

The Firelands Express

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 77

MAY 13, 2016

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Firelands Board of Education to Place Bond Issue on the August 2nd Ballot

On May 2nd the Firelands Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution to place a bond issue on the August 2nd ballot. Without passage in August, our district will **lose over 6.2 million dollars** in state assistance as our funding offer will expire.

The need to address our facilities is real. Our middle and high schools are outdated, inefficient and need to be replaced.

- The State of Ohio inspected the Firelands school buildings in 2006 and 2014 and issued a report specifying the problems in each building.
 - Asbestos was encapsulated many years ago that makes renovations difficult
 - Both buildings do not meet today's standards regarding school safety and security
 - The waste water treatment facility needs to be replaced at SAMS and updated at FHS
 - Science labs are not meeting 21st century learning requirements
 - Technology is a struggle due to antiquated buildings
 - Buildings are not ADA compliant

In fact, the State of Ohio will pay for 19% of the cost of construction because they are so concerned about the condition of the middle and high schools.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Firelands Local School District will have an early release on the last day of school, Thursday, June 9, 2016.

FHS and SAMS will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m.

FES will be dismissed at 1:30 p.m.

Busses will be running 2 hours EARLIER than normal.

The plan is to replace the middle and high schools with a joined 6th - 12th grade building. There will be separate wings for the middle and high school students with a shared heating system, cafeteria, and library. The buildings will be cost effective, meet the learning needs for the 21st century, and prepare our students for a competitive world.

While the 6-12 building project is the same in terms of its scope, **in response to input from the community**, the project calls for a combination 3.61 mil property tax which will cost the owner of a \$100,000 home \$11 per month and a .25% income tax which is based on your Ohio Taxable Income. Income exempt from being taxed includes: social security benefits, disability and survivor benefits, welfare benefits, child support, property received as a gift, bequest or inheritance, and workers' compensation benefits.

In addition, the Board has decided that in lieu of demolishing Firelands High School, further consideration will be given to determine how the building may be able to be repurposed for future use.

To learn more about this investment in our kids, please visit one of the following social media accounts or call the Firelands Board of Education.

On the web at: www.iamfirelands.com

Email: iamFirelands@gmail.com

Twitter: [@iAmFirelands](https://twitter.com/iAmFirelands)

Facebook: [#iAmFirelands](https://www.facebook.com/iAmFirelands)

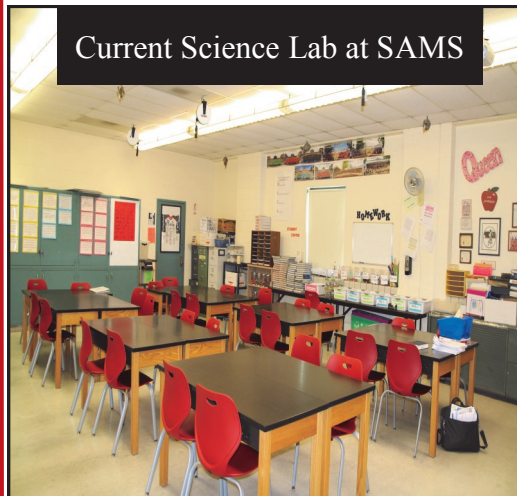
Phone: Contact Mike Von Gunten, Superintendent @ 965.5821

GO FALCONS!

Mike Von Gunten
Superintendent

FHS Class of 1995
mvongunten@firelandsschools.org

[@FLSDSuper](https://twitter.com/FLSDSuper)



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

The Communities we serve: Amherst, Amherst Twp, Birmingham, Brownhelm Twp, Camden Twp, Florence Twp, Henrietta Twp, Kipton Village, New Russia Twp, South Amherst Village, Vermilion and Vermilion Twp.

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Firelands at Amherst Public Library Spring Art Show

The Firelands Art Department once again blooms into the community in the annual art exhibition at the Amherst Public Library. The exhibition invites schools from grades K-12 to participate in this colorful event. The 21 FHS art students come from all levels, Art Fundamentals through Advanced Art and include; Art Fundamentals - Trent Aslaksen and Melanie Stapelton; Art 1 - Genalda Finley, Anna Denes, Devon McGinnis, Riley Bayus; Art 2 - Michael Durdak, Morgan Edwards, Tessa Kasper, Logan Coon, Sean Lipscomb, Robbie Hogan, Nick Street, Isabel Solowiej; Art 3 - Lynn Schmittl and Ian Valerius; Art 4 - Tori Hritskio, Liz Mille, Andrea DiAsio and Advanced art - Victoria Krejci. Their work joins students from SAMS.

The exhibition was held April 25 - May 15.

FHS Students Explore Spain During Spring Break

9 intrepid FHS students made the commitment to study Spanish language and culture during spring break through an EF tour. Beginning in Madrid, the students, joined by 5 adults and Mrs. Tawil, were immersed in the language, art, history and culture of Spain and Europe. The group saw Roman aqueduct ruins in Segovia, the Hapsburg's *El Escorial*, the Bourbon's *Palacio Real*, bull-fighting rings, *Real Madrid's* soccer stadium, damascene production in Toledo, Don Quixote's windmills in Consuegra, the Alhambra in Granada, the cathedral in Seville. The itinerary wound through Andalucia and ended in Marbella on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. A highlight of the trip was a day spent on an agri-tour into the mountains of Malaga touring and tasting local honey, almonds, olive oil production and a traditional lunch in family homes of Alfaratejo. Our next trip is tentatively scheduled for spring break 2018.



FHS students meet the Mediterranean Sea



With our guide:

Isabel Barnes, Alexis Lough, Demetria Nicolaou, Bruno (EF Guide), Sarah Slack, Louis Ward, Spiro (adult traveler), Jenna Pleban, Victoria Krejci, Michael Nicolaou and Connor Price

CURRICULUM UPDATE

Spring is in the air and I can't believe that there is only about a month left of school! We are already busy preparing for next year. Below, find a few of the highlights.

The new science materials are in for next year already; teachers will be trained on these materials before they leave for summer break. We are all excited to begin utilizing a resource that is aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards and that will help support our students for college and careers. Similar to the My Math and Wonders series currently being used within the district, students will have access to online content at home. One particular highlight that we are looking forward to implementing is the new digital lab feature: although this will not replace our hands-on experiences for students, it will support students who need to review certain sections of a lab to master the principles the lab is designed to convey.

Next year, in Grades 3-5 we will also be utilizing a research-based framework, known as the Lucy Calkins Units of Study Series, to support our readers/writers workshop approach to language arts instruction. This resource provides a framework to help teachers develop individualized lessons for students in relationship to authentic nonfiction and fiction texts, in both reading and writing. Some of the exciting topics that students will grapple with are "Crafting True Stories," "Reading the Weather, Reading the

World," and "Argument and Advocacy: Debatable Issues."

Teacher professional learning is also planned for next year: in connection with the district's strategic plan and vision, teachers will utilize three professional days to work together to improve student instruction. The last of these three dates (November 7) will allow our teachers to work with teachers throughout the county on the first of what promises to be many Lorain County Collaborative Professional Days. In addition, dates to review common summative assessments and plan for the next grading period are established for Grades K-8, language arts, math, and science. As our focus for next year will be a social studies adoption, we will be planning dates for these committee teammates as well.

Next year, gifted testing will occur in the fall in order to meet requisite deadlines for second grade students. All other parents of students who are wishing to have their students screened for giftedness must let the their building principal know no later than October 1, as all testing will be completed during the weeks of November 13 and 21. This will be the only screening time during the 2016-2017 school year.

In addition, our teaching staff has met now twice in our Assessment Literacy Group. This group's mission is to assist our community in creating, promoting, and facilitating a more balanced system of evidence-based instructional practices that include both formative and common summative

assessments and to help our community understand the district's assessment protocols, many of which are governed by state statute. In summary, the team has developed the following nomenclature to help our community understand our assessment practices. It is our goal, to eliminate words such as benchmarks, non-graded assessments, diagnostic tests, etc. to ensure that there is clarity of communication.

Summative Assessments – Team teacher-created common assessments that judge student mastery on the standards and the Firelands Curriculum. These assessments are graded and serve as a final check on student learning.

Formative Assessments – Any teacher-created assessment, graded and/or ungraded, that a teacher utilizes to make instructional adjustments during the learning process and to provide feedback to students.

Screeners – Required assessments to diagnose student learning needs. They occur in Grades K-3 in specific key areas to make placement decisions for students, to identify areas of concern as the school year is starting, as well as to identify for gifted in all grade levels and algebra readiness at the middle level.

State Achievement Tests – State required assessments used by teachers, the district, and the state of Ohio to check college and career readiness as well as local curriculum alignment to state standards. Students test in math and language arts in grades 3-8, specific content areas at the high school, in Grades 4 and 6

social studies, and Grades 5 and 8 science. These assessments are created by Ohio's teachers, of which Firelands has several teachers and administrators present on the committees, and content specialists. Once the test is created, it is loaded into a vendor-platform created by the American Institute for Research.

Lastly, in terms of state achievement testing, as I write this, we are finishing state achievement testing for this year. Overall the process was extremely smooth. Average testing time per part was 40 minutes, meaning that the average student by content area tested for approximately 80 minutes per subject area in areas requiring testing. We are looking forward to receiving reports by the end of June and will communicate results with parents as soon as we have received official score reports from the state of Ohio.

As the temperature gets warmer and the energy of students gets greater, I encourage you to remain focused on the key essentials of proper rest, consistent nutritious meals, and a bit of time for relaxation and fun with your child to ensure that they have a fabulous rest of the school year.



Dr. Bryan Drost
Director of Educ. Serv.

SPORTS UPDATES

MS Boys Track

The boys track team finished up another exciting season. They finished the season with a 9-3 record in dual/tri/quad meets. The Falcons place 7th at the Pirate Invitational out of 14 teams, 2nd at the Falcon Relays, and 5th at the PAC Championships.

Pirate Invitational:

Champions: Alex Angle in the High Jump
2nd Place Finishers: Tad Miller in the 400 Meter Run
3rd Place Finishers: Chance Coultrip in the 110 Meter Hurdles; Jacob Farley in the 800 Meter Run

Falcon Relays:

Champions: 4 x 800 Relay Team of C. Cornwell, Baldwin, K. Cornwell, and Farley; Falcon Medley Team of Holt, Farley, Miller and Angle; Long Jump Team of Bombback and Miller
2nd Place Finishers: Distance Medley Team of Miller, Farley, Steindl, and Baldwin; 4 x 400 Relay Team of Steindl, Coultrip, Schuler, Angle; High Jump Team of Angle and Schuler
3rd Place Finishers: Shuttle Hurdles Team of Steindl, Crawford, Schuler, and Coultrip; 4 x 100 Relay Team of Bombback, Wossilek, Crawford, and Coultrip

PAC Championships:

2nd Place Finishers: Chance Coultrip in the 110 Meter Hurdles
4th Place Finishers: Alex Angle in the 400 Meter Run; Jacob Farley in the 800 Meter Run
 The boys worked very hard this year. We have a large group of 7th grade boys who will really contribute as 8th graders next year. Good Luck to our 8th graders as you move onto the high School.

Girls Track Summary 2016

The girls Track team made an exciting run this season finishing 9-3 in Quad/Tri/Dual meets but more importantly they finished 5th out of 14 teams at the Pirate Invitation, Runner-up at the Falcon Relays and PAC Track Championships.

Pirate Invitational:

Champion: Lexi Alston in the 400 with a new Meet Record 1:02.3
2nd Place Finishers: Lexi Alston in the 100 Meter Dash; Lexi Alston in the 200 Meter Dash (set meet record in the Prelims with a time of 27.41)
3rd Place Finishers: Alessandra Davis in the 1600 Meter Run

Falcons Relays:

Champions: 4 x 800 Relay Team of Janosik, Yonts, Hutsenpiller, and Davis; Distance Medley Team of Becker, Aslton, Yonts, and Davis; Falcons Medley Team of Schuler, Janosik, Lyons, and Alston; 4 x 400 Relay team of Hutsenpiller, Stewart, Becker, and Alston
2nd Place Finishers: Sprint Medley Team of Triplett, Domin, Moquete, and Mains; Discus Team of Becker and Stewart
3rd Place Finishers: Shuttle Hurdle Team of Lyons, Stewart, Ransom, and Schuler; 4 x 200 Relay Team of Triplett, Moquete, Domin, and McDevitt; High Jump Team of Maggard and Schuler

PAC Track Championships

Champions: Lexi Alston in the 100 Meter and 200 Meter Dashes and the 400 Meter Run; Alaina Becker in the Discus.
2nd Place Finishers: Alessandra Davis in the 1600 Meter Run; Jasmin Schuler in the High Jump
3rd Place Finishers: 4 x 100 Relay Team of Ransom, Moquete, Coggins and McDevitt; Alessandra Davis in the 800 Meter Run
4th Place Finishers: Jasmin Schuler in the 100 Meter Hurdles; Andria Mains in the 400 Meter Run; 4 x 200 Relay Team of Whitacre, Ransom, Domin and McDevitt; 4 x 400 Relay Team of Hutsenpiller, Becker, Stewart, and Janosik

New School Record set this year:

Lexi Alston in the 200 Meter Dash with a time of 26.7
 Lexi Alston in the 200 Meter Hurdles with a time of 30.4
 This is a great group of girls who really worked hard this season and it paid off at the conference meet. We will have a great group of girls coming back next year as the 7th grade group really contributed this year. Good Luck to our 8th graders in the high school. Great Job girls!!

A big thank you the following people who consistently helped out

at our meets: Laurie Beran, Jess Beran, Aric Alston, Kelli Alston, Wendy Hutsenpiller, Coach Lias, Coach Donelson, Coach Greg Grude, Brock Grude, Zadié Grude, Beau Grude, Liz Lewis, Robbie Becker, Allison Vilagi, Megan Vaughn, Star Vaughn, Ryan Ladd, Ian Valerius, Lauren Valerius, Aaron Alston.
 Coaches were: Coach Grude, Coach Swift, Coach Krieger, Coach Copley, Coach Pelphey.

HS Track

The High School Track season has started out on a high note as both the girls and boys teams have been very successful on their early season meets. Large numbers (girls team has 38 and the boys team has 36), hard work, and the competitive nature of the athletes has played a huge part of the success. The boys team won the Nelson Howe Invitational, while the girls finished second on the night. At the county meet, the boys finished fourth, while the girls finished eighth, but only ½ point out of sixth. On Friday, April 23rd, the teams traveled to Brookside for their Invitational. The girls finished second, while the boys won the Invite on the last event of the evening, 4x400m relay. At the Margareta Invitational, the girls team took sixth, but only 4 points outside fourth, while the boys finished fourth, a few points out of third place.

The Falcons are in the home stretch of the season, as they prepare for the PAC Championships at Oberlin College on Tuesday, 5-10-16, and Thursday, 5-12-16. They have worked very hard and look to make it pay off. The following week, the athletes will participate in the district track meet at Orrville HS. The top four in each event moves on to the following weekend, Regionals at Lexington HS, then on to the State Meet in Columbus.

HS Baseball

The Firelands Baseball program is enjoying another nice season both on and off the field. For the second year in a row, the Falcons Varsity team is looking to capture the PAC Stars division title. After getting off to a good start with wins against Fairview and Keystone, the Falcons continued to roll, highlighted by a doubleheader sweep of Buckeye with two shutouts. A couple tough losses to Black River provided a setback, but the team bounced right back to beat Clearview and split a doubleheader with Brookside to stay in first in the conference heading into the final game of the season. Pitchers Jeremy Simonovich (senior) and Trevor Damron (junior) have been the backbone for a young Firelands squad. Damron threw two consecutive complete game shutouts and has a conference leading 73 strikeouts. Simonovich leads the PAC with a 5-0 record, including a 1-hit gem with 15 strikeouts against Brookside which helped Coach Dan Ransom pick up his 100th career high school win. While it has been the upperclassmen providing stellar pitching, it has been two freshmen helping lead the Falcons offensively. Alex Brill and Austin Urban have both put together impressive seasons in their first year for Firelands, leading the team in hits, RBI's, runs, and stolen bases. The JV Falcon baseball team has battled through an up and down season. The team's record currently sits at 6-8. The Falcons have been lead by sophomores Sam Dennis, Mason Rogozinski, Noah Metzger, and Michael Bansek. Freshmen Jason Norwood, Jacob Newman, and JP Mullins have had solid seasons as well. When the team is not at games or practices, they have been heading over to our Firelands Elementary School to help teachers in the classroom in various ways. It has been a positive experience for everyone involved and will continue to be a part of the Falcons Baseball program. Improvements to the high school field started early and have been ongoing throughout the year. The new cage project was completed next to the field, a new windscreen was put up in the outfield, and new foul poles were added. This could not have been done without the generous and much appreciated contributions from numerous businesses and individuals throughout our community!! The Firelands Athletic Booster Club has also been a huge support with the field upgrades. With numerous companies and individuals involved, the list is long and distinguished! To see a complete listing of supporters stop out to the baseball field and check out the newly installed signs on the 1st base dugout, thanking our project sponsors and workers behind the scenes! The program will continue upgrades with the help of our community to give our players and fans the best facility in the conference. Big thank you to everyone who has helped make Firelands Baseball the best program around!!

HS Softball

The Lady Falcons softball team has had some ups & downs this season. The team record currently stands at seven (7) wins & thirteen (13) losses overall with our conference record at four (4) wins & seven (7) losses. One of the high lights was a win over Avon Lake in the Black River tournament on April 23rd. The game was changed from a full seven (7) innings to a seventy (70) minute drop dead due to weather. After five (5) innings, the Falcons were losing five (5) to zero (0). In the bottom of inning number five (5), the team scored seven (7) runs to win the game as time expired. Another big win came over Cloverleaf winning twelve (12) to nine (9). On the Varsity field side of things, improvement continues. In 2015, a windscreen was purchased for the field & for 2016 a new scoreboard was purchased & installed. All of these things could not be done without the help of the Firelands Booster Club. The Booster club not only helps out softball, but helps out all the Firelands Athletics across the board & is greatly appreciated. Next week, the Falcons begin sectional tournament play by hosting Padua on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 4:30pm.



Kennie Searight
Athletic Director

SPELLING BEE

On Sunday, May 1st three students from Firelands participated in the Educational Service Center of Lorain County's spelling bee held at Midview Middle School in Graf-ton. Savannah Leverknight, a 5th grade student at FES, and Gemma Hager and Daniel Ohle, 6th grade SAMS students, represented Firelands in the Division II spelling bee, which consisted of fifth and sixth graders from around the county. After several intense rounds of spelling, Gemma was the last speller standing winning the Division II bee. Congratulations to all three spellers for their great effort and to Gemma for winning the 2016 County Spelling Bee. They all made us proud!



FHS at FAVA

FAVA (Firelands Association for the Visual Arts) is a vital partner for the enrichment of visual art education and access for the whole community. The FHS Art Department was once again honored to hold a student exhibition in their south gallery. The exhibition was held April 19-May 3 at 87 S. Main St., inside the New Union Center for the Arts, adjacent to the FAVA Gallery Shop. With a precise selection of works from senior art students in Art 3 and all students in Art 4 and Advanced Art, a show was curated by this team of students; Connor Price, Sydney Novak and Olivia Mowry. A special closing reception was held for students and parents on May 3 before the clean-up team got to work; Victoria Krejci, Sarah Slack and Connor Price. Special thanks to Kyle Michelak, (a Firelands Dad himself), who offered enthusiastic support as FAVA's Gallery Coordinator. We've already been invited back next year.

A special closing reception was held for students and parents on May 3 before the clean-up team got to work; Victoria Krejci, Sarah Slack and Connor Price. Special thanks to Kyle Michelak, (a Firelands Dad himself), who offered enthusiastic support as FAVA's Gallery Coordinator. We've already been invited back next year.



Sarah Slack shows her work to her father at the closing.



A view of the south gallery

FHS Art Society Circus in Oberlin Big Parade

Once again the FHS Art Society organized a creative entry for the annual Oberlin Big Parade. Held



this year on Sat. April 30, the students designed a marching circus theme including costumes, make-up, props and a "big top" tent. With the parade stepping off at 11 am, our 19 students marched from Prospect school to Tappan Square.

SCHOOL COUNSELING CORNER

Seniors:

Seniors remember some upcoming dates:

- Honors Banquet: May 23rd @ 6:30pm
- Senior Breakfast: June 3rd in the gym @ 8:00am
- Graduation Practice: June 3rd @ 10am (REQUIRED) for Graduation at 7 pm

Juniors:

- Juniors participating in the **College Credit Plus program** for the 2016-2017 school year and interested in taking classes at LCCC. Please meet with Ms. Goss to receive a form with allowed credits and transcript in order to self-enroll at the college. Students need to have this completed ASAP as seats at LCCC are filling up quickly.

ACT and SAT registration information and test dates are on their websites: www.actstudent.org and www.collegeboard.com. Information packets are available in the guidance office with dates of testing and how to register online. College bound juniors please register for the ACT this spring at **actstudent.org**. For those students eligible for free/reduced lunch, an ACT fee waiver can be provided. Please stop by Counseling Office for more information. Test dates are listed below:

Test Date:	Register by:
June 11th	May 6th
Sept. 10, 2016	August 5th

- Juniors are allowed 2 college visits to view colleges of their choice and ask questions of the college admission staff. A form is available in the guidance office. This form must be given to the main office **before the student can visit the college**. It counts as

a day of attendance, but missed school work must be made up.

CollegeNow ACT Boot Camp @ FHS July 25-29 from **9am-12:15PM**. Registration is free for the first 15 students. All interested students must register by July 18th at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Lorain-Act-Bootcamp-Registration>

Remember to continue to prepare yourself for the college application process throughout the entire summer. Some of this may include: -requesting teacher recommendations through Naviance -Creating an account on Commonapp.org on **Aug.1st**-volunteering, job shadowing or working.

Sophomores:

There are still opening at the Lorain County JVS for next school year. You can still apply at www.lcjvs.com. If you have questions or need further assistance, stop in to see Mrs. Zimmer.

Freshmen:

EXCEL SUMMER 8th/9th GRADE CAREER CAMP, apply at lcjvs.com today- Tues-Thurs, June 14-16, 2016 9 AM - 12 PM A three-day career exploration program for students who are entering the 9th or 10th grades this fall. There is no cost to attend, but all campers must be registered participants. Campers are transported to and from their local district's middle school. Campers are provided with a FREE nutritious lunch each day. Campers participate in hands-on activities in a different career tech lab each day. Campers learn skills needed to be successful in today's competitive job market.



SOUTH AMHERST High School
- CAVALIERS -

1923 - 1988



The 93rd South Amherst Alumni Banquet will be held on Saturday, July 23rd, at the "New Russia Township Hall" at 46300 Butternut Ridge Road, Oberlin, Ohio. We will be honoring the 50 year Class of 1966. The doors will open at 4:30 p.m. Dinner will be catered by Fligner's and will be served at 6:00 p.m. A program and music, by "Musik Masters DJ", will follow. There will be great food, music and raffles; a great time to reminisce with your old classmates and friends!!! The cost is \$30.00 per person (cost is free for Class of 1966 and guests). More information will be coming to you via the mail. If we do not have your mailing address or your e-mail address and you wish to receive an invitation, please contact Marilyn Wilhelm at 440-986-2642 or Pam Pollack at 440-775-7887.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE BANQUET!!!

Stained Glass Window Mosaic Exhibition Report

After nine weeks of struggling with new, complex and dangerous media, the Art 3 and Art 4 students held a glittering exhibition and silent auction in the FHS library on April 14. Eleven windows among the 27 on view were up for auction. With capacity attendance from family and friends the Art 3 students demonstrated the mosaic process and provided refreshments during the auction. 7 windows went home with the highest bidders at an selling price was \$87 this year. Proceeds are shared between the individual sellers and the art department field trip to Cleveland Museum of Art.

Donate Windows - As long as there are single-paned, wood-framed salvaged windows available, this project will continue. Contact the FHS Art Department if you have windows that we could use next winter. ltawil@firelandsschools.org or 440-965-4255 ext. 4209.



Junior Mikayla Mains demonstrates cutting glass



Senior Natalie Crawford demonstrates grouting the glass

National Art Honor Society Inducts 15, Honors 5

Chapter #2212 of the National Art Honor Society proudly inducted 15 new art scholars to the roll at a ceremony in the FHS library on Tues. April 26. The FHS chapter welcomes senior Anthony Myer, juniors Matthew Brightbill, Patrick Brightbill, Halle Borer, Ian Crawford, Adeline Grame, Alexis Herrera, Mikayla Mains, Miguel Morell, Jenna Pleban, Grace Pohorence, Sophia Pohorence, Connor Price and Lynn Schmittle, and sophomore Ian Valerius to the society. Eligible students are invited early each spring. Students must meet these requirements; be of sophomore standing or greater, earning their third credit of visual art or greater, hold an art grade average of "A" and cumulative grade average of "B" or greater, and having no suspensions on record. Also honored that evening were the 5 seniors who have maintained eligibility and earned four or more visual art credits in high school. These students were draped with the rainbow honor cords that they will wear at graduation; Jerrod Horwedel, Victoria Hritsko, Victoria Krejci, Julia Ohle and Shelly Shupe.



seated: Miguel Morell, Ian Valerius, Matthew Brightbill, Addie Grame, Lynn Schmittle, Connor Price, Jenna Pleban, Alexis Herrera, Grace Pohorence, Ian Crawford, Sophie Pohorence. standing: Mrs. Tawil, Sydney Novak, Loren Myer, Sarah Slack, Liz Miller, Victoria Krejci, Jerrod Horwedel, Tori Hritsko, Julia Ohle, Andrea DiAsio. not pictured: Halle Borer, Patrick Brightbill, Mikayla Mains

FHS NEWS

COMMENCEMENT TO BE HELD ON JUNE 3, 2016 AT 7 PM – Come join the Class of 2016 as they participate in the 62nd Annual Commencement Exercises, to be held in Falcon Stadium on Friday, June 3rd, beginning at 7 pm. Come celebrate our 156 Seniors who will become Falcon Alumni that evening. Tickets are not required if the ceremony is held in the Stadium, but will be needed if moved into the gymnasium due to inclement weather. Each Senior will receive only 5 graduation tickets for the gymnasium, due to limited seating.

SENIOR BREAKFAST – The Class of 2016 will be participating in the Annual Senior Class Breakfast on Friday morning, June 3 at 8am. This breakfast is for Seniors and Scholarship presenting guests only, however, parents are invited to sit in the balcony to watch the festivities, which is a great way to start FHS Graduation Day.

COMMENCEMENT PRACTICE – After the Senior Breakfast, all those participating in Commencement **MUST** participate in practice, which will begin at approximately 10 am. If a student does not participate in practice, they will be excluded from Commencement Exercises that evening.

FFA TO COLUMBUS – The Firelands High School FFA Chapter traveled to Columbus last weekend to compete for State Awards and Degrees at the FFA State Convention. Firelands was again looking to qualify several students to the National Convention in the Fall, and once more shine as one of the top FFA Chapters in the State of Ohio and the United States.

CLASS OF 2016 ACTIVELY APPLYING TO COLLEGE – The Class of 2016 has been actively applying to universities and colleges for the upcoming Fall 2016 semester. As of May 3rd, almost 76% of the Senior Class has applied to at least one college, and most of our students have applied to two or more schools. Do not be left out, check your Family Connections account through the FHS School Counseling website to check on schools and scholarships. The website is <http://www.firelandsschools.org/NavianceFamilyConnections.aspx>.

SENIOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS – The Class of 2016 has a dedicated Calendar of Events available to them and their families, so they do not miss out on any events leading up to Commencement. A downloadable pamphlet is available to them at <http://www.firelandsschools.org/NavianceFamilyConnections.aspx>.

www.firelandsschools.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=6YOGI2I&dasi=4G0P2.

Seniors, don't miss an event as we enter the final grading period of your Senior Year.

ONE ACTS A HUGE SUCCESS—The Drama Club presented a "Night of One Acts", on April 21st at 7pm in the gymnasium. The crowd of over 300 people watched as our Drama students presented several outstanding One Act Plays, and delighted the crowd with a series of outstanding performances.

LARGE GROUP BAND EARNS EXCELLENT RATING AT STATE OMEA—The Band earned an excellent rating at the State OMEA Competition at North Royalton High School in late April.

FHS PROM HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 7TH – FHS hosted the annual Junior-Senior Prom at DeLuca's Place in the Park on Saturday, May 7th, from 7-11 pm. Over 230 FHS students and guests enjoyed Prom and the activities that go along with it.

Next year, Prom will move to the New Russia Township Hall on the first Saturday in May.

ATTABOY ASSEMBLY A SUCCESS—FHS enjoyed a fun and positive assembly last Tuesday as the group, Attaboy, entertained the student body and mixed in positive messages as we head for Prom and End-of-the-Year Activities. The group commented that the students were great and they have never been around students who are as helpful as the Firelands students. Great job, FHS, well done.

PROM ASSEMBLY – Last Friday, the TLC group held a Prom Assembly, and had our Drama Club perform a small performance and Lorain County Sheriff Deputy Heath Tester come and talk to the Juniors and Seniors about safe driving and making good choices. It was a good message to kick off prom weekend, 2016.



Bob Maver
FHS Principal

SAMS NEWS

It is hard to believe that it is April! Our year has flown!!! We are preparing for all of our year-end celebrations, class trips and scheduling for next year.

We will be having an assembly on April 12 about Character Education. There will also be an evening performance of this assembly for parents and students to attend as well.

The musical was a huge success. We want to congratulate Mrs. Johnson and all the students who participated. They made us very proud.

Mrs. Sullivan will be taking a group of students to assist with the Special Olympics on May 13. This is such a special day for all involved.

The 8th graders are preparing for the trip to Philly May 11-13! It is coming so quickly. I am so excited to be able to share in this with them.

We were proud to host the "Hidden in Plain Sight" for the community in March. This was a very well-attended and informative session.

Our Last Fabulous Falcon breakfast was April 13. It feels like we were just preparing for our first one. It is hard to believe this is already the last.

Our Spring Fling dance for the 7/8 graders was on April 16 and we had a dance for the sixth grade on Friday April 15 during the afternoon.

Our 8th graders will be touring the JVS and the High School in the coming month and this is just another reminder that they will be moving on and leaving SAMS behind. We will hold our 8th grade bridging ceremony on June 9 at 11:00

AM. There will be a cake reception directly following the ceremony.

In a joint effort between the Student Advisory Committee, Mrs. Baumann and Mrs. Sullivan, we will begin selling ice cream in the cafeteria on Fridays. This was something that the students wanted, and the adults made it happen for them. This is student voice at work!

Our 5/6 grade Spelling Bee took place on April 8. We wish those who won best of luck as they move on!

Our NJHS induction ceremony will take place on May 18. More information will be coming as students are selected. That process will begin shortly.

We are very excited and PROUD to announce that we will be offering Algebra next year at SAMS! Our master schedule is just about complete and we are excited that the students will have more available to them than ever. I am sending a HUGE thank you to Mrs. Novak for her amazing work in guiding the process with the schedule.



Cara Gomez
SAMS Principal

Teacher Appreciation Week At SAMS

May 2-6 was Teacher Appreciation Week. Our theme was "Hollywood", so our students treated them like the "STARS" they are and sent "Fan Mail" during lunches.

Upcoming Events:

May 11-13: 8th grade trip to Philadelphia

May 18: NJHS Ceremony

May 19: 8th grade Living History Museum

May 20: 7th grade visit from Jon Loufman from Channel 19 Weather

May 24: 7th grade trip to Put-In-Bay

June 1-3: 6th grade trip to Beulah Beach

June 9: 8th grade Bridging Ceremony



SAMS Student Invited to Join NJHS in the 2015 - 2016 school year

6TH GRADE NJHS

Alexandria Boetticher
Isabelle Davis
Caden Domin
Caitlin Eckman
Marget Edwards
Noah Galloway
Harrison George
Jayden Gurchik
Gemma Hager
Randi Johannsen
Hunter Johnson
Dylan Katitus
Abraham Mastellone
Ella Meszaros
Daniel Ohle
Alexander Pennington
Jadeyn Ramsey
Leah Schmittle
Gavin Varndell
Aiden VonGunten
Autumn Wiley

7TH GRADE NJHS

Alexander Angle
Chayce Baldwin
Renee Clippinger
Gwyneth Conibear
Spencer Deremer
Eduardo Diaz
Julia Douzos
Joshua Gallo
Kelsey Hardwick
Gabriella Keith
Casey Kelley
Julia Krynak
Allison Lake
Abigail Landreth
Emilia Lewis
Amaris Madding-Bush
Madison New
Samantha Novak

7TH GRADE NJHS

Delaney Overstreet
Jasmin Schuler
Rebekah Selent
Grace Sherban
Samuel Solowiej
James Steindl
Alexandra Trendle
Paiton Widener
Gracie Yonts

8TH GRADE NJHS

Kaylee Boggs
Alaina Becker
Claire Boucher
Alyssa Danicki
Alessandra Davis
Holly Eberhardt
Samuel Formholtz
Steven Iwanek
Cole Kaminski
Lillian Loughrey
Mackenzie Mack
Maribeth Petrey
Lorenzo Reyna
Jenna Selent
Emily Stewart
Ashley Strauss
Alyssa Thompson
Jordon Vaughn
Samantha Walcott
Lauren Warner
Kaylee Wells
Nicholas Wells
Lauren Widener
Justin Wossilek
Vincent Yoby

Growth Mindset



cised a growth mindset and went on to overcome this health obstacle to become a very good athlete.

Students were motivated by the particular passage about Dawson, so much that there was a special guest speaker who just so happens to be related to our principal, Mrs. Gomez. John, a three year old, who was born with only a few inches beyond his shoulder and has already developed a growth mindset! John came to school to show the sixth grade students just how to play basketball!



6th Grade students in Mrs. Muth & Mrs. Neal's Language Arts classes recently completed a unit on Growth Mindset coupled with a Central Idea emphasis. Students became familiar with Carol Dweck's research work from Stanford University on "fixed mindset vs growth mindset." Students learned to understand that their talents and abilities can be developed through hard work, learning and building stamina through perseverance. They learned that everyone can be smarter if they work at it! The anchor text was a commencement address that was given by Steven Jobs, followed by several break out passages. One of those break out passages was about a young boy named Dawson from Oregon who was born without a hand and some fingers. In the article Dawson exer-

While visiting South Amherst Middle School John witnessed a group of students playing badminton for the very first time. What does a three year old with a growth mindset do when he wants to learn something? He demonstrates perseverance until he learns it and that is exactly what John did in front of the sixth grade students. He quickly learned how to hold a badminton racquet and hit a birdie! A real life role model who lives out his daily life with a growth mindset was the perfect culminating activity to drive home the lesson. Stay tuned to the day when John will be presenting a commencement address at a prestigious college on the topic of "How to live daily with a growth mindset!"

HONOR ROLL 3rd QTR MERIT ROLL

12th Grade

Ryan Alcorn*
Michael Anadell Jr.
Taylor Aslaksen
Jacob Bailey
Jasmine Beckett
Brlas, Brittany*
Dennis Browning
Raymond Conry
Lyndsey Cornwell
Dylan Davis
Devin Dumke
Cole Ference
Caitlin Gallagher*
Jacob Grasso II
Molly Hales
Haley Herrera*
Dylan Hickman*
Jerrod Horwedel
Victoria Hritsko
Kathryn Iwanek
Cassidy Johannsen*
Brylee Jones
Jesse Jones
Brianna Krieg*
Kaitlyn Michener*
Rachael Minek*
Blake Morris*
Katalin Mullins
Anthony Myer
Adriana Nigro
Emily Novak*
Julia Ohle*
Brandon Palmer
Arianna Pina
Emily Rich
Brooke Robey
Johnathon Rovere
Vitoria Russo*
Alexandra Sabine*
Ashlee Saylor
Shelly Shupe
Jeremy Simonovich
Jarett Solnick*
Alyse Taddeo*
Bradley Thrasher*
Kathleen Tuggle*
Kayla Unger*
Allison Vilagi
Claire Vilagi
Erica Wasem
Stephanie Wells
Rylee Wheaton
Lucas Whitacre

11th Grade

Aaron Alston
Kayla Bailey*
Max Bailey
Pablo Barranco*
Hailey Blankenship*
Grace Boucher

Matthew Brightbill*
Patrick Brightbill
Matthew Browning*
Karli Bukovac
Francis Cerino
Rachel Coggins
Ian Crawford
Samuel Dempsey
Andrea DiAsio*
Maley Foster
John Gall*
Sarah Gallo*
Abigail Gifford
Victoria Grasso
Olivia Harris
Maxwell Hertensteiner
Chloe Hewlett*
Kyle Hieb
Daniel Hribal
Hailey Koster*
Benjamin Laughrey*
Elizabeth Lewis*
Benjamin Markovich
Nicholas McCrary*
Hailey Mezurek
Elizabeth Miller*
Emma Mowry*
Loren Myer
Colin Myers
Demetria Nicolaou
Sydney Novak
Grace Pohorence*
Sophia Pohorence*
Aerin Rizzuti
Zoe Simmons
Madison Sims
Elizabeth Skolnik*
Sarah Slack*
Joseph Socha
Bradley Soltis
Megan Vaughn*
Emily Wagner*
Meagan Weller
Michael Whitacre
Andrew Williams

10th Grade

Michael Bansek
Adam Bechtler
John Bechtler
Briana Bowyer*
Megan Brandich
Averi Cleary
Owen Cogar
Michael Douzos
Trevor Edwards
Kaitlyn Frazier
Grace Habeck
Alexis Harasty
Ethan Hayes
Abigail Hill
Serena Hoffman*
Emily Holcomb*

Anthony Houdeshell
Samantha Ives*
Rachel Jackson*
Corey Jones*
Samantha Jones
Casey Koepp
Evan Lacey
Lanna Lalonde
Ariel Langer
Bethany Leon
Madalyn Lyons*
Ariana McClung
Aleesia McKinney
Noah Metzger
Jacob Montgomery*
Morgan Nance
David Nary
Olivia Novak
Justin Ollis
Madison Palmer*
Abrianna Perry
Olivia Peterson
Kayla Phillips
Hannah Reynolds*
Angelina Rivera
Grace Schlessman*
Jacob Selent
Caleb Singleton
Tate Smith
Kassidy Stevens*
Logan Strader
Calvin Stull
Autumn Swiers
Aaron Turnbull
McKenna Turton
Joy Vaughn
Nathaniel Weitzel
Alyssa Yorko

9th Grade

Mackenzie Allsop
Elizabeth Balas
Zachary Baldwin*
Victoria Barnett*
Alexander Bauer
Grace Bayus
Cora Born*
Jade Bowen
Alexander Brill
Macey Butchko*
Allison Crawford
Trinity Craycraft
Elizabeth Dempsey
Sarah Drury*
Michael Durdak*
Kaylyn Eary
Joseph Elswick
Genalda Finley
Madison Flanagan
Henry Grame
Beau Grude
Carter Grude

Nathan Hammond
Nichole Hembree
Siera Hess
Caleb Hewlett
Chad Hieb
Nicole Kraus*
Halli Kromer*
Adam Lacey
Ava Mastellone*
Devon McGinnis
Brandon Mele
Dylan Minek
John Mullins Jr.
Michael Nicolaou*
Lauren Omler Beall
Ryan Ortner
Taylor Ostrander
Tyler Rado
Chace Riley
Juliette Scheufler
Emma Sherban
Isabel Solowiej*
Nicholas Street*
Timothy Street*
Isaac Sultzer*
Rachel Taddeo
Nathan Thompson*
Trevor Weller
Logan Willis
Carlie Wotton

8th Grade

Alexis Alston*
Mason Baker
Taylor Barnhill
Alaina Becker*
Kaylee Boggs*
Claire Boucher
Michael Campbell*
Sydney Clark
Ryvers Cogar
Alexys Coggins*
Chance Coultrip
Alyssa Danicki
Alessandra Davis*
Logan Davis*
Justo Delgado
Luke Dempsey
Holly Eberhardt*
William Folley
Samuel Formholtz*
Daniel Giacopelli*
Colton Griffith
Daniel Hager
Logan Hall
Brian Harvey
Rebecca Hopkins*
Logan Howington
Sadie Hutenspiller*
Steven Iwanek
Christopher Jackson
Jordan Janosik

7th Grade

Zachary Ambroz
Alexander Angle
Chayce Baldwin
Trevor Bauer*
Keegan Bibb*
Brianna Bonomolo*
Lauren Boose
Hattie Born*
Nathaniel Boucher
Zachary Brill
Chandler Brotko
Christian Brotko
Renee Clippinger*
Gwyneth Conibear

Sierra Johnson
Cole Kaminski*
Taylor Kenska
Nathaniel Kraus
Lillian Laughrey*
Kaya Loyd
Mackenzie Mack
Rylee Maggard
Emmaleah McDevitt
Thaddeus Miller
Joselyn Moquete
Vincent Morales*
Jacob Mullins
Anna Myers
Luke Oliver
Brooklyn Ollis*
Sean Perry
Maribeth Petrey
Sophia Prideaux
Gracie Ransom
Lorenzo Reyna
Chad Rich*
Mackenzie Roby
Katelyn Rook
Robert Rose
Austin Schuler
Jenna Selent
Konnor Sirow
Emily Stewart*
Ashley Strauss
Autumn Szakal
Alyssa Thompson
Brianna Toledo*
Jordan Vaughn
Samantha Walcott*
David Walker*
Lauren Warner*
Kaylee Wells
Nicholas Wells*
Christine Whitacre
Lauren Widener*
Lauren Willbond
Abigail Winnen
Allison Winnen*
Justin Wossilek
Vincent Yoby*

6th Grade

Devan Adkins
Abigail Aslaksen
Alexandria Boetticher
Ian Borton
Aurora Davis
Isabelle Davis*
Mary Dempsey
Caden Domin
Caitlin Eckman
Margaret Edwards*
Raleigh Frame
Noah Galloway
Harrison George
Gavin Gifford
Jayden Gurchik
Gemma Hager*

Sarah Conn
Heidi Cowling*
Ashley Crawford
Dominic Critelli
Sidney Deidrick
Spencer Deremer*
Kristin DeWitt
Eduardo Diaz*
Julia Douzos
Grace Edwards
Jacob Farley
Joshua Gallo
Olivia Galloway
Kelsey Hardwick*
Shawny Hess
Jared Ives
Frank Janezic*
Gabriella Keith
Casey Kelley*
Julia Krynak*
Allison Lake
Emilia Lewis*
Alyssa Lilak
William Lockhart
Audry Lyons
Amaris Bush-Madding*
Rachel Metzger
Madison New
Samantha Novak*
Delaney Overstreet*
Seth Robinette
Logan Rush
Jasmin Schuler
Rebekah Selent
Grace Sherban*
Samuel Solowiej
Colin Stark
James Steidl*
Megan Sutton
Jackson Talbott
Alexandra Trendle*
Aaron Urban*
Paiton Widener
Madison Witter

* DENOTES
ALL "A'S"

MERIT ROLL

12th Grade

Robert Becker
Jennifer Beckett
Dakota Dembek
Taylor Emery
Allison Ennes
Roy Folley
Mikaela Geyer
Gabrielle Gonzalez
Keely Hall
Olivia Harasty

Jackson Hartung
Brandon Herrera
Teah Hildebrandt*
Rylie Hutenspiller
Carter Janicek
Timothy Jaskiewicz
Randi Johannsen*
Hunter Johnson
Dylan Katitus
Alexander Kyer
Abraham Mastellone
Nathan McDonald
Gustavo Medina III
Ella Meszaros*
Corey Newark
Daniel Ohle
Alexander Pennington
Conner Pleban
Audria Polovich
Jadeyn Ramsey*
Matthew Ramsey
Michael Ranney
Lyza Riccardi
Layne Riley
Noah Robinette
Larren Rounds*
Leah Schmittle*
Michael Smith
Mason Stanley
Blake Stinson
Gillian Striker
William Suglia
Brooklyn Thomas
Caitlin Thomas
Kendall Thompson*
Jaileena Trimble
Gavin Varn dell
Aidan Von Gunten
Autumn Wiley
Logan Wright

11th Grade

Alexandria Adkins
Douglas Childers
Cheyanne Clark
Bailey Cromer
Millie Harris
Paige Haynes
Alexus Herrera
Dominic Januzzi
Nathan Kovach
Randy LaMar
Hollie Lindsey
Clayton Lucki
Mikayla Mains
Tyran Ostrander
Jordyn Phelps
Jenna Pleban
Connor Price
Ashley Riggs
Kyle Riggs
Anson Saulino
Lynn Schmittle
Jace Smalley
MacKenzie Smith
Nicholas Squires
Trevor Stefanski
Carol Lynn Stevens
Christopher Stocking
Gianna Suglia
Elizabeth Ward
Louis Ward

10th Grade

Isabella Barnes
Kerigan Borton
Devon Bowling
Riley Denney
Samuel Dennis
Miriam Hughey
Bianca Inman
Alaina Kempf
Matthew Lake
Richard Maggard
Ryan Martin
AnaCecilia McKay
Lodge

Sean Miller
Aaron Myers
Richard Peters
Tyler Popa
Colin Ransom
Mason Rogozinski
Brian Smith
Julia Smith
Brady Stanton
Melanie Stapleton
Nicolette Stefanski
Spencer Street
Ian Valerius
Ryan Wilhelm
Jordan Wilson
Alexandria Zenda

9th Grade

Riley Bayus
Sawyer Bayus
Daniel Bender
Logan Bishop
Estelle Bowling
Sean Bowsher
Emily Cody
Isabellea Cogar
Gracy Gregory
Ky'ra Hall
Dylan Hawley
Joshua Kelly
Lillian Kuncel
Jacob Martin
Jasmyn Munoz
Jacob Newman
Tyler Patchin
Kayla Reisinger
Arianna Reyna
Danielle Rivera
Nicholas Salva
Emily Squires
Austin Urban
Star Vaughn
Elijah Yoder
Charlie Yonts

8th Grade

Payton Burgdorf
Alexandra Deaton
Mackenzie Denney
Jordyn Domin
Sierra Frazier
Fabian Gonzalez
Stephen Gurchik
Pierston Haas
Julia Landreth
Isabel Massie
Rylee Phillips
Nathaniel Pignitella
Grant Price
Chloe Simko
Kaitlyn Townsend

7th Grade

Amelia Bacsi
Caden Boetticher
Emily Campell
Donald Crawford
Logan Galloway
Kevin Guillemot
Steven Jessel
Michael Kelley
Dylan Koba Nelson
Abigail Landreth
Daniel Lima
Andria Mains
Ashlee McGuire
Bridget Rutkowski
Garrick Sebolt
Samantha Simko
Alexander Smith
Madison Sutton
Ethan Tester
Madalyn VanCooney
Gracie Yonts

6th Grade

Christopher Berthold
Zachary Brandt
Victoria Coggins
Austin Copen
Chloe Durbin
Brock Grude
Mason Hickman
Carley Jones
Shauna Kalassay
Kathleen Nimrichter
Natalie Novak
George Ranney
John Ranney
Rachael Rennie
Aiden Robertson
Angel Sewell

FES NEWS

It's hard to believe the year is winding down! The next two months are jammed packed with fun, creative and exciting activities. Be sure to check out Mrs. Mudore's Twitter @PrincipalMudore, our district and FES websites, as well as the Firelands blog, for our most updated news and activities.

*Spelling Bee:



*On May 1st several of our 3rd – 5th grade students participated in the Educational Service Center of Lorain County's spelling bee held at Midview Middle School in Grafton. Olivia Bonomolo, Lucas Lowe, Karly Sweinhagen, Cohl Greene, and Zoey Corfman represented Firelands Elementary School at the 3rd and 4th Grade Lorain County Spelling Bee. These 5 students competed against 53 other students from around the county at Midview Middle School. All five students completed at least 3 rounds in the bee. Zoey Corfman finished in the top 15 and Cohl Greene finished in the top 10. Congratulations Olivia, Lucas, Karly, Cohl and Zoey. Savannah Leverknight, a 5th grade student at FES, and Gemma Hager and Daniel Ohle, 6th grade SAMS students, represented Firelands in the Division II spelling bee, which consisted of fifth and sixth graders from around the county. After several intense rounds of spelling, Gemma was the last speller standing winning the Division II bee. Congratulations to all three spellers for their great effort and to Gemma for winning the 2016 County Spelling Bee. They all made us proud!

***News from the Art Department:** Chris Young, an artist from Center for Arts-Inspired Learning visited our 2nd graders on April 20th and presented an engaging program on Wassily Kandinsky and his colorful paintings. Students learned about the artist, who had a rare sensory disease which caused him to "hear" color and "see" music. They then created their own abstract art, a la Kandinsky.

*We've been prepping and it's almost here: Fine Arts Festival is coming up on May 14th – visit SAMS from 12:00-4:00 to see our talented students' visual art work as well as choral and musical performances. It's a great community event!

***Kindergarten News:** The kindergarteners had the opportunity to participate in an assembly-Inspired Arts Program which connected with their sound and recycling lessons. The presenters showed students how they could use recycled materials to create musical instruments. The kindergarteners also participated in Earth day where each student wrote one promise to keep Earth clean and beautiful and made a handprint on the earth project to go with it. Finally, the kindergarteners have an upcoming field trip to Lake Erie Science and Nature Center with lunch at Huntington Beach.

***Invention Convention:** Congratulations are in order! On April 30th, we have 4 students participate in Invention Convention: Sam Gibson (5th), Machaela Clark (4th), Jocelyn Bednar (4th) and

Daniel Dempsey (4th). All the students did an extraordinary job presenting their amazing ideas and should be proud of themselves, I know we are! Sam Gibson was awarded one of the Top Superior Awards from this past weekends Northeastern Ohio Invention Convention Regional Competition! He will receive a Superior Ribbon & a \$50 Amazon Gift Card along with his name in an upcoming press release.

***Project Love:** Recently, our 3rd- 5th grade students participated in a program called Stick Together. Stick Together is a free, character education program offered to schools by Project Love and Duck Tape in an effort to provide a fun and different way for students to explore the important social-emotional learning concepts of kindness and sticking together to combat bullying and negative behaviors in schools.



***Cyber Safety Program:** On Monday, May 13 at 10:30, fifth grade students will have the opportunity to listen to a Tween Digital Safety Program, presented by Dr. Tim Conrad and Officer Don Stanko. Topics covered include keeping a good digital reputation, words and images to never post online, and digital stranger danger. Their presentation aims to decrease the misuse of social media and how to use it in a positive way. Their presentation is relevant, energetic, and engaging. Parents are welcome to attend.

***Right to Read Week:** Right to Read Week is May 16th – 20th. The theme of the week is "Reading is Soooooo Delicious" Monday: Recipe sharing day! Bring a favorite family recipe to put in the sharing pot. Tuesday: Dress Like a Chef Day! (wear aprons, etc. or food themed clothing) Wednesday: Wear Green Day! Thursday: Wear Your Rain Boots! Friday: Wear the Color of Your Favorite Hot Dog Topping! The LIBRARY will be turned into The Book Café for a book tasting when the kids have library for special that week.

*

***PTG News:** We would like to give a huge thank you to our PTG for their continued support to our staff and students. There are several important events scheduled from now until the end of the year: The Walk-a-Thon is well on its way to be another successful event and is scheduled May 20th with a rain date of May 27th. Field day is scheduled for June 6th, 7th and 8th. On June 9th, the 5th graders will take part in a recognition ceremony to wish the well as they enter a new chapter in their lives heading to middle school. Please follow the PTG on Facebook or go to the website for updates.

***High School Volunteers:** The high school baseball team has been volunteering their time at FES. They are working with small groups of students to practice reading and math. We appreciate the time these students are giving to the staff and students at FES!

***Advisory Committee:** Our Principal Advisory Committee is well underway and busy developing new and creative ideas. The students meet twice a month at lunch with Mrs. Mudore, Mr. Bregar

and Mrs. Schuster. All of our designs have been submitted for the bathroom door decorating contest. The advisory committee will vote on the Falcon Spirited designs that will be painted on the stall doors and painting will begin soon. Our committee is also going to working on "Mix-it Up" day for lunch. The Advisory Committee will develop conversation starters and questions and we will have students "Mix-up" where they normally sit to get an opportunity to make new friends.

***FES Newspaper:** Two students in Mrs. Ollis' language arts took it upon themselves to start on FES Newspaper. The girls will write about the happenings around FES bi-weekly. They are charging \$0.25 per paper and will donate 100% of the proceeds to the PTG.

***Finest Falcons:** Every month we honor students that exemplify outstanding behavior in the building. This month we are proud to recognize the following Finest Falcons: Aiden Simms, Addison Walters, Mason Ramsier, Ayden Schafer, Rowynn Watters-Boyce, Aaliyah Yost, Telaysia Kraus, Aubrey West, Michael King, Kalley Leimbach, Sam Bacci, and Macey Taddeo.

Upcoming Events-Mark your Calendars:

- May 11th – FES Talent Show
- May 11th – Young Authors Field Trip
- May 12th – Field Trip (kindergarten)
- May 12th – 2nd Grade Concert 2:15 pm and 6pm
- May 13th – Field Trip Kindergarten
- May 13th – Special Olympics Field Trip
- May 13th – 1st Grade Field Trip
- May 14th – Fine Arts Festival at SAMS (12-4)
- May 16th – Cyber Safety Presentation (5th Grade)
- May 18th – 4th Grade Field Trip (Scalli, Roth, Thoms)
- May 19th – 4th Grade Field Trip (Bennett, Eibel, Frenk)
- May 20th – Walk-a-thon
- June 2nd – 5th Grade field trip to the zoo
- June 6th, 7th and 8th – Field Day
- June 9th – 5th Grade Recognition
- June 9th – Last Day of School and early release



Colleen Mudore
FES Principal

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY ROAD-E-O

This year Firelands Bus Drivers competed in the School Bus Safety Road-E-O, at Solon High School on April 23rd. The participants at this year's events were, Milton Saylor, Natalie Saylor, Stacy Studstill, Diane Votruba, Sarah Watts, and Lori Jameyson.

Judges at the regional event this year were Carolyn Saylor, and Sara Schlechter. A special thanks to both of them.

Drivers in the Road-E-O must take a written test, and drive a bus through a course that consists of an off-set street, student pick up and drop off (both right side and left side), railroad crossing, right hand turn, backing serpentine, depth perception, curb line and a forward stop line. Drivers are graded at each event for proper procedures and measured for distance.

The State Road-E-O was held on Saturday, May 7th at South Western High School in Galloway, Ohio.

Congratulations to the drivers who competed this year -- you represented Firelands well!

A big thank you to all participants, judges and helpers and also a big thank you to the Firelands Board of Education for allowing us to participate and helping to sponsor us.

Firelands mechanic and Road E O judge, who is also serving on the State Road E O Committee wrote to the drivers and judges at this year's event:

Someone once told me how important a bus driver is just for this Fact: YOU are the first person that greets our children with "a smile and good morning" and after a day a school" a smile and good night". You are ambassadors of trust and friendship to a person that may be having a "really" bad day or circumstances beyond their control. After all, they only learn from the people that present themselves for learning to their inquiring minds. And yes that would include you!

With that said:

I don't know any other people I would rather be "stuck" with, whether it be on a Road-e-o course, In a tabulation room, in a cafeteria, or on a school bus. We were all "hanging together" on Saturday. You are the most inventive, creative, fun loving, yet serious and observant and incredibly resilient folks I have ever had the pleasure to meet, and some, really get to know personally. Ok, You look at the word "stuck" and "hanging together" I liken it to glue- we have that **common bond** "Transportation", (Of course, that includes the love of children.) We did put in an incredibly long day on Saturday and I just wanted to THANK YOU for "sticking" it out to the end!

You are all winners for giving of your time and talent.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Ohio School Bus Driver's appreciation week was May 2-6th, Thanks to the athletic Booster, and Band Boosters for providing a meal on Friday May 6th for the Driver's and Monitor's. We truly want to THANK the Drivers for all they do each day, rain or shine.



Birmingham Memorial Day Parade

This years theme is "Youth Salute"

Our Grand Marshal will be
Army Veteran Tom Cline.

We will have a musical salute from Avery Jackson, a
tribute speech by Aiden Harker and a blessing by
Jake Martin.

The parade line-up in 12:30 pm on Monday, May
30th. at the Birmingham Community Center.

The step off will be 1 pm. Please plan to stay for the
services in the Birmingham Cemetery.
(in case of rain, services will be held
on the Community Center Pavilion)

After the service, prizes and refreshment will be
handed out.

All clubs, business and individuals are welcome to
participate in the Parade.

For more information, please contact me, Debby
Schieve@ 440-320-6841

Brownhelm Historical Association

The Brownhelm Historical Association will meet at 7:00 p.m. on May 4 at the Carriage Barn at Vermilion River Reservation, Mill Hollow. After the business meeting our speaker will be Bill Cutcher who will show a video of the Fall and Rise of the steamboat Arabia. The Arabia was carrying 200 tons of merchandise bound for 16 general stores on the Mississippi River when it hit a tree snag and sank in 1856. In 1988-89 a group uncovered the Arabia. Come to the meeting and hear where it was found—a half mile from the Mississippi River. The public is invited to this free program. Refreshments will be served after the program.

Any questions call Marcia DePalma 988-2810
or Marilyn Brill 988-4550.

OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS

The Firelands Local School District **will continue to** accept open enrollment applications for the 2016 - 2017 school year **until AUGUST 1, 2016**, at the Board of Education Office, 112 North Lake St., South Amherst. **from 7:30 am - 3:00 pm.**

Students from **ANY DISTRICT** in Ohio are welcome to apply. Space is limited and will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING WITH YOU - YOUR CHILD'S LAST REPORT CARD OR TRANSCRIPT (if in grades 9 - 12) AND CURRENT IEP or 504 PLAN, IF APPLICABLE.

**ANY QUESTIONS?
PLEASE CALL 440-965-5821**

Birmingham United Methodist Church
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 844-SaferOH (844-723-3764) is an anonymous tip
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