



The Firelands Express



VOLUME 5 ISSUE 77

JANUARY 12, 2018

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Happy New Year!



Over the past year, we have been in an active listening mode. We listened to community leaders through in-depth interviews; our parents, alumni, residents, and other main stakeholders via an online survey; and teachers and staff at facilitated listening sessions. We also reconvened the Building Advisory Committee (BAC) to take a closer look at our facility needs and assess information and research collected about the District. I've learned a lot this past year, and have been reminded how fortunate we are as a District to have so many people committed to our schools and students.

The BAC - composed of teachers, staff, parents, residents, and community leaders - held thoughtful discussions, asked important questions, and came together meeting after meeting to identify the plan to address our facilities challenges that is in the best interest of our students, schools, and community. In December, the BAC met for the fifth and final time to discuss the pros and cons of potential building plans. After the discussion, they voted on a plan to recommend to the Board of Education to test through a statistically valid community telephone survey. I am grateful for the BAC's commitment to this process, and their commitment to improving our District.

At the start of 2018, I look forward to listening even more to your feedback and input about the plan to address our facility challenges, and how to continually ensure our District is headed in the right direction. I've said it before and will say it again, I know we can do better for our students, and I know with your help, we will.

GO FALCONS!
 Mike Von Gunten
 Superintendent
 FHS Class of 1995

District to Conduct Phone Survey

District residents may receive a telephone call from a polling firm in the coming weeks. This telephone survey is sanctioned by the District, and we encourage you to give honest and thoughtful responses. We will be using the results to help make decisions about the future of our district.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Firelands Show Case - March 6, 2018

Please join us March 6th from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Firelands High School for an interactive State of the Schools presentation. This year students from the elementary, middle and high schools will be showcasing the many great things that are happening in our district. A complete schedule of activities will be posted on our website in February.

Table of Contents

FHS 1st Semester Exam Schedule.....	page 2
College Credit Plus Parent Meeting.....	page 3
Parents for a Safe After Prom Environment.....	page 6
Friends of Firelands Membership.....	page 7
Mattress Sale.....	page 8
Food Service Department News.....	page 9
All You Can Eat Breakfast.....	page 10

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.

FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL
JANUARY 2018 – FIRST SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17	THURSDAY JANUARY 18	FRIDAY JANUARY 19
TEACHER TUTORING 7:30 - 8:30 AM	PERIOD 1 EXAM 7:30 - 9 AM	TEACHER TUTORING 7:30 - 8:30 AM
PERIOD 2 EXAM 8:45 - 10:15 AM	BREAK 9 - 9:15 AM	PERIOD 4 EXAM 8:45 - 10:15 AM
BREAK 10:15 - 10:30 AM	PERIOD 3 EXAM 9:15 - 10:45 AM	BREAK 10:15 - 10:30 AM
PERIOD 5/6 OR 6/7 EXAM 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	BREAK 10:45 - 11:00 AM	PERIOD 7/8 OR 8/9 EXAM 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
LUNCH 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	PERIOD 10 EXAM 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	LUNCH 12:00 - 12:30 PM
MAKE-UP/TUTORING 12:30 - 2:30 PM	LUNCH 12:30 - 1:00 PM	MAKE-UP EXAM TIME 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM
	MAKE-UP/TUTORING 1:00 - 2:30 PM	

During Semester Exams, a student may arrive late or leave early, but he/she cannot arrive to take an exam, leave campus, and then return to take another exam without expressive administrative approval. Students may only be excused from a study hall or lunch, **NOT FROM ANY ACADEMIC CLASS!** In order to be excused, your parent must fill out the form below and mark if you will be missing any periods which you do not have an academic class at FHS. This form must be returned to your **FAST TEACHER NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018.** Students who do not have FAST may submit them to the main office. Emails, FAXES, and phone calls **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. STUDENTS WHO TAKE COLLEGE AND/OR JVS COURSES DO NOT NEED PERMISSION TO MISS PERIODS FOR WHICH THEY ARE NOT SCHEDULED. LUNCH IS AVAILABLE, BUT IS NOT MANDATORY. SCHOOL IS DISMISSED AT THE END OF THE LAST EXAM ON EACH DAY. STUDENTS WHO NEED TO RIDE THE BUS HOME WILL BE PROVIDED A STUDY HALL UNTIL 2:30 PM EACH DAY.**

DETATCH BELOW AND SUBMIT TO FAST TEACHER OR MAIN OFFICE BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018
PLEASE INITIAL EACH LINE WHERE PERMISSION IS GRANTED

STUDENT NAME (PRINT): _____ GRADE _____

JAN 17 - Has my permission to arrive at 10:15am for 5/6 or 6/7 Period Exam (No 2nd Period Exam) _____

Has my permission to depart at 10:15am (No 5/6 or 6/7 Period Exam) _____

JAN 18 - Has my permission to arrive at 9 am for 3rd Period Exam (No Exam 1st Period) _____

Has my permission to depart at 9am (No 3rd & 10th Period Exam) _____

Has my permission to depart at 10:45am (No 10th Period Exam) _____

JAN 19 - Has my permission to arrive at 10:15am for 7/8 or 8/9 Period Exam (No 4th Period Exam) _____

Has my permission to depart at 10:15am (No 7/8 or 8/9 Period Exam) _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PRINT PARENT NAME: _____ CONTACT PHONE:() _____

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!!
HAVE EVERYTHING IN ON OR BEFORE MARCH 10th

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: _____

FHS NEWS

FIRST SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE DELAYED A WEEK - Due to the cold weather cancelling school during the first week of January, FHS is announcing a change to the First Semester Exam Schedule. First Semester Exams will now be held from Wednesday, January 17 - Friday, January 19th. Monday, January 8th will be a normal week of school, and the day before exams begin, Tuesday, January 16th, will be a review day in all classes. The first semester will now end on Friday, January 19th, with the second semester beginning on Monday, January 22nd. Grades for the first semester are due by Tuesday, January 23rd.

FHS believes this gives our students ample time to prepare for their First Semester Exams, allowing them the opportunity to receive six days of instruction which would have not been available to them had the exam schedule remained the same.

FHS will be on a special exam schedule during these three days. The new exam schedule is available by clicking the downloadable schedule on the Firelands High School website. Students who have a study hall or lunch are not required to be at school during those periods, and may either come to school late, or leave early, provided they have signed parental permission.

Students who do not have a scheduled class, lunch, or study hall during an exam period are exempt from having to turn in a permission slip, as they are not scheduled during those periods. Students are not permitted to leave and return to school for any reason, they must either arrive late or depart early (with signed permission).

The school day ends with the conclusion of the last exam of the day. Staying for lunch is optional. Students who do not have transportation will be required to attend a quiet study hall until the beginning of the first exam, or the bus run at the end of the day (busses will run on a normal schedule). Students who will be picked up are expected to wait in the front of the school, and must be picked up within 20 minutes of either the last exam of the day, or the conclusion of the lunch period (if the student would like to stay for the optional lunch). Students are expected to either depart campus, attend study hall, or be with a teacher receiving extra help.

Good luck to all our students as First Semester Exams commence on January 17th.

FHS LIONS CLUB STUDENTS OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to the Firelands Lions Club Students of the Month Award Winners for November and December. Emily Holcomb is the November award winner, and Samantha Ives is the December winner. Each student will be honored at a Lions Club Dinner and meeting in late January. FHS would like to thank the Firelands Lions Club for their continued commitment to the Student of the Month program.

There will be a College Credit Plus parent meeting January 16th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Library

Parents and students can learn more about Ohio's College Credit Plus program (formerly PSEO). This program allows students to earn college credits while in high school, all for free. Students can enroll in courses at LCCC and receive dual credit for high school requirements and for college credit. These credits may be

used at LCCC or for transfer to the college or university of choice after high school graduation. This state-funded program covers tuition, books and fees.

Students may choose to:

- Take courses on one of LCCC's campuses or online
- Take courses at their High School
- Take courses during the summer

SAMS NEWS

The year is flying by at SAMS. It's hard to believe the second semester is almost here!!

We have been working with a collaborative through Common View in conjunction with Clearview, Midview and the United Way. We are working on bringing in some improvements to the cafeteria with a salad bar through the grant with the collaborative.

Our 6th graders took a trip to the Maltz museum of Jewish Heritage on December 5. This was a very good experience for all that attended. A grant from the community foundation paid for the admission for the students. The 6th grade also continued with their community service and was able to provide 45 baskets for Christmas dinners for families in the community who needed some extra help this time of year.

Many of our teachers received grants through the endowment for improvements for their classrooms. I want to thank the endowment for recognizing the value in the teachers ideas and to the teachers for taking the initiative to write the grants.

We also received grant money to assist in getting our "maker space lab" up and running. Over break we painted the room and as soon as the equipment and furniture come in we will update you with pictures and a visit.

The Henrietta United Methodist Church provided us with a substantial amount of gift cards that we were able to share to our families to assist with making Christmas special and lessen the burden this time of year. We appreciate their

help so very much.

We also painted the bell tower over break and had carpet donated from Jaime's Carpet to get our PBIS store up and running for the second semester. We are so appreciative of all the help that we receive from the community.

We held a spirit basketball game on December 18. Our students were able to stay after school, have pizza, watch a movie and play games for a \$2.00 ticket. It is always a fun time! We also held a scrimmage over break with Longfellow's basketball team from Lorain. It was a great experience for all of the students. I appreciate the efforts of all who participated over break.

We had a great ending to 2017 with a Holiday Fun Day in conjunction with our PBIS incentive. Students were allowed to wear pajamas and bring blankets. We showed a movie in the gym and provided milk and cookies. The students really enjoyed this and had fun with their friends. We also held our staff v students volleyball game and finished the day off with a game of Human Hungry Hungry Hippo. This was an absolute riot!

We look forward to all that 2018 brings and thank everyone who participates in making SAMS a great place for kids. I am proud to work with such an amazing group of teachers, administrators and community that truly believes in a "students first" mentality!

Stop The Hate

“If you have an American Diploma, you have the world” the Holocaust Survivor told the sixth grade students of South Amherst Middle School while visiting the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage on December 5, 2017. A very solemn and extremely educational interactive field trip that was made possible by a generous grant from Nordson Grant Funding and Community Foundation of Lorain County. Extremely personal stories of two Holocaust Survivors were shared with the students then they toured the museum to learn about this pivotal time in history through technology, film, computer interactives, art as well as numerous artifacts. The sixth grade teachers all worked together on a unit of educating the students on the danger of what happens when a “few good men do nothing”. Mrs. Palmer led numerous lessons about the World Religion of Judaism as well as the Jewish Diaspora throughout history. While in Language Arts Classes Mrs. Muth & Mrs. Neal had the students read through the results of the Nuremberg Laws via personal memoirs and numerous writing activities. This was all in preparation for the visit to the Maltz Museum in Beachwood, Ohio. The students will now begin writing their essays for “Stop The Hate”, a writing experience through this Jewish Heritage Foundation. The Holocaust Survivors repeatedly reminded the

students of the importance of “Stopping the Hate” at the initial stages to make sure that history doesn’t repeat itself. Both Holocaust Survivors quoted World War II American General Dwight David Eisenhower “*The things I saw beggar description...The visual evidence and the verbal testimony of starvation, cruelty and bestiality were so overpowering...I made the visit deliberately, in order to be in a position to give first hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future there develops a tendency to charge these allegations to propaganda.*”



5th & 6th Grade Academic Challenge Finals

The 5th/6th grade Academic Challenge team took first place in the finals beating Avon Lake, Midview, and Vermilion. This was the 2nd Annual Lorain County Competition held at First Baptist Church of Elyria. The 7th/8th grade team placed 4th out of 8 teams in Lorain County. It was a great day for our mighty Falcons!!



FES NEWS

Food Drive for Second Harvest

FES students donated food items for Second Harvest during the month of November. The students collected a total of 2,039 food items during the collection. We are lucky to have so many caring families that are willing to give to those in need. FES Falcon Leaders assisted with the collecting, sorting and packing up of the food items. It was great to see the care for others that was demonstrated.

COSI Visit

Due to our PTG, COSI was able to visit FES on November 20 and 21st. Students all participated in a large group assembly to learn about the topic "Current Conditions." Students were then provided with time to circulate through various stations and explore more about the topic. Our PTG organized this event and solidified the volunteers to make it a success. The students enjoyed the experience.

Third Graders Present the 4th Annual FES Thanksgiving Day Parade

This year FES' 3rd graders studied the history of Tony Sarg and the famous tradition of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade by reading books, internet articles, and watching video clips. These creative third graders made timelines, designed games, created quizzes, and wrote letters to Mr. Macy convincing him to add a new balloon to his parade. With the help of their teachers and parent volunteers, each student created a new balloon that they would like to see in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. As a culminating event, on Tuesday, Nov. 21st, students showcased their balloons in the 4th annual FES Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Second Annual Giving from the Guard

A huge thanks to the Firelands High School Color Guard for providing a Thanksgiving meal and generous amounts of additional food to four Firelands families. The FHS Color Guard members donated their time and resources to shop for and purchase this food as a way of giving back to community members who supported them earlier in the year.

Color Guard members include Alice Baird, Hattie Born, Claire Boucher, Riley Denney, Sam Jones, Halli Kromer, Emma Sherban, Ali Silva, Autumn Swiers, and Advisor, Donna Boucher.

Mock Trial Experience

Students in Mrs. Dempsey's 5th grade gifted reading class participated in a countywide Mock Trial experience on Friday, December 8th, sponsored by the Educational Service Center of Lorain County Gifted Department. The event was held at the Lorain County



Justice Center in Elyria, where gifted classes in grades 5 through 8 from several school districts met to try



their cases in real courtrooms, with real judges who had chosen to donate their time to the cause.

Working hard to prepare was challenging, but rewarding. Studying their case and part in the trial included learning

about courtroom terminology, parts of a trial, how to question a witness through both direct and cross examination, and discovering and supporting facts and evidence. Magistrate Adam Bryda of the Lorain County Court System visited the classroom to work closely with the students and offer advice about the trial process.

On the day of the field trip, the class stepped into the courtroom as 5 young defense attorneys, prepared with opening and closing statements, as well as questions for direct and cross exam of 6 witnesses, and with 3 defense witnesses who knew their affidavits inside and out. The defense attorneys confidently played their parts, which demanded listening closely for details and demonstrated their ability to think on their feet. Five students served as jurors on a criminal case tried by two other participating schools. What a rewarding way to learn about our judicial system and also about future career possibilities!

What Students are Learning in Computer Class

During the week of Dec. 4 - 8, all Computer classes at FES participated in the "Hour of Code"....using various computer programming sites like: Code.org, Kodable, Bitsbox & Code Monkey. Most students in computer classes at FES wrote a "Letter to Santa". For every letter written to Santa, \$1 was donated to the Make-A-Wish foundation.

Second Grade Students Learn and Share Information about Gingerbread Houses

The 2nd Graders in Miss Schuster and Mrs. Hignett's co-taught class wrapped up their Gingerbread Unit, inviting their Grand Friend's to build gingerbread houses with them. The students researched and studied facts about gingerbread over a two week period. They read fiction gingerbread tales, as they built their gingerbread file, which is filled with many fun activities focused around the 2nd grade standards. The kids showcased their gingerbread files with their visitors. Students enjoyed performing for their guests-

Five Yummy Gingerbread and gingerbread facts with props from their nonfiction text. Students and Grand Friends wrote about what happened to their gingerbread boy after listening to Gingerbread Baby by John Brett who puts a new spin on an old tale. They spent the last half of their visit building gingerbread houses together. Everyone had a grand time!

Fourth Graders Present Winter Wonderland

Mrs. Julene Woods directed the fourth grade students as they presented "Winter Wonderland" as their holiday concert to a large crowd on December 20. All enjoyed the show that continued to promote the holiday spirit. Soloists were featured throughout the program. These included Kelsie Davis, Janna Milleon, Lacey Pasadyn, Aaliyah Yost, Finn Pruitt, Emika Ody, Kylie Sutorius, Cara Thomas, Kayla Aslaksen, Trenton Castillo-Buchs, Skyy Charlton, Braeden Reed, Raegin Widener, Zachary Zimmermann, Ben Blatt, Briella Karkoff, Madalyn Kenney, Nathan Ludwig, Katie Smith, Micah Lee, Zoe Hilton, Abigail Sittinger, Hayley Winfield, and Jeanette Crawford.

Not Forgotten Box

Thank you to the Firelands Elementary community for donating over 400 toys for the Not Forgotten Box collection! The toys were delivered to the Salvation Army and will be distributed to area families. A heartfelt thanks for the outpouring of love and generosity!

PTG

FES is grateful to our Parent Teacher Group (PTG) for the many things they do for our building; including staff and students. They continue to support our endeavors and think of new ways to assist in the building. Recently they assisted with COSI prior to Thanksgiving break and the Santa Shop for our students before the holiday break. Their next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 1 at **4:00 pm** in the FES library. Please consider attending and providing input for upcoming events.

CURRICULUM NEWS

Makerspace is coming to South Amherst Middle School!

What is a Makerspace? A Makerspace provides students a hands-on, creative way to design, experiment, build and invent in a school environment. It is a place for making, collaborating, learning and sharing designs with each other. A Makerspace allows students to deeply engage in activities relating to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) while preparing them for 21st century skills. It fosters critical thinking skills and can even boost self-confidence.

We are very appreciative of the financial donation to our district. With help from the Board of Directors of The Community Foundation of Lorain County, Firelands' grant has been approved and awarded \$5,000 to use towards our Makerspace at South Amherst Middle School. Firelands Endowment Committee has also awarded our grant request of \$3,000 to use towards this project. A big thank you to both foundations for their generous contributions.

SAMS Makerspace will consist of a 7 week rotation where students will complete one mandatory project and two elective projects. Students will choose from the following rotation stations: the creation station using bloxels, the coding station using spheros, the innovation station using littlebits and the design station using the carvey. The students will be presented with project ideas to create their own projects!

The classroom environment has been painted and re-furnished to set a more inviting atmosphere for the students to design, collaborate, learn, and share. We are very excited to have this opportunity to prepare our students to become determined, independent, and creative problem solvers for their educational future!

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

The next meeting will be held January 29th at 7pm in the high 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 Saylor)

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.nordpress.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.

Lorain County Imagination Library

This organization provides a book to all children birth through age five who are living in eligible zip codes within Lorain County. The mission is to foster a lifetime love of reading, empower families and increase kindergarten readiness to build a strong foundation for a community of children who view themselves as confident readers and writers in Lorain County.

To date, 5,369 children have received books at their home since the project started in July 2017! Book costs for this past month were over \$10,000.

The Stocker Foundation continues to seek donations in order to keep up with the enrollment. All donations are matched for the next three years. The target for donations this year is \$11,000. Please consider supporting the Lorain County Imagination Library if you have not already made a donation this year.

If you would like to make a donation log on to:
<https://www.loraincountyimaginationlibrary.org/donate>

MORE FES NEWS

Third Grade Reading Guarantee

We received the results of our third grade students' fall Reading assessment scores which helps us to identify the students who we need to support throughout the school year to be sure they meet the Third Grade Reading Guarantee guidelines. In order to ensure promotion to 4th grade, our students are being provided before and after school tutoring times. Our third grade students will be given additional opportunities to show their growth in reading in the spring testing session. We are confidently hopeful that our hard working 3rd grade teachers and our tutoring teachers will help to grow our children's skills and confidence in reading.

Holiday Party

Our boys and girls ended December with a holiday party attended by many family members. Room parents from each classroom organized treats, activities, and volunteers for students to celebrate the holiday season with their classmates. We appreciate the continued support as well as everyone's patience as we enter each visitor through the RAPTOR system.

Collaboration with FHS

FES students benefit from the amazing students at FHS daily. Having FHS right across the parking lot has been a wonderful blessing. We have many daily volunteers that come in to the classroom to help our boys and girls as well as our teachers. You can easily see FHS students throughout the building doing many activities; reading with students, playing an academic game, helping students to complete an artistic task, or simply helping our littlest ones to log into their computer programs.

During the month of December, we had a special FHS connection through Mrs. Callahan's drama class students. We were able to schedule our students in grades K-3 to watch their performances. We look forward to continuing our partnerships in learning.

Grand Parent's Day

Our second grade teachers held their annual Grand Parent's Day. Our grandparents were welcomed by our second grade students to construct a gingerbread house. Each room was packed with lively conversation and busy hands. What a great way to build lasting memories for our boys and girls!

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.

7TH ANNUAL FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL MATTRESS FUNDRAISER

SAVE
THE DATE!



When: Saturday, February 17

Time: 10AM-5PM

Where: AT S. AMHERST MIDDLE SCHOOL

Event Link: bit.ly/beds4firelands



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f .com/CFSCLC

t .com/CFSCLC
#beds4firelands

e @customfundraisingsolutions.com

Beautyrest



Adjustable Beds



Pillows

FOODSERVICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Meal applications can be filled out anytime throughout the school year. If you have a change in household size, income, loss of job or now receive SNAP or OWF, please fill out an application. It only takes minutes for an application to be processed which will provide you with immediate help if your child qualifies. A notification letter with the results is mailed to all households that apply. Applications can be found on the Foodservice tab, board of education or at your child's school office. The meal status will roll over for the first month of the next school year. Please do not hesitate to contact Judy Baumann, Foodservice Director at 440-965-5821 ext. 1011 if you have any questions.

FEE WAIVER

If your child qualified for free meals and fees have not been waived, contact Judy Baumann, Food Service Director 440-965-5821 ext. 1011

ONLINE MENUS OR MENU APP FOR YOUR PHONE

Also, check out the online meal app which can be downloaded on your phone for free (App name -My School Menus). You can look up all 3 schools from one place, just by changing the school name. You can also print the menu from the Foodservice tab. This new online menu will provide you with the nutritional for each menu item.



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

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

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.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018

9:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

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Respect = Happiness

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 friendsoffirelands@gmail.com with your request. Membership is \$20 for the 2017-2018 school year, and each member will get a **FALCON NATION T-shirt.**

Brownhelm Perfection & BB 4-H Club

Brownhelm Perfection & BB's were busy over the holidays helping with community events. They participated in Wreaths Across America in December to honor veterans by placing wreaths on graves at The Brownhelm Cemetery and helped with The Brownhelm Santa by packing candy for Santa to deliver to homes on Christmas Eve. Thank you to all who were able to participate and help others.

The club will be starting their meetings up again starting on Monday, Jan 15th at the Brownhelm Church on North Ridge Road. They will then be meeting the first and third Mondays of every month from 7 p.m. till 8 p.m. If you missed the Jan 15th opening meeting, please join them on Monday, Feb 5th. The club will be accepting new members through the end of March. If you join after

that you will be considered a summer member and not be able to take an animal to the fair per extension office guidelines. 4-H offers much more than just animal projects, such as sewing, woodworking, money management, cake decorating/food projects, and much much more!

Come to a meeting to learn more or contact Head Advisor, Jen Westover at 440-574-1310 or Advisor, Lisa Thrasher at 440-213-6180.

The club will be 100 years old in 2019 and advisors will be planning a community party to celebrate so any past 4-H members/advisors of this club please contact us if you'd like to be involved. Bonnie Cutcher who has been an advisor for 48+ years will be overseeing the planning of the party.

Sheriff's Office/Jail Escape Room

"Teachers we LOVE you and want to give back for all you do!! So we are running a special just for YOU! Teachers get in FREE to our Sheriff's Office/Jail Escape Room from Dec. 28-Jan.27th! Must attend with at least 3 paying guests. We will need to see your school ID but that can be emailed ahead of time! Email to schedule your visit: downsonthefarmohio@gmail.com We appreciate you supporting our nonprofit organization

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
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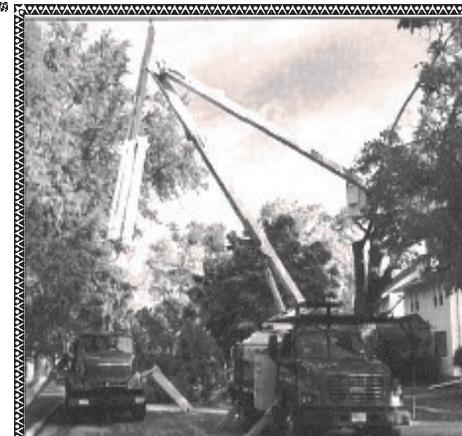
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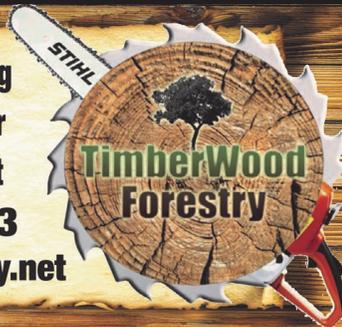
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**2017 - 2018
Board Meetings**

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**

**Tentative,
subject to Board approval
**Meetings Begin
at 7:00 pm**



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