

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



At the end of January, we worked with a polling firm to field a statistically valid telephone survey of our community to test the building plan recommendation made by the Building Advisory Committee (BAC).

The BAC, as you may remember, is a committee composed of teachers, staff, parents, residents, and community members, who met over five meetings to review finances, building conditions, and state assessments, and, ultimately, recommended a plan for the Board of Education to test with the community. We reconvened this committee in the Fall because our buildings are in disrepair and deteriorating and we knew we could not ignore the problems any longer.

The results of the survey are encouraging.

To begin, nearly three-quarters of residents positively rated the quality of education provided by our District. Residents also believed they are moderately informed about our District, and 79% of them do not have children currently enrolled here, a breakdown which is typical of most school districts.

When it comes to the conditions of our school buildings, it is clear residents agree SAMS is in disrepair, and nearly 53% indicates *major repairs or be replaced*. There is, however, less certainty about the condition of our other school buildings. More respondents indicated Firelands High Schools *needs major repairs*, while they perceive Firelands Elementary School *needs minor repairs*.

Residents are confident in the process by which the BAC developed the building plan. They recognized the value of the State’s recommendation to replace the middle and high schools due to their age and condition, and the value of not leaving any money for the schools on the table.

In addition, residents have a positive view of changes that could be made if we pursued a ballot issue:

- Up-to-date fire safety and security systems.
- Having necessary electrical capacity so

students can fully utilize 21st-century classroom technology.

- Reliable roofs and plumbing and adequate heating and air conditioning systems.
- Accessible, ADA compliant buildings.
- Classrooms that are large enough and configured properly for education today.

However, like many Districts across the state, affordability is always a challenge. It is no different here. Many residents don’t like taxes, no matter how big, how small, or how important they may be. I’m a taxpayer, too, I understand this sentiment. But I also understand how significant and transformative new school buildings would be for our teachers, our students – and our community. And based on this survey, over 77% agreed that *new schools have a positive impact on property values and the local economy*, which highlights why we must continue this effort.

The telephone survey tested two separate building options. The results are close for both and show initial support to keep moving forward. The Board of Education will have some tough decisions to make as they decide what to place on the ballot for November, but I assure you we will keep you updated as decision are made. I urge you to visit our webpage to stay up-to-date and find additional information.

One last thing - Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this process up to this point. Everyone who has completed surveys, attended listening sessions, taken a building tour, participated in meetings, commented on Facebook posts, talked to your friends and neighbors, and I could go on. I greatly appreciate your dedication and commitment to this process. As we move forward, we will continue to need your help and the support of many others. We provide the students of our District a quality education; it’s time we provide them with schools to match.

GO FALCONS!
Mike Von Gunten
Superintendent
FHS Class of 1995
@FLSDSuper

Kindergarten Registration For In-District Students

Firelands Local Schools will be utilizing an online registration system for all new and returning Firelands district students. Beginning March 1st, all incoming **in-district** kindergarten families can register using our new online system, Firelands OneView at <https://firelands.esvportal.com/>. 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 5th 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM**
Tuesday, March 6th 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday, March 7th 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. The kindergarten registration process must be completed by Wednesday, March 7th. If you have any questions about the registration process, please contact the elementary school office at 440-965-5381.

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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.

FEBRUARY 22 CONFERENCE AND PARENT NIGHT

SAMS and FHS will be holding conferences at Firelands High School on February 22nd. Parents will have an opportunity to attend walk in conferences with teachers from SAMS (in the cafeteria) and with teachers from FHS (in their classrooms). FES conferences will be held in the elementary building.

During this time period, free breakout sessions will be offered to parents and students (please see program descriptions for additional information) **at FHS.**

5:30- Keeping Students Safe - Preventing Assault in the gym: Tamara Kilbride, RN from Tri-County SANE/SART Program will be presenting this program. Tamara will provide information to help parents protect their children from being a sexual assault statistic. The points covered will include the characteristics of sexual assault, sign and symptoms of date rape drugs, and techniques to stay safe in social situations.

5:30 -LCADA presentation in the band room by Graciela Torres & Kathryn Kurtzman from The LCADA Way. We will be discussing the life skills and school prevention lessons provided for all students to insulate them from the dangers of drug use and possible treatment services if the need arises.

6:15- Junior Class meeting in the band room ACT/prepping for college by Jenelle Cozza, class of 2019 School Counselor & Dave Newman from College Now will be presenting an informational meeting for college bound juniors and their parents. The presentations will provide parents with an overview of Naviance/Family Connection, Ohio Means Jobs, and a college planning/application timeline. College Now, is the largest non-profit organization in the country that assists with college access to supplement college and career readiness for all students.

6:15 -8th Grade Parent meeting In the gym into high school by Diane Zimmer, class of 2022 School Counselor. The incoming 9th grade class and their parents are invited to learn about getting ready for the transition to high school, how to achieve school success, the opportunities available to them to ensure college and career readiness upon graduation.

6:15-Positive Parenting Tips by Penny Morgan from Firelands Counseling Services of Lorain County in the library. Positive parenting strategies to help strengthen elementary age children's success in school.

7:00- Anxiety and Depression in Youth: in library. Penny Morgan from Firelands Counseling Services of Lorain County will be hosting an adolescent parent meeting on anxiety and depression. She will provide parents with information about what are normal emotional difficulties a teenager may experience but if the feelings persist and interfere with daily living, it may be time to seek professional help. She will also discuss the services her agency can provide for students and families with emotional problems to maintain control of their lives.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

FES: Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on February 22, 2018 from *4:00-8:00 pm* , *at Firelands Elementary School.* Conferences are pre-scheduled.

SAMS: Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on February 22, 2018 from *3:45-7:00* , *in the cafeteria,* at **FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL.** Conferences will be walk-in.

FHS: Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on February 22, 2018 from *3:00-7:00* , *in the classrooms,* at **FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL.** Conferences will be walk-in.

FALCON SHOWCASE ON MARCH 6TH FROM 7:00-8:30

Firelands Local School District will host a Falcon Showcase on March 6th at Firelands High School from 7:00-8:30pm. It is important for our district to gather our community together to show our student achievements. The night will focus on students and their contribution to education within their school. We have a full schedule of events for the evening including the Band Ensemble, FFA presentations, Art presentations, Readers Theater, Spheros and Young Authors to name a few. The students will also display 21st century technology skills that will enhance their future beyond high school.

Please stop by and join us for an evening filled with academic success!

FALCON SHOWCASE ACTIVITIES MARCH 6TH FROM 7:00-8:30 AT FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL

Firelands Elementary

- ◆ Kindergarten students will showcase Foundations with each homeroom
- ◆ First grade students will present Readers Theater and Foundations
- ◆ Second grade students will present Informational writing and Research pieces
- ◆ Third grade student will focus on Math problem solving
- ◆ Fourth grade students will present Story in a Can, Young Authors and Science pieces
- ◆ Fifth grade students will focus on Readers Theatre
- ◆ Specialist teachers will display work from their content areas (Art, PE, Tech, Music, Band)
- ◆ The gifted students will present Spheros and Young Authors pieces

South Amherst Middle School

- ◆ Science Dept: Discovery education demonstration with board builder
- ◆ 6th grade ELA Dept: Reading is a life skill board, highlighting number of books read this year by 6th graders
- ◆ Academic Challenge
- ◆ Robotics
- ◆ Local History Presentation
- ◆ National Junior Honor Society
- ◆ Falcon Fuel Coffee Shop

Firelands High School

- ◆ Band Ensemble at 7:00
- ◆ TLC presentations at 7:15
- ◆ Art presentations at 7:30
- ◆ Physics presentations at 7:45
- ◆ FFA presentations at 8:00
- ◆ Select Choir at 8:15

We hope you can join us for a fun-filled evening!

FHS NEWS

2018-19 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 2018-19 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.

ACT FOR JUNIORS

The Ohio Department of Education, though Firelands High School will be administering an ACT test for all juniors currently enrolled at both FHS and the LCJVS. A letter has been sent home to with all students informing them of the upcoming ACT. The ACT will be administered on Tuesday, February 27th 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.

CLEVELAND CLINIC HIGHLIGHTS

FHS ARTISTS FOR VIDEO

The Cleveland Clinic is in the process of updating their eXpressions video for the 2018 eXhibition and Firelands high School has been selected to be featured in their 2018 presentation. The Clinic captured the interaction within the classroom, and also interviewed individual students, along with Mrs. Tawil. These interviews took place on Friday, January 19th. FHS is looking forward to the presentation of the eXpressions video, which highlights our very successful Art Program, led by Mrs. Laura Tawil.

PBIS AND STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The FHS Positive Behavior Winners have been given prizes ranging from an optimum parking space, to a Friday afternoon during FAST of some

basketball time, to a lunch with Mr. Maver in the Principal's office with friends. This has all been led by our PBIS Committee and Mrs. Keener, who has led the charge in rewarding our Falcons for being positive leaders in class and in the school community. Teachers are encouraged to nominate students for rewards by submitting their PBIS cards to Mrs. Keener, which qualifies students for weekly and monthly prizes. Also, FHS hosted almost 50 students for our monthly Pizza with the Principal Program to further reward our students for demonstrating positive academic and/or social success at FHS. FHS would like to thank our PBIS Committee and Mrs. Keener for expanding a program which promotes positive academic and social behaviors.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

FHS will be hosting a third round of Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday evening, February 22nd, from 3- 7 pm. They will be held in individual teacher classrooms on a first-come, first-serve basis. Also, FHS invites our parents to stay for presentations around FHS dealing with a number of issues that our students deal with on a daily basis. Presenters from LCADA, Firelands Counseling, and other agencies will be here to present topics to parents so that they can become more aware of issues facing today's youth.

PSAPE The Parents for a Safe After-Prom Environment are hosting A Night at the Races Fundraiser on Friday, March 2nd, beginning at 6 pm, to help raise money for After-Prom for our students. Please contact Terri Hewlett at 440-343-6958 or email her at terrihewlett@hotmail.com for more information.

SAMS NEWS

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES...

Parent- Teacher Conferences will be held on February 22, 2018 from 3:45-7:00 at FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL.

Conferences are being held in conjunction with opportunities to attend sessions that are important to our youth today. Combining with the high school allows parents access to these opportunities while attending conferences in one convenient location.

Sessions will be as follows:

- ◆ **5:30 pm** - Keeping Students Safe - Preventing Assault
 - * LCADA Presentation
- ◆ **6:15 pm** - Junior Class meeting
 - * 8th Grade Parent meeting
 - * Positive Parenting tips - Firelands Counseling
- ◆ **7:00 pm** - Anxiety and Depression in Youth

Class Field Trip Information:

6th grade: Beulah Beach

- Deposits due by February 15
- Balance due by April 12
- Trip May 21-23

7th Grade: Put-In- Bay

- Information will be available in February
- Money due mid-April
- Trip May 24

8th grade: Philadelphia

- March 23: Medical Emergency form, Medication paperwork, roommate request form and cell phone registration form due.
- April 11: Final Payment for students due
- April 11: Prescriptions and over-the-counter meds due in office (3 day supply, in original container, must be brought in by adult)
- April 27: Final Payment for chaperones due
- **Trip May 9-11**

More News from SAMS on page 8.

Save the Date



Lunch and A Show!

A free event for our retired staff and local senior citizens on March 27th at 11:30 am at South Amherst Middle School.

Join us for lunch and a special showing of *Peter Pan:*

A Musical Adventure presented by our choir students
Reservations are required by March 20th

RSVP online at <http://bit.ly/2El2VfN>, email at jbutchko@firelandsschools.org, or by phone at (440) 965-5821 ext 1015.

Lunch is provided by The Friends of Firelands.

South Amherst 7th and 8th Grade Musical

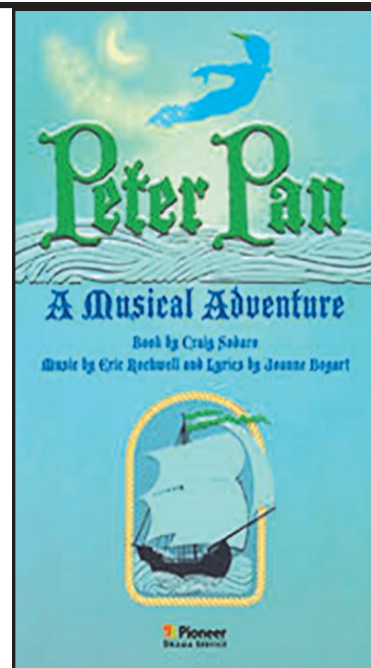
Peter Pan

A Musical Adventure

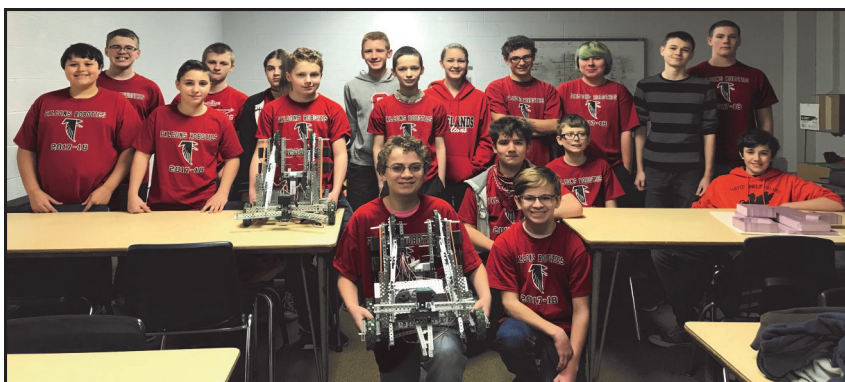
by Craig Sodaro

Come one, Come all to the 24th annual South Amherst Musical. The 7th and 8th grade choir members will be presenting on the SAMS stage, *Peter Pan, a Musical Adventure*.

Come and see many familiar characters and even some new ones perform at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 27 and Wednesday, March 28. 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!!



Falcons Robotics Team



Trenton Jones, Xavier Harper, Aaron Kirk, Jeremy Partlow, Kevan Adkins, Alexander Kyer, Max Anderson, Robbie Clark, Connor Pleban, Daniel Dempsey, Michael Widener, Grace Mills, Joe Formholtz, Connor Bates, Vlad Hamilton, Ian Borton, Devon Adkins, Amanda Mitchell, Noah Cibroski, Mason Hickman

On January 6th, the Falcons Robotics Teams at SAMS competed in their first VEX Robotics Competition at Norwalk High School, competing against schools from all over Ohio. Each team has much to celebrate. Both robots passed inspection and successfully competed in 5 exciting, qualifying matches. Team 2 placed 9th out of 40 teams and advanced to the final tournament.

Form more competition details, please visit the Falcons Robotics Team website at: <http://www.firelandsschools.org/FalconRoboticsTeam.aspx>.

Friends of Firelands Annual Fundraising Event

Saturday March 10th, 2018 @ German's Villa

\$25 Steak Dinner Per Person

Online Raffles, Online Silent Auction Items, Discounted Trips, On-Site Games of Chance, Basket Raffles, 50/50, Door Prizes, and DJ and Dancing at the end of the evening. **So Much Fun!!**

*All Attendees MUST BE 21 years or older to attend.

Check out our event website: <https://FOF2018.gesture.com> to buy tickets, make donations, check out our sponsors, you will even get a sneak peek at some of our items being offered, and if you cannot attend, you can even join in the fun virtually prior to and during the event March 10th.

Other places to find us:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Support.FLSD/>

Twitter: @FriendsofFLSD

Website: <https://friendsoffirelands.wixsite.com/falcons>

Email: Friendsoffirelands@gmail.com

UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
 nothing is going to get better.
 It's not!

— The Lorax



Please consider supporting FOF, our students, our staff, and the communities that make up Firelands Local Schools. The people are what makes us exceptional!

Ellen Gundersen, President Friends of Firelands

FES NEWS

38TH ANNUAL YOUTH ART MONTH EXHIBITION

Firelands Elementary School is proud to announce that Dorothy Wacker, Grade 2, has had artwork chosen to be exhibited in the 38th annual Youth Art Month Exhibition sponsored by the Ohio Art Education Association. The exhibit represents Ohio students in grades kindergarten through eighth and is on display at the State Teacher's Retirement Systems (STRS) building in Columbus, Ohio from February 17th - March 16th.

One hundred thirty-five pieces were selected for the juried show from the nine regions of the state that represent OAEA. The exhibit is sponsored by the Ohio Art Education Association which is the professional organization for art teachers in Ohio. OAEA works to promote the arts and recognizes quality student art throughout the state through various exhibits at state and regional levels. The Youth Art Month Exhibition comes about through many volunteer hours by art teachers in the state of Ohio. Dorothy Wacker's artwork was submitted for the show by Cara Proehl, art educator at Firelands Elementary School. A reception and awards ceremony will be held at the STRS building on Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 for the young artists, their families and teachers.

2018 OHIO ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION'S YOUNG PEOPLE'S ART EXHIBITION

Firelands Elementary School is proud to announce that Zoe Glowacki, Grade K, has had artwork chosen to be exhibited in the 2018 Ohio Art Education Association's Young People's Art Exhibition. The exhibit represents Ohio students in grades kindergarten through eighth and is on display at Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus, Ohio from February 17th - March 16th.

One hundred thirty pieces were selected for the juried show from the nine regions of the state that represent OAEA. The exhibit is sponsored by the Ohio Art Education Association which is the professional organization for art teachers in Ohio. OAEA works to promote the arts and recognizes quality student art throughout the state through various exhibits at state and regional levels. The Young People's Art Exhibition comes about through many volunteer hours by art teachers in the state of Ohio. Zoe Glowacki's artwork was submitted for the show by Cara Proehl, art educator at Firelands Elementary School. A reception and awards ceremony will be held at Rhodes Office Tower on Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 for the young artists, their families and teachers.

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 is scheduled for Thursday, March 1 at 7:00 pm in the FES library. We look forward to your attendance to provide input for upcoming events.

PBIS

FES students continue to demonstrate positive behavior and Team Falcon Bucks throughout their school day. Recently students have been excited to purchase a chance on a raffle item. We have had 4th and 5th grade students win the opportunity to sit on the bench at an FHS Girls' Varsity and FHS Boys' Varsity Basketball game. Various students have also been selected to choose a Falcon Wear item. Some students have won an athletic pass that they can use at FHS and SAMS athletic events. Other exciting opportunities for students include having their names posted on the sign in front of the building and planning a school wide spirit day. We have had a Pajama Day and are looking forward to Crazy Hair Day and Sport Theme Day.

5th Grade Band

Under the direction of Mr. Wiley and Mr. Brawley our 5th grade band students performed for families and friends on Monday, February 5. Students were able to showcase their newly learned talents. They did a great job.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Firelands Elementary School will have a Magazine and Cookie Dough Sale starting February 7 through February 16. Funds will support our PTG's efforts to provide additional technology to our staff and students.

Tuesday, February 14th will be classroom Valentine's Day parties at 2:30. The approved room parents will be able to enter the classrooms at 2:15 to begin set up. Please inform your classroom teacher if you will be attending. This will allow us to pre-ID and make the check in process a little quicker.

Thursday, February 22nd will be Parent/Teacher conferences. Conferences will be held from 4:00-8:00 pm. Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to schedule a conference.

PRESCHOOL

Firelands Schools has entered a partnership with Head Start to have a preschool housed at FES during the 2018-19 school year. Head Start will begin advertising and sending out information in the near future. Their staff will also attempt to be present at events (Parent Teacher Conferences, Firelands Showcase, and Kindergarten Registration) to answer questions by community members. Please feel free to contact Stefanie Drew, Family Health & Community Services Specialist at 440-204-3162 or sdrew@lccaa.net if you would like more information.

Firelands Falcons Softball Clinic



Saturday, March 17th at South Amherst Middle School

Grades: 1-8 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.**

****T-shirts included in cost of the clinic.**

****Checks made payable to Team Firelands.**

****Any questions?? Contact Coach Dostall at sdostall@firelandsschools.org**

****Please send payment and form to:**

Coach Judy Dostall
50269 US Highway 20
Oberlin OH 44074

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

Player's Name: _____ Grade _____

T-shirt size: YM YL (Adult) S M L XL Parent e-mail: _____

Parent/ Guardian's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Additional Emergency Contact and Phone Number: _____

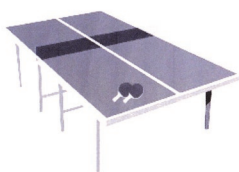
Medical Release: I give my daughter/ ward _____ permission to participate in the Firelands Softball Clinic. I understand that participation in softball, as in any athletic activity, involves a risk of injury. Therefore, neither the Firelands Softball Clinic, the instructors, Firelands Local Schools, 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: _____

**PLEASE HAVE FORM & PAYMENT TURNED
IN ON OR BEFORE MARCH 10th**



**OVERTIME
LOCK-IN**



Teens Grades 9-12

Saturday February 17, 2018

7pm – 10pm

North Lake Missionary Baptist Church Hall

323 N. Lake Street South Amherst

Air Hockey Tables, Ping Pong Tables,

Foosball Tables, Basketball Arcade

Plus:

Group Games, Food, And a Speaker

Visit:

**www.northlakemissionarybaptistchurch.com/news/
for more info**



Firelands High School

Parents for a Safe After Prom Environment

PRESENTS



A Night at the Races

Friday, March 2nd 2018

New Russia Township Hall

Doors open at 6:00 pm...7:00 pm Racing Commences

Tickets \$25

Includes Catered Dinner, Beer & Beverages

**Please come and enjoy a fun filled evening and
support a great cause.**

Your Sponsorship is Appreciated!!!

For Tickets or Sponsorship Contact:

Terri Hewlett 440-343-6958 - terrihewlett@hotmail.com

Debra Mastellone 440-371-4160 - mastellone@centurytel.net

Ty Grude 440-567-9432 - tygrude38@gmail.com

**PSAPE MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, 2/20/18
7:00 P.M. MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

Do you know how to receive information from FLSD in the event of bad weather or unforeseen circumstances?

In the event that a change occurs to a normal school day, information can be obtained from multiple sources. The District uses an all-call system, multiple Twitter accounts, Facebook, text alerts, and web page banners to share important information. We recommend that parents/guardians choose at least **two** methods to receive information from the Firelands Local Schools.

Our communication tools include the following:

1) All Call Alert System: If your telephone number or custodial information has changed, please contact your building secretary to notify her of the change(s). **If you have made a change to your phone number, our database must be updated in order for parent calls to be initiated.** Please see the information below to contact the appropriate building to make phone number (or custody) updates:

- Firelands Elementary School: (440) 965-5381
- South Amherst Middle School: (440) 986-7021
- Firelands High School: (440) 965-4255

2) Twitter Accounts: Follow these Twitter accounts for up-to-the-minute information!

- @FLSDSuper (Superintendent, Mike Von Gunten)
- @Falcon_update (Public Relations, Jennifer Butchko)
- @Firelandstrans (Transportation Coordinator, Milt Sayler)

3) Facebook: We have created The Official Facebook page for Firelands! Like us at **The Firelands Falcons**

Visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/TheFirelandsFalcons>. <https://www.facebook.com/TheFirelandsFalcons> to stay connected.

4) Text Alert System:

Parents have the option of utilizing our text alert system as well. In order to enroll in this program, simply go to our home page at FirelandsFalcons.org and click on the social media tab. Follow the newsletter icon and create an account. You will receive text messages regarding school cancellations, delays or special circumstances once enrolled.

5) Web Page Notifications:

Alerts will be posted on our web pages in the event that our school day will be altered.

6) Blog

Click our Blog tab & sign up for inbound blog posts @ <https://ffalcons.Wordpress.com>

Information will also be shared to traditional news sources. If you have any questions or need assistance in setting up account please contact Jennifer at (440) 965-5821 ext 1015!

Friends of Firelands Membership Drive 2017-2018

Friends of Firelands is a 503c non-profit organization that's sole purpose is to positively support the staff, students, and communities that make up Firelands Local Schools.

Please consider being a part of our organization by taking part in our 2017-2018 membership drive. Memberships will be \$20.00 each, and with that membership you will receive a one-of-a kind free T-shirt available in adult sizes small – 2X with the design below.



Any Questions? Feel free to contact FoF President, Ellen Gundersen at friendsoffirelands@gmail.com.

South Amherst Firemen's Association

Annual Steak Fry Dinner Dance

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Dinner -5:00 pm - 7:30pm

Dancing - 8:00 pm - 11:00pm

The Lodge (New Russia Twp. Hall)

46300 Butternut Ridge Rd., Oberlin

Music By: DJ Studio Free Productions

\$25 Donation no Refunds. **21 YEARS & OLDER ONLY**

Dinner includes a 14-16 ounce Porterhouse steak, baked potato, roll, side salad. Beer, pop, water, ice, provided.

Bring Your Own Booze

Raffles: 50/50, Paddle Wheel, Chinese, Bingo Pull tabs.

All Proceeds benefit the South Amherst Firemen's Association.

For Tickets/Info contact the South Amherst Fire Station at (440) 986 - 5901 and leave a message.

SAMS NEWS

There have been so many great things happening at SAMS that it's hard to keep up!

Mrs. Ammar's class continues to be extremely successful with their "Falcon Fuel" coffee business. Stop by the Academic Night in March to sample their tasty treats.

Our PBIS store is taking shape. We have new carpet and a freshly painted room. We have some items that were ordered and it should be opened soon.

Our Robotics team competed in their first meet in Norwalk in January. They did quite well. One team even finished in the top 10. They competed in February at Elyria High school and February at Lorain High School. They even created a mini-bot to drive around and give treats out to get their name out there. That is a practice done

at a higher level, but they wanted to push themselves.

Our Maker Space studio has really taken shape. Furniture is in place and Mrs. Liljegren has been working hard to learn the new programs. We will be excited to show the programs off in April at the board meeting.

High school scheduling is coming up. It's hard to believe our 8th graders are preparing to make the transition to HS already. The middle school master schedule is under construction. Planning for next year is underway.

We are preparing for our Parent-Teacher Conferences on February 22. This round will be held at FHS in conjunction with FHS to provide some community resources for parents.

Emergency Alert Notifications

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
- ◆ 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.

Stomper from the Lake Erie Crushers visits SAMS' 6th Grade Students!

South Amherst Middle School 6th Grade teachers and students are teaming up with the Crushers to make a pitch for reading and to **Strike Out Illiteracy** with a month-long Reading Club program! The goal of the program is to promote the importance of literacy and education while at the same time fostering a life-long love of reading. Each 6th grade student who comprehends four books independently will earn a free ticket to a home game and a special surprise from

Castaway Bay. The 6th grade teachers and students would like to publicly thank this winning team for a very successful Reading Program! We look forward to joining Stomper at the ballpark this season where we will help cheer for this Winning Team. Thank you Lake Erie Crushers for proving once again that "Reading is a Life Skill"



HAVING A PARTY?
Call C & T'S RENTAL
440-985-9334
Dennis Stock

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Friends of Firelands
“Our strength will grow
through community”

*Friends of Firelands is a 503c non-profit organization
that's sole purpose is to positively support the staff,
students, and communities that make up Firelands
Local Schools.*
Did you happen to see a yard sign for a 2017 graduate?
That was **FoF** !!

SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday March 10, 2018
@ German's Villa.

Join us for our 3rd annual fundraising event.
Food, music, raffles, auctions, and much more!

Would you like to become a member of FoF? Look for
our booth at various school events, or email [friendsof-
firelands@gmail.com](mailto:friendsof-firelands@gmail.com) with your request. Membership
is \$20 for the 2017-2018 school year, and each member
will get a **FALCON NATION T-shirt.**

#iCare

Firelands staff members continued their
community service program, #iCare,
January 22, 2018. Previously, staff
supported the Second Harvest Food
Bank of North Central Ohio. Staff
reported to ReStore in Amherst to lend
a hand.

Habitat for Humanity's ReStore is a
home improvement store that sells new
and gently used items at discounted
prices. All profits generated by the sale
of these items stay in Lorain County
and support Habitat's home ownership
and home repair programs.

Lorain County Habitat for Humanity
builds simple, decent and affordable
shelter by serving as the general
contractor, financier, and mortgage
company for all projects. Habitat is able
to provide this housing opportunity
through the assistance of the local
community both through volunteerism
and financial donations.



Firelands Band Boosters Membership Meetings

Location: Firelands High School Band Room
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Date: 3rd Tuesday of Each Month

Date/Time	Event	Topic for Discussion
10/17/17 7:00	General Business Meeting	Basketball Concessions Parade of Bands Marching Season Updates
11/21/17 7:00	General Business Meeting	Christmas Concert Basketball Concessions
1/16/18 7:00	General Business Meeting	Spring Trip Mattress Sale/Mulch Sale Basketball Concessions
2/20/18 7:00	General Business Meeting	OMEA Competition Spring Trip
3/21/18 7:00	General Business Meeting	Pancake Breakfast Mulch Sale Band Banquet
4/18/18 7:00	General Business Meeting	Parades Nomination of Officers Band Banquet
5/16/18 7:00	General Business Meeting	Election of Officers Band Camps

For more information, please contact us via email at firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com

Firelands Band Boosters
10643 Vermilion Road
Oberlin, Ohio 44074
www.MFMB.org

The Mighty Falcon Marching Band 2017/2018 Sponsors

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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.**

Sixth 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 24th, 2018 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.

All are welcome the morning of the event but there is a prize for any children who preregisters (see below)

Enjoy 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 and dancing by our senior Select Choir members dressed in costume.

Pictures and raffle basket tickets available for a nominal charge.

Please RSVP by March 21st via voicemail or text to Drema Bolen 440-387-9006. Please include the number of adults attending and the number and names of any children attending.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Firelands Local Schools Institutes

A New

“Safer Schools Tip Line”

Operated by the Ohio Department of Public
Safety-Office of Homeland Security,

844-SaferOH (844-723-3764)

is an anonymous tip line that will accept both calls and texts 24 hours a day. This service allows both students and adults to share information regarding any safety concerns with school officials and law enforcement.

BREAKFAST SERVED
AT ALL SCHOOLS

Breakfast is served at each of our buildings every morning. If your child qualifies for a free lunch, breakfast is free as well. The reduced price for a breakfast is .30 and all others can purchase a breakfast for \$1.50.

Meal assistance forms can be filled out anytime during the school year. If a change in income, please submit a form.

COME SUPPORT THE FIRELANDS BAND

at Schlechter's Sugar Shack

Pancake Breakfast (8 a.m.-1 p.m.)

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Free Tours & Samples (8 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

Donations Accepted

11252 Baird Rd, Amherst, OH 44001

Maple Products will be available for purchase

Looking for Community Information:

Firelands publishes a weekly blog on all community activity. If you have a group that is active in the Firelands district, we are happy to post information regarding events, fundraisers, open houses, etc.

You can visit the blog page at:
<https://ffalcons.wordpress.com> and look for Community Updates.

In addition to the Community Updates, a monthly article is published regarding our Falcon Alumni. Topics covered include graduations, engagements, career changes, new businesses, birth announcements and more.

The above information is also shared on Twitter, @Falcon_update, and on our new Facebook page, The Firelands Falcons.

To submit information please contact Jennifer at (440) 965-5821 ext. 1015 or at:
jbutchko@firelandsschools.org

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for Lorain, Medina, Huron, & Wayne Counties, Old
Paper Booklets, Advertisements, & Ephemera
Of All Areas.

FHS Art Students Featured in Cleveland Clinic eXpressions Video

The Firelands High School art department was honored with an invitation to be featured in the 2018 Cleveland Clinic eXpressions™ video. Students took part in the filming at FHS. This video will be highlighted at the opening of the eXhibition in February.

The eXpressions™ Art program is an interdisciplinary program that utilizes the arts to engage high school (and also middle school) students in the world of scientific research. Through project-based, peer-to-peer learning, students produce creative interpretations of research conducted by Cleveland Clinic science interns. Tied to state and national academic standards, this innovative program gives participants a deeper, real-world understanding of art and science while promoting creativity, communication, critical thinking, and teamwork.

FHS is a Cleveland Clinic Banner School. We have received this recognition for “going above and beyond” in leveraging Civic education programming to advance student learning.

We wish our art students the best of luck as they compete next month at the eXhibition. The video will be shared, with our community, after the opening of the program.

The FHS Art Program is under the direction of Mrs. Laura Tawil.

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2017 - 2018 Board Meetings

AUGUST 14, 2017

SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

OCTOBER 9, 2017

NOVEMBER 8, 2017

DECEMBER 11, 2017

JANUARY 8, 2018

FEBRUARY 12, 2018

MARCH 12, 2018

APRIL 9, 2018

MAY 14, 2018

JUNE 11, 2018

JULY 9, 2018

Meetings Begin
at 7:00 pm



Making memories one **H** **ME** at a time



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Cedarside Animal Hospital



12220 Gore-Orphanage
Road
Wakeman, OH

Phone: 440/965-4660

Jane Bradford-Battig, D.V.M.
Leonard R. Battig, D.V.M.



440-241-7897

Mike & Matt Finnegan

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

You may view this issue on line at:
www.firelandsschools.org