

# The Firelands Express

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 77

FEBRUARY 16, 2015

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



I am asked frequently to explain issues that pertain to school finance in the state of Ohio. The operation of a school is one that is complex, involving many different variables. The operation of school funding in the state is even more complex and warrants detailed information. To that end, I have compiled a list of frequently asked questions and answers that pertain to the financial state of the district and school funding as a whole. This list is also found on our web site located at: [www.firelandsschools.org](http://www.firelandsschools.org)

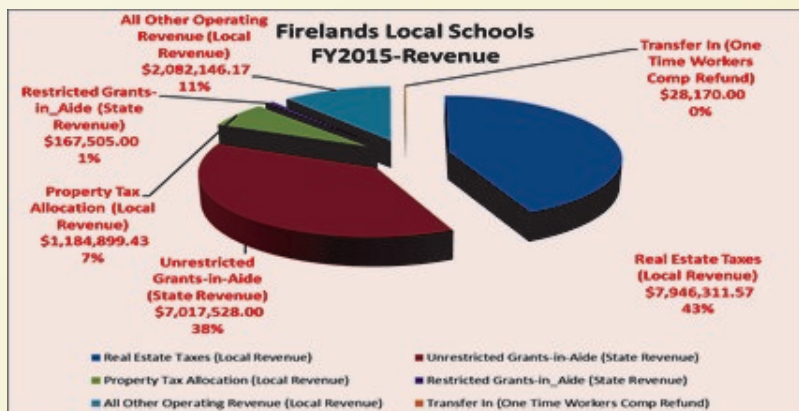
### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. Where does the Firelands Local School District revenue come from?

In Ohio, the funding of schools is shared by the state and local school districts. The Ohio General Assembly determines what an adequate education costs in the State's biennial education budget. The constitutionality of Ohio's funding system has been in litigation for more than 17 years and no acceptable resolution has been passed by the state legislature. The Ohio Supreme Court ruled that the existing system of funding public schools did not provide sufficient monies to support an "adequate" education for all pupils. The court also found the division of responsibility between the state and its school districts relied too heavily on local revenue generated through property taxes. State and national mandates continue to be unfunded or underfunded placing a strain on the District's budget and local taxpayers.

Firelands lacks a strong commercial base with approximately 90% of the District's valuation classified as residential and agricultural. Less than 10% of our total revenue from taxes comes from commercial/industrial, which places a larger tax burden on our property owners for the operation of the schools.

Local Revenue 61% State Revenue 39%



#### 2. Where does the Firelands Local School District money go?

##### Instruction \$9,668,190

Instruction is the largest expenditure category and the one most directly affecting students. The costs (teacher salaries and benefits, classroom materials, and textbooks) relate to the direct instruction of our students.

##### Support Services - Board and Administration \$1,554,099

Costs related to the overall operation of the District and provision of administrative support to the staff and community.

##### Support Services - Pupil Support \$1,571,390

Costs associated with services such as guidance, educational aides, special education, media centers, gifted services, health services, psychological services, and district curriculum.

##### Support Services - Business and Fiscal \$709,619

Costs associated with all fiscal services, including budgeting and accounting services, payroll and fringe benefit processing, annual auditing, and purchase process of the District.

##### Operations and Maintenance \$1,223,089

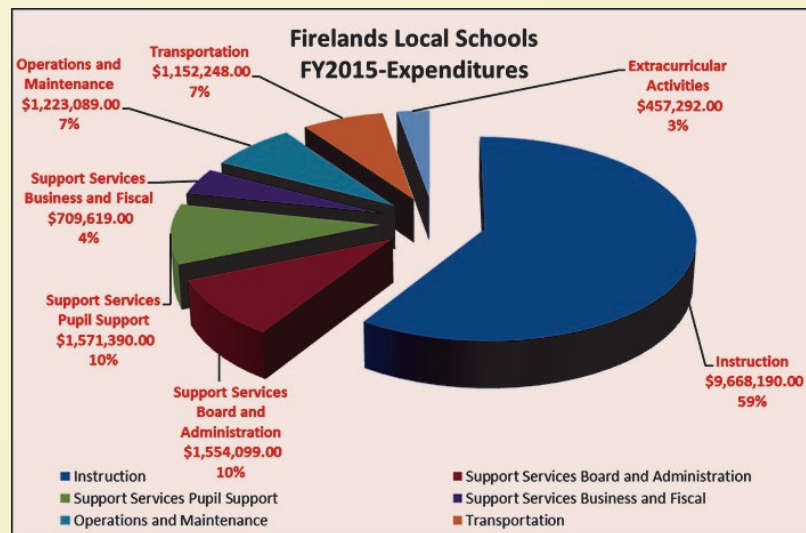
Costs associated with ensuring that the students and staff have a safe and efficient environment through custodial and grounds services and building repairs.

##### Transportation \$1,152,248

Costs associated with transportation services, bus maintenance, and repairs to the vehicles owned by the district.

##### Extracurricular Activities \$457,292

Costs associated with salaries and benefits of club advisors, fine arts advisors, extracurricular activities, and athletic coaches.



You may view this issue online at: [www.firelandsschools.org](http://www.firelandsschools.org)

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## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT (cont'd)

### 3. Does the district have a long-range financial plan?

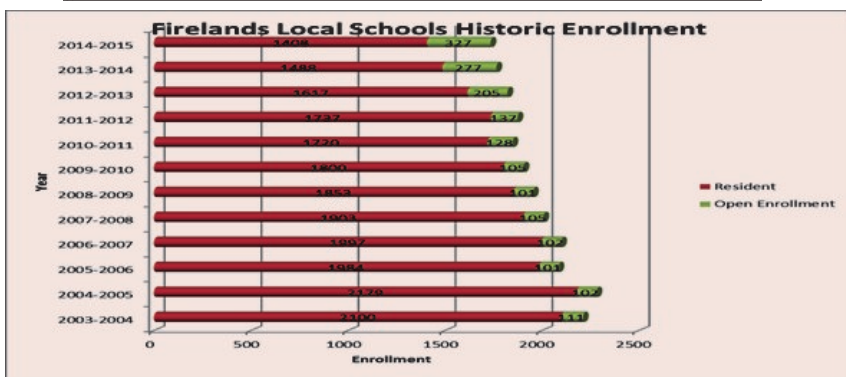
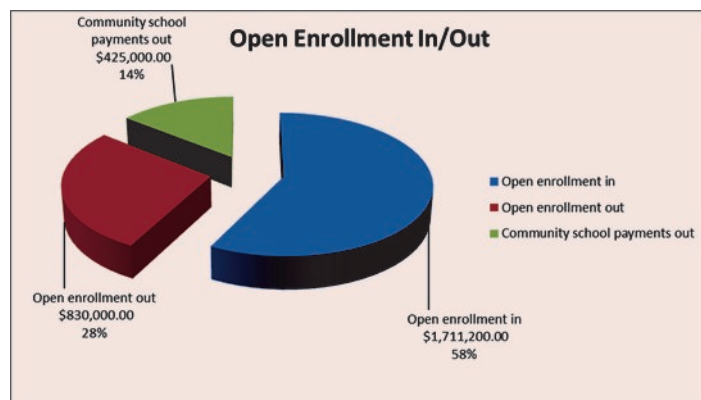
The District has a five-year plan as required by law. The plan is located on the Treasurer's web page along with detailed notes. The district is required to file a 5-year forecast with the State of Ohio by October 31 and to update it no later than May 31 of each year. The five-year forecast allows the State to anticipate the current and future financial status of all public school districts in Ohio for state budgeting purposes pertaining to public education.

### 4. I do not have students in the schools, why are the schools important to me?

Every resident of the Firelands Local School District has a stake in the schools remaining strong. Excellent schools are a vital part of a strong community. Quality schools mean higher property values and keep Firelands a desirable community in which to live and to raise a family.

### 5. How does open enrollment affect the Firelands Local School District?

Enrollment in the Firelands Local School District peaked at approximately 2,200 students during the 2003-2004 school year. Since that time, resident District enrollment has decreased each year. In our efforts to maintain District enrollment for funding purposes, Firelands practices full open enrollment.



### 6. What is a mill?

Local tax rates against property are computed in mills. A mill is one-tenth of a penny (.001).

- A mill produces 10 cents in tax income for every \$100 worth of property it is levied against.
- A mill produces \$1.00 in tax income for every \$1,000 of property it is levied against.
- A mill produces \$1,000 in tax income for every \$1 million of property it is levied against.
- The total property valuation for tax purposes in the Firelands Local School district last year was approximately \$295 million dollars. Therefore, each mill generates approximately \$295,000 each year that a levy is in force for the school district.

The tax rate expressed as mills is applied each year to the "Assessed" valuation of real

property. Assessed valuation is 35% of the appraised value of the property. Therefore, for every \$100,000 in "appraised value," a mill produces \$35.

Currently, Firelands Local School residents pay school taxes of:

School District Levies	Originally Voted Millage	Effective Millage Res/Ag		Effective Millage Other	
		General Fund	Permanent Improvement Fund	General Fund	Permanent Improvement Fund
1976 Operating Levy	30.60	13.764431	n/a	12.797287	n/a
1981 Operating Levy	5.00	2.96703	n/a	3.26486	n/a
1987 Operating Levy	4.9	3.006429	n/a	3.199563	n/a
2006 Emergency Levy, renewed May, 2010, expires 2021	2.83	2.91	n/a	2.91	n/a
New Emergency Levy, Voted May 2011, expires 2016	<u>4.95</u>	<u>5.31</u>	<u>n/a</u>	<u>5.31</u>	<u>n/a</u>
Total Voted Millage	48.28	27.95789	0	27.48171	0
Inside Millage	<u>3.7</u>	<u>2.3</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>2.3</u>	<u>1.4</u>
Total Millage	<u>51.98</u>	<u>30.25789</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>29.78171</u>	<u>1.4</u>

### 7. Where did the 51.98 mills come from?

The 51.98 mills is derived from operating levies passed by the community in 1976 (30.60 mills), 1981 (5.00 mills), 1987 (4.90 mills), 2006 (2.83 mills), and 2011 (4.95 mills). Within the 20 mills are 3.7 mills assigned to Firelands Local Schools by the County Auditor's Office. These mills are known as "Inside" mills and they were assigned by the county many years ago and are not voted on. The remaining 48.28 mills are mills that have been approved by the voters in past years, and are called "Outside" mills.

It is important to note that as property values increase, voted millage rates decrease so that school districts do not collect any additional money on voted millage due to inflation. Over time, millage rates could be reduced to near zero. To keep this from happening, Ohio law establishes a minimum millage level, or floor, that millage rates cannot fall below. The minimum level is 20 mills. Once a district's total millage is reduced to 20 mills, it cannot be reduced any further, hence the 20 mill floor.

### 8. What levy formats have the Firelands Local Schools chosen to use over the past years?

**Operating Levies** are for the day-to-day expenses of running the school district. The levies are continuing, which means once approved by voters, the levy will be collected until withdrawn by the district or repealed by the voter. The last Firelands Local Schools Operating Levy passed was in 1987 for 4.9 mills.

**Emergency Operating Levies** are also for the day-to-day expenses of the district. This type of levy is submitted to the electorate as a dollar amount for a period of one (1) to ten (10) years. The mills are adjusted each year of the levy to account for changes in the tax duplicate in order to keep the school income constant for the term of the levy. After the voted period lapses, the levy expires unless reapproved by a vote of the electorate. The last Firelands Local Schools Emergency Levy passed in 2011 for 4.95 mills.

### 9. What are tax reduction factors?

Until 1976, continuing levies were just that. Millage was applied to real property at its assessed value. **The millage of a continuing levy remained constant**; therefore, if the value of the property went up, so did the tax. At that time, property values began to rise



## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT (cont'd)

sharply. The state legislature believed that taxes should not increase due to increased property values. Thus, the passage of **House Bill 920**, which limited a continuing property levy to collect the same dollar amount as it collected in the year that it was voted.

Under this bill, which is still in effect today, **the tax dollar amount of a continuing levy remains constant**. When the value of the property increases, the millage is reduced by the County Auditor. This reduction to the millage is to ensure that the same dollar amount that was originally passed is all that is collected.

House Bill 920 is one of the major reasons that school districts in the State of Ohio place a new levy on the ballot every two to five years. Costs keep increasing, but the revenue remains the same.

Over the years, Firelands Local School District voters have approved 40.5 mills in continuing levies and 7.78 mills in emergency levies for residential and agricultural property. Because of HB920 Tax Reduction legislation in 1976, the current "voted" mills have been reduced from 48.28 "voted" mills to 27.96 "effective" mills.

Exceptions to HB 920:

Few exceptions exclude certain taxes from the operations of HB 920, but these exceptions have important consequences for school finance. The exceptions include:

- **Inside mills** – A school districts un-voted mills are never reduced by a tax reduction factor.
- **Bond levies** – A bond levy collects only as much revenue as required to pay debt service. Therefore, bond levies have an internal reduction mechanism and do not require the use of HB 920 reductions.
- **Emergency school levies** – School districts may ask voters for authority to levy an "emergency" amount of dollars for up to 10 years. As with a bond levy, this levies only a specified number of dollars and carries with it an internal rate limitation.
- **20-mill floor** – Tax reduction factors may not force a school district's effective tax rate below 20% (20 mills).
- **New Construction** – Increases in valuation caused by new construction do not trigger any offsetting reduction in taxes.

### 10. How does the school district determine how much to levy and when?

As stated above, the average school district levy request occurs every two to five years. Over the period between levies, the school district is faced with increasing costs and flat revenues. The levy amount is set to accommodate this increase by collecting more than is spent in the early years to make up for a projected deficit in its later years. School Board members examine the costs of running the district as presented to them by the School Treasurer. The Treasurer is required to submit a new Five Year Forecast to the state twice per year. This document, which is posted on the district's website, guides the Board of Education in making financial decisions. Board members look closely at programs and services of the district to see where money is needed and where money could be saved. They determine how much money they will need to fund the operating expenses of the district.

### 11. When do our taxes increase?

The county auditor completes a re-evaluation every 3 years and taxes are adjusted in January of the following year. In Lorain County, the next "desk" re-evaluation will occur in 2015 with tax bills adjusted in January 2016. Some residents will receive increases in taxes and some residents will receive a decrease. If your taxes increased, this means that another resident's taxes decreased. Ohio law (HB920) **does not allow** schools to receive additional monies from voted levies when the county auditor re-evaluates property.

### How does Firelands Local keep our costs low?

Although the Board of Education attempts to "operate like a business," unlike a business, there are activities that school districts **cannot do or control**:

- Control the materials (number or type of students enrolled)
- Control the production line (lower the credits to graduate or the hours in the school calendar)
- Advertise with tax funds for a levy campaign
- Operate at a deficit
- Go out of business

Many costs are mandated by the State and/or Federal government and are either unfunded or under-funded. Some recent mandates are:

- Collective Bargaining mandated 1983
- Charter Schools Authorized 1992 (payments charged to public schools).
- School Employees fingerprinting and background checks 1993
- Educational Management Information System implemented 1998
- Special Education Mandates
- NCLB – No Child Left Behind 2002
- Third Grade Reading Guarantee 2014
- Resident Educator Program 2014
- Ohio Teacher and Principal Evaluation System (OTPEs) 2014
- College Credit Plus Program 2015
- Ohio's new learning standards and end of course exams 2015

Education is heavily reliant on people. In 2014, 78% of our resources were spent on wages and benefits. Costs, such as utilities, county auditor and county treasurers' fees, account for less than 1% and are charges over which the district has little control. This means only 20% of the budget is discretionary and the majority of the discretionary spending is spent on the mandates listed above.

### 13. What are other factors that affect school district revenues?

In an attempt to generate growth in commerce and industry, both the state and local government have enacted laws that reduce revenue for the schools.

- **HB 66** – This bill accelerated elimination of the Tangible Personal Property Tax for businesses. Starting in calendar year 2006 through 2011, the State of Ohio replaced most of the taxes lost due to this bill. In calendar year 2012, the state began phasing out this reimbursement. In 2013, the state stopped the reimbursements. At this time, we no

longer receive Tangible Personal Property Tax. This law eliminated approximately \$500,000 of existing Firelands Local School District resources.

- **Tax Abatements** – For many years, state tax policy has connected the prospects for economic development with the implementation of special tax concessions for business expansions. A variety of tax incentive programs enable county, municipal or township governments the ability to grant exemption from the property taxes applicable to new business investment. At least in some cases, school districts may play a role in the process by which local governments grant such concessions. In addition, in some instances, the beneficiary of a tax abatement may make payments in lieu of taxes to a school district under a contractual arrangement.

• **Tax Increment Financing (TIFs)** – s further encouragement for economic development, the state has adopted tax policies by which a commercial development receives an abatement of taxes on the taxable property value of a new investment. As part of the abatement agreement, the taxpayer agrees to pay payments in lieu of taxes for use in financing site improvements by the city or township or county intended to facilitate the development. This policy has the effect of diverting taxes chargeable by a school district for education purposes into a cash flow used to fund economic development.

### 14. What is the current enrollment of the Firelands Local School District?

At the end of the 2013-2014 school year there were 1,770 students enrolled in the District.

### 15. Who determines how much I pay in taxes?

- **The State Legislature** determines the level of state aid given to schools, they set the amount of homestead credit, they set the "inside" millage everyone must pay, and they mandate schools to provide programs that the Legislature does not fund.
- **The Auditors of Lorain County, Erie County, and Huron County** assign each property a market value and property classification.
- **The Firelands Local Schools Board of Education** determines the dollar amount needed and submits this figure to the County Auditor. The County Auditor determines the millage it will take to raise the dollar amount sought by the Board of Education.
- **The Voters** must approve a levy request at the ballot box for it to be implemented.

### 16. Voted millage (outside) vs. Inside millage?

In Ohio, millage is referred to as "inside" millage and "outside" millage. Inside millage is millage provided by the Constitution of the State of Ohio and is levied without a vote of the people. It is called inside millage because it is "inside" the law. Another name would be un-voted millage.

The Constitution allows for 10 mills of inside millage in each political subdivision. Public schools, counties, townships, and other local governments are allocated a portion of the 10 inside mills. The Firelands Local School District is allocated 3.7 mills of the 10 inside mills.

Outside millage is any millage "outside" the 10 mills that is provided by the Constitution of the State of Ohio. This

**FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT (cont'd)**

millage is voted in by the public. Another name for outside millage is voted millage.

**17. What are "tax rollbacks" and the "homestead exemption?"**

Taxpayers do not pay all of the taxes charged against residential and agricultural real property. All Class I property taxes receive a 10% discount. In addition, residential real property receives an additional 2.5% discount. Together, these reductions in real property taxes are called "rollbacks."

The homestead exemption allows senior citizens whose Ohio adjusted gross income is less than \$30,000 to reduce their property taxes by exempting \$25,000 of the market value of their home from all local property taxes. The limiting income provision applies only to homeowners who turn 65 beginning in 2014. No homeowner who currently qualifies for the exemption will lose it. To qualify, an Ohio resident must be at least 65 years old or be totally and permanently disabled and own and occupy a home as their principal place of residence. For individuals who own more than one home, the principal place of residence is the home where the person is registered to vote and the person's place of residence for income tax purposes.

Applications for the exemptions are available at the county auditor's office.

Under the HB59 state budget law any new or replacement millage will result in the elimination of Rollback and all new Homestead Exemptions are now means tested, effective beginning with all November 2013 enacted millage. This further complicates the ability of public school districts to explain tax

levy proposals put before their voters and strains the ability of public school districts to pass new or replacement local property tax levies.

**18. What is the "Tax Base" of the Firelands Local School District?**

The real property tax base equals the value of the property. "Value" means the market value multiplied by an assessment percentage of 35%. In other words, if a home has a market value of \$100,000, its value for tax purposes equals \$35,000. The county auditor reappraises all real property once every six years. In the third year after the reappraisal, the auditor updates the value of each property in the county. School districts have no direct responsibility for establishing the taxable value of property. However, school districts may participate in the valuation process by filing complaints against the value of property in the school district if the county auditor's value appears too low.

**19. The State claims to pay \$5,800 to the school for every child. How much does Firelands Local Schools really get per student?**

In Fiscal Year 2014, Firelands received \$6,900,181 in school funding from the State of Ohio. Our Average Daily Members (ADM) was 1,635 at the end of May 2014. This equals \$4,220 per student.

**20. Why does the Firelands Local School District receive less than the full amount the state claims that they give each student?**

The State of Ohio utilizes a formula that calculates how much money that a school district receives. The formula is complex with multiple variables for calculating funding for schools. The state determines a district's ability to pay based, in part,

on the value of all of the property within a district. The more "total property value per student" a district has, the greater its portion of the cost of an adequate education.

**21. Why do I see yellow school busses everywhere?**

Next to the cost of salaries and fringe benefits for staff, the cost of transporting students to and from school is usually the largest expense facing a school district. Ohio law requires districts to provide transportation for kindergarten through eighth-grade students who live more than two miles from their school. Public schools in Ohio, along with the responsibility for the children attending their schools, also bear the responsibility for transporting students attending private or parochial schools, as well as those attending community schools. Districts are required to transport these students in the same manner they provide transportation for their own students. However, the district is not responsible for transporting the students for any more than 30 minutes maximum travel time.

If you have questions about District finances or school funding, please feel free to contact District Superintendent Bob Hill at 440-965-5821 ([rhill@firelandsschools.org](mailto:rhill@firelandsschools.org)) or District Treasurer, Brad McCracken, at 440-965-5701 ([bmccracken@firelandsschools.org](mailto:bmccracken@firelandsschools.org)).

Yours in Education,

Dr. Robert F. Hill  
Superintendent

**Mighty Falcon Marching Band Sponsors 2014-2015**

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Lorain County Community College  
Mowry Photography, LLC  
Bettcher Industries  
Sun Center Federal Credit Union  
Cedarside Animal Hospital  
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Tuffy Automotive  
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Piggy's Main Street Market  
Gyros n More  
Star Builders  
Amherst Eagles  
Miller Orchards

**Firelands Art Students Enjoy Their Cleveland Premier**

Heavy snowfall did not deter junior Victoria Krejci or sophomore Connor Price from attending their big premier in Cleveland on Jan. 29. As red and blue ribbon winners, respectively, Krejci and Price and their families enjoyed an awards program complete with gourmet hors d'ouvres at the opening of the 2015 Cleveland Clinic "eXpressions" Exhibition in the Global Center for Health Innovation (aka Medical Mart). The students got to see their work framed in the gallery and take home a full-color exhibition catalog featuring their work. Firelands students are the only students from the county in this Exhibition.





# FHS NEWS

**Parent-Teacher Conferences** – Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held at FHS from 3 – 7:30 on Thursday evening, February 26<sup>th</sup>. These conferences are walk-in conferences and will be held in each teacher's classroom. We encourage you to come and collaborate with your student's teacher on their progress as FHS will already be a month into the second semester.

**College Credit Plus (CCP) Meeting**—Firelands High School will also be hosting a College Credit Plus meeting (the new PSEO Program) in the Library at 6:30 pm on the evening of February 26<sup>th</sup>. Parents and students who are new to the program are strongly urged to attend this meeting, which will be hosted by the Firelands High School Counselors and representatives from Lorain County Community College. This meeting will cover all the logistics of courses offered both at FHS, and on the campus of LCCC, under the new CCP umbrella.

**Cleveland Clinic eXpression Winner** - Congratulations to FHS Sophomore Connor Price for earning a blue ribbon for "Would've", which voices a parent's loss of a child. Connor's work is the only Blue Ribbon winner from Lorain County, as hundreds of entrants from all over Northeast Ohio submit entries to this prestigious contest.

**Learn Aesthetics from the Art Appreciation Students**—Part of the work that FHS Art Appreciation students were assigned last semester was to work in teams to create an informational website through Google. The students have prepared a Google site that defines and describes four different "aesthetic theories". The students defined, described, selected masterwork examples and wrote supporting statements for each theory. Great job to our Art Appreciation students and to Mrs. Tawil for facilitating this great opportunity for our students.

**FHS Students at OMEA District Contest**—Congratulations to Ariel Langer, Kitana MacClean, Zack Ridenour, and Grace Schlessman for their Excellent performance at District 4 Solo and Ensemble. Also, congratulations to Noah Stevens for his Superior Rating at District 4 Solo and Ensemble!! Finally, congratulations to Cassidy Stevens for her Superior Rating at District 4 Solo and Ensemble!! A great job by our FHS students and Mr. Wiley for his dedication and hard work. FHS is very proud of your awards.

**COMPASS Test Administered at FHS** – Mr. Norheim, in conjunction with representatives from Lorain County Community College (LCCC), administered the COMPASS test to FHS students who are interested in applying for the College Credit Plus Program. Students must score at a proficient level on the COMPASS to be eligible to take CCP Courses through LCCC. Any student who is still interested in CCP and taking the COMPASS test should speak with Mr. Norheim, as there are still opportunities to take the COMPASS at the LCCC Main Campus.

# GUIDANCE CORNER

Parent/ Teacher Conferences at the high school will be on February 26th 3:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the individual classrooms.

There will be a College Credit Plus parent meeting February 26th, conference night, at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. Parents will learn about the different Dual Enrollment Opportunities available at the high school and LCCC.

## Freshman Class:

Students will be participating in the PARCC assessment starting with English Language Arts on February 18. The Freshman class will start the scheduling process on March 2 and will schedule online on March 6th. Student and parents can view their course selection on Powerschool under course registration.

## Sophomore Class:

The Sophomore class will start the online scheduling process the week of February 16<sup>th</sup>. The students will learn about what is available at the high school through College Credit Plus. Sophomores will schedule online on February 20th. Student and parents can view their course selection on Powerschool under course registration. Students interested in attending the JVS for the 2015-2016 academic school year must apply online at [www.lcjvs.com](http://www.lcjvs.com) by March 1st. Completing the application is the first step in the process for attending the LCJVS. The Ohio Graduation Test will be March 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. All sophomores are required to take and pass all 5 portions (Reading, Math, Writing, Science, and Social Studies) in order to graduate. This will be their first opportunity to meet this graduation requirement.

## Junior Class:

The Junior class will start the online scheduling process on Tuesday, February 17th and will schedule online on Monday, February 23rd. Students will be given information about the opportunities available to them for their senior year including College Credit Plus Programs at FHS, LCCC, and LCJVS. Mr. Moore will present information regarding the TEE Program for students interested in the Teaching Profession. Student and parents can view their course selection on Powerschool under course registration. Students who do not have an English class at FHS need to stop in the guidance office to schedule their senior year.

College-bound Juniors, it is time to register to take the ACT this spring. You can register online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). Students interested in the Test Item Release can do so in April but the registration deadline is March 9th.

## Senior Class

The application for the endowment scholarships are available online. Visit the Firelands website at [www.firelandsschools.org](http://www.firelandsschools.org), click the high school > guidance > financial aid and college/ scholarship resources and view the Scholarship information. Here you can download the local scholarship application. The applications are due in the guidance office on March 13th. Any questions call 440-965-5335. Continue to check out the Firelands High School website for other scholarship opportunities, college applications, and other important announcements.

The College Financial Process is in full swing. Go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) to start your application today and for your pin. Miss Spicuzza, a college financial advisor, will be assisting families with the financial aid process. You can email her at [jspicuzza@collegenowgc.org](mailto:jspicuzza@collegenowgc.org) or sign up in the guidance office for an appointment to discuss any questions you may have.

# ALL YOU CAN EAT

FRENCH TOAST, PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST



WAKEMAN MASONIC LODGE  
34 PLEASANT ST.  
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2015  
TIME: 9:00A.M. - 1:30 P.M.  
DONATIONS ACCEPTED

# PLEASE JOIN US !!

The Firelands Athletic Booster Club will be hosting their Annual Steak Fry on Saturday March 21st @ 6:00 pm. This years Steak Fry will be held at the Amherst Eagles. If you have never attended, you will want to mark the date on your calendar, get some tickets, and be ready for a great night out. If you have been in the past, I need not say another word, as you know it is a great time!

Please support our FABC that supports all Student Athletes, and their Coaches.

\$20.00 will get you a Steak Dinner with all of the trimmings, munchies, desserts, beer, pop, and live music provided by our very own "Trainer Joe" and company. Raffles, door prizes and lots more fun.

Please contact any Coach or Kathy @ 440-225-9775 for your tickets.

Thank You !!!

## Art Students Grateful for the Safety Support

The FHS Art 3 students are grateful for the surprise donation of \$75 worth of student safety gear from the Home Depot store #3820 (W. 117th and Berea Rd. in Cleveland). Mr. Jim Drinkwater, the store manager, gifted a dozen pairs of goggles and size "small" gloves for the students to cut stained glass safely. The student spend the entire third grading period creating dazzling stained glass window mosaics that will be on display at Spring Break. The windows are salvaged and stained glass has been donated this year by local Oberlin artist Sheree Ferrato and Firelands parent Thomas Biery. This is a highlight project for the year and the students are grateful for the community support.



## Art Students Beneficiaries of Studio Donation

The FHS Art Department is the grateful beneficiary of the estate of Mr. David C. Jansheski of Avon Lake. Mr. Jansheski was a renowned printmaker and paper artist whose work is even part of the Cleveland Museum of Art Collection. Learn more about Mr. Jansheski's work on his website <http://www.jansheskioriginals.com/#home>.

Mr. Thom Palmer, a Firelands bus driver, has graciously connected our Art Department to the Jansheski studio and has delivered hundreds of dollars worth of fine art and print papers, acrylic paints, colored pencils and other mediums. The students will study the work of Mr. Jansheski and create collaged prints in his honor.



Art Society unpacks some of Mr. Jansheski's art papers.

### Falcon Wrestling Club (K-6)

The Falcon Wrestling Club has concluded its first dual meet season in the Ohio Youth Wrestling League. The team finished (6-6), registering victories against Amherst, Avon Lake, and Clearview. Also, at the sectional tournament on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the team advanced eleven (11) to districts at Kenston High School (Feb 8<sup>th</sup>). Those that advanced: Collin Eckman (52lbs), Rubeen Lorenzana (64lbs), Corey Ransom (67lbs), Caden Domin (73lbs), Abe Mastellone (76lbs), Kaden King (79lbs), Ethan Tester (86lbs), Noah Robinette (100lbs), Mason Stanley (110lbs), Donald Crawford (120lbs), and Seth Robinette (175lbs). Placement matches are as follows: Eckman, Ransom, Domin, and Noah Robinette each took 4th place. Ethan Tester finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Rubeen Lorenzana, Abe Mastellone, and Seth Robinette each finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Kaden King, Mason Stanley, and Donald Crawford each finished in first place.

### High School Varsity

The Falcons have experienced much success on the mat this season. The team finished 22-9 overall in dual meets, third overall in the Stars Division, and advanced to the second round of the OHSAA State Duals. Leading the team this season: Connor Eckman (27 wins), Max Hertensteiner (25), Israel Bowen (24), Bailey Cromer (25), Patric Keown (34), Nick McCrary (28), Larry Verhovec (36), Sean Lipscomb (29), and Nick Johnson (21).

### Remaining Events:

Patriot Athletic Conference Tournament- February 7, 2015 @Black River.  
OHSAA Sectional Tournament- February 27-28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @Bay Village.  
OHSAA District Tournament – March 6-7, 2015 @ Mansfield Sr. High School.  
OHSAA State Tournament- March 12, 13, 14, 2015 @ Ohio St. University.

### Middle School

The middle school team has been steadily improving behind the hard work and dedication of Head Coach Mike Griswold. The squad, which is predominately made up of first year wrestlers, finished 5-1 in conference dual meets this season (\*did not compete against Black River or Columbia due to weather). The only loss this season was to rival Medina Buckeye. Competing for the Falcons are: Jordan Vaughn, Zack McCrary, Robert Harasty, Noah Thompson, Tyler Biglin, Eric DeFranco, Gavin Markel, Connor Sirow, Chad Hieb, Chris Snyder, Mike Cassella, Brandon Mele and Luke Dempsey.

### Remaining Events:

Patriot Athletic Conference Tournament- February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ Lutheran West.

## Pitchfork Pals 4H

At our second meeting of Pitchfork Pals 4H we had our officer election. The following are the results of that election:

President – Alex Sabine  
Vice President – Gabby Zadorozny  
Secretary – Kaylee Mull  
Treasurer – Cora Born  
Health & Safety – Ryan Ortnr  
News Reported – Cheyenne Lloyd  
Recreation – Samantha Ives

Congratulations to our new officers!

We have decided on a couple of fundraisers for this year. We will be selling Wendy's frosty coupon cards that will be picked up at our next meeting. We also decided on our self-determined group project being duct tape.

Our clover buds made water color Valentine's.

Next meeting is March 8<sup>th</sup>

Pitchfork Pals shooting sports schedule is as follows at Rochester Rod & Reel Club from 6-8 pm:

February 25 <sup>th</sup>	May 27
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	June 10 <sup>th</sup>
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	June 24 <sup>th</sup>
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	July 1 <sup>st</sup>
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	July 8 <sup>th</sup>
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	

Pitchfork Pals 4H  
Cheyenne Lloyd  
News Reporter



Musical Moments

### Calendar of Events

**February**  
17th: Booster Meeting

**March**  
16th: Booster Meeting

**April**  
20th: Booster Meeting

26th: Pancake Breakfast

Attention Parents!

Our booster group is growing by leaps and bounds right along with our band. Please take the time to volunteer! We need all the help we can get.

Boosters Email:  
Firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com  
Officers:  
Pres. Michele Jeffers  
V.P. Laura Solnick  
Treas. Erin Hayes  
Sec. Cinda Willis





## FHS Art Students Exhibit in the 2015 Regional Scholastic Art Show

The Lorain County Regional Scholastic Art Exhibition has been providing a program to recognize, exhibit and honor excellence in visual art from 7-12 grade students for over 45 years. The 2015 exhibition kicked off Jan. 20 and includes artwork from 18 Firelands High School students with 22 works and 7 South Amherst Middle School students with 10 works.

The Scholastic Art Awards program is the largest annual art competition in the country. Students in schools across the United States and Canada create the 150,000 entries each year. The Lorain County region includes public and private middle and high schools from Lorain, Erie and Huron counties. Art teacher Laura Tawil entered a variety of two and three-dimensional works this year. The high school students are competing together, grades 9-12, at the "varsity level" within various media categories. SAMS art teacher Tamara Chippi's students competed at the junior high level for grades 7 and 8. Students earn third place "Honorable Mention", second place "Silver Key" and the first place of "Gold Key". Placing in this show is like placing in "districts" in sports. Those works earning a regional "Gold Key" advance directly to national jurying in New York City this spring.

7<sup>th</sup> grader Alexys Coggins and 8<sup>th</sup> graders Macey Butchko, Talia Gonzalez, Nicholas Street and Isabel Solowiej all took Honorable Mentions. Cora Born, grade 8, earned three Honorable Mentions and 1 Silver Key. Sarah Drury, grade 8, earned three Honorable Mentions and two Silver Keys.

Art 1 freshmen Morgan Edwards, Kyle Freeman, Grace Habeck, Tessa Kasper and Faith Rico earned Honorable Mentions for their non-objective drawings.

Art 3 sophomores Ian Crawford, Jerund Gonzalez, and Sarah Slack, juniors Jacob Bailey, Jerrod Horwedel and Victoria Krejci and senior Kayla Morris took Honorable Mentions for their copper enameling pendants. Sophomore Loren Myer placed Silver Key for her enameled sculpture and juniors Tori Hritsko and Victoria Krejci earned Gold Keys for their enameled jewelry and sculpture.

Art 4 juniors Olivia Mowry earned an Honorable Mention for her product design and junior Julia Ohle earned Honorable Mention for her watercolor painting. Senior Rachel Nitchman earned Honorable Mention for a self-portrait and a watercolor painting. Senior Alex Hertensteiner takes a Silver Key for his mixed media self-portrait.

The exhibit is hosted at the Stocker Center gallery on the campus of Lorain County Community College and funded by Nordson Corporation Foundation, C. Paul Stocker Arts Foundation and Lorain County Community College. The exhibit runs from Jan. 20 – Feb. 22 and is open to the public. A special reception for all artists was held Jan. 25. A closing awards ceremony and reception will be held on Feb. 22 for the Gold Key winners. Gallery hours are Mon. - Fri. 10:30 -2:30 with Tues., Wed., and Thurs. evenings 5-7pm and Sundays 1-5. The gallery is also open during Stocker Center performances.



SAMS  
winning  
artists



FHS  
winning  
artists

Back row: Al. Hertensteiner, F. Rico, O. Mowry, J. Ohle, R. Nitchman, T. Kasper, S. Slack

Middle row: K. Freeman, J. Bailey, J. Horwedel, K. Morris, T. Hritsko, J. Gonzalez

Front row: G. Habeck, M. Edwards, L. Myer, V. Krejci

### **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Thank you to the Firelands community for supporting the Class of 2017 and Class of 2018 Calendar Raffle Fundraiser!

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Also, thank you to the Firelands community members and businesses that helped make our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Calendar Raffle Fundraiser possible:

28<sup>th</sup> Street Auto Repair, Amherst Home Video Studio, Firelands Athletics, Firelands FFA, Fragapane Bakeries, Hot Dog Heaven, JAM Packed Golf, Kaleidoscope, Kelly Miller (Mary Kay and Jamberry Nails), Lake Erie Lanes, Petitti Gardens, Quality Carz and More, Smiley's Smokin' Joe's, The Mermaids Tale, Trades of Hope, Vermilion Valley Vineyards, and Zilch's Florist

**GO FALCONS!**



Join us on **Wednesdays**

from **6pm-8pm!**

- Food
- Biblical Teaching
- Worship
- Small Groups

**Trinity Student Ministries exists to lead students to Jesus and teach them to live and love like Him.**

Upcoming Event: *Dare2Share Evangelism Training Conference* in Grove City, OH (March 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>)

Need more info? Call 440-985-2419 • [www.trinityefree.org](http://www.trinityefree.org)

# HONOR ROLL MERIT ROLL

## 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Bethany Anderson  
Lauren Bansek  
Jacob Barnes  
Andrew Biery \*  
Stephanie Bohl  
Maisie Bonnett  
Alyssa Bonomolo \*  
Stephen Budweg  
Alison Butler  
Kassady Carrier  
Elizabeth Crawford  
Faith Dempsey  
Nicole DeWitt  
Demi Dovin  
Katie Fath  
Brandy Forster  
John Griffaw  
Cullen Grude  
Matthew Gulish  
Samantha Halcomb \*  
Jody Hanko  
Alyssa Hayes \*  
Mitchell Hildebrandt  
Tristan Hildebrandt  
Brandi Holowecky \*  
Rebecca Jackson  
Dylan Jones \*  
Keegan Koepf  
Joshua Krueger  
Noah Larson  
Cole Lewis \*  
Giorgia Nicolaou \*  
Rachel Nitchman  
Jamie Penkava \*  
Abigail Petrey  
Emily Pohorence \*  
Rebecca Reicholf  
Valerie Riccardi  
Briana Rivera  
Thomas Rose \*  
Jacob Rutkowski  
Jordan Schuler  
Johnathan Sigsworth  
Cole Sklarek  
Erin Slack  
Casey Smith \*  
Adam Smyth \*  
Heather Smyth \*  
Brittney Studstill  
Arienne Szakal \*  
Hannah Vitale  
Mikayla Walbom  
Aaron Williams  
Alexandria Yoby \*  
Karley Zimmerman

## 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Ryan Alcorn  
Jacob Bailey  
Raymond Conry  
Lyndsey Cornwell  
Logan Danicki  
Dakota Dembek  
Devin Dumke \*  
Abigail Farley  
Roy Folley III  
Cara Gould  
Jillian Hajostek

Keely Hall  
Haley Herrera  
Dylan Hickman  
Jared Holowenko  
Jerrod Horwedel  
Samantha Hribal  
Katie Iwanek  
Cassidy Johanssen  
Jesse Jones  
Maxime Knoth  
Brianna Krieg \*  
Hailey Mack  
Kaitlyn Michener  
Aaron Miller  
Rachael Minek  
Emily Novak \*  
Julia Ohle \*  
Brandon Palmer  
Emily Rich \*  
Johnathon Rovere  
Alexandra Sabine \*  
Shelly Shupe  
Jeremy Simonovich  
Aaron Stevanus  
Alyse Taddeo \*  
Bradley Thrasher \*  
Kathleen Tuggle \*  
Kayla Unger  
David Vaughn III  
Allison Vilagi  
Claire Vilagi  
Erica Wasem  
Rylee Wheaton  
Ty Wilson

## 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Adam Bechtler  
Megan Brandich Stamm  
Averi Cleary  
Owen Cogar  
Michael Douzos  
Morgan Edwards  
Trevor Edwards  
Grace Habeck  
Ethan Hayes  
Abigail Hill \*  
Serena Hoffman  
Emily Holcomb  
Anthony Houdeshell  
Samantha Ives \*  
Rachel Jackson \*  
Corey Jones \*  
Samantha Jones  
Alaina Kempf  
Evan Lacey \*  
Madalyn Lyons \*  
Ryan Martin  
Aleesia McKinney  
Noah Metzger  
Jacob Montgomery \*  
Morgan Nance \*  
Olivia Novak \*  
Madison Palmer \*  
Abrianna Perry  
Olivia Peterson  
Hannah Reynolds \*  
Faith Rico  
Angelina Rivera  
Jacob Selent  
Kassidy Stevens \*  
Autumn Swiers \*  
McKenna Turton \*  
Joy Vaughn  
Nathaniel Weitzel \*  
Alyssa Yorko

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Madison Alvarez  
Zachary Baldwin\*

Victoria Barnett  
Alexander Bauer  
Grace Bayus  
Riley Bayus  
Sawyer Bayus\*  
Daniel Bender  
Connor Betts  
Logan Bishop  
Cora Born\*  
Sean Bowsher  
Alexander Brill  
Marley Buckner  
Macey Butchko\*  
Emily Cody\*  
Allison Crawford\*  
Trinity Craftcraft  
Elizabeth Dempsey  
Sarah Drury\*  
Michael Durdak\*  
Kaylyn Eary\*  
Genalda Finley\*  
Madison Flanagan  
D'Aviaghñ Gonzalez  
Henry Grame\*  
Beau Grude  
Ky'ra Hall  
Nathan Hammond  
Dylan Hawley  
Siera Hess  
Chad Hieb  
Halli Kromer\*  
Ava Mastellone\*  
Zachary McCrary  
John Mullins  
Jasmyn Munoz  
Jacob Newman  
Michael Nicolaou  
Lauren Beall Omler  
Ryan Ortner\*  
Tyler Rado\*  
Joseph Rehm  
Kayla Reisinger  
Arianna Reyna\*  
Chace Riley  
Danielle Rivera  
Juliette Scheufler\*  
Madison Sheets  
Emma Sherban\*  
Isabel Solowiej  
Emily Squires\*  
Robert Steindl\*  
Nicholas Street  
Timothy Street  
Isaac Sultzer  
Rachel Taddeo\*  
Nathan Thompson  
Austin Urban  
Trevor Weller  
Logan Willis  
Carlie Wotton  
Elijah Yoder

## 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Alexander Angle  
Chayce Baldwin\*  
Anne Bartish  
Trevor Bauer  
Keegan Bibb  
Caden Boetticher  
Brianna Bonomolo\*  
Hattie Born\*  
Nathaniel Boucher  
Christian Brotko  
Renee Clippinger\*  
Gwyneth Conibear  
Sarah Conn  
Heidi Cowling\*  
Ashley Crawford  
Spencer Deremer  
Kristin DeWitt  
Eduardo Diaz\*  
Julia Douzos\*  
Grace Edwards\*  
Joshua Gallo  
Kelsey Hardwick  
Shawny Hess\*  
Frank Janezic\*  
Gavin Jones  
Gabriella Keith  
Casey Kelley\*  
Julia Krynak\*  
Allison Lake\*

## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Alexis Alston\*  
Alaina Becker  
Claire Boucher  
Michael Campbell

Emilia Lewis\*  
William Lockhart\*  
Tristan Lowe  
Audrey Lyons\*  
Rachel Metzger  
Madison New  
Samantha Novak\*  
Delaney Overstreet\*  
Seth Robinette\*  
Jasmin Schuler  
Garrick Seabolt  
Rebekah Selent  
Grace Sherban\*  
Samuel Solowiej\*  
Michael Sorrell  
James Steindl\*  
Madison Sutton  
Megan Sutton  
Jackson Talbott  
Dylan Taylor  
Aaron Urban  
Paiton Widener  
Madison Witter

\*Denotes  
all "A's"

## 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Shelby Bender  
Adam Beursken  
Olivia Born  
Sydney Bowman  
Hannah Caruso  
Brennan Crawford  
Stephanie Dostall  
Sheevah Feizkhal  
Brady Flowers  
Grace Folley  
Shannon Griggs  
Glenn Harris  
Nicholas Harris  
Emily Herchler  
Alexander Hertensteiner  
Hannah Hicks  
Austin Hildebrandt  
Garrett Hoffman  
Daniel Klesta  
Cassidi Kowalski  
Wesley Kromer  
Carrie Kubicki  
Kyle Kudela  
Bradley Midkiff  
Dean Ortner  
Kyle Owens  
Leslie Peterson  
Derek Reynolds  
Ashley Rister  
Nathan Rizzuti  
Jordan Ruffner  
Ashley Wammes  
Hunter Widener  
Taylor Young

## 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Michael Anadell  
Taylor Aslaksen  
Jasmine Beckett  
Amy Biglin  
Hunter Brandt  
Brittany Brlas  
Moeko China  
Tyler Clark  
Summer Deichler  
Allison Ennes  
Caitlin Gallagher  
Mikaela Geyer  
Jacob Grasso II  
Olivia Harasty  
Paige Haynes  
Madalyn Hopkins  
Victoria Hritsko  
Michaela Jeffers  
Brylee Jones  
Eric Kasper  
Victoria Krejci  
Bradley McGinnis  
Blake Morris  
Katalin Mullins  
Anthony Myer  
Adriana Nigro  
Jack O'Keefe  
Arianna Pina  
Brandon Ramsey  
Mark Roberts  
Brooke Robey

Lauren Salkiewicz  
Ashlee Saylor  
Phillip Saylor  
Jacob Vaughn  
Stephanie Wells  
Lucas Whitacre  
Alexandria Willis

## 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Benoit Akoa  
Steven Bacs  
Makayla Bailey  
Max Bailey  
Jacob Bradley  
Matthew Browning  
Hope Caruso  
Ian Crawford  
Trevor Damron  
Adeline Grame  
Maxwell Hertensteiner  
Colin Lehman  
Clayton Lucki  
Emylee Morariu  
Sara Nickels  
Tyran Ostrander  
Skyler Pluta  
Ashley Riggs  
Hailey Riggs  
Kyle Riggs  
Joseph Socha  
Clayton Spiegelberg  
Trevor Stefanski  
Larry Verhovec III  
Louis Ward

## 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Alexander Ayala  
John Bechtler  
Briana Bowyer  
Roxanne Curry  
Nicholas Denney  
David Francis  
Kaitlyn Frazier  
Miriam Hughey  
Alexandra Klarner  
Casey Koepf  
Matthew Lake  
Ariel Langer  
Richard Maggard  
Ariana McClung  
David Nary  
Justin Ollis  
Bailey Rado  
Colin Ransom  
Mason Rogozinski  
Brian Smith  
Elizabeth Stark  
Logan Strader  
Spencer Street  
Calvin Stull  
Aaron Turnbull  
Ian Valerius  
Ryan Wilhelm

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Jordan Biglin  
Bailey Borer  
Zachary Born

Estelle Bowling  
Elizabeth DeWitt  
Joseph Elswick  
Talia Noelle Gonzalez  
Carter Grude  
Robert Harker  
Nichole Hembree  
Caleb Hewlett  
Joshua Kelly  
Patrick King  
Matthew Kovach  
Jacob Martin  
Brandon Mele  
Dylan Minek  
Tyler Patchin  
Cayla Riggs  
Anthony Salib  
Nicholas Salva  
Saige Szivan  
Star Vaughn  
Alexandria Velez  
Sydney Wright

## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Hailie Bates  
Kaylee Boggs  
Megan Bowling  
Sydney Clark  
Kyvers Cogar  
Keith Cornwell  
Fabian Gonzalez  
Brian Harvey  
Logan Howington  
Christopher Jackson  
Sierra Johnson  
Nathaniel Kraus  
Lillian Laughrey  
Mackenzie Mack  
Isabel Massie  
Emmaleah McDevitt  
Vicent Morales  
Grant Price  
Sophia Prideaux  
Logan Ramsey  
Mackenzie Roby  
Austin Schuler  
Konner Sirow  
Hannah Spiegelberg  
Adalbert Tenorio  
Brianna Toledo  
Kaitlyn Townsend  
Brayden Willbond  
Vincent Yoby

## 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Zachary Ambroz  
Amelia Bacs  
Lauren Boose  
Spencer Brill  
Chandler Brotko  
Emily Campbell  
Donald Crawford  
Jared Drury  
Logan Galloway  
Olivia Galloway  
Liberty Gonia  
Natalie Guggenbiller  
Kevin Guillemot

Revin Hettel  
Jared Ives  
Michael Kelley  
Abigail Landreth  
Alyssa Lilak  
Daniel Lima  
Andria Mains  
Gage Myers  
Logan Rush  
Bridget Rutkowski  
Samantha Simko  
Alexander Smith  
Carley Spiegelberg  
Colin Stark  
Ethan Tester  
Jack Valerius  
Madalyn VanCooney  
Garrett Varndell



# LUNCH MENUS

## FIRELANDS ELEMENTARY

Regular Lunch \$2.50—Ice Cold Milk served with all meals

### FEBRUARY 16 - FEBRUARY 20

**Monday - NO SCHOOL - PRESIDENTS DAY**

Tuesday - Domino's smart slice, Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned peas, Celery sticks, Chilled fruit  
 Wednesday - General Tso's Chicken, Stir Fry Veggies, Seasoned Rice, Chilled pineapple tidbits, Fortune cookie  
 Thursday - Soft taco, Shredded lettuce & cheese, Seasoned corn, Fresh fruit  
 Friday - Cheese stuffed breadstick, Pizza sauce, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled mandarin oranges

### FEBRUARY 23 - FEBRUARY 27

Monday - Sausage links, French toast sticks, Hashbrown potatoes, Celery sticks, Orange juice cup, Syrup cup  
 Tuesday - Dominoes smart slice, Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned broccoli, Baby carrots, Chilled fruit  
 Wednesday - Baked chicken fries, Baked french fries, Bbq baked beans, Chilled pears, Dipping sauce  
 Thursday - Pepperoni Calzone, Green beans, Sliced cucumbers, Fresh fruit

**Friday - NO SCHOOL - NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY**

### MARCH 2 - MARCH 6

Monday-Baked chicken nuggets, Bbq baked beans, Red peppers strips, Chilled applesauce, Whole grain roll, Dipping sauce  
 Tuesday-Domino's smart slice, Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned Corn, Baby carrots, Chilled fruit, Tray treat  
 Wednesday-Hamburger w/Whole grain bun, Pickle slices, Smiley fries, 100% fruit smoothie  
 Thursday-Roasted hot dog w/bun, Steamed cauliflower, Chilled mandarin oranges  
 Friday-Bosco breadsticks, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Fresh fruit

### MARCH 9 - MARCH 13

Monday-Popcorn chicken, Hashbrown patty, Baby carrots w/dip, Chilled peaches  
 Tuesday-Domino's smart slice, Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned corn, Celery sticks, Chilled fruit  
 Wednesday-Chicken strips, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pineapple, Whole grain chez-it  
 Thursday-Taco Salad, Shredded lettuce & cheese, salsa, Seasoned refried beans, Fresh fruit, Tortilla chips  
 Friday-Macaroni & cheese, Seasoned peas, Cucumber slices, Chilled applesauce, Whole grain roll

### MARCH 16 - MARCH 20

Monday-Hamburger w/wg bun, Pickle slices, Bbq baked beans, Coleslaw, Chilled mandarin oranges  
 Tuesday-Domino's smart slice, Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned green beans, Baby carrots, 100% fruit smoothie  
 Wednesday-Baked chicken nuggets, Sweet tots, Chilled applesauce, Soft pretzel rod, Dipping sauce  
 Thursday-Salisbury steak, Seasoned corn, Whipped potatoes, Diced peaches, Whole grain roll  
 Friday-Cheesy bread, Seasoned broccoli, Orange smiles, Chilled fruit

### MARCH 23 - MARCH 27

Monday-Roasted hot dog/ bun, Bbq baked beans, Match stick carrots, Chilled pears  
 Tuesday-Domino's smart slice, Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned peas, Celery sticks, Chilled fruit  
 Wednesday-General Tso's Chicken, Stir Fry Veggies, Seasoned Rice, Chilled pineapple tidbits, Fortune cookie  
 Thursday-Soft taco, Shredded lettuce & cheese, Seasoned corn, Fresh fruit  
 Friday-Cheese stuffed breadstick, Pizza sauce, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled mandarin oranges

**MARCH 30 - APRIL 6 - NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK**

## SOUTH AMHERST MIDDLE

Regular Lunch \$2.85—Ice Cold Milk served with all meals

### FEBRUARY 16 - FEBRUARY 20

**Monday - NO SCHOOL - PRESIDENTS DAY**

Tuesday - Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust pizza, Seasoned Broccoli, Grape tomatoes, Chilled Fruit  
 Wednesday - Taco salad, or soft taco wrap, cheese, Shredded iceberg lettuce, Seasoned refried beans, Chilled applesauce, Tortilla chips  
 Thursday - Chicken strips w/roll, or chicken patty w/bun, Parsley potatoes, Fresh fruit, Goldfish cinna grahams  
 Friday - Macaroni & cheese /breadstick, or Rib a cue w/bun, Baby carrots, Green beans, Chilled pears

### FEBRUARY 23 - FEBRUARY 27

Monday - Pepperoni calzone, Or French bread pizza, Seasoned cauliflower, Celery sticks, Applesauce, Graham crackers  
 Tuesday - Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled Fruit  
 Wednesday - Falcon burger w/wg bun, w/ iceberg lettuce, cheese, sauce, Bbq baked beans, Sweet potato fries, Chilled pears  
 Thursday - Popcorn chicken bowl, gravy & cheese, Seasoned corn, Whipped potatoes, Fresh fruit, Whole grain roll

**Friday - NO SCHOOL - NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY**

### MARCH 2 - MARCH 6

Monday-Chicken parm w/wg roll, or chicken patty/ bun, Spaghetti / sauce, Green beans, Chilled applesauce  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled Fruit  
 Wednesday-Taco salad, or soft taco wrap, cheese, Shredded iceberg lettuce, Seasoned refried beans, Baby carrots, 100% juice smoothie  
 Thursday-Chicken wrap w/cheese, Or Chicken strips w/roll, Shredded lettuce, Seasoned corn, Fresh fruit  
 Friday-Toasted cheese, Or Cheezy bread /garlic, Steamed broccoli, Tomato soup, Chilled mandarin oranges

### MARCH 9 - MARCH 13

Monday-BBq pulled pork wg bun, Whole grain corn dog, Baked beans, Celery sticks, Chilled peaches  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli, Baby carrots, Chilled Fruit  
 Wednesday-Cheeseburger / bun, Or Hamburger / bun, Oven baked fries, Romaine salad, Chilled mandarin oranges  
 Thursday-General Tso's chicken, Stir fry vegetable, Seasoned rice, Fresh fruit, Fortune Cookie  
 Friday-Egg & cheese on wg roll, or pancake & sausage stick, Hashbrown potato, Sweet potatoes, Orange juice cup

### MARCH 16 - MARCH 20

Monday-Salisbury steak, or breaded pork chop, Whipped potatoes, Seasoned corn, Chilled peaches, Whole grain roll  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli, Celery sticks, Jello w/topping  
 Wednesday-Chipotle day, Fajita chicken or beef wrap, Shredded iceberg, Black bean & corn salsa, Seasoned rice, Chilled mandarin orange

Thursday-Cheese quesadilla, Or Chicken nuggets w/roll, Baby carrots, Seasoned green beans, Fresh fruit  
 Friday-Gilardi cheese breadsticks, or spaghetti w/ meat & roll, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pineapple

### MARCH 23 - MARCH 27

Monday-Roasted hot dog w/ bun, Or steak um w/cheese, Bbq baked beans, Celery sticks, Chilled peaches  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust pizza, Seasoned Broccoli, Grape tomatoes, Chilled Fruit  
 Wednesday-Taco salad, or soft taco wrap, cheese, Shredded iceberg lettuce, Seasoned refried beans, Chilled applesauce, Tortilla chips  
 Thursday-Chicken strips w/roll, or chicken patty w/bun, Parsley potatoes, Fresh fruit, Goldfish cinna grahams  
 Friday-Macaroni & cheese /breadstick, or Rib a cue w/bun, Baby carrots, Green beans, Chilled pears

**MARCH 30 - APRIL 6 - NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK**

## FIRELANDS HIGH

Regular Lunch \$2.85—Ice Cold Milk served with all meals

### FEBRUARY 16 - FEBRUARY 20

**Monday - NO SCHOOL - PRESIDENTS DAY**

Tuesday - Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Baby carrots, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pears  
 Wednesday - Taco salad meat /cheese, Tortilla chips, or soft taco wrap w/cheese, iceberg lettuce, Salsa cup, Seasoned corn, Chilled applesauce, Whole grain roll, sour cream  
 Thursday - Chicken strips w/roll, Chicken patty w/bun Baked fries, California blend veggie, Fresh fruit, Jello w/topping  
 Friday - Macaroni & cheese & roll, or Rib a cue w/bun, Seasoned broccoli, Cucumber slices, Mandarin oranges

### FEBRUARY 23 - FEBRUARY 27

Monday - Pepperoni stuffed calzone, Or French bread pizza, Bbq baked beans, Seasoned carrots, Applesauce  
 Tuesday - Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned green beans, Romaine salad, Chilled mandarin oranges  
 Wednesday - Falcon burger w/whole grain bun, Iceberg lettuce, Cheese, sauce, Sweet things fries, Chilled pears  
 Thursday - Chicken bowl w/gravy, cheese, Seasoned corn, Whipped potatoes, Fresh fruit, Whole grain roll

**Friday - NO SCHOOL - NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY**

### MARCH 2 - MARCH 6

Monday-Chicken parm w/wg roll, or Chicken patty/ bun, Spaghetti / sauce, Seasoned green beans, Chilled peaches  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Baby carrots, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pears  
 Wednesday-Beef & cheese nachos, Or Taco Fries w/cheese, Refried beans w/cheese, Romaine salad, Chilled applesauce, Whole grain roll  
 Thursday-Chicken wrap w/cheese, Chicken strips w/roll, Shredded lettuce, Seasoned corn, Fresh fruit  
 Friday-Toasted cheese, Or cheezy bread /garlic, Steamed broccoli, Tomato soup, Chilled mandarin oranges

### MARCH 9 - MARCH 13

Monday-BBq pulled pork wg bun, Whole grain corn dog, Bbq baked beans, Seasoned cauliflower, Chilled peaches  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli, Baby carrots, Chilled pears  
 Wednesday-Pasta Bar/marinara, alfredo or cheese sauce w/ wg roll, Or meatball sub, Romaine salad, Cucumber slices, Chilled applesauce  
 Thursday-General Tso's chicken, Stir fry vegetable, Seasoned rice, Fresh fruit, Fortune Cookie  
 Friday-Egg & cheese sandwich, or French toast sticks w/sausage links, syrup cup, Hashbrown potato, Sweet thing fries, Orange juice cup

### MARCH 16 - MARCH 20

Monday-Salisbury steak, or breaded pork chop, Seasoned corn, Whipped potatoes, Chilled peaches, Whole grain roll  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli w/chez, Celery sticks, Jello w/topping  
 Wednesday-Chipotle day-Beef or Fajita chicken, Ultra grain wrap, Shredded iceberg, Black bean & corn salsa, Cilantro lime rice, Chilled mandarin orange  
 Thursday-Wg Cheese quesadilla, Or Chicken nuggets w/roll, Baby Carrots, Grape tomatoes, Fresh fruit  
 Friday-Deli sub bar w/ combo or turkey, cheese, lettuce, tomato, peppers, banana pepper, black olives, Chilled pineapple

### MARCH 23 - MARCH 27

Monday-Roasted hot dog w/ bun, Or steak um w/cheese/bun, Bbq baked beans, Celery sticks, Chilled peaches  
 Tuesday-Dominoes smart slice, or stuffed crust peppro, Baby carrots, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pears  
 Wednesday-Taco salad meat /cheese, Tortilla chips, or soft taco wrap w/cheese, iceberg lettuce, Salsa cup, Seasoned corn, Chilled applesauce, Whole grain roll, sour cream  
 Thursday-Chicken strips w/roll, Chicken patty w/bun Baked fries, California blend veggie, Fresh fruit, 100% fruit smoothie  
 Friday-Macaroni & cheese & roll, or Rib a cue w/bun, Seasoned broccoli, Cucumber slices, Mandarin oranges

**MARCH 30 - APRIL 6 - NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK**



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

- 16 President's Day – No School
- 17 FES – Staff Meeting – 3:50 p.m.
- 19 FHS – Band Concert at FHS – 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Interim Reports
- 20 Boys Varsity Basketball vs Black River 7:30pm
- 21 SAMS – 7th & 8th Grade - Winter Formal Dance TBA
- 22 FHS – Lorain County Solo & Ensemble (Pending LCESC)
- 22 SAMS - Lorain County Solo & Ensemble Contest (Pending LCESC)
- 24 FHS - Choir Concert at FHS - 7:00 p.m.
- 23 SAMS – Cheesecake/Cookie Dough Candy Fundraiser Kickoff
- 25 FES – Finest Falcons Principal's Lunch Bunch
- 26 FHS - SAMS -FES- Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences – Grades K - 12
- 27 Non-Instructional Day – No School

## MARCH

- 2 SAMS – PTG Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 3 FES - PTG Meeting - 7:00 p.m. in Library
- 5 – 13 FES – PBA ELA and Math Assessments (Grades 3-5)
- 9 Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 9 FES – Leadership Team Meeting – 3:50 p.m.
- 9 SAMS – Faculty Meeting – 2:40 p.m.
- 16 – 20 FHS - OGT Test Week @ FHS
- 16 FES – Staff Meeting – 3:50 p.m.
- 16 FES - Kindergarten Packets Available at FES
- 16 – 18 FES – PBA ELA and Math Make-Up Assessments (Grades 3-5)
- 16 – 27 SAMS – Choir Gourmet Sucker Sale
- 23 - 27 FES - Kindergarten Registration in the Main Office at FES
- 24 FHS – FFA Banquet at FHS – 6:30 p.m.
- 24 & 25 SAMS - 8th Grade Musical at SAMS – 7:00 p.m.
- 25 \*\*\*\*\* End of 3rd Grading Period \*\*\*\*\*
- 25 FES – Finest Falcons Principal's Lunch Bunch
- 27 SAMS - Spring Pictures
- 30 Spring Break Begins – No School

## APRIL

- 7 School Resumes
- 7 FES - PTG Meeting in Library – 7:00 p.m.
- 7 SAMS - PTG Meeting – 2:45 p.m.
- 7 FES – Leadership Team Meeting – 3:50 p.m.
- 11 SAMS – Fabulous Falcon Breakfast – 7:40 a.m.
- 13 SAMS – Faculty Meeting – 1:45 p.m.
- 13 Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 20 FES – Staff Meeting – 3:50 p.m.
- 24 - 25 FHS – State Band and Choir Contest
- 29 FES – Finest Falcons Principal's Lunch Bunch

## THIRD ANNUAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS BALL



Join the Princesses and Princes for an  
**All-You-Can-Eat**

**Pancake Breakfast**

**Saturday March 21, 2015**

**9:00am - 11:00am**

**\$8.00 per person**

**South Amherst Middle School**

Please come dressed up-For boys and girls  
Dancing and singing by the FHS Select Choir  
in costume

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

Please send child's name and age, with number of  
people attending and payment **BY MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>** to:

Natalie Saylor  
11484 Baumhart Rd.  
Amherst, OH 44001

Please make checks out to FHS Choir Boosters.

Call Pam Morrow if you have any questions  
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"Serving the Community for over 50 years"

**NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED**

Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday's

For more information call: Fritz Knoble, Membership Chairman at 440.965.4122

**Florence Township Fire Department Pancake Breakfast**



**March 8, 2014**  
**8a.m to 1p.m**  
Location: Fire station in Birmingham  
Donations welcome!

**Firelands Band Boosters Annual Pancake Breakfast**

**Florence Township Fire Hall**  
Sunday, April 26th, 2015  
8 am-1 pm  
Donations appreciated  
Pancakes, Sausage, Beverages  
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 Mike O'Keefe:  
 440-670-6469  
 Dan Pycraft:  
 440-774-2310

## 2014-2015 Board Meetings

Oct 13, 2014	March 9, 2015
Nov 5, 2014	April 13, 2015
Dec 8, 2014	May 11, 2015
Jan 12, 2015	June 8, 2015
Feb 9, 2015	July 13, 2015

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