



# The Firelands Express



Volume 13, Issue 112

April 2023

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.

## Aladdin Performance Brings Magic to new Auditorium



The Firelands Middle School 7th and 8th grade choir members presented the 29th annual musical of *Aladdin and His Wonderful Magical Lamp* on the new high school stage at the end of March. In addition to two evening performances, a free matinee was held for senior citizens. Friends of Firelands sponsored the event and Kellie's Kettle Corn was provided as a treat for the seniors.

The musical was a huge success with over 500 parents, relatives, and community members enjoying the 3 performances! The students did an amazing job. A large part of the success of the musical every year is due to the many supportive volunteers and play assistants that create props, sets, scenery, and costumes.

The new facility with state-of-the-art lights, sound and theater seating added another exciting element to the musical this year. Thank you to the Firelands community for supporting the arts!

*submitted by Mrs. Wendy Johnson  
FMS/FHS Choral Director*

## FHS Student is Essay Finalist

Congratulations Katherine Smith!

Firelands Local School District is honored to share that Katie Smith, a freshman at FHS, was a student finalist in this year's "Stop The Hate" contest. She is one of only two 9th grade students recognized this year. This contest, in its fifteenth year, is sponsored by the Maltz Museum in Beachwood, Ohio. The contest is based on works that create a more accepting and inclusive society. 3,000 Northeast Ohio students participated in the contest and Katie won \$100.00 for her essay. Smith joins alumni Carrie Kubicki (2015) and Ethan Boggs (2020) in being recognized by the Maltz Museum!

Congratulations on this wonderful achievement, Katie!



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

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# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

## FFA Makes History with Career Development Events



Congratulations to the FFA Career Development Event Teams that have made school history over the past several weeks. The Equine Management Team has gone undefeated in all contests all over the state they have competed in this year. They are in a very strong position for 1st place in Ohio out of 108 teams.

Members that contributed to first place team wins are: Jolee Wissinger, Ava Fontaine, Jordyn Simpson, Marshall Ternes, Callie Finnegan, Lilly Chenoweth, & Kyleigh Klingshirn.

We are excited to announce that the team of Jolee Wissinger, Ava Fontaine, Jordyn Simpson, and Marshall Ternes have won the state preliminaries and



move on to state finals on April 28<sup>th</sup> with a chance to go to the National Championships in the fall for the first time in school history.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, fourteen students took the Ohio Veterinary Science CDE preliminary online test. Four Firelands FFA members have qualified for the state practicums on April 19<sup>th</sup>! Congratulations to Jordyn Simpson, Jolee Wissinger, Ava Fontaine, & Olivia McGrath for being the first Firelands students to qualify for state finals.

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Ag Mechanics Skills CDE team that had previously qualified for state finals competed at Ohio State ATI. The team of Holden Harker,

Joel Polen, and Matthew Schnell took second in Ohio, with Holden being sixth place individually. This is the highest placing we have ever earned in this CDE. The team will earn a state banner for their work.

Marshal Ternes joins Matthew Schnell and Holden Harker in the Outdoor Power CDE and they will compete at Ohio State ATI on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to all teams and good luck to the teams going to finals!

*submitted by Mrs. Shanna Finnegan  
Agricultural Educator/FFA Advisor*

**BEST WISHES TO ALL  
OF OUR FFA MEMBERS!**

## Head Start Rated 5 Stars

Congratulations to the LCCAA Firelands Head Start Staff for maintaining their 5-star rating for excellence in preschool! The rating is awarded by the Ohio Department of Education in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services via their Step Up To Quality system.

Registration for the 2023-24 school year is happening now for the Tuesday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. program. Visit the Lorain County Community Action Agency website at [https://www.lccaa.net/programs/head\\_start](https://www.lccaa.net/programs/head_start) for more information or to fill out an application. You can also call the classroom at (440) 965-6130 and ask for Tina.

*submitted by Ms. Pam Caruso  
Head Start Site Director*

**WE DID IT!**  
WE ARE A 5-STAR QUALITY  
RATED PROGRAM.



[www.boldbeginning.ohio.gov](http://www.boldbeginning.ohio.gov)

## Class of 2023 Commencement Exercises

June 2, 2023

7:00 pm Falcon Stadium

Rain Date June 3, 2023 10:00 am Falcon Stadium



## PARADE NEWS

The 2023 Birmingham Memorial Day Parade will be on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Please contact Robert and Amy Davis to participate in the parade or to send donations. [Davishome6610@gmail.com](mailto:Davishome6610@gmail.com).

The Kipton Camden Henrietta Parade and Program will be held on Sunday, May 28 in Kipton. Parade line-up is at 1:30 and the parade will begin at 2:00, followed by the program at 2:30. Please contact Amber Fannin at (419) 931-6523 for registration information.

# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

## Firelands Middle School News & Updates

I hope everyone was able to enjoy spring break. Students should be reenergized for the final push towards the end of the school year. Our staff and students have been very busy at FMS.

Our 7th and 8th grade choirs worked very hard on their amazing production of Aladdin. Wonderful job everyone! Our students always amaze me with the confidence to get up and sing and dance in front of a large audience. BRAVO!

Our 6th grade students began testing the week before break. The first week of testing went off without any issues. Students were reported to have worked very hard and most took their

time. We encourage all families to remind students to take their time and do their absolute best on the test.

Our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) has continued to recognize students each week for being caught doing positive actions. We also had our monthly Fabulous Falcon pizza with the principal. It is so nice to see students recognized for doing all the right things. We love spending time with our students and being able to get to know them.

Mr. Skoczen and I also boarded every bus to support the drivers as they reminded students of the bus expectations that allow everyone to have a

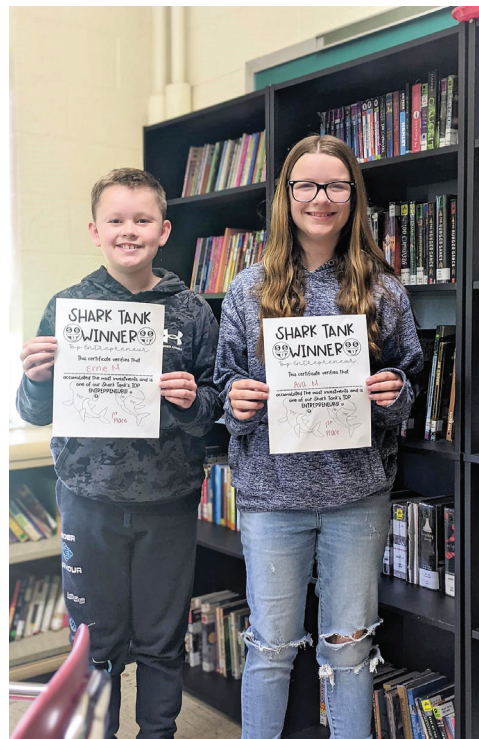
safe ride each day. We thank the drivers for allowing us to partner with them on this effort.

We are in the planning stages of implementing of a Junior Teen Leadership Corp for next year. This will be another great opportunity for our students to partner with the older students and have great leadership skills modeled at a younger age.

On the day before break, we had a "fun" afternoon for the students. They could choose from various activities and then we ended the day with a staff versus students game! Always a great time for all.

In conjunction with our Parent Teacher Group, we wrapped up the big fundraiser! Thank you to all who have supported our students in this venture. This will all lead up to our Day of Awesomeness in May. We are preparing for all of the end of year excitement with our 6th and 8th grade class trips coming up, end of year concerts, assemblies, rewards, and fun days. May is always the absolute most fun month of the year for all here at the middle school!

*submitted by Mrs. Cara Hutchinson  
FMS Principal*



**FMS Photos left to right:** 1) School Resource Officer Trifiletti with aspiring student officer. 2) Bomb Squad truck with students on Tractor Day (Officer Trifiletti brought it in). 3) Shark Tank winners from Mrs. Lahoud's class. They had to create an original product that solved a problem, advertise, and pitch for investments. 4) Student on Spirit Day. 5) Behind the scenes at Aladdin. 6) Student with brother who was visiting FMS for lunch before leaving for military training.

*More Aladdin pictures on page 9!*

# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

## Athletic Trainer Joe Menges Honored for Service



*Pictured above: Mr. Joe Menges, FLSD Athletic Trainer and Mr. Ty Stillman, FLSD Athletic Director.*

On March 23rd, Mr. Joe Menges was honored at the Lorain County Athletic Administrator Associations awards banquet. He received the Service Award which recognizes a person who has contributed over a period of years to the

betterment of high school athletics.

Menges came to Firelands in 2005 and is now completing his 18<sup>th</sup> year as Athletic Trainer at FHS. Prior to coming to Firelands, he worked two years in the Detroit Redwings Organization. He has also worked at many school districts throughout Ohio in his 38 years in Athletic Training including Tuscarawas Central Catholic, Ridgewood, and New Philadelphia just to name a few.

Along with his duties at Firelands, he is a Master Assessor for the Ohio High School Athletic Association wrestling weight management program and is a PAP permit provider for the Ohio Department of Education, offering education for coaching certification.

Joe is a graduate of Dover High School in Dover Ohio, Walsh College, and did his Athletic Training studies at Ohio State.

*from the Firelands Blog*

### Find your success at Lorain County JVS!

### Apply Now for the 2023/24 school year!

[lcjvs.com](http://lcjvs.com)



## Spring Concerts & Parades

### Band

FHS Band Concert: May 11 @ 7:00 pm

FMS Band Concert: May 25

6th grade @ 6:30 pm

7th & 8th grade @ 7:30 pm

FES 5th Grade Band Concert: May 23rd @ 6:30 pm

FHS Parades:

May 28 @ Kipton/Henrietta @ 2:00 pm

May 29 @ South Amherst @ 10:00 am

May 29 @ Birmingham @ 1:00 pm



### Choir

FHS Choir Concert: May 8 @ 7:30 pm. \*Note updated time

FMS Choir Concert: May 30 @ 7:00 pm

FES 2nd Grade Concert: May 10 @ 6:00 pm



### Firelands Class of 2023

### LCJVS Public Safety

## James Hancock

# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

## Firelands High School News & Updates

On March 23rd, FHS Student Council hosted a senior versus faculty basketball game. Each team had t-shirts and everyone had a great time! I am proud to announce that the faculty won, although the seniors put up some good competition. We are looking forward to next year and hope it becomes an annual event.

We hosted our annual College and Career Fair on March 28th. Students were able to meet with representatives from area businesses as well as college reps. We held mock interviews, which for some students turned into a real first round interview! The representatives reported that they were impressed with our students and are looking forward to next year.

FFA held their banquet on

April 5th at the high school. We love having such a beautiful space to hold events! This has been a record-breaking year for our FFA students and it was wonderful to see them get their awards.

On April 6th, we inducted 46 juniors into the Firelands Chapter of the National Honor Society. At the ceremony, the inductees signed the official charter, and the seniors received their medals.

On April 18th, Firelands High School hosted the LC8 Leadership Conference. Selected student athletes from each of our conference schools attended this event and listened to speakers as well as participated in leadership activities. It is our hope that if we can cultivate leadership in our student athletes, those skills

will extend beyond the court or the field and into the school and community.

On April 21st, the senior English classes presented their Career Exploration projects to their mentors. The seniors have worked with a mentor outside of school and will earn the Ohio Means Jobs seal because of this work.

Also on April 21st, the high school drama class performed their play, "The Customer is Always Wrong." Also, Firelands Fine Arts Night was held on April 24th. This is a district wide showcase of student work from kindergarten to grade twelve. In addition, Mrs. Tawil requested photos of work from our alumni

that were also displayed in the auxiliary gym on the screen. We are very proud of our students and our school and always look forward to sharing their work with the community.

*submitted by Ms. Cathy Keener  
FHS Principal*

*For up-to-date high school athletic news, please follow Twitter accounts:  
@FirelandsFalcon (Athletic Director)  
@FirelandsBB (Baseball)  
@ransom0010 (Baseball coach)  
@firelandstrack (Track & Field/XC)  
@Falcon\_update (BOE)  
@MrsKeenerFHS*

*There are also many Facebook pages and groups. Sports schedules and scores are posted on <https://firelandsathletics.org/>.*

## South Amherst Alumni Scholarship Available

If you are a senior who has parents or grandparents who have graduated from South Amherst High School, you are eligible to apply for a \$500.00 scholarship! The South Amherst Alumni organization is offering two of these scholarships this year.

Applications can be requested by calling Jerry Bozicevich at 440-773-5546. A completely filled out application, along with the acceptance letter from the college or trade school you will be attending in the fall, must be returned to Jerry by June 15, 2023.

## Spain Trip Over Spring Break



Pictured above at the royal palace in Madrid, and at right at the Alhambra in Granada, are travelers who went to Spain over spring break. Students were Marley Klekota, Lukas Shoemaker, Allison Stewart and Madilyn Weller. Adults were trip leader Mrs. Laura Tawil, Mrs. Summer Shumaker, and Ms. Meagan Weller (Class of 2018).



Attention  
Students  
& Parents



**SPEAK UP**  
**SAVE LIVES**

By calling or texting the statewide hotline -844-SAFEROH- you can report anything that is suspicious or endangering you, your friends or your school.

## Firelands Elementary School News & Updates

### 1st Graders Learn Economics

Mrs. Wymer and Mrs. Ferraton's first graders have begun their Social Studies unit on Economics. The students have been enjoying hands on activities to learn about trade and supply and demand. For our lesson on trade, students created paper crafts to trade with other students. They learned that not all traders will be interested in what they have to offer, and they may have to visit many traders to find someone who is willing to trade with them.

For our lesson on supply and demand, our classroom was transformed into a market. Students were given ten Falcon Bucks and learned they had options, as a buyer. They could choose to purchase a product that we had a lot of for ten Falcon Bucks or they could add on the Falcon Bucks they have earned and purchase a product that we only had two of. Some students also decided they weren't interested in either of the products and decided to keep their ten Falcon Bucks for the Falcon Pride Store. The students who were interested in the high demand product, counted all of their Falcon Bucks and the two students with the most Falcon Bucks each got a 1 pound solid



3rd Graders on Tractor Day

milk chocolate bunny. Students enjoyed being engaged in these hands-on activities to learn how economics works in the real world.

### Math Easter Egg Hunt

The 2nd Graders in Mrs. Dolnosich's 2nd Grade homeroom participated in a Math Review Easter Egg Hunt. Students showed their skills with addition, subtraction, word problems, counting coins, and telling time on an analog clock! They had a great time finding the eggs and solving problems.

### Outer Space Room

Mrs. Socha's 4th grade students worked hard to earn

a party for showing expected behaviors at school. Their outer space room was part of the reward they earned for showing safety, organization, achieving goals, and respect. They also used the room as inspiration for test prep games. Students practiced reviewing language arts standards through escape rooms and games that were space themed.

Finally, the room was a way to jump start their upcoming research project. Students will be working as a class to create a travel brochure for the Milky Way Galaxy. Each student will research a galactic object or event to include in the class brochure. (Pictures next page.)

### Parent Teacher Group

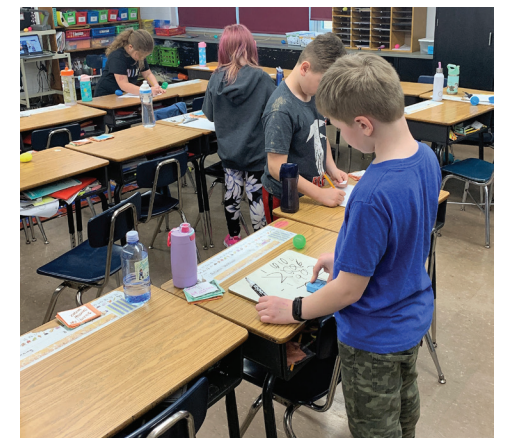
Firelands Elementary is very lucky to have an active PTG (Parent Teacher Group). Parents of FES students are encouraged to become involved with this group. They meet monthly and find ways to further enrich the FES environment for all of our students. They are actively planning events for the students.

Feel free to reach out to them to see how you can assist. You can find them on Facebook (Firelands Elementary School PTG). Their scheduled meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 in the FES Library.

### Dates to Remember

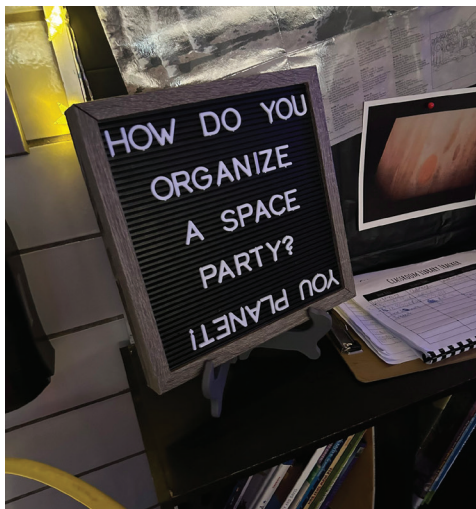
- May 3 .....PTG Meeting
- May 10.....2nd Grade Concert
- May 15 ..... BOE Meeting
- May 23.....5th Grade Band Concert
- May 29..... Memorial Day, No School
- June 2.....FHS Graduation
- June 6....5th Grade Bridging Ceremony
- June 6.....Last Day, Early Release

*submitted by Mrs. Laura Groboske  
FES Assistant Principal*



# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

Elementary, continued



**CALLING ALL ALUMNI!**

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The Firelands Express is looking for alumni news to share with the community!

If you or someone you know has news that you wish to share, email it to Sue Schaefer at [sschaefer@firelandsschools.org](mailto:sschaefer@firelandsschools.org).

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**CALLING ALL ALUMNI!**



## Camp Invention Registration is Open



Camp Invention is returning to Firelands once again! This STEM camp was originated through the National Inventors Hall of Fame. In its 50th year, the NIHF has honored, inspired and challenged more than 3 million children, educators and inventors across the country.

The camp is open to students entering kindergarten through 6th grade. It is scheduled for June 12-16 and will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There is also an extended day option from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

There is also a leader-in-training (LIT) option for students in 7th through 9th grades. LITs will gain mentoring and collaboration skills while helping guide campers through the week.

This year's camp theme is "Wonder!" Campers will learn problem solving, creativity, persistence and entrepreneurship.

The cost of the program is \$260, with an additional \$100 for the extended day option. There are a limited number of need based scholarships available thanks to the generous support of the Nord Family Foundation.

The camp is held at the Firelands Elementary School, located at 10779 Vermilion Road Oberlin, OH 44074

For further information, please contact Nancy Mitchell. 216-407-6155 or [mitchell3206@gmail.com](mailto:mitchell3206@gmail.com). You can also visit the Camp Invention website at <https://www.invent.org/programs/camp-invention>.

## Save the Date to Stuff the Bus

Stuff the Bus will be on July 12th from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the FMS parking lot. This annual event collects donated school supplies for use by our K-12 students throughout the school year. In demand items

include large backpacks, folders, rulers, markers, glue sticks, pens, and loose-leaf paper. All other school items are accepted and appreciated as well! Thanks for your support!

# Stuff THE BUS



*With school supplies*

July 12th  
8:00 am - 6:00 pm  
FMS parking lot

Friends of Firelands



# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

## Food Service Department Helps Families in Need

Please reach out to Mrs. Judy Baumann, Food Service Director, if you are struggling to pay for school meals. She can help you through the meal application process and offer other help as well. [jbaumann@firelandsschools.org](mailto:jbaumann@firelandsschools.org) / 440-965-4255 ext. 3097

The current meal status your child has will roll over for the first 30 operating days of the next school year (October 18, 2023). It is VERY important that you complete a new meal application each school year. If an updated application is not received by day 30 (October 18, 2023), the status will change to denied.

Meal debt is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. All accounts must be out of the negative ASAP. We have a

program in place to help families in need, please reach out to Mrs. Baumann.

Meal applications can be completed anytime throughout the school year. If your income has been reduced, loss of job or any other unforeseen circumstance, complete a meal application. You can complete it online at [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com) or you can request a paper application.

The end of the year is fast approaching. If your child has money left on their account, it will roll over to the next school year. Any Senior that has money left on the account may request a refund or, if they have a sibling, the money will be moved to the siblings account or, if we do not hear from the parent or guardian

the money will be added to our emergency account to help other students in need. Use this link to complete a google form with your request <https://forms.gle/MQyyabFhiNh9h13D7> or use the link on the sidebar on the My School Menu site. [www.myschoolmenus.com](http://www.myschoolmenus.com)

**Final Form Updates:** Please be sure to update any student information in Final Forms as this updates our student database as well as Pay Schools which is the point of sale system and database used for Food Service.

Pay Schools Central can help you keep track of items your child is purchasing using their meal account. If you have not done so, register at [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com). This site also allows you to put money on

your child's account, and you can complete a meal application as well as view reports of account activity. If you use the auto replenish for the online payments check the date you entered to be sure it doesn't automatically add money at the end of the school year if the account falls below the limit you set to replenish.

IF you feel your child is spending too much money, please have a conversation with them. Our cashiers may question what is being purchased but it is not their responsibility to stop a student from making purchases. Please contact Mrs. Baumann if you would like to discuss your child's account.

*Submitted by Mrs. Judy Baumann  
Food Service Director*

[jbaumann@firelandsschools.org](mailto:jbaumann@firelandsschools.org)  
440-965-4255 ext. 3097

July 11-13th  
9 - 11:00 am  
Firelands Middle School

## SAFETY TOWN at Firelands!

### Safety Sessions:

Pedestrian & Bike Safety  
Bus & Train Safety  
Water & Gun Safety

### Trainers:

Deputy Kovachs & SRO Trifiletti  
Mr. Saylor & Mrs. Saylor  
Local First Responders



**ENROLL NOW**



## Falcons Wrestling Camp

with special guest...

# SAMMY SASSO

**Saturday, May 20TH, 2023**

Firelands Middle School located at 10643 Vermilion Rd. Oberlin, Ohio 44074

**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**\$65 per wrestler**

**Doors open at 9 a.m. for check -in  
Grades k-12 welcome, spots are limited.**

• **Snack will be provided**

**Questions can be directed to 440-396-7088**

**Registration link**





# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS

## Aladdin Highlights from the Seats to the Stage



Thank you to all the performers, stage crew, costume designers, directors and audience members for making this an exceptional musical experience!



## Board of Education April Meeting Highlights

### March 13, 2023

The meeting opened with a presentation by FHS principal, Cathy Keener, updating the board on revised graduation requirements from the ODE. You can find the flyer on ODE's website (education.ohio.gov) under the TOPICS drop-down menu.

Treasurer Keri Angney offered an update on the pipeline funding and when payment(s) could be expected.

Milt Saylor, Transportation Director, was excited to share that two new busses will be arriving within the next two weeks and that Firelands would be hosting the School Bus Driver Rodeo on April 22, 2023.

Principal Cathy Keener made a point in her report to thank the community for the new high school building. She was pleased to share that for the first time in school history FHS would be hosting a national conference. In addition, she noted that for the first time ever we had student athletes participating in bowling and gymnastics at the state level. Mandy DeWitt was the first female bowler to represent Firelands at state, and Caley Bomback was the first gymnastics state qualifier.

FMS Principal Cara Hutchinson shared her appreciation for the PTG's support and how much the students enjoyed the "glow dance" they provided. PTG will also be hosting an upcoming bingo night.

FES Principal Sun Choe praised the DARE program which is being done this year by our SRO officer, Adam Trifiletti. She also said that as of the date of the board meeting we had already registered 85 kindergarten students.

Cristin Cicco, Director of Special Education, shared that she attended a legal seminar and that she is focusing her department on closing the gaps for all students with learning difficulties.

Lori Roemer, Director of Educational Services, updated the board on the preparations for the state testing, and shared how all buildings were working together to create a consistent suicide prevention plan.

Jennifer Butchko, Public Relations Coordinator, shared about the success of the Falcon Showcase which hosted 45 booths. She also shared details for the upcoming senior citizen's special showing of the 8th grade musical Aladdin, and informed the board on the updates happening with the Firelands app.

During the meeting, various board members discussed the upcoming endowment scholarships, the charter and application for the upcoming Firelands Hall of Fame, the success of the Falcon Showcase, and the bookbag and metal detector policies and procedures.

*Submitted by Mrs. Ellen Gundersen  
FLSD Board Member*

### April 17, 2023

The board meeting opened with a presentation by a 5th grade student named Paisley who very articulately expressed concerns of not having time and room to sit with her friends at lunch in a lunchroom. Board President Mike O'Keefe agreed with her arguments and acknowledged the limits of space at FES, and assured her we are continually discussing options to make improvements for more space for the K-5 students.

District social workers Deanna Watts and Ashley Blair provided a presentation summarizing the programs they offer and support and the number of students they serve. They provided the board with a detailed pie chart of the variety of student support requests. They announced that the year's final Kinship program will be held on May 19th at 9:00 a.m. at the Firelands Board Office in South Amherst.

Keri Angney, Treasurer, shared that our audit has been completed and submitted and that our tax levy rates have been accepted.

Milt Saylor, Transportation Director, made a point of sharing that there will be a number of upcoming road closures due to construction and that everyone should watch social media posts for updates. He also shared with a big smile that the two new busses arrived and are ready to hit the road!

Cathy Keener, FHS Principal, shared that the College & Career Readiness Fair was a huge success and that a number of students have already gotten callbacks from future employers. She also spoke about FFA's hugely successful year, hosting the LC8 Leadership Conference, the upcoming FHS Drama Class production, and the senior English class project presentations.

Lori Roemer, Director of Educational Services, gave the board an update of the testing that is well underway, the end of the year benchmark tests, the completion of the suicide prevention

flowchart, and plans for the staff professional development in August.

Laura Groboske, FES Assistant Principal, shared a number of exciting events that their PTG is providing and an update on the success of the Falcon Bucks Store. She also introduced one of the new teachers hired for the 23-24 school year.

Board members reported that the endowment scholarships will be awarded on May 2nd. Final edits to the Firelands Hall of Fame charter and application have been made. Additionally, thanks to efforts of student Trevor Wylie and the buildings and grounds committee, the bell which hung in the SAMS building tower will now be located under the score board near the student section of the field, and will be rang after touchdowns and victories.

Superintendent Michael Von Gunten shared updates on the resurfacing of the track, FHS gym floor repainting, floor tile replacement/repairs at FHS & FES, painting of classrooms at FMS and FES, new furniture for the 4th and 5th grade classrooms, and the relocation of the Head Start room to FMS to open up a free classroom at FES.

In closing, we express our sincere appreciation to the staff who are retiring or moving on to new adventures and we welcome those who are joining the Firelands staff. (Look for a full list to be posted in the Firelands Blog).

*Submitted by Mrs. Ellen Gundersen  
FLSD Board Member*

## Firelands Youth Cheerleading Meetings to be Held

Meetings will be held on May 31st at the FES Gym for all students interested in Youth Cheerleading. The meeting times are scheduled as follows:

\*6:00 p.m. for Grades PreK-1st

\*6:30 p.m. for Grades 2nd and 3rd

\*7:00 p.m. for Grades 4th-6th

Please bring your cheerleader for sizing. The program cost

is \$180, due on May 31st. On Facebook, look for Firelands Youth Cheerleading. You can do paperwork ahead of time on the Google document on our Facebook page.

If you have questions, please call Jackie Ziegler at (440) 315-5178 or jackieziegler1985@yahoo.com. The deadline to cheer is the May 31st meeting.

### Next BOE Meetings

May 15

June 12

July 10

August 14

September 11

October 9

November 20

December 17

# THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS



**CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS, UNCLES, AUNTS, ADOPTIVE PARENTS, FOSTER FAMILY & CAREGIVERS OF STUDENTS AND THEIR SIBLINGS**



## KINSHIP NETWORK

MONTHLY SUPPORT & RESOURCES FOR CAREGIVERS



**FRIDAY**  
MAY 19TH @ 9 AM  
FREE REFRESHMENTS  
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**when**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
BEHIND (OLD) SAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL  
112 N. LAKE STREET, SOUTH AMHERST

**where**

for all you're doing to support students

*Thank you!*

we want to support you & connect with you

COME MEET OTHERS IN KINSHIP ROLES

CONNECT TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND EACH OTHER!



JOIN US FOR OUR LAST KINSHIP MEETING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!

COME HEAR A PERSONAL KINSHIP STORY OF HEALING, HOPE & RESTORATION!  
JOIN IN ON DISCUSSIONS OF STRUGGLES & TRIUMPHS!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Feel free to bring little ones...

**FAMILY MEMBERS WELCOME**

*Thank you!*

### QUESTIONS?

Please contact Deanna Watts or Ashley Blair  
Firelands District School Social Worker  
440-334-8801  
dwatts@firelandsschools.org  
ablair@firelandsschools.org

## Friends of Firelands Golf Outing is July 30th

The Friends of Firelands 5th Annual Golf Outing is scheduled for Sunday, July 30, 2023. It will be held at Carlisle Golf Course in Grafton with check-in at 7:30 a.m. and a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

This annual event raises funds for the Friends of Firelands organization which goes above and beyond to support the needs of the Firelands community.

This four-man scramble event

costs \$85 per golfer and includes 18 holes, cart, breakfast, lunch, dinner and beverages. There will be a 50-50 raffle, baskets, prizes and course challenges.

There are still sponsorship opportunities available. For more information about registration, sponsorship or the event in general, contact Mike O'Keefe at okeefe24@icloud.com or 440-670-6469.

Golfers must be 21 and over.

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Main Office: 440-965-5821.  
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Next Board of Education meetings:

May 15  
June 12  
July 10  
August 14

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