality resources for each student and parent in Ohio.

Resources are organized by grade levels. To get started visit www.infohio.org, choose the level that is right for your child. To view all the resources, click the menu in the upper right-hand corner. Click "resources" or "parents" to access all the resources available in those links.

The parent tab provides more information on the resources and services from INFOhio. Parents can find answers to common questions and links to helpful webpages and resources. It also provides information about college and career readiness. For example: there is a link to College Credit Plus resources for students and parents that provides tools and strategies to guide your child through the process.

The "Beach Bags" and other web tools you see in the Summer Learning section, give parents an easy way to help their child practice their reading skills and combat the summer slide. They are also good to use on those rainy or snowy days when children are experiencing cabin-fever.

If you have the opportunity, take time to check out the INFOhio link and discover a wealth of resources that can help you and your child with their schoolwork or just research more on their favorite topics. INFOhio's vision states that each Ohio PreK-12 student has equal access to high-quality digital resources for a successful education and future!

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 2018 - 2019

It is now time to update your child's immunizations. If your child will be entering school for the first time, or after attending school elsewhere, please be sure to check that he/she is in compliance with State of Ohio immunization requirements:

Kindergarten – once your child has reached age 4, s/he can complete all required immunizations for diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus (DPT), polio (IPV), hepatitis B (HBV), measles mumps, rubella (MMR), and varicella (chickenpox).

- ◆ **Grades 1-6** – same requirements as for Kindergarten
- ◆ **Grades 7-9** – Grades K-6 requirements plus Tdap (DPT booster) and MCV (meningococcal vaccine)
- ◆ **Grades 10-11** – Grades K-6 requirements plus Tdap (received in 7th grade or later)
- ◆ **Grade 12** – Grades 10-11 requirements plus MCV (must be received at age 16 or older)

Remember to bring your child's immunization records with you when you go to your healthcare provider or clinic. Please send a copy of the immunization record to the school nurse in your child's building, being sure your child's name is on it. Don't forget to keep a copy for yourself!

Lorain County Public Health, 9880 S. Murray Ridge Rd., Elyria, OH 44035 is now offering immunizations (also known as vaccines) Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm, with evening hours throughout the month. A full vaccine clinic schedule is available at www.LorainCountyHealth.com. Appointments are encouraged, although walk-ins are accepted. Call **440-284-3206** for information or to make an appointment for both children and adults. Bring all immunization records, insurance cards, and cash or check; although some children may be eligible for discounts under the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. All children under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Note: Ask your provider about additional vaccines that are recommended for children ages 11-19 such as 2nd dose of varicella (chickenpox), hepatitis A and human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines.

Emergency Alert Notification

Should situations arise that necessitate district personnel to communicate information to you regarding school closings, delays or other non-routine or emergency situations, the district will notify parents/guardians in the following ways:

- ◆ district all-call system & email contact
- ◆ online at www.firelandsschools.org
- ◆ via Twitter at @Falcon_update
- ◆ Facebook at The Firelands Falcons

Should parental/guardian contact information change over the year, please remember to update your information.



Firelands Band Boosters

General Membership Meetings

Firelands Band Boosters meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the high school band room. Our mission is to provide support for the Firelands Instrumental Music Program. The dates for the 2018-2019 school year are

as follows:

March 19, 2019

April 16, 2019

May 21, 2019

June 18, 2019



ALL YOU CAN EAT

FRENCH TOAST, PANCAKE, & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

**Wakeman Masonic Lodge
34 Pleasant St.
Sunday March 17, 2019**

**Blood Drive and Bake Sale
Free Breakfast with Blood Donation**

**Time: 9 am to 1:30 pm.
Donation Accepted**

FIRELANDS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS CURRENTLY SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS, KITCHEN, AND CUSTODIAL HELP

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions, please visit our website at: www.firelandsschools.org and click on the employment tab. Find the position you would like to substitute for, then complete and submit an application. You will need to complete a FBI & BCI criminal background check at your own expense, with clear results before you would be considered for any substitute positions. Contact Linda Seman at 440-965-5821 for the Criminal Background Check application to make an appointment at the Educational Service Center of Lorain County, or if you have any questions.

F E S NEWS

Falcon Bucks Being Spent

Our students continue to earn and spend Falcon Bucks for some great opportunities. We have had multiple school-wide spirit days, students have been able to have their picture taken with Rusty (Rusty is our dog friend that visits with classrooms that win a monthly reading competition.), eat in the Falcon Nest, and a few have won the opportunity to be a ball girl or ball boy at an FHS basketball game. We continue to look for intriguing options for our Falcon Pride Store.



Fifth Grade Band

On February 6, the fifth grade band students at FES were able to demonstrate what they have learned as band students. Parents, family members, friends and others were pleased with what they heard. Mr. Wiley, Mr. Brawley and the band students have devoted a great deal of time and effort into learning how to play their instruments. We look forward to future concerts!

First Grade Goes to See a Play

On February 7th the first graders at FES went on a field trip to the LCCC's Stocker Center to see the play "Your Alien". The students enjoyed a performance about a young boy named George who befriended an alien named Meep who had somehow gotten separated from his home planet and family. George and Meep forged a strong friendship, however both knew that Meep was becoming very homesick and needed to return to his home planet. Meep eventually went back to his home planet to be with his family, and while George was sad to see him go, he understood how important it is to be with family and was very happy to be comforted by his own. A good time was had y all during this performance and many thanks to all who had a hand in making this endeavor possible for our first grade students!



FHS NEWS

2019-20 SCHEDULING HAS BEGUN

Scheduling for our current Juniors, Sophomores, Freshman, and current 8th grade students at SAMS. Counselors will be meeting with students in classes to help students decide which courses they would like to enroll in for the 2019-20 school year. Students are encouraged to speak with their parents, counselors, and teachers to decide which courses will help them reach their goals for high school and beyond.

THE LORAIN COUNTY LEAGUE

Firelands High School will be moving to the Lorain County League, beginning with the upcoming 2019-20 school year. The Patriot Athletic League will be no more, but the LC8, which is the logo of the Lorain County League, will allow Firelands to keep all of our county rivalries, and will create a league with one division. Joining Firelands will be Black River, Brookside, Clearview, Columbia, Keystone, Oberlin, and Wellington. The league kicks off this fall, so look for new LC8 media outlets to promote our students and league. The original Lorain County League was formed in 1924, and was represented by Brownhelm, Camden, Kipton, Henrietta, and South Amherst. The league broke up in 1961, but came together again in 1986, until the Falcons left in 2005 to join the WSC. This will be the third start-up of a solid, small school league for Lorain County.

FHS HONOR AND MERIT ROLE - Congratulations to our students for earning Honor or Merit Role Distinction. Students who earn a 3.5 or above earn Honor Role Status, and students who earn a 3.0 to 3.499 for earn Merit Role Distinction. These honors also include students at the JVS and LCCC. If you feel there has been an omission, please contact the school counselor's office for further information. Congratulations to our 329 students who have achieved this honor in the second grading period. To access the student's names, please go to the Firelands High School homepage to access our award winners.

SAT FOR JUNIORS - The Ohio Department of Education, though Firelands High School will be administering the SAT test for all juniors currently enrolled at both FHS and the LCJVS. An email has been sent home to with all juniors, informing them of the upcoming ACT. The SAT will be administered on Wednesday, March 6th for all Juniors, beginning at 7:30 am. There will **NOT** be school

for Seniors, Sophomores, and Freshman on that day, as they are expected to utilize that day for a job shadow, college visit, or a volunteer opportunity.

SAT PRE-REGISTRATION - All Juniors will be pre-registered for the March 6th test during class periods at FHS. Mr. Maver will be at the LCJVS registering all students who attend the LCJVS later this month. Students will be emailed a specific date when it becomes available at the JVS. All JVS Juniors are expected to take the free SAT at Firelands High School on Wednesday, March 6th, beginning at 7:30 am.

SAT FREE PREPARATION - Through March 5th, Mrs. Cozza will be in the library during FAST for any juniors who would like to take advantage of the time to practice on Khan Academy. Students must have a pass from their regular FAST teacher in order to attend. Those who participate will be given a ticket and be entered into a drawing as an incentive for participating. Students who attend the LCJVS should contact Ms. Cozza in the Counseling Office for further details of how to utilize this free preparation service.

JANUARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH

- Congratulations to Senior Alexander Brill on being named the January Firelands Lions Club Student of the Month. Alex was honored by the Lions Club at their monthly meeting on being named Student of the Month.

UPCOMING EVENTS - Winter Band Concert in the FHS Gym. Saturday, February 23 - Lorain County Solo and Ensemble Contest at Firelands High School. Monday, February 25th - Winter Choir Concert

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

FHS will be hosting a third round of Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday evening, February 21st, from 3:30 - 6 pm. They will be held in individual teacher classrooms on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please plan on attending if you would like to discuss your student's academic progress with their teachers.

F E S NEWS

Third Grade Students Learn About Hydroponics

Third grade students at Firelands Elementary School were given the opportunity to learn about hydroponics from students at JVS and their instructor in the Landscape and Greenhouse Management program. In third grade, we studied soil earlier in the year. Hydroponics is growing plants without soil. The students enjoyed learning of a way plants are able to grow without soil and a way to grow a plant inside of a recycled water bottle. Each student made their own hydroponic system and were able to take a lettuce plant home to grow in a window sill. We all enjoyed our time with members from JVS and appreciated their help in our understanding of hydroponics and how plants grow.



Upcoming Spelling Bee

Two students from each third and fourth grade classroom will be competing in our Firelands Elementary School Spelling Bee on March 14th at 4pm. Wish these 22 students luck as they compete for to be one of four finalists that will advance to the Lorain County Spelling Bee in May!!

PTG

FES continues to benefit from our involved PTG (Parent Teacher Group). Their monthly meetings are one way to find out what is going on in the building and how parents can volunteer and assist. The next PTG meeting will be announced soon. FES would like to thank the PTG for their continued support!

Upcoming Events

No school on February 18. Parent Teacher Conferences are on February 21 from 4:00-7:00. Falcon Showcase will be at FHS on March 7. Fundraiser pick up will be on March 11 from 3:45-5:30. Board of Education meeting on March 11 at 7 pm.

Celebrate Firelands Fundraising Dinner

4th Annual
Friends of Firelands

Basket Raffles

Live Band

50/50 Raffle

Games



Saturday
March 9, 2019

6 - 11pm

New Russia Township Hall
46300 Butternut Ridge Rd
Oberlin, OH 44074

\$25/Person
Buffet Style Dinner from 6:00-7:30
Beer Included
(21 & over ONLY)

For more information call (440) 320-3198
or e-mail Friendsoffirelands@gmail.com

Supporting Firelands Students & Community

Seventh Annual

Day With a Prince and Princess Pancake Breakfast



Come dressed as your favorite prince or princess (optional) for an All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast
Saturday March 23rd, 2019 from 9:00 am- 11:30 am
at South Amherst Middle School located at 152 West Main (State Route 113)
Cost of the breakfast is your generous donation at the door.

Enjoy fun new games and activities this year.

Choose from face-painting, crown-making, a nail polish station, and make-and-take swords.

Create an autograph book to have all the Princes and Princesses sign.

Enjoy singing by our Select Choir members dressed in costume.

Pictures, awesome raffle basket tickets, and yummy treats available for a nominal charge.

All are welcome the morning of the event but there is a prize for any child who pre-registers.

Also, people who pre-register can get an early picture time starting at 8:30 to avoid the wait.

Please RSVP by March 20th via voicemail or text to Sheila Iwanek 440-315-5731.

Please include the number of adults attending and the number and names of the children attending.

Firelands Falcons Softball Clinic



Saturday, March 16th at South Amherst Middle School

Grades: K-7 Cost: \$35 Time: 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

**Camp will focus on basic fundamental skills needed at all levels of the game: fielding, hitting, throwing and more!

**The clinic will be ran by the coaching staff and the varsity softball team.

**Checks made payable to Team Firelands.

**Any questions?? Contact Coach Dostall at: sdostall01@gmail.com

**Please send payment and form to:

Coach Samantha Dostall
3305 Stone Ridge Circle
Berea, Ohio 44017

**Bring all necessary gear, water and come prepared to have fun!!

**A 10 minute snack break will be provided for the girls!

**Due before or no later than March 4th!!

Player's Name: _____ Grade _____
Parent e-mail: _____
Parent/ Guardian's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Additional Emergency Contact and Phone Number: _____

Medical Release: I give my daughter/ ward _____ permission to participate in the Firelands Softball Clinic. I understand that participation in softball, as in any athletic activity, involves a risk of injury. Therefore, neither the Firelands Softball Clinic, the instructors, Firelands Local Schools, or its employees will be held liable for any accident or injury that might occur under any and all playing conditions at the clinic.

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____



Hotdogs Your Way

A Hotdog Supper will be held at

Wakeman Masonic Lodge
34 Pleasant St. Wakeman, Ohio

Tuesday April 9, 2019 4:30-6:30 pm.

Proceeds to Benefit Wakeman Area Toys for the Needy for Christmas

Donations Accepted

Sponsored by Ladies of the Lodge

Effective Leadership Academy Camp LEAD: Fish Tank Registration Now Live Locations across Greater Cleveland

Cleveland's best camp for youth leadership development is back. Registration for Effective Leadership Academy's 2019 Camp LEAD is now open at effectivela.org.

Camp LEAD, for 5th-8th graders, is offered at various school and community locations across Greater Cleveland and in Annapolis, Maryland. ELA's week-long day camp is full of custom designed activities, allowing campers to work on their social-emotional skills and leadership development. A new curriculum every year provides a unique, fulfilling experience for new and returning campers.

Camp LEAD: Fish Tank, the theme for 2019 inspired by the hit TV series Shark Tank, will utilize games and outdoor team activities to encourage healthy competition and collaboration. Campers will be given daily challenges that will help them learn to pitch ideas and negotiate for success. Campers will be encouraged to focus on goal setting, creativity, networking, critical thinking, presentation skills, effective communication and the art of self-leadership.

Camp LEAD runs Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. With more dates and locations to come, registration is currently open for the following: CAMP LOCATION DATES REGISTER South Amherst Middle (Firelands) SOUTH AMHERST June 3-7 REGISTER (\$100 ONLY)*

Midview Middle School GRAFTON June 10-14 REGISTER

Lake Ridge Academy NORTH RIDGEVILLE July 15-19 REGISTER

Hawken School LYNDHURST July 22-26 REGISTER @ HAWKEN.EDU

*South Amherst Middle Camp LEAD tuition is \$100; remainder of original cost (\$295) covered by ELA grant.

Register today to join us for a week of fun! Camp challenges will stretch personal limits, educate, empower and equip campers to take away the critical success skills needed to become a leader in today's world. Visit effectivela.org or call 216.292.8775.

MORE ABOUT EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY ELA is a youth leadership and personal growth organization that helps young people turn potential into performance by developing their most valuable assets - themselves. ELA is the "missing ingredient" in the educational environment. ELA promotes positive leadership by teaching students to think outside the box, have an open mind, and embrace change. ELA will also work with students on professional skills, such as making a good first impression, communicating effectively, learning how to network, along with other essential 21st Century leadership skills. effectivela.org

The Fine Arts Festival BACK at Full Strength

The greatest K-12 event in the district is back at full strength this year at a new date and place. Saturday April 6 from noon until 4pm the Firelands High School gymnasium and cafeteria will be transformed into a celebration of visual art and vocal and instrumental music performances. Live music, a massive art exhibition, a student art bazaar, refreshments and hands-on activities are what you know and love about this great community event. Contact Laura Tawil (FHS art teacher) if your school-based group would like to be a refreshment vendor or for clean-up.

<ltawil@firelandsschools.org>

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 440-233-5200
Worship Services:
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Sunday School: 10:00a.m.
 Pastor Matthew Phipps
 henriettaumcpastor@gmail.com

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Support the Firelands Board of Education and help us to maintain the Firelands Express!

ADS ARE ONLY \$200 A YEAR!
 Contact the Firelands Board Office at 440.965.5821 for more information.

Please submit all articles and photos to:
lseman@firelands schools.org

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2018 - 2019 Board Meetings
7:00 pm

AUGUST 13, 2018
 SEPTEMBER 10, 2018
 OCTOBER 8, 2018
 NOVEMBER 14, 2018
 DECEMBER 10, 2018
 JANUARY 14, 2019
 FEBRUARY 11, 2019
 MARCH 11, 2019
 APRIL 8, 2019
 MAY 13, 2019
 JUNE 10, 2019
 JULY 8, 2019

*Tentative, subject to Board approval

NOTICE

The Board has a duty to protect and promote the health and well-being of all students and staff. To that end, The Board of Education passed a resolution prohibiting the use of all forms of tobacco, including electronic cigarettes, from being used at any time on school grounds, athletics facilities, or parking lots.

NEST FAMILY RESTAURANT
OPEN DAILY
6:00 AM - 2:30PM
440-967-3763
3701 LIBERTY VERMILION

FEBRUARY IS National **HEART DISEASE** Awareness Month
COURAGE HOPE LOVE FAITH EDUCATE STRENGTH



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\$239,900



Natalie Iafolla,
Realtor
440-308-7336



Gary Dodson
440.320.6464



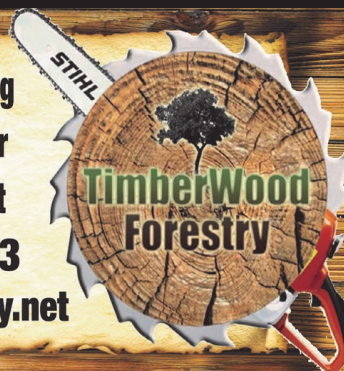
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Jane Bradford-Battig, D.V.M.
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You may view this issue on line at:
www.firelandsschools.org