



# The Firelands Express



Volume 10, Issue 79

September 2019

Serving the communities of Amherst, Amherst Twp., Birmingham, Brownhelm Twp., Camden Twp., Florence Twp., Henrietta Twp., Kipton Village, New Russia Twp., South Amherst Village, Vermilion and Vermilion Twp.

## Student Success and Wellness: A Shared Community Responsibility

Firelands Local School District is committed to taking a proactive, holistic approach towards student wellness, achievement and growth. Through the work of our teachers, school counselors, social worker, and support staff, our students receive developmentally appropriate classroom lessons regarding positive decision making, alcohol and drug prevention, and mental and physical health awareness. In addition, our district partners with the following agencies in Lorain County who provide further assistance and support to our staff and students:

- Communities that Care
- Educational Service Center of Lorain County
- Firelands Counseling and Recovery
- Lorain County Health Department
- Lorain County Sheriff's Department
- LCADA
- Mental Health, Addiction and Recovery Services Board of Lorain County

Our youth face numerous challenges today, and many are struggling with social, emotional and behavioral issues that can negatively impact their ability to learn and achieve academic success. According to the 2018 PRIDE Student Survey conducted through Communities That Care, there is a sharp upward trend in the number of Lorain County youth who reported using e-cigarettes or "vaping", with 13.2% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders reporting they smoked some form of electronic cigarette in the past 30 days. This rose to 37% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders. In Firelands, our data is even more alarming with 26% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders reporting they smoked some form of electronic cigarette in the past 30 days and 53% for those in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. In response to this data, we are implementing a new curriculum, Catch My Breath, at both the middle school and high school. While the specific risks and impact of "vaping" are still being studied, most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, which is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development.

Lorain County students also reported struggling with depression, anxiety, stress and suicide at a much younger age, and show an upward trend. Coupled with this, both 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

graders reported an increase in use of alcohol, marijuana, and tobacco/e-cigarettes. Like some adults, when teenagers experience emotional problems they may turn to alcohol or drug use to help them manage difficult or painful feelings.

Some additional findings:

	Lorain Co.	Firelands
6th grade students who considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months	19%	26%
8th grade students reported being sad/hopeless for 2 weeks or more in a row	33%	40%
12th grade students reported using marijuana in the past 30 days	31%	24%

continued on page 3

## Homecoming 2019

Homecoming Weekend starts on Thursday, September 26th with the annual Football Jersey auction, which coincides with a SAMS doubleheader in Falcon Stadium. Friday evening, the Homecoming Game against Black River will begin at 7pm, with the crowning ceremony of the King and Queen beginning around 6 pm. The Homecoming Dance, with the theme of It's a Beach Homecoming, will be held from 7-10 pm in the Falcon Gymnasium on Saturday evening, September 28th.

The Class of 1969 and 1979 are holding reunions and will be in attendance at the game! Come home and enjoy a game with your Falcons!

### HOMECOMING WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 27-28, 2019



We Are The

# FALCONS!

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

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## Food Service News

### Meal Assistance Information

An updated meal assistance application must be filled out every school year if you wish to receive or continue with benefits. We have an online portal which is the preferred method. You can complete an application at [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com). Direct Certification letters must be signed and returned to waive instructional school fees, do not fill out an application. A paper application can be printed from the Food Service tab on the school website or each school office has paper applications available. If your child received meal assistance last year that status will roll over until September 30th if a new application has not been received. On September 30th the meal status will automatically change to denied if an updated application is not received.

### Breakfast

Breakfast is served at all of our schools. It is available as soon as the students get off the bus. They can go directly to the kitchen to pick up their meal. Elementary students take their meal to the classroom. The cost of breakfast is \$1.50, reduced cost is .30 and the free meal status qualifies for a free breakfast as well as a lunch.

### Online payments and account payments

Online payments can be made at [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com). This site can also be used for the reporting system to view what your child has purchased as well. The reports can be seen at no cost to you. There is a small convenience fee to use for online payments. Elementary parents – If you send cash or



September 6th was lucky tray day at South Amherst Middle School and Firelands Elementary. Students that picked the lucky tray were able to select a gift from a variety of school supplies. We had numerous winners per school. Pictured are some of our elementary students. Our middle school winners are 6th grade Micah Lee, 7th grade Olivia Howells and 8th grade Brian Diaz. Congratulations to all our winners.

a check to school with your child, please put it into a sealed envelope or zip lock baggie with your child's name on it. Please add your child's name to the memo section on the check. If you do not want your children to purchase a meal, please relay this message to them. Accounts are charged for a meal if your child goes through the line.

Call Judy Baumann, Food Service Director, with questions at 440-965-5821. See the Food Service tab on website for more information.



## #KevinStrong

Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction for Kevin Conry  
Sun., Sept. 29 at 4:00pm at German's Villa  
Tickets \$20 buffet, desserts, entertainment, silent  
auction, cash bar. For tickets call 419-357-4747 or  
St. Mary's Vermilion School Office.

## Student success

continued from page 1

If you are interested in reading more about the PRIDE student survey and what our youth are saying about alcohol, tobacco and drug use and their beliefs about their own mental and physical health, please visit <https://create.piktochart.com/output/39332891-2018-pride-survey-data-highlights>

With your support and input, our goal is to enhance our current wellness initiatives. There will be many opportunities for feedback and involvement by parents and community members over the next few months as we move forward. If you would like to be involved in our planning process, please contact me via email at [mvongunten@firelandsschools.org](mailto:mvongunten@firelandsschools.org) or by phone at 965.5821.

In closing, if it has been awhile since you have talked with your child or teen about the dangers of substance abuse, please don't wait. Information about talking with your children about this topic is available at <https://drugfree.org/article/prevention-tips-for-every-age/> or <http://www.firelandsschools.org/AlcoholAwarenessEducation.aspx>

**Mike Von Gunten**  
Superintendent



On behalf of the staff, I am excited to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year. Our students are busy meeting grade level standards, and everyone seems to be off to a great start!

On August 13th, 14th and 15th, the staff had the opportunity to engage in professional learning events for three days. All staff received safety training in QPR: question, persuade, refer and learned how to respond and assist students. This suicide awareness training saves thousands of lives each year. The staff learned to recognize warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade and refer someone to get help. The sooner warning signs are detected, the better the outcome of a suicidal crisis will be. They also had the opportunity to analyze data with their grade level/department to support student mastery of grade level standards, updated curriculum maps and were introduced to several new strategies to implement in their classrooms. The three days were packed with professional growth opportunities for everyone.

Thank you for your patience with our online registration

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 65th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Sam Formholtz, Firelands High School Senior, was named as a semifinalist. Sam is believed to be the second Firelands student to have ever received this distinction. Sam is ranked #1 in the Class of

## Curriculum News

system: OneView. As we continue to work with the system, we will work out all the issues to make it even better for next year.

The district report cards will be available online for all buildings starting with the first reporting period. If you wish to receive a paper copy of your child's report card, you will need to contact your child's school office and request a copy to be sent home with your child. Online reporting allows parents to have constant access to quarterly grades, and attendance information. Below are the end of quarter dates for the 2019-2020 school year.

Standards-based report cards will continue for the 2019-2020 school year. Grades K-5 will utilize this report cards. Standards based report cards are designed to reflect student mastery of state standards and provide an objective measure of student grade level



*Lori Roemer, Director  
Educational Services*

performance. With its focus on student mastery of content material, standards-based grading is intended to provide a more meaningful indicator of student growth.

Please continue to check the Firelands Local School District website for up-to-date information regarding your student. As more information becomes available from the district/schools, the page will be updated to reflect our districts' expectations.

**End of 1st grading period: October 25th**  
**End of 2nd grading period: December 20th**  
**End of 3rd grading period: March 13th**  
**End of 4th grading period: May 29th**

## Sam Formholtz Named National Merit Semifinalist

2020 and is the Senior Class President. Sam is the son of Gerard and Peggy Formholtz.

There are some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than \$31 million, that will be offered in the spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to Finalist standing. Over 90 % of Semifinalists will

advance to Finalist standing, and about half of the Finalists will win a national Merit Scholarship, earning the title of Merit Scholar. Sam is only one of 14 Seniors in Lorain County, and the only Senior in the Lorain County League, to earn this distinction.

Congratulations to Sam and his family on this fantastic accomplishment.



## FHS Art Students to Decorate Ohio National Christmas Tree

Firelands High School Art classes 2, 3, 4 and AP students were invited by the Ohio Department of Education State Art Consultant, Scott Wilson, to be the only students from Ohio to hand-paint 2 dozen ornaments for the National Ohio Christmas Tree in Washington DC this year. The students will receive the ornaments in September and will ship them to Washington DC in

early November. Our students will decorate the ornaments to celebrate Ohio!

These handcrafted ornaments will hang on the Ohio Christmas Tree, one of the smaller 56 trees that surround the National Christmas Tree. The smaller trees represent each U.S. state, territory and the District of Columbia as part of the America Celebrates display.

## FHS Trip to Spain Enrollment Ends Oct. 31

The spring break 2020 study trip to Spain is now enrolling through the end of October. Current FHS juniors and seniors who have studied Spanish language or upper-level Art and their parents are invited to join the group.

Take a look at the tour at <https://www.eftours.com>. Search for "Madrid and Andalusia". We plan on departing April 10 and returning April 19, 2020. Students can join the Google Classroom page to access more information about this EF Tours trip at class code - jfub2i.

A price increase is coming

October 1. You can lock in the September price by enrolling before the annual October 1 increase. An in-depth meeting for interested students is being held Wed. Oct. 2 from 8:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in FHS Art room 104. Mrs. Tawil will hold an informational meeting for parents on Wednesday, October 2 during parent-teacher conferences at 6:00 p.m. in room 104. A second parent-teacher conference night is Thursday, October 10 for follow-up. Contact group leader Laura Tawil, FHS art teacher for more information at [ltawil@firelandsschools.org](mailto:ltawil@firelandsschools.org).

## 4-H: Four Leaf Clovers End of Year Wrap-up

The Four Leaf Clovers 4-H members have had a great year! We welcomed new members: Ellie Keets and Parker Maurer.

The 2019 officers are: President - Devon McGinnis, Vice President - Katelyn Konicek, Secretary - Kelsey Hardwick, Treasurer - Caleb Ross, News Reporter - Callie Finnegan, Recreation Officer - Macy Paller, Health Officer - Addison Beal, Safety Officer- Allison Tuggle, Assistant Secretary - Jocelyn Bednar, Assistant Treasurer - Colton Ross, and Historian - Bridget Rutkowski.

Callie Finnegan and Macy Paller were on the state Horse Bowl Team that competed in March at The Ohio State University. The team earned 13th in the state.

The Cloverbuds have worked with Advisor Diane Davis to learn about 4-H history, 4-H facts, emotions and stress, volcanoes, and weather.

In June, Callie Finnegan represented Lorain County on the State Hippology and Horse Judging Teams. The team was 3rd overall in the state in judging, 7th in the state in halter, 3rd in the state for performance judging, and 9th in Hippology. Callie earned 7th overall in the state individually for judging, 10th for oral reasons, and 7th individually for performance horse judging.

The club went to Second Harvest in June to help sort and pack food to help people in need.

Callie Finnegan qualified for state fair with her horse and showed at the fair in July. She placed 5th in the state for 9-13 year old horse communication project, 3rd in the state at Skillathon, 5th in state 9-18 year old in-hand trail, 10th in state for 9-18 yr od reinsmanship, and 9th in state for 9-18 year old showmanship.

**continued on page 9**



## Firelands Elementary School

### First Day

The first day of school for students in grades 1-5 was on Tuesday, August 27. Our kindergarten students had their first full day of school on Friday, August 30. Students, families, staff and faculty were ready for that exciting day. We saw many smiles and are thrilled with how our students have transitioned into the 2019-2020 school year.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Falcon Leaders

Our new kindergarten Falcons have so many new procedures to learn! We were able to have our 5<sup>th</sup> grade Falcon Leaders help them learn the routines in the lunchroom. Our leaders helped walk them through the food line, get milk, enter their ID numbers for the cashiers, find their tables and open up containers. They also helped remind them to raise their hands if they need help or have a question. We couldn't ask for better role models!

### PBIS

On Friday, August 30, our specialist teachers presented an assembly to students in grades 1-5. This assembly provided them with the building expectations for behavior. Our goal is for our students to SOAR (Safety, Organized, Achieving Goals, Respect) in all areas of the building. They were shown a video to help them remember how the expected behaviors look around FES.

Students were also reminded that they will be able to earn Falcon Bucks throughout their school day. This is a way for them to be recognized when they are noticed for following the expectations. Students are then given opportunities to spend their Falcon Bucks on different items available on the Falcon Pride Store. There will also be multiple opportunities for raffle items throughout the school year.

We are confident that our students will SOAR during the school year!

### Drop-Off/ Pick-Up Reminders

Just a reminder that students that are dropped off at school, should arrive between 8:20 and 8:40. Students are dropped off at the front of the building. Please make sure that you have the students on the passenger side when possible so that they can exit quickly. We try to keep the line moving as safely and smoothly as possible so that traffic does not back up on Vermilion Road.

Students that will be picked up at the end of the day are picked up at the north door. Families need to have a tag for their car if they are in that line. If you do not have a car tag, please report to the office to pick up your child. Further instructions/directions for this procedure can be found at FES or on the district website (follow the link to the

FES page). Dismissal for our car riders begins at 3:20.

If you are picking up your child during the school day, please notify the office. When you arrive, please come to the office and have a valid ID.

### PTG

FES is lucky to have a valuable Parent Teacher Group. This group of parents works hard to provide needed items to our staff and building. They also plan and fund many activities for our students. Please consider being a part of this volunteer group. Their next meeting is scheduled for October 3 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at FES. Come to find out what events are happening and how you can help. You can also find out more by finding them on Facebook (Firelands Elementary School PTG) or on Twitter (@FESPTG).



### FES Important Dates

- September 30 – October 4: Scholastic Book Fair
- Wednesday, October 2 and Thursday, October 10: Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. *Please contact your child's teacher if you still need to schedule a conference.*
- October 7 – PTG Fundraiser begins
- October 11 – No School for Students
- October 14 – BOE Meeting
- October 28 – November 1 - Red Ribbon Week
- November 1 – Fall Classroom Parties

## Firelands FFA at 2019 Lorain County Junior Fair

The Firelands FFA chapter dedicates a huge amount of time preparing for a successful week at the Lorain County Fair. Many students show their animals that they have raised for market and spent hours budgeting and recording data in preparation for the fair. They can enter a wide variety of projects such as animals, crops, and still-life shop projects. The chapter works very hard and dedicates a lot of their time to have a successful fair and proudly represent Firelands FFA Chapter as they compete in their project classes!

### Ag. Shop and Crop

**Awards:** Chris Fath, Grand Champion FFA Field Crop; Aiden Harker, Grand Champion FFA Engineering Restoration; Bianca Inman, Reserve Champion FFA Engineering; Tad Miller, Grand Champion FFA Fruit; Taylor Olander, FFA Poster Award.

### Beef and Dairy Awards:

Logan Galloway, Reserve Champion Type Dairy Feeder, 5th in Beef Showmanship; Taylor Kenska, Grand Champion Bred, Born and Raised, Reserve Grand Champion Modern Beef Steer, Senior Showmanship Champion and Supreme Market Beef Showman Champion.

**Fowl Awards:** Gavin Gede, Second Place in Showmanship Market Chicken; Kelsey Hardwick, Second Place in Showmanship Market Chicken.

**Goat Awards:** Aiden Harker, 1st Place Boer Showmanship.

**Horse Awards:** Maddy Chenoweth, Grand Champion Trail Saddle Horse (4H).

Firelands FFA Members on the Lorain County Junior Fair Board are as follows: 2019 Junior Fair Board Vice President, Bianca Inman; Members Hailie Bates, Keith Cornwell, Breanna

Dechant, Genalda Finley, Steven Jessel, Katelyn Konicek, Morgan Nance, Bridget Rutkowski, and Krystal Scheeres.

The Firelands FFA has not only had success at the Lorain County Fair but at Erie County Fair and Ohio State Fair. Congratulations to Gabby Zadorozny for Third in Berkshire Breeding Class. Also, congratulations to Krystal Scheeres First, Second, Second and Third in her Dairy Goat Breeding Projects and 5th in Showmanship. Congratulations goes to Josh Scheeres on Forth in Showmanship and Fifth in Pack Goat. Both of the Scheeres siblings showed through 4H.

A special thank you to the buyers of FFA members' animals at fair: Bob's Truck Tire Sales Service, Born Implement, C & L Shoes, Sunrise Cooperative Inc., Russ Culler & Keith Deering,

Paul Saylor, Bounce House of Grafton, Schlechter Bros. & Schlechter Bros Country, Mike Gede & Family, Chris Schiefer Insurance & Financial Service, Shagovac Heating & Cooling Inc., Denes Concrete Inc., Pat Gede in Memory of Don Gede, Laura Pall DDS, Got It Lookin Farm, Cutting Edge Excavating, L & K Construction, Schlather Insurance - Elyria/Wellington, Bon Appetit at Oberlin College, KMU Trucking & Excavating, Fehlan Insurance, Dostall Farms, Vermilion Veterinary Clinic, Liberty Ag Feed & Supply, Laborers Union Local #758.

We would like to thank all of our parents and supporters of the Firelands FFA Chapter, all award sponsors and buyers for a successful year at the Lorain County Fair!

*submitted by Taylor Kenska*

*Pictured top left: Aiden Harker's Grand Champion Engineering Restoration; bottom left: Taylor Kenska and the reserve champion modern beef steer; and on the right: Gavin Gede and his meat duck*



### Firelands Class of 1989 30th Year Reunion

**Saturday,  
November 9, 2019  
at 6 PM – 12 AM**

**Cole's Public House  
209 S. Main St.,  
Amherst, OH 44001**

## FHS Parade of Bands

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Firelands High School Parade of Bands will be on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Falcon Stadium. Several high school bands from the local area, including the Mighty Falcon Marching Band, will highlight their musical talents and perform their marching shows. This event is sure to be an exciting evening of musical entertainment that the whole family will love!

This year's featured bands will be:

- Open Door Christian School Marching Band
- Padua Franciscan High School Marching Band
- Oberlin High School Marching Band
- Keystone High School Marching Band
- Midview High School Marching Band
- Firelands High School Mighty Falcon Marching Band

## HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES

Homecoming Weekend starts on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> with the annual Football Jersey auction, which coincides with a SAMS doubleheader in Falcon Stadium. The Athletic Booster Club will be hosting that event. Friday evening, the Homecoming Game against Black River will begin at 7:00 p.m., with the crowning ceremony of the King and Queen beginning around 6:00 p.m. The Homecoming Dance, with the theme of "It's a Beach" will be held from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the Falcon Gymnasium on Saturday evening, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will go on sale in the next few weeks, with dance tickets \$10 pre-sale and \$15 at the door. Students bringing an out-of-school guest must have the out-of-school guest form approved by FHS Administration prior to the purchase of the guest's ticket. The form is available on the FHS website. All guests must be in at least 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and under the age of 21. Any students not in high school must be a graduate of Firelands

## Firelands High School

High School to attend the Homecoming Dance.

## JVS STUDENT INFORMATION MEETING

Mr. Maver and Mrs. Keener met with FHS students who are attending LCJVS on Friday September 6<sup>th</sup>, to give them information on how to stay informed as a JVS student with events happening at FHS. Students were given an informational sheet, which is also posted on the FHS website, as to major events upcoming at FHS. They were also given class join codes, which are used to communicate with all of the classes at FHS through their Google Classroom Class accounts.

## PSAT TESTING AT FHS

Firelands High School will be hosting the PSAT test for all 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grader on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Also, Juniors who want to take the PSAT again, and is an excellent practice test for the SAT in March. Juniors must sign-up with Dr. Zimmer in Student Services prior to September 16<sup>th</sup>. As a reminder, the testing ends at approximately noon, and students will be dismissed from school at that time. Any student who must ride the bus will have a quiet study hall available to them after the conclusion of lunch, which will be served to all students who would like to have lunch following the conclusion of the PSAT.

## FHS STUDENTS AT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES THIS PAST SUMMER

This summer, three students went to state leadership conferences to represent

FHS. Junior Samantha Novak attended the HOBY Conference. The Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Seminar is designed to help sophomores recognize their leadership talents and apply them to become effective, ethical leaders in their home, school, workplace and community. Students explore their own personal leadership skills while learning how to lead others and make a positive impact in their community. Buckeye Boys State, which was attended by Seniors Jackson Thomas and Robert Rose is an eight-day hands-on experience in the operation of the democratic form of government, the organization of political parties, and the relationship of one to the other in shaping Ohio government. The Buckeye Boys State program is sponsored by the Ohio American Legion, the largest veteran's organization in Ohio. At Boys State, young men learn about city, county, and state government through a non-partisan objective education approach. The young men also form friendships which will last a lifetime!

## COLLEGE NOW AT FHS

A college counselor from College Now will be at FHS every other Tuesday to further assist our students in the college search process. They can answer questions about the search, application, and financial aid process.

## ATHLETIC UPDATES

Follow Mr. Stillman on the web at the FHS Athletic website (<http://www.firelandsathletics.org>) or on Twitter (@FirelandsFalcon). Also, follow the Firelands Athletic Boosters on Twitter (@FirelandsSports).

## ATTENTION CRAFTERS AND VENDORS

The Firelands Band Boosters invite you to join us on December 7, 2019 at the South Amherst Middle School for our annual Holiday Craft Fair! If you would like to join us for this event, or want more information, please email the boosters at [firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com). We look forward to having a variety of crafts and products for our community to shop for this holiday season!



# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

## Firelands High School Golf Scores

### Monday August 5th

Elyria Catholic Invitational @ Brentwood. Team Score of 332. Finished 5th of 16 teams.

Jackson Talbott 73  
Austin Urban 80  
Steven Iwanek 88  
Will Folley 91  
Tristin Stipe 106  
Cohen Overstreet 126

### Wednesday August 7th

Pioneer Invitational @ Forest Hills. Team Score of 340. Finished 8th of 15 teams.

Jackson Talbott 76  
Austin Urban 84  
Will Folley 86  
Steven Iwanek 94  
Tristin Stipe 111  
Cohen Overstreet 154

**Monday August 12th @ Oberlin C.C. Amherst Invitational.** Team Score of 348. Finished 8th of 16 teams.

Austin Urban 81  
Jackson Talbott 83  
Will Folley 91  
Steven Iwanek 93  
Tristin Stipe 100

### Thursday August 15th @

Dragon Ranch Golf Course. LC8 Conference Record 1-0. Firelands defeated Black River 165 to 219.

Jackson Talbott 36 Medalist  
Aaron Urban 39  
Steven Iwanek 42  
Will Folley 48  
Sonny Suglia 51  
Tristin Stipe 55

**Tuesday 8/20 vs. Keystone @ Indian Hollow.** LC8 Conference Record 1-1. Keystone defeated Firelands 164 to 173

Jackson Talbott 38  
Aaron Urban 41  
Steven Iwanek 41  
Will Folley 53  
Tristin Stipe 57  
Sonny Suglia 61

**Thursday 8/22 vs. Columbia @ Pinebrook.** Firelands defeated Columbia 176 to 201. 2-1 in LC8 .

Jackson Talbott 39 Medalist  
Aaron Urban 46  
Steven Iwanek 43  
Will Folley 48

**Tuesday 9/3 @ Columbia Hills Country Club.** Midview Invitational. Team Score of 353. Finished 10th of 16 teams.

Jackson Talbott 81  
Austin Urban 85  
Will Folley 90  
Steven Iwanek 97  
Sonny Suglia 106

**Thursday 9/5 vs. Keystone @ Dragon Ranch.** Keystone defeated Firelands 158-174. 2-2 LC8 Conference Record.

Jackson Talbott 38  
Aaron Urban 44  
Steven Iwanek 46  
Will Folley 46  
Abe Mastellone 59  
Cohen Overstreet 70

*submitted by Coach Mark Kirsch*

## South Amherst Middle School

The year has gotten off to a great start at South Amherst Middle School. Students are settled in and have become comfortable navigating the building. Teachers spent the first few days of school working on routines and teaching behavior expectations as part of our PBIS model. We did not use the bells in order to help the students first get comfortable with the routines rather than worry about running from class to class on time. We began using the bells on Tuesday after Labor Day.

Our athletics are off to a great start. Fortunately the weather has been cooperating for both the outdoor athletics as well as the classroom settings.

We held our first roller skating night on September 5. The students had a lot of fun and so did Mrs. Novak, Mrs. Monyak,

Mrs. Urbansky, Mr. Yakunavich, Ms. Gomez and Mr. Carlock.

Our students have been busy taking their first AIMSWEB plus benchmark exam. This will allow us to determine how best to help them and who could benefit from some additional services.

We have our homecoming pep rally coming up on the 27th of September to honor our fall athletes and to learn about the concept of Homecoming.

Our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) teams will be working in the next month on determining how to proceed with Tier 1 interventions as well as go to a professional development class on Restorative Justice at the Educational Service Center of Lorain County.

*submitted by Principal Cara Gomez*





## Four Leaf Clovers, continued from p. 4

Callie went back to the state fair in August and competed at the state fair swine Skillathon and won outstanding record keeper award and 4th in state for her age division in skillathon. Callie, Macy Paller, and Katelyn Konicek showed at summer point shows for saddle and miniature horses.

The club had an Ohio State themed picnic in August where Health Officer, Addison Beal helped members to make first aid kits.

Club members had a great time and lots of success at Lorain County Fair! Here are some of the highlights:

Callie Finnegan & Macy Paller were on the reserve champion Saddle Horse Groom & Clean Team. Callie Finnegan was on the reserve champion Miniature Horse Groom & Clean team too. Allison Tuggle was 4th in sheep showmanship, 3rd place market lamb, and 4th place breeding ewe.

Addison Beal was Reserve Grand Champion in breed cat, 4th place cat showmanship, and 3rd place beginner pack goat class. Grace Stanley was 2nd in chicken showmanship, reserve champion meat chickens, and reserve champion meat rabbits.

Mason Stanley won honorable mention woodworking. Parker Maurer won his age division for pedal pull tractor. Sophia Abraham won 1st in cupcake decorating, and an honorable mention Money Wise project.

Amelia Abraham-4th in showmanship for pet rabbit, 1st place showmanship and obedience with her dog Muffin, and second place in rally and agility (pictured on left).

T.J. Logan was 2nd in egg display project, 1st in age division for county pedal tractor pull. Julia Finnegan was 1st place open class under 13 miniature horse showmanship, 1st place open class leadline horsemanship, and 3rd place miniature horse solid mares.

Callie Finnegan was reserve champion gilt, 6th place junior swine showmanship, 4th place overall market hog, class champion market hog, class reserve champion market hog, reserve champion horse skillathon, reserve champion junior miniature horse showmanship, 3rd place miniature horse showman of showmen, 3rd place miniature horse hunter, champion miniature horse pleasure driving, grand champion junior western saddle horse showmanship, grand champion junior English showmanship, 3rd place saddle horse showman of showmen, 3rd place saddle horse trail, and grand champion open class under 13 miniature horse pleasure driving.

Macy Paller was reserve champion junior western saddle horse showmanship, 3rd place walk trot trail, and honorable mention walk trot pleasure.

Thank you to club members Katelyn Konicek and Bridget Rutkowski for serving as Junior Fair Board members. They plan, set-up, and carry out the entire junior fair and we are really proud of how hard they work.

Thank you to advisor Heather Davis for serving as a Supreme Showmanship judge for the large animal.

Thank you to our advisors Diane Davis, Heather Davis, Kassie Davis, and Ruth Davis.

We will have our end of the year celebration in October.

*submitted by Callie Finnegan*



*Pictured on page 4: Allison Tuggle. On page 8: Amelia Abraham and Muffin. This page, clockwise from top: Sophia Abraham and friend, Julia Finnegan, Callie Finnegan, and Addison Beal.*



## Meet the Social Worker: Deanna Watts



Deanna Watts, LSW, LSSW  
Social Worker

Hello! My name is Deanna Watts. I am very excited to be joining this team as the new social worker! I'm a native Ohioan who currently lives on the west side of Cleveland with my husband and four kids.

I have worked as a social worker in several different capacities over the years and understand the importance of succeeding academically. I also understand there are many issues that can stand in the way of academic performance. I hope to promote the academic, emotional and social development of all students. I hope to be an asset in providing services that you will find beneficial.

My main goal is to provide as much support as possible for families, students, and school staff. Please feel free to contact the school guidance counselor or me directly via email or phone to discuss any concerns or to schedule a face-to-face meeting. Confidentiality and safety are my highest priorities.

I look forward to getting to know the students and families here - and am looking forward to a great school year!

**Education:** Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois in Chicago,  
Bachelor's Degree in Social work from Harding University.

**Contact Me:** Email: [watts@escl.org](mailto:watts@escl.org); call or text (440) 334-8801.



## Falcons on the Fly at FES

Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> we kicked-off the 13th year of *Falcons on the Fly*, a walking/jogging program for all FES students. A huge thanks to the Firelands Elementary PTG and Bettcher Industries for making this program possible! Thanks also to the 65 parent volunteers who pitch in to help make this program run smoothly every year, and the FHS marching band for creating and exiting atmosphere at the kick-off event.

At the beginning of recess, children are encouraged to walk or jog 1 lap around our *Falcons on the Fly* path! If they choose to complete more laps, that's great! Laps are accumulated each day and throughout the duration of

the school year. When a child accumulates enough laps to have finished a 5K .... then a 10K . . . then a half-marathon..... and a marathon . . . he or she will receive incentives, and students who reach a marathon will also receive a Marathon Club t-shirt.

The main objective of this program is to increase the amount of structured, physical activity time spent by the children. Students learn the lifelong benefits and enjoyment of walking/jogging. *Falcons on the Fly* helps make recess time be spent more constructively by all students. Here's to another successful, fun-filled year of *Falcons on the Fly*!



# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS



## Firelands Band Boosters General Membership Meetings

Firelands Band Boosters meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the high school band room. Our mission is to provide support for the Firelands Instrumental Music Program at all three schools in the district. The dates for our general memberships meetings for the 2019-2020 school year are as follows:

- October 15, 2019
- November 19, 2019

- December, 2019—No meeting scheduled. Happy Holidays!
- January 21, 2020
- February 18, 2020
- March 17, 2020
- April 21, 2020
- May 19, 2020
- June 16, 2020

No meeting scheduled for July 2020. Enjoy your summer!

**Save the Date!**  
The Firelands Band Boosters Annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa will be held on December 7, 2019, in conjunction with our Holiday Craft Show.



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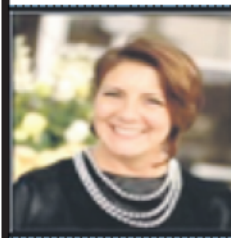
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