

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Small classroom spaces, poor electrical capacity, and inadequate safety and security measures affect our students on a daily basis, but it can be hard to understand their impact on education without experiencing them first-hand. While Band-Aid solutions can address some of our issues, our buildings were not designed to educate students in the 21st century, and it puts our students’ competitiveness at risk. While all of our buildings have similar issues, allow me to share a few that really stand out.

Our classrooms were all built to hold desks organized in rows facing the chalkboard. It’s the lecture style classroom we, as adults, are familiar with, but it’s not conducive to the preferred methods for teaching and learning today. Today, a productive learning environment is interactive and collaborative. It has technology, and different spaces

that recognize all children do not learn in the same way. There is ample space to learn in groups using moveable tables and chairs to support teamwork and cooperation. Instead, our teachers have to allot extra time to push together bulky desks that are cramped in undersized, hot classrooms.

Our buildings also provide challenges when teachers try to integrate technology in their lesson plans, which is often. No one anticipated a century or half-a-century ago how necessary it would be to plug in computers, or charge Chromebooks - and all classrooms lack electrical outlets. Wi-Fi is also unreliable due to the concrete walls in all of our buildings which weaken the signal in each classroom. This disrupts lesson plans, and impacts student learning on a daily basis. Last year at South Amherst Middle School, a computer over-heated and smoke appeared because of the building’s inadequate electrical capacity. Our staff handled the issue immediately and no students were in danger, but disruptions like this impact learning.

Lastly, safety and security is a top priority in our district, but our buildings were not designed to protect our students and employees in the way that is necessary today. For example, the majority of our classroom doors lock from the outside, which means in the event of a lockdown teachers have to go out into the hallway to lock the door. At our middle and high schools, there are no lobbies or gathering places, visitors walk directly into a hallway filled with our students when they enter. The considerations we would make for a new building today are significantly different than the considerations the builders made 50 to 100 years ago. While we have invested in systems to make our schools safer including installing security cameras and implementing a visitor identification program, inherently the design of our current buildings is the greatest challenge to protecting our students and employees.

We are grateful to our Building Advisory Committee for reviewing the data at hand to help make a recommendation to our school board for how to address these problems. As the process continues, I hope this helps to illustrate just some of the issues that impact student learning. Firelands’ students, staff, and programs are strong, but the age and design of our buildings add hurdles to the learning environment that will hurt our community in the long term. We can do better for our students, and with your help, we will.

GO FALCONS!

Mike Von Gunten
Superintendent
FHS Class of 1995
@FLSDSuper

SAVE THE DATE

- * December 6th SAMS Choir Holiday Concert 7:00 pm
- * December 7th FHS Holiday Preview & Brunch 9:30 am
- * December 11th BOE Meeting 7:00 pm
- * December 14th FHS Band/Choir Holiday Concert 6pm
- * December 20th FES Holiday Concert 6:00 pm
- * Winter Break December 22nd - January 1st
- * February 12th FHS Winter Choir Concert 7 pm
- * February 15th FHS Winter Band Concert 7 pm
- * February 21st SAMS Band Concert 7 pm
- * Firelands Showcase State of the Schools FHS Tuesday, March 6th 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
- * March 10th German’s Villa - Friends of Firelands 3rd Annual Steak Fry
- * March 26th SAMS Lunch & A Show
- * March 27th & 28th SAMS Musical

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

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.

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Holiday Preview & Brunch

December 7, 2017 at Firelands High School

Doors open at 9:30 am with a Free Brunch and
Holiday Concert beginning at 10:00 am

Firelands High School Gymnasium

10643 Vermilion Rd.

Oberlin, OH 44074

**Honoring our Senior Citizens
& Retired FLSD Staff!**

Our annual Holiday Preview is a way for us to say “Thank You” to our retired FLSD staff and local senior citizens. Entertainment and brunch is provided at no cost, courtesy of Friends of Firelands, as our gift to you this Holiday Season!

Please RSVP to jbutchko@firelandsschools or 440-965-5821 ext 1015 by December 1st.

FHS NEWS

ELECTRONIC GRADE CARDS – The first grading period ended on Friday, October 27th. Electronic Grade Cards are available through the Power School Parent Portal at this time. Please contact the school counseling department with any questions, or your child's teacher if you have questions about their progress in class. You can access the teacher by email directly through the Parent Portal.

GREENHAND CEREMONY – The annual FFA Greenhand Ceremony was held on Thursday, November 9th. To be a Greenhand recipient, a student must be enrolled in Agriculture Education and be able to demonstrate knowledge of FFA Creed, Motto, Codes, and History. It is a ceremony that welcomes new members into the FFA Degree program.

TEN FHS ARTISTS EXHIBIT IN LORAIN COUNTY HS SHOW - Ten FHS art students are honored with selection for the 2017 Lorain County High School Exhibition. This annual exhibition, organized by the Educational Service Center and hosted at the Elyria West River Branch Library, invites participants from all high schools in Lorain County. Congratulations to Art Fundamentals students Garrick Sebolt, 9 and Emma McDevitt, 10, Art 1 students Gracie Yonts and Alex Trendle 9, Art 2 students Mia Kuncel 10 and Dylan Taylor 9, Art 3 students Autumn Szakal and Emily Pluta, 10 and Art 4 students Lynn Born and Isabel Solowiej. Students are competing for Best in Show and People's Choice awards.

FHS LIONS CLUB STUDENTS OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to the Firelands Lions Club Students of the Month Award Winners for September and October. Alexis Harasty is the September award winner, and David Nary is the October winner. Each student will be honored at a Lions Club Dinner and meeting in late November. FHS would like to thank the Firelands Lions Club for their continued commitment to the Student of the Month program.

SELECT CHOIR TO BE BUSY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON – Once again, the Firelands Select will be performing in several venues throughout Lorain County, beginning in December. Please check the Falcon Flyer on the FHS webpage for dates. They will close the Holiday Season with a performance at the Ohio Theatre on December 15th, the night after performing in the annual FHS Holiday Concert, which will be on Thursday, December 14th at 7 pm in the FHS Gymnasium.

PBIS OCTOBER AWARD WINNERS – Firelands High School's Positive Behavior Committee has instituted Positive Behavior Awards during the week. Students are nominated by teachers and staff members for going above and beyond the expected to display and model positive behaviors at FHS. The October winners were Elijah Haas, who chose a Firelands travel mug, Kaylee Boggs, who chose 4 tickets to a Gladiators game, and Taylor Kenska, who won the Falcon Pride parking spot for the month of November. Thank you to the PBIS committee and our PBIS partners for the prizes.

Bob Maver, FHS Principal

SAMS NEWS

We completed two rounds of conferences in October and the turnout was large. We love meeting our families and believe that the home-school relationship is crucial to the success of our students. Our PTG provided dinner for our teachers both evenings and we are so grateful for that.

NJHS planted trees as a community improvement project on October 28 at the South Amherst Community Park. Thank you to John Carlock for heading that up. It was a cold, bitter morning but everyone pulled together and got the work done quickly.

Stephanie Coultrip held our 8th grade Philly parent meeting at the end of October. There was a huge turnout and we get so excited as we plan this wonderful trip.

We began our morning intervention program the last week of October. This is for students who did not meet grade level, expectations on the AIMSWEB Plus-assessment. This will help them get to where they need to be and is another way we support our student's growth.

Ellen Gundersen received a grant through the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and we received one whole school assembly and one grade level assembly for each grade. We held our whole school assembly in conjunction with our PBIS day and provided students a treat of live animals of Northeast Ohio.

Our teachers are participating in peer to peer walk a-bouts. This is a great opportunity for teachers to see the world from another set of eyes for a day. We are excited to build this program.

Basketball season is beginning so make sure to come see our kiddos in action.

Dates for upcoming events below:

- ⇒ November 22-26 No School- Thanksgiving Break
- ⇒ November 30- Building Advisory Committee 7:00- SAMS
- ⇒ (Week of November 13th- Fundraising items arrive) Watch for exact date as we receive more information.
- ⇒ December 6: Choir Concert 7:00 PM
- ⇒ December 11- Board of Education meeting 7:00 PM @ BOE
- ⇒ December 22-January 1- Winter Break

Cara Gomez, SAMS Principal

ALUMNI NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Morgan and Jake Sosinski

Congratulations to FHS alumni Morgan (nee Mastellone) and Jake Sosinski! They were married on October 28, 2017.

Morgan graduated from FHS in 2011, from Walsh University with her Bachelors in Psychology in 2015, and her Masters in Health Care Management from The University of Findlay in 2017. She is employed with Sprenger Health Care Systems as a Director of Assisted Living.

Jake graduated from FHS in 2010 and then graduated from Lorain County Community College with his RN. He currently works for Cleveland Clinic in the cardiac unit.

The newlyweds currently make their home in Amherst!



Firelands Community Unites For Service Project

"If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich." John F. Kennedy. The 6th grade students at South Amherst Middle School once again were educated on the definition of "hunger" and "community service". Mrs. Finnegan's FFA students from FHS came to SAMS on Wednesday, November 8th to teach the students the real definition of hunger along with the statistics related to hunger on a daily basis. This was the first part of the 6th Grade Service Project that does a small part to help raise awareness for hunger in our district. This was ALMOST the conclusion of the service project this year.

Without a grant to fund the "Thanksgiving Baskets" this year the 6th grade team of teachers decided to step out on faith, ask the staff and community to provide the food for the baskets. The food came flooding in by the cases. The staff of FES, FHS, SAMS & the BOE donated over 36 frozen turkeys. The sixth grade students along with local families, churches and businesses provided the remainder of the continents. Finally, more than 36 Thanksgiving Food Baskets were delivered on Thursday, November 16th.

This was not the end, Church of the Open Door offered to provide each of these families a Christmas Food Box so that these families could duplicate that special holiday memory of having a home cooked meal around a table for Christmas dinner also! The Christmas Food Boxes will be distributed in the same manner. A huge THANK YOU to all that helped make this a Firelands Family Thanksgiving and Christmas, especially members of First United Methodist Church, owners of TrainWreck Bar & members of Church of Open Door! Sometimes it really does take a "village".

Justin Baumann- Class of 2013

Congratulations to Justin Baumann! Justin was recently sworn in as a Firefighter/Paramedic for the City of Ashland, OH.



Zack Hofecker – Class of 2013

Congratulations to Zack Hofecker! Zack was sworn into the Ashland Fire Department in August 2017!



FES NEWS

Falcon Leaders

Our Falcon Leaders have taken on their first service project at FES. We have organized a Food Drive from 11/7 through 11/16 for Second Harvest. Our 20 4th and 5th grade students have been an integral part of advertising and promoting the Food Drive. Students wrote messages for students in the lunchroom, announcements for the morning, recordings for all calls, and created posters for the building. They will also be helping out the food drive by collecting all of the food items daily.

Fabulous Falcon Breakfast for Trustworthiness

We will continue our Fabulous Falcon recognition breakfast with our first one being scheduled for November 17. Teachers have nominated students who show the character trait of Trustworthiness. Nominated children will be recognized in front of their family members.

Our Parents

FES is very appreciative of our supportive parents. They do so much for the staff and students. Just during the first quarter they have supported our staff and students with:

- ◆ Purchase of staff requests
- ◆ Cost of bus for field trips
- ◆ Volunteers through Book Fair
- ◆ Meals for teachers on evening conference nights
- ◆ Daily volunteers to work with students
- ◆ Organizing COSI days on November 20 and 21

Sun Choe, FES Principal

SAFE

BEFORE SCHOOL & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

FOR KDG - 5TH GRADE

Firelands Elementary School is now taking enrollments for before and after school care for KDG - 5th graders.

- ◆ Morning hours are from 6:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
- ◆ Afternoon hours are from 3:20 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

The cost for the SAFE Program is:

- ◆ \$10.00 Registration Fee per family
- ◆ \$2.50 per hour

For more information please call Mrs. Raynor at 440-965-5381 ext 2015. Or stop by the elementary school office and pick up a SAFE registration form.

More News From Firelands Elementary School

Field Trip to Playhouse Square

On October 26, 2017, the 3rd grade classes at Firelands Elementary attended a field trip to Playhouse Square to see the musical *Hansel & Gretel, A Musical Treat*. The children had the opportunity to see live theater at the largest performing arts center in the country outside of New York! Students learned about the history of Playhouse Square as well as the history of musical theatre. Thank you to the FES PTG for funding the busses for the field trip.

Red Ribbon Week

Monday, October 30 through Friday, November 3, Firelands Elementary participated in the nation-wide effort known as "Red Ribbon Week". Students were educated in developmentally appropriate ways about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, they learned about the use of refusal skills and celebrating a drug-free life. The theme of this year's celebration was "I like being me and staying drug-free". Lessons focused on making healthy choices in all areas of our lives. As part of this celebration, the entire school participated in spirit days, dressing up to a different theme each day. It was a fun-filled week, learning about the benefits of staying drug-free!

Falcon Pride Store

The Falcon Pride Store is making monthly rounds to all grade levels. This provides students with the opportunity to purchase items using their earned Falcon Bucks. Falcon Bucks are given to students when they exhibit positive behaviors inside and outside of the classroom. Along with the traditional items that are available, students also had the opportunity to purchase a chance to win Falcon Spirit Wear and a football signed by the FHS Varsity Football team. Our raffle winners of the Falcon Spirit Wear were third grader Brenнын Coley and fifth grader Noah Thompson. The winner of the football was Ethan Dekam, one of the kindergarten students. Future raffles include being a ball boy or ball girl for a Varsity Boys or Girls Basketball game. FES staff is pleased with the positive behavior that is frequently exhibited within our building.

Veteran's Day Program

On Friday, November 10 the fourth graders at FES presented a program for invited veterans. The students invited veterans that were close to them to attend and be recognized. Approximately 50 veterans and their guests attended. The program consisted of a brief history of the various branches of military. Songs were also sang for the audience. Each guest was also recognized and received a certificate and a small gift of appreciation. The program concluded with cupcakes and punch or coffee for the guests. Funding for the program was graciously provided by the FES P.T.G. It was moving to see our students honor their veterans in such a respectful manner. Thank you to the fourth grade teachers and Mrs. Woods for their time and devotion to plan and create such an event.

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. Their next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7 at 4:00 pm in the FES library. Please consider attending and providing input for upcoming events.

Laura Groboske, FES Assistant Principal

CURRICULUM NEWS

Lorain County Professional Development Day at LCCC

Common Professional Development Day Benefits School Districts and Educators

An estimated 900 teachers, administrators and service providers in the Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, Keystone, Sheffield/Sheffield Lake, Oberlin and Wellington school districts participated in a Common Professional Development Day on Monday, November 6, 2017 at Lorain County Community College.

"Sharing services on this professional development day possibly saved each of the seven districts a conservative estimate of \$7,000" said Moira Erwine, Senior Director of Professional Development and Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Service Center of Lorain County. "Lorain County Community College sponsored the venue for the sessions, as well as facilitating sessions for Maker and STEAM education in the Patsie C. and Dolores Jeneé Campana Center for Ideation and Invention. The sponsor, McGraw-Hill, provided lunch. Furthermore, Lorain County Health District and Board of Mental Health worked collaboratively with us to plan sessions to meet the needs of the whole child."

Participants started their day with a keynote presentation entitled, "*Deliberate Optimism: Reclaiming the Joy in Education*," with internationally-renowned speaker and author Jack Berckemeyer. The planning team carefully designed 73 breakout sessions to meet individual professional development needs of both classified and certified staff that covered all grade levels, content areas, and specialists. These breakout sessions continued throughout the remainder of the day. Examples of the sessions include:

- ◆ Strategies for Comprehension
- ◆ Poverty for One Month
- ◆ Child & Adolescent Suicide Prevention
- ◆ Stemming Up to the Challenge
- ◆ Differentiated Literacy Instruction

Lori Roemer, Director of Educational Services at Firelands local Schools said, "The professional development offered to Firelands was well-planned and was an excellent ongoing learning opportunity for everyone. Our staff benefits from the time to grow educationally and they learn from their peers. We set the stage for that to happen at the Common Professional Development Day with six other districts-what a great day to learn and network with others!"

Work has already begun on the next Common Professional Development Day, November 5, 2018.

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. Current members of FoF will be available at many school events during the months of September and October.

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.

My School Menus™ Mobile App for Parents and Students



is pleased to introduce their new **My School Menus™** mobile app for parents and students. Available in the iTunes App Store and Google Play, the **My School Menus™** app allows access to nutrition information for the school meal programs on any device. **My School Menus™** is designed to provide nutrition information on all of the foods served in the school meal programs. This app will enable parents, students and teachers to make healthy food choices whenever it's convenient, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Parents can access this service by going to either the iTunes App Store or Google Play and downloading the app to their device. You can also get the same information by visiting the district website or www.MySchoolMenus.com. There, you can easily print nutrition information and district menus for posting at home. The Food Service Department is excited to offer parents and students this new nutrition resource.

For further questions regarding **My School Menus™**, Contact: Mrs. Judy Baumann

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!

FOOD SERVICE 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. Please do not hesitate to contact Judy Baumann, Foodservice Director at 440-965-5821 ext. 1011 if you have any questions.

ONLINE MENUS OR MENU APP FOR YOUR PHONE

Also, check out the new online meal app which can be downloaded on your phone for free (My School Menus). You can also print the menu from the Foodservice tab. This new online menu will provide you with the nutritional for each menu item.

On Wednesday, October 11th, the girls soccer team wore pink jerseys in memory of their high school math teacher, Mrs. Johnston, and in honor of other community members dealing with cancer. This endeavor was athlete led and made possible by a generous donation. The team would to thank Dr. Klingman of the Wellington Veterinary Clinic and his family **who helped** make it possible.





Bus Driver Appreciation Dinner

On October 12th, the Firelands drivers attended a driver appreciation dinner at the Lodge at New Russia Twp. Each year we recognize a driver for their years of service at Firelands Local Schools, the driver Firelands recognized this year is Tina Kudela. Tina and her husband live in Rural Florence Twp. They have three grown children, Kelly, Kyle and Casey, and have two grandchildren, Jackson and Kenna.

Tina trained as a sub driver in 2003-04, and has been driving bus ever since. She currently drives our S/N lift bus, and also is one of the districts on bus instructor's for new drivers and recertification of current drivers.

Thank You Tina for your years of dedication to the Firelands Local Schools!

Milt Saylor
Fleet Operations Manager

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.

FLSD is Proud to Support Military Families

More than 18,000 Ohio National Guard members have been deployed, since 2001, to serve in the global war on terrorism. In addition, 40,000 more Ohioans have actively served our country. On October 9th, FLSD passed a resolution in support of Military Families. This resolution publicly acknowledged that the district is committed to meeting the unique needs of all students, especially those of military youth. Please see the full resolution below:

Firelands Board of Education
Resolution In Support of Military Families
October 9, 2017

WHEREAS, today over one million Americans are bravely serving in the United States Armed Services and since September 11, 2001, more than 60,000 Ohioans have actively served their nation away from home; and
WHEREAS, over 34,000 children in the State of Ohio are members of military families; and
WHEREAS, students who have parents in the military may experience six to nine different schools during their K-12 education; and
WHEREAS, frequent moves, family separations through deployments and reintegration issues present unique challenges to military families; and
WHEREAS, the Firelands Local School District is committed to meeting the unique needs of all students, especially those of military youth therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that Firelands Local School District offers our gratitude and support for all military personnel, their families and veterans;
RESOLVED, the Firelands Local School District will establish a trained point of contact at each building to assist military families;
RESOLVED, the Firelands Local School District will make every effort to connect military families with the resources they need.


Member Member Member
 
President Vice-President

Adopt a Deployed Service Member at SAMS!!

South Amherst Middle School will be working with the SSG James P Hunter memorial foundation to “adopt Soldiers” this year for Christmas. This non-profit organization was started by a former Firelands graduate – Kathleen (Hunter) Thomas in memory of her brother James. James , also a Firelands graduate, was an army photo journalist that was killed in 2010 overseas while actively serving our country. Students will have several opportunities to get involved, including, donating acceptable items, making personalized cards and learning how to prepare/address/ship packages to deployed soldiers. SAMS is very thankful for this opportunity – let’s show our soldiers some much deserved Firelands Family support!!

If you would like to learn more about this nonprofit foundation or would like to help please email Kathleen Thomas at ssg.jph.memorial.foundation@gmail.com.

LIVE NATIVITY
"BREATH OF HEAVEN"
MOVES TO A NEW LOCATION !!!

Saturday December 9th and
Sunday December 10th
4:00 to 8:00 pm.

Please join us as we celebrate our 20th year presenting the wonderful Christmas story of the birth of Jesus.

For the past 19 years our little town of Bethlehem came to life in Oberlin. This year we are happy that the members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Mason Road in Vermilion have invited us to their buildings and grounds to portray what happened that Holy Night so long ago.

As you tour our city you will meet many people in our telling you to follow the star leading you to the manger where you will see the Holy Family surrounded by live animals.

This fifteen minute walk through, is free to the public. Non perishable food items are welcomed and will be donated to area food banks.

We would like to say a special thanks to Wendy Johnson and her AWESOME Select Choir who will preform again this year. They have been with us each year !!

Also, a big thanks ahead of time to the FHS Baseball Boys and Coaches for helping us with the set up.

Please celebrate Christmas here with us. We would love to break our attendance record on this our milestone 20th year!

Any questions please call Kathy at 440-225-9775. Thank you !!



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

Thank you

Piggy's Main Street Market
 Sliman's Sales & Service
 Mama Jo Homestyle Pies
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 Miller's Orchards Ltd.
 Miller's Apple Hill
 First Federal Savings of Lorain
 Deichler's Tire and Service Center
 Dick's Sporting Goods
 Road ID
 VFW Post #6273 Elyria
 CedarSide Animal Hospital
 South Amherst Fireman's Association
 Born 2 Laser
 Allen Januzzi, CPA
 Mowry Photography



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

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.

FFA All American Degrees awarded at the 90th Annual FFA National

Convention in Indianapolis

The American FFA Degree is awarded to members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to FFA (less than 1% of the population) and who have made significant accomplishments in their supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs).

Congratulations to:

Brandon Palmer: Class of 2016

Ali Butler: Class of 2015



Academic Challenge Teams

Congratulations to the Elementary and Middle School Academic Challenge Teams for qualifying for the Lorain County Championship. Both teams performed with excellence and represented Firelands well. The championship will take place on December 6th at First Baptist of Elyria. Good Luck Falcons!



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**.

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.

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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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