

August/September 2024

Volume 30, Issue 1 www.fhps.net

Welcome from Superintendent Kirby



Ben Kirby

Dear Forest Hills Public Schools Families and Community,

I am thrilled to introduce myself as your new superintendent and to join the exceptional team at Forest Hills Public Schools. As I embark

on my 32nd year in public education, I am filled with excitement and anticipation for the journey ahead.

My official start date was Monday, July 1, 2024, following a much-needed family vacation. It was a special time as all seven of us—my wife Lynette, our sons Garrett and Parker with their wives Sara and Mallory, and our daughter Taylor—could get away together. I hope you also took time this summer to relax, recharge, enjoy Michigan's beautiful weather, and spend time with family and friends.

Since arriving in Forest Hills, I've had the pleasure of meeting many dedicated staff members, and I am diving deep into the district's rich history, practices, and proce-

dures. I am committed to continuing this learning process throughout my first several months and beyond, always seeking the best ways to serve our students, staff, and community.

My journey in education has been diverse and rewarding. Before Forest Hills, I served as superintendent of Lake Orion Community Schools since 2020. I started my career as a sixth-grade teacher in Central Montcalm Public Schools. For 24 years, I served in Ionia Public Schools as a teacher, coach, middle school assistant principal and principal, high school principal, and associate superintendent. I then became assistant superintendent in South Lyon Community Schools before the superintendency in Lake Orion. I am pleased to be back in West Michigan, as my family members are here.

While appreciating the many Wolverine fans in the community, I am a dedicated Spartan. Go Green! I have a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Michigan State University, a master's in educational leadership from Western Michigan University, and an educational specialist degree in educational leadership from Grand Valley State University.

Throughout my career, authentic leadership

emerges when competence and character align. I deeply value relationships, teamwork, and active listening. Collaboration with students, staff, parents, and local businesses is crucial to our success. Forest Hills is a great place with solid partnerships. I'm excited about the opportunity to move the district forward and am committed to our success.



Last school year, Ben Kirby met with a second grade class at Knapp Forest Elementary School.

This position represents a perfect personal and professional combination, allowing me to continue my career in an outstanding school district. I am genuinely excited to lead FHPS and look forward to our future together.

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, I invite you to embrace opportunities and become involved in our school community. Together, we can build upon Forest Hills Public Schools' strong foundation and create an even brighter future for our students.

I look forward to meeting you in the coming months and hope to get to know you at some of our school events this fall. Here's to a fantastic school year ahead! May we cultivate possibility together and help all learners achieve their individual potential!

Warmest regards,
Ben Kirby, Superintendent



School Starts Wednesday, August 21

Welcome New Members of the Forest Hills Public Schools Leadership Team

In addition to our district's new school superintendent, Ben Kirby, the district is pleased to welcome six new administrators. Please welcome the following educators to our district's leadership team. We are happy to have them with us.

Natalie Bice, Assistant Principal, Central Middle School



Natalie Bice

Natalie Bice has been a Forest Hills Public Schools employee for several years. She began her career as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools. In 2019, she started her tenure with FHPS as a second-grade teacher at Meadow Brook Elementary School before becoming an instructional coach in 2021. This summer, she was the district's summer school program administrator. She has extensive experience collaborating, leading professional learning communities, and executing a Multi-Tiered System of Support for schools. She holds a master's degree in elementary education from DePaul University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Michigan State University.

Dan Brant, Director of Student Services



Dan Brant

Dan Brant has an extensive background in education administration. He served as the associate superintendent of special education at Montcalm Area Intermediate School District. Before that position, he held the roles of director of special education/early childhood at Kenowa Hills Public Schools and director of special education/intervention at Tri County Area Schools. Brant holds a master's degree in educational leadership and special education administration, and a bachelor's degree

in psychology and special education from Grand Valley State University.

Bill Cataldo, Principal, Northern Trails 5/6 School



Bill Cataldo

Bill Cataldo comes to FHPS from Cedar Springs Public Schools, where he worked since 2013. He was the middle-level principal overseeing grades six through eight. He served many roles in Cedar Springs, including the K-8 online principal (during Covid 19), dean of students, instructional coach, and athletic director. Before starting at CSPS, Cataldo taught within the Chicago Public Schools for seven years. He holds two advanced degrees—a master of arts in education from MSU and a master's in educational leadership from DePaul University. Cataldo also earned his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University.

Heather McKinney-Rewa, Principal, Northern High School



Heather McKinney-Rewa

Heather McKinney-Rewa brings over 20 years of educational experience and a proven collaborative, student-centered leadership track record. She has served as a high school teacher, International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme coordinator, middle school assistant principal, and, most recently, assistant principal of East Grand Rapids High School. McKinney-Rewa holds an education specialist degree with an emphasis in curriculum and instruction from the University of Michigan-Flint and a master's degree in education focusing on adult and higher education from Grand Valley State University. She obtained her bachelor's degree in English and education from Principia College.

Carrie Whipple, Director of Transportation



Carrie Whipple

Carrie Whipple brings a wealth of experience to the role, having previously served as transportation director for both Allendale Public Schools and Oakridge Public Schools. With over a decade of experience in the education transportation sector, Whipple has worked her way up from bus driver to director, gaining invaluable insights at every level. Prior to joining the FHPS transportation department as transportation coordinator, she was the project manager at Tyler Technologies, implementing cutting-edge transportation solutions across multiple school districts. She has experience managing large transportation teams, coordinating complex logistics, and ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations. Her expertise extends to route planning, fleet maintenance, and cultivating safe environments for students.

Rick Wiersma, Assistant Principal, Northern High School



Rick Wiersma

Prior to becoming a Husky at Northern High, Rick Wiersma was the principal at Morley Stanwood High School for two and a half years. Before that, he was the interim principal at Jenison Public Schools and was their extended traditional learning coordinator. He began his career as an English language arts teacher and an education development specialist in the U.S. Peace Corps and spent several years as an English teacher in neighboring districts. He holds a master's degree in educational leadership and administration from Grand Valley State University and attended Liberty University for his undergraduate degree.

FHPS Board of Education Welcomes You to Another Year of Learning and Growth

The Forest Hills Board of Education works collaboratively with the superintendent in crafting strategies to execute the district's mission and vision. The board is an elected body that meets monthly to conduct board business. Duties of the board include:

- Adopt district bylaws and policy;
- Employ and evaluate a superintendent; and
- Adopt and oversee a budget.

The board does not manage day-to-day operations. The board works with the superintendent to ensure district policies, procedures, and programs are continually assessed against the shared vision for the district.

Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

Mission

In partnership with our community, Forest Hills Public Schools will provide all learners with opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to build meaningful and productive lives.

Vision

All learners achieving individual potential.

Guiding Principles

We believe Forest Hills Public Schools is a learning organization, built upon integrity, and to this end we are committed to the following guiding principles:

- Caring
- Collaboration
- Open Communication
- Diversity and Inclusiveness
- High Expectations
- Learning
- Respect
- Trust

Board of Education Meetings

The Forest Hills Public Schools Board of Education meets each month at the administration building, located at 620 Forest Hill Ave. SE, unless noted. Board meeting notices, agendas, minutes, and board policies, as well as committee meeting schedules, are available online at www.fhps.net.

Date, Time, Location

| | | |
|----------------|-----------|------------------|
| Aug. 19, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| Sept. 16, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| Oct. 21, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| Nov. 18, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| Dec. 16, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| Jan. 20, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| Feb. 10, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| March 17, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| April 21, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| May 19, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. | Admin. Building |
| June 9, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. | Fine Arts Center |

Current Board Members



Kristen Fauson
President

Kristen Covelle
Vice President

Maggie Terryn
Secretary



CJ Michaud
Treasurer

Holly DeBoer
Trustee

Malorie Ninemeier
Trustee



Mary Vonck
Trustee

Visit the FHPS
website @
fhps.net

Helping Solve Issues During the School Year



If a problem develops or a family senses a child is having difficulty with an assignment or with a teacher, adults are encouraged to talk to the teacher immediately to bring about increased understanding and a quick resolution. Issues that are not satisfactorily resolved with a teacher may be addressed with a child's counselor or one of the building principals. Please follow the "chain of communication" to bring about a satisfactory resolution and to make sure issues are resolved in a timely manner. The board of education does not manage day-to-day operations.

1. Classroom Teacher
2. Counselor
3. Assistant Principal
4. Principal
5. Director (i.e., athletic director, transportation director, food service director, technology director)
6. Assistant Superintendent (i.e., assistant superintendent for instruction, assistant superintendent of human resources, assistant superintendent for finance and operations)
7. Superintendent
8. Board of Education

For a copy of the chain of communication, please visit our website, www.fhps.net.

Community Budget Guide Available

Forest Hills Public Schools released its inaugural Community Budget Guide this summer. The goal of the guide is to help educate the Forest Hills community on the basics of how the school district is funded and how the district spends its funds. The CBG provides detailed information on the district's budget, revenues, expenses, fund balances,

(continued on page 4, column 1)

Schools' Start and End Times for the 2024-2025 School Year

It is important that our students are on time to start their school day. Please make note of your school's start and end times for this year. The following times are for full days of instruction. Please visit our website for release times on half days or reach out to your student's school. In addition, please contact your school to determine what time the school doors open in the morning for students. Some doors may not open until 15 minutes prior to the start of school.

Start and End Times

Ada Elementary School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
(FHPS Preschool 9-11:30 a.m. M-F)

Ada Vista Elementary School:
8:10 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

Collins Elementary School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Knapp Forest Elementary School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
(FHPS Preschool 9-11:30 a.m. M-F)

Meadow Brook Elementary School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Orchard View Elementary School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Pine Ridge Elementary School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Thornapple Elementary School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Central Woodlands 5/6 School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Northern Trails 5/6 School:
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School:
8:10 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

Central Middle School:
7:50 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Eastern Middle School (grades 6-8):
7:45 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Northern Hills Middle School:
7:50 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Central High School:
7:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Eastern High School:
7:40 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.

Northern High School:
7:45 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Transition Center: 7:35 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

ECSE Program:
AM: 8:55 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
PM: 12:40 p.m. - 3:35 p.m.

School Attendance Matters

Every minute in school counts! Being on time every day and staying until the last bell rings is paramount to your child's success. Parents and families can help their children succeed in school by building the habit of positive attendance early. School success goes hand-in-hand with good attendance. Forest Hills Public Schools is committed to providing a quality education to promote student success. To accomplish this, students should be in school all day, every day. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher, guidance counselor, or principal when you have questions about attendance.



Strive for Less Than



Superintendents throughout Kent ISD adopted the Strive for Less Than 5 campaign as an ISD-wide initiative because regular attendance is critical to student success!



Community Budget Guide Available (continued)



(continued from page 3, column 3)

and financial practices and highlights the district's commitment to exceptional education, valuing staff, and strong financial stewardship. Additional items in the budget guide include school budget basics, comparisons to other districts in Kent County and "like" districts within Michigan, trends, community support, capital projects, and more. It also contains a glossary of terms to help individuals understand acronyms and other terms specific to public school education. Finally, the guide also addresses some challenges the district faces and how these challenges will be navigated with transparency. To obtain a copy, visit our website www.fhps.net/documents/community-budget-guide.pdf/.

Call in Absences

For the safety and welfare of all students, we require that a parent or guardian call the school office on any day a child is absent. Procedures for reporting student absences are the same at all of our schools. If your child is absent from school, please call the school's attendance line to explain the reason for the absence. Calls to report student absences should be made as soon as possible during the late evening or early morning hours, preferably before 9:30 a.m. Attendance lines are available 24-hours-a-day. If your child will be absent from school for any reason other than illness, please call the school office to make arrangements in advance. If your child is absent from school and you do not call to explain the absence, the school will call you.



Communication Tools

As another school year begins, it is important that our schools and school district remain in contact with our families. While nothing is better than face-to-face communication, there are times we need to rely on technology to communicate. We want to make sure you remain informed during the year and receive up-to-date information. The following outlines the communication methods used throughout the district. Please review this information to make sure you have taken the necessary steps to receive the information.

District Website and Online School Information

The district website, www.fhps.net, is a portal to all school pages where you will find important upcoming activities and events, reminders, announcements, and school news. The website is a public place of information for students, parents/guardians, staff, families, community members,

(continued on page 12, column 1)

Reminder to Students: Put Them Away During the Instructional Day!

Student Cell Phone Use Prohibited During School

Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices, such as smartwatches, during school hours. The only exception is if the student needs the device for a medical necessity, at which time the student and the parent/guardian must notify the school in advance.

Phones are available in the school office should a student need to contact their parent/guardian. Additionally, if a parent/guardian needs to get a message to their student, they may do so by calling the main school office number. If a student brings a cell phone to school for after-school use, it will be the student's responsibility to ensure that their phone remains off and stored in their locker (or backpack if the student is choosing not to use their assigned locker) during the school day.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and other electronic devices. The district is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage of any cell phone or other electronic device.

Consequences for Misuse

Should a student choose to violate the FHPS cell phone policy, the following will occur:

- **1st Offense:** A staff member secures the device and turns it in to the main school office. The student may pick up the device from the school office at the end of the school day. A notification will be emailed home.

- **2nd Offense:** A staff member secures the device and turns the device into the main school office. A parent/guardian will be required to pick up the device from the school office.

- **3rd Offense:** A staff member secures the device and turns it in to the main school office. The student will receive disciplinary action, which may include detention(s), social probation, or other consequences. A parent/guardian will be required to pick up the device from the school office.

- Additional offenses may result in the loss of the privilege of bringing a cell phone to school, additional school-level consequences such as, but not limited to, detentions, and a parent/guardian meeting.

As stated, school administrators and teachers may confiscate a student's cell phone or other electronic devices if the student's use or possession of a cell phone or similar electronic device violates board policy, the student code of conduct, or any applicable building or classroom rule. The building principal or designee may require a meeting with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation before returning the cell phone or electronic device.

If you have questions pertaining to cell phone use, please contact your child's principal.



FHPS Phone Numbers, Principals, Building Contacts

Administration Building 493-8800
 620 Forest Hill Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Superintendent: Ben Kirby

Elementary Schools

Ada Elementary 493-8940
Attendance Line: 493-8943
 731 Ada Drive SE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Principal: Melanie Hoeksema

Ada Vista Elementary 493-8970
Attendance Line: 493-8976
 7192 Bradfield Street SE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Principal: Allison Woodside de Carrillo

Collins Elementary 493-8900
Attendance line: 493-8906
 4368 Heather Lane SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Principal: Mitchell Balingit

Knapp Forest Elementary 493-8980
Attendance line: 493-8986
 4243 Knapp Valley Drive NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49525
 Principal: Lisa Roedel

Meadow Brook Elementary 493-8740
Attendance line: 493-8748
 1450 Forest Hill Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Principal: Dawn Heerema

Orchard View Elementary 493-8930
Attendance line: 493-8936
 2770 Leffingwell Avenue NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49525
 Principal: Christina Mendoza

Pine Ridge Elementary 493-8910
Attendance line: 493-8916
 3250 Redford Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Principal: Nathan Peltz

Thornapple Elementary 493-8920
Attendance line: 493-8926
 6932 Bridgewater Drive SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Principal: Heather Fix

5/6 Schools

Central Woodlands 5/6 493-8790
Attendance line: 493-8798
 400 Alta Dale Avenue SE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Principal: Amy Burton-Major

5/6 Schools (continued)

Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 493-8633
Attendance line: 493-8633
 8400 Two Mile Road NE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Principal: Jason Yelding

Northern Trails 5/6 493-8990
Attendance line: 493-8993
 3777 Leonard Street NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49525
 Principal: Bill Cataldo

Middle Schools

Central Middle School 493-8750
Attendance line: 493-8762
 5810 Ada Drive SE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Principal: Jeff Simon
 Assistant Principal: Natalie Bice

Eastern Middle School 493-8850
Attendance line: 493-8856
 2200 Pettis Avenue NE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Principal: Kristine Yelding
 Assistant Principal: Kris Hop

Northern Hills Middle School 493-8650
Attendance line: 493-8666
 3775 Leonard Street NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49525
 Principal: Dr. David Simpson
 Assistant Principal: Raeanne Hart

High Schools

Central High School 493-8700
Attendance line: 493-8712
 5901 Hall Street SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Principal: Jonathan Haga
 Assistant Principals: John DeStefano
 and Kristy Loughin-Vance

Eastern High School 493-8830
Attendance line: 493-8836
 2200 Pettis Avenue NE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Principal: Amy Pallo
 Assistant Principals: Dan McElheny
 and Jason Yelding

Northern High School 493-8600
Attendance line: 493-8610
 3801 Leonard Street NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49525
 Principal: Heather McKinney-Rewa
 Assistant Principals: Aaron Romoslowski
 and Rick Wiersma

Additional Numbers

**Student Services/
 Special Education Offices** 493-8660
 640 Forest Hill Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Director: Dan Brant

Transition Center 493-8660
 640 Forest Hill Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Communications 493-8800
 620 Forest Hill Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Director: Elizabeth Brink

Operations 493-8780
 150 Alta Dale Avenue SE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Director: Cory Anderson

Transportation 493-8785
 6001 Hall Street SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 Director: Carrie Whipple

Food Service 493-8774
 160 Alta Dale Avenue SE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Director: To Be Announced

Community Services 493-8950
 Community Enrichment and Aquatic Center
 660 Forest Hill Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Fine Arts Center 493-8965
 600 Forest Hill Avenue SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Child Care 493-8787
 150 Alta Dale Avenue SE
 Ada, MI 49301
 Director: Jennifer Hall



Ada Elementary School
 Pine Ridge Elementary School
 Thornapple Elementary School
 Central Woodlands 5/6 School
 Central Middle School
 Central High School

Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School



Knapp Forest Elementary School
 Orchard View Elementary School
 Eastern Middle School
 Eastern High School

Transition Center



Ada Vista Elementary School
 Collins Elementary School
 Meadow Brook Elementary School
 Northern Trails 5/6 School
 Northern Hills Middle School
 Northern High School



FOREST HILLS
— PUBLIC SCHOOLS —

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24

DISTRICT
CALENDAR

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www.fhps.net

| JULY | | | | | | | 20 24 |
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Rev. 1 - 7/25/2024

- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**
 - August 30-September 2: Labor Day Weekend
 - October 18-21: Fall Break (Staff Professional Learning on Oct. 18)
 - November 27- December 1: Thanksgiving Break
 - December 21-January 5: Winter Break
 - January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Staff Professional Learning)
 - February 14-17: Mid-Winter Break
 - March 14: No School (Staff Professional Learning)
 - April 3-13: Spring Break
 - May 23: No School (Staff Professional Learning)
 - May 26: Memorial Day

- HALF DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN THE A.M.**
 - December 18-20: ½ day for students/exams
 - June 3-5: ½ day for students/exams

- FIRST SEMESTER**
 - August 21-December 20
 - December 18-20: ½ day for exams
 - August 21: First Day of School
- SECOND SEMESTER**
 - January 6-June 5
 - June 3-5: ½ day for exams
 - June 5: Last Day of School

- COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES**
 - May 12, 2025: Northern High School, Calvin University
 - May 13, 2025: Central High School, Calvin University
 - May 14, 2025: Eastern High School, Calvin University



FHPS Food Service Information

Free Breakfast, Lunch for All Students

For the 2024-2025 school year, FHPS will continue to provide free meals for all FHPS students as part of the Michigan School Meals program. Students in all of the FHPS school buildings can get one free breakfast meal and one free lunch meal every day of school. That's right! All schools will provide breakfast AND lunch free of charge for all students! Please note that the meal must follow the USDA meal pattern guidelines in order to qualify as free. Additionally, all cereal bowls on the breakfast menu are free from all top nine allergens: wheat, soy, sesame, fish, shellfish, peanuts, tree nuts, milk, and eggs. More information on meal pattern guidelines is outlined below.

Free Breakfast

Breakfast is offered free to all students on all school days, beginning Aug. 21, 2024.

Before going to class in the morning, your child can stop by the cafeteria for breakfast, which consists of healthy whole grains, hearty proteins, and a variety of fresh or dried fruit. White or chocolate low-fat milk and a second option of fresh, dried, frozen, or canned fruit will be available for your child to add to their meal at no cost. Check out our updated breakfast menu at <https://fhps.nutrislice.com/>.

K-4 and K-5 students will receive an ID barcode card that is placed in a plastic card holder and attached to the student's backpack. Students who want breakfast should come to the cafeteria when they arrive at school.

NOTE: Students must have their backpacks with them in the cafeteria for breakfast so the attached ID barcode card can be scanned by a food service employee. This process is for meal-claiming purposes only and will not charge your child's account for breakfast. During the first weeks of school, as these cards are being disseminated, children will be allowed to receive breakfast even though they may not have a card yet.

High School, Middle School, and 5/6 students should take their student ID badge with them to the cafeteria to help expedite the lines.

Goodwillie 5/6 and Transition students will pre-order breakfast a week at a time. Breakfast will be picked up at a designated location in your school.

Free Lunch

Lunch is offered free to all students on all full school days, beginning Aug. 21, 2024.

K-4 & K-5 Elementary Schools - Your child will have a choice of three main entrees daily, including a hot vegetarian option. Each lunch comes with a selection of white or chocolate low-fat milk and a variety of fresh and prepared fruits and vegetables. The third main entrée choice will change daily to offer students more variety throughout the week!

5/6 Schools, Middle Schools, and High Schools - Students in these grade levels have many options from which to choose. The 2Mato station includes homemade pizza by the slice, hot-baked pasta dishes, and flakey croissants stuffed with gooey cheese, pepperoni, ham, or meatballs. Students can enjoy alternative meat options such as Impossible burgers and Vegan Chik'n nuggets on the Grill station, where they will also find crispy chicken tenders, Bosco sticks, and a variety of hot sandwiches such as fresh grilled burgers, chicken sandwiches and daily specialty sandwiches such as Monte Cristo and Philly Cheesesteak. The On the Go station includes freshly prepared items, such as freshly baked sub sandwich-

es, wraps, smoothies, salads, and yogurt parfaits. The Create station consists of a variety of home-style meals, pasta dishes, and global cuisine. Our Sono line (available at all high schools and Eastern Middle School) serves made-to-order tacos, nachos, burritos, and rice bowls. All meals include a choice of a variety of fresh and prepared fruits and vegetables and a choice of low-fat milk.

Milk

Milk is available for purchase without a meal for \$0.65, regardless of meal benefits. If your child brings a lunch from home, they may still purchase milk. Milk is free of charge if selected as part of the free reimbursable breakfast or lunch. Students must have cash or funds in their food service account to cover the purchase of milk. Students will not be permitted to charge milk to their account, thus resulting in a negative balance. Water also is available in all school cafeterias.

Additional Snacks

At the 5/6, middle school, and high school levels, your child can purchase a la carte items such as bottled drinks, packaged snacks, and homemade cookies. All snacks meet the USDA requirement for Smart Snacks in Schools. Student accounts cannot enter a negative balance to purchase snack items. All snack items must be purchased with cash or account funds.

(continued on the next page)



Breakfast and Lunch Is Offered Beginning the First Day of School, Wednesday, August 21.

FHPS Food Service Information (continued)

Add Money to an Account to Purchase Milk and Snacks: Meal Magic

The online Meal Magic Family Portal, accessed at <https://foresthills.familyportal.cloud/> is your one-stop site for managing your child's meal account. You will want to create an account so your child can purchase milk if they bring lunch from home, purchase extra milk if they want more milk with their free breakfast and/or lunch, and purchase additional snack items. The best way to get started is by going to <https://foresthills.familyportal.cloud/>, where you can log in to your current account or create a new account. Click on "How-To Videos" or "Instructions" for help. If your child has funds remaining at the end of the school year, these funds will transfer with your child to the next grade level for as long as your child remains in the FHPS district.

On the Meal Magic Family Portal site, you can do the following:

- View your child's detailed purchase history
- View current account balance
- Make an online deposit
- Transfer funds between your children
- Access and change parental controls, such as a daily spending limit and set low balance reminders



What's on the Menu for the Day?

Daily, weekly, and monthly menus are published on Nutrislice. Visit the site, www.fhps.nutrislice.com to see daily menu descriptions and photographs, filter common food allergens, translate the menu into another language, view carb counts and calories, and much more. The Nutrislice app is available on the App Store and Google Play.

Food Allergies and Special Diets

Our food service team members receive allergy training through the National FARE-check Allergy training program. Our district chef creates menus that accommodate your child's dietary needs, and these items are prepared and served safely. If your child has a special dietary need due to a disability or medical issue, please complete the Medical Statement to Request Special Meals or Accommodations (available at <https://www.fhps.net/departments/food-service/>). This form must be completed and signed by your child's healthcare provider and delivered to the FHPS food service department via interoffice or regular mail. A new form must be submitted for any changes in your child's dietary needs and when requested by the food service office. If you have questions, please call the food service office at 616-493-8774.

Importance of Completing Information for Free or Reduced-Price Meals Even Though Breakfast and Lunch Are Free

Although breakfast and lunch are free for all students this school year, families are still encouraged to apply for free or reduced-price meals. This information is critical in determining the amount of money our school district receives from various state and federal supplemental programs, including, but not limited to, instructional supports, non-instructional services, professional learning for staff, parent and community engagement supplies and activities, and technology. Your family may also receive benefits outside of school, such as reduced fees for activities, discounted internet service, and more. For more information about food assistance in Michigan, please visit www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/food.

Do You Still Have Questions?

For more information, please visit the FHPS food service department's web pages online at www.fhps.net, email the food service office at foodservice@fhps.net, or call 616-493-8774.

FHPS Transportation Information

The School Bus App, My Ride K-12

Last year, the FHPS transportation department implemented the My Ride K-12 app for parents/guardians of students who ride an FHPS bus to and/or from school.

The App Tracks Students When They Enter and Exit Their School Bus

The app syncs with each student's RFID or radio frequency identification card, and a card reader is installed on each FHPS school bus. When boarding the bus, students "tap" their card on the card reader at the top of the bus steps. Similarly, students "tap" their card on the card reader when they exit the school bus. When students "tap" their card, it lets the computer tablet know the student has boarded or exited their bus and will notify the parent/guardian via the app. If you are using the app, please ensure the app notifications are enabled on your device.

During the first few weeks of school, bus drivers will confirm their student riders and distribute the RFID cards. Students will board their school bus and tell their driver their name so that the driver can check that the student is on the correct bus. We encourage families not to worry during the first weeks of school as the RFID cards get redistributed to returning students and created for new students. No student will be left at a bus stop if they do not have a bus card. The cards are coming soon!

Download the My Ride K-12 App if You Don't Already Have It on Your Device

For security purposes, FHPS does not publish bus routes. We encourage families to download the My Ride K-12 app. The app helps improve communication between parents and FHPS transportation staff and provides tools that help keep parents informed about their student's daily journeys on FHPS buses. Parents/guardians can securely use the My Ride K-12 app to see bus stop location, their student's assigned route, scheduled pickup time, and when to expect the bus each day.

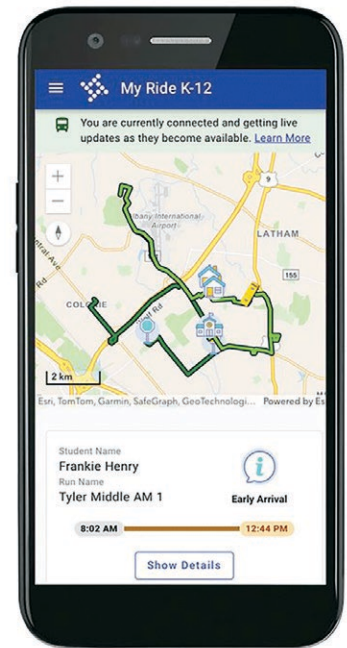
Parents/guardians can access their student's transportation-related information either through the My Ride K-12 app on their mobile device or through the My Ride K-12 website, myridek12.tylerapp.com. The mobile app is available for Apple and Android devices. Find the app in the Apple App Store and on Google Play. Please visit the FHPS website, www.fhps.net/transportation, for instructions on how to download the app, set it up, and other helpful hints.

Questions?

If you have questions regarding bus routes or need additional assistance, please call the FHPS transportation department at 616-493-8785.



Look for This App, My Ride K-12



App Available for Apple and Android Mobile Devices



FHPS Transportation Information (continued)

Driving a Student to School? Car Line Etiquette Reminders



Driving Your Kids to/from School

If families decide to provide their own transportation for their child to and from school, please remember that the pick-up and drop-off areas can be very congested.

Please make every effort to be on time to ensure a good start or end to the school day for your child. Each school has a designated drop off and pick up area separate from where school buses park. Please make sure you know where this is at your child's school. Here are some additional reminders.

- Safety first! When picking up or dropping off, children must enter and exit vehicles on the curb side only.
- Children are not permitted to walk in front of or behind your car. Be ready for your child to enter or exit to help keep this process safe.
- Drivers should not get out of their vehicle to "quickly grab" their child, wave to their child, or say "Hi" to a friend in line.
- When the car in front of you moves, please pull forward. Don't cut in line. There is a line and a process. Please wait patiently in the line and know that we all share the same goal of dropping off or picking up children in a safe manner.

- Put away electronic devices and cell phones; pay attention.
- Don't double park. Keep the line moving.
- Be a good steward of the Earth. If you arrive too early, consider turning off your vehicle while waiting.
- Be patient. Politeness goes a long way in the car line. Honking at others or displaying any other form of road rage is unacceptable, and remember, even the little ones notice this behavior. Set a good example.
- Should you have specific questions pertaining to traffic flow and child safety during drop off and pick up, please contact the school office.

Ride a School Bus the First Day of School

Families are encouraged to use school buses as the main form of transportation to and from school. According to the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration:

- School buses are designed to be safer than passenger vehicles in avoiding crashes and preventing injury.
- School buses are the safest mode of transportation for getting children back and forth to school.
- School buses keep an annual estimated 17.3 million cars off roads surrounding schools each morning.



School Buses Are Like Traffic Signals

The graphic consists of three panels, each showing a yellow school bus with a traffic light icon above it. In the first panel, the traffic light is flashing yellow, and the text says "When overhead lights are flashing yellow: Prepare to Stop". In the second panel, the traffic light is flashing red, and the text says "When overhead lights are flashing red: Stop!". In the third panel, the traffic light is flashing red and the bus has its hazard lights on, and the text says "When hazard warning lights are flashing: Proceed with Caution".

School bus traffic light graphic courtesy of Dean Transportation, Inc.

Communication Tools (continued)

(continued from page 5, column 1)

and the public at-large. It also contains information pertaining to the district as a whole. Please bookmark www.fhps.net on your mobile and electronic devices.



SchoolMessenger

SchoolMessenger is used to communicate a variety of information. This push notification system is an automated messaging service. The district uses this system to inform families of school delays or closures, when there is an emergency at a school, and information from the superintendent. SchoolMessenger is also used by each of our schools to communicate, primarily through email, nonemergency information, school reminders, and activity updates. SchoolMessenger allows families to set preferences on how messages are received, such as an email, text and/or phone call.

You can manage your preferences through the Parent Portal of PowerSchool. To “opt in” to text messages you must text “YES” to 67587 from your mobile device. There is also a SchoolMessenger app available to download. The app provides families with a powerful way to stay engaged with their school and the district. The app is available for both Android and Apple devices. Please note, this communication tool is the primary method for schools to communicate information to families. Parents should always contact their child’s school to update their phone number and email contact information if or when a change occurs.

PowerSchool

Parents and guardians can access PowerSchool, our student information system, through the Parent Portal. It is important that you access PowerSchool because all district forms for enrollment are accessed through this system. In addition to enrollment forms, for our kindergarten through sixth-grade families, you are able to view contact information, important school information, and student attendance. For our seventh- through 12th-grade families, you may also view student’s grade history, teacher comments, and more. Parent Portal

is also used to update your SchoolMessenger preferences as mentioned above, or you can install the SchoolMessenger app. Please be sure to update your child’s school with any changes to your contact information. This includes telephone numbers as well as email addresses.

Social Media

The district posts news and updates on social media channels such as Facebook, X, YouTube, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Please follow us on social media.

Canvas

The district uses a learning management system called Canvas. Canvas integrates all learning and assignments into one online place. It allows teachers to post grades, assignments, and information online and allows parents/guardians of students to also see assignments and progress. Each student will be given a Canvas account. Once students receive their accounts, then the parent/guardian may also set up an account to see the student’s account. Information about Canvas and Canvas accounts will come directly from the student’s teacher. Log in to Canvas from our Canvas discovery page on our website.

School Safety and Security

The safety and security of students is our highest priority. It takes all of us to keep students safe. The district has a director of school safety and security, Ryan Kimball, along with three School Resource Officers (SROs). The SROs are through the Kent County Sheriff’s Department. These individuals routinely visit our schools, interact with staff, students, and families, and help maintain a culture of open communication and safety while building positive relationships with students. Deputy Ben Dunneback services the Northern side of the district, Deputy Cory Czaika services the Eastern side of the district, and Deputy Jim Svoboda services the Central side of the district. All individuals have experience working with school-aged children and are excited about continued opportunities to impact young lives through educational programming and more.



Ryan Kimball (left), FHPS director of school safety and security, is pictured with the school district’s three resource officers, from left: Deputy Cory Czaika, Deputy Jim Svoboda, and Deputy Ben Dunneback.

Annual Verification of Information and Completion of All Student Forms in PowerSchool

It is essential every year for families to log in to PowerSchool and verify their student's information for the school year. This process is required for all FHPS students. Ensuring we have accurate and up-to-date information for all students for the 2024-2025 year is imperative.

If you have yet to verify your student's forms and log in to PowerSchool, please follow these essential steps:

1. Log in to your PowerSchool account online at ps.fhps.net/public.
2. Select "Forms" on the left navigation menu.

3. Verify and update all of your student's information.
4. Verify residency.
5. Complete all required school forms.
6. If you have more than one student, you must complete and verify the information for each student.

You must complete and verify all the forms for several reasons:

1. Transportation: If your student requires FHPS busing, the transportation request form must be completed.

2. Student health: These forms ensure that buildings have accurate information in case of an emergency and that we can continue to provide a safe and secure learning environment.
3. Communication: Accurate information ensures you receive important communication from your child's school and the district, such as school closings due to inclement weather or other school-related occurrences.

Finally, there is a PowerSchool mobile app available on Apple's app store and Google's

(continued on page 15, column 3)

OK2SAY: 24/7/365

At the start of every school year and throughout the months ahead, our school resource officers and staff remind students that if they see or hear anything suspicious or if they are worried about something, they can always talk to a trusted adult and/or contact OK2SAY via text, 652729 (OK2SAY) or call 8-555-OK2SAY, or call 911. We encourage families to have conversations about safety and security and to talk to students to speak up if they feel uneasy or hear or see anything that does not make them feel safe.

"BUT WHAT IF I'M WRONG?"
"I'M SURE IT WAS JUST A JOKE."

"I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED."
"SOMEONE ELSE WILL SPEAK UP."

"THERE IS NO EXCUSE TO REMAIN SILENT."

SCHOOL SAFETY BEGINS WITH YOU!

Submit an **OK2SAY** confidential tip.
We are available **24/7**.

OK2SAY
Stop the Silence. Help End the Violence.

8-555-OK2SAY
855-565 2729

652729 (OK2SAY)

ok2say.com

ok2say@mi.gov

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

Bright Beginnings
a program of **Kent ISD**

Give your child the brightest start with our –

- Home visits
- Playgroups in your school district
- Developmental & health screenings
- Connections to resources

Join us anytime and set your little one on the path to success in school and life!

Free for families with children ages 0-5 years.

Scan for more information or visit bb.kentisd.org

Kent ISD We Lead Learning

parents as teachers

READY BY FIVE Early Childhood Matters Teacher Network

First Steps Kent Supported by the Kent County Ready by Five Initiative

For All the Latest Information:

Visit the FHPS website @ **fhps.net**

Students' Health Needs During School

If your child has a medical condition such as diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, acute allergies (food, insect bites, animals), or a physical disability, and/or requires treatments or procedures during school hours, please inform a school staff member. An Emergency Action Plan and a Medication Consent Form are needed for those students with potential complications such as allergies, asthma, seizure disorder, or diabetes. Both of these forms must be signed by both the physician and the parent/guardian. See your school secretary for the required forms or visit our website for additional information.

Dispensing Medicine at School

For any student, if medicine is to be dispensed at school, the student's health care provider and parent/guardian must complete a medication authorization form before any medication is administered by school personnel, or when permitted, self-administered by the student. The only medicines that can be carried and self-administered by students in grades K-6 are metered-dose inhalers and emergency injectable medications, if authorized in writing, by both the student's health care provider and parent/guardian. For high school students, prescription medication may be carried and self-administered if authorized by school administration, the student's health care provider and parent/guardian. Any medicines, either prescription or over-the-counter, must be in their original container. For elementary grades, medicines must be brought to the school by a parent/guardian, not by the student. Copy of the medication authorization forms are available online. If you have additional questions, please contact your child's school.

What Happens When My Child Gets Sick?

When your child is ill, please don't send them to school. Please use common sense and keep your child home when they are running a fever of 100 degrees or more, have diarrhea, are vomiting, have a sore throat, have a continuous "barking" or deep chest cough, etc. Please call the school's attendance line and report that your child will be absent due to an illness. When calling the school's attendance line, please tell us the

name of the student, what grade the student is in, who the student's teacher is, and please briefly tell us the symptoms. Before returning a student to school, they should be fever-free for at least 24 hours without medication.

If your child comes to school sick or becomes ill at school, we will call you and ask that you pick up your child immediately. If we cannot reach you, we will call your emergency contact person to pick up your child. Please make sure that your contact information is always up to date. If there is an extreme emergency regarding your child, 911 will be called.

Student Insurance Available

Forest Hills Public Schools provides student medical insurance coverage for any student injured at school or during a school-related activity, including athletics. This coverage is secondary to any student or family medical insurance. In effect, the district's medical insurance will cover medical costs for school-related injuries that are not covered



by the family's medical insurance as long as the injury falls within the range of coverage. If a family wishes to improve upon the district's plan, additional options are available for individual purchase. All necessary information will be made available to students at the beginning of school. Any family wishing to subscribe should complete the form and return it to their school. To obtain the insurance form, please call your child's school.

Come Join the FHPS Team!

We Are HIRING

Are You Ready To Join Our Team?

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

- Starting Pay: \$21.63 Per Hour
- \$1,500 Sign On Bonus
- Full Family Benefits For 8-Hour Drivers
- Training Assistance
- Flexible Schedule

APPLY NOW

SCAN ME

FH
FOREST HILLS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Looking for an excellent employment opportunity at Forest Hills Public Schools? Consider joining our team as a bus driver, custodian, maintenance person, food service worker, paraprofessional, playground/recess paraprofessional, and many more. FHPS currently has several positions open and we do offer employment year-round. We also offer part-time positions to fit your schedule and offer flexibility. Come make a difference in a child's education. For a complete list of available positions, please visit <https://fhps.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>.

Procedures for Severe Weather and School Closings

The superintendent's office continuously monitors the weather and weather conditions. When school is closed, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations. There will also be an automated message sent to families via SchoolMessenger using telephone, email, and text. Closings and delays will also be posted on social media platforms such as Facebook and X, and will be posted on the district website.

When school is closed due to winter weather conditions, all after-school activities for the day will be canceled unless indicated otherwise by the superintendent. In the event of early dismissal, notice will be immediately provided via SchoolMessenger, the district's website, and local media stations. When school is closed, all programs run through Community Services and our aquatic center are closed.

Tornado Watch/Warning

When the National Weather Service issues a tornado watch or a thunderstorm warning while school is in session, students remain in school. Outdoor activities, such as recess are moved inside the building when possible, and staff continue to monitor the weather. After-school activities and/or athletic activities could be postponed. When the

National Weather Service issues a tornado warning for any region encompassed by the geographical area of the Forest Hills Public Schools, the district will issue the tornado warning announcement. People will be moved to designated shelter areas and all routine operations will be suspended until the warning has expired (this may include delay of the starting and ending of the school day).

We urge parents/guardians to refrain from coming to school to pick up their child during a tornado warning. The process of checking a child out of school diverts the attention of staff when their presence is needed to perform other important tasks during a warning.

Finally, children take their emotional cues from the caring adults in their lives. Please discuss with your family what should be done during periods of threatening weather. Severe weather watches and warnings are a common aspect of living in Michigan, and children are able to learn to calmly and deliberately respond to tornado watches and warnings.

If you have any questions regarding the district's procedures during a tornado watch or warning, feel free to contact your child's principal.

Verification of Information and Completion of Student Forms in PowerSchool (continued)

(continued from page 13)

Play Store. The PowerSchool app is designed for parents/guardians to check students' attendance, homework, and grades. You can also register to receive alert notifications. Parents of high school students primarily use this app. Additional information about this app can be found on the district website, www.fhps.net/departments/technology/parentportal.

If you have questions or need assistance with PowerSchool or using the app, please email parentportal@fhps.net or call FHPS at (616) 493-8550. If you need further assistance, please get in touch with the registrar at your student's school.



PowerSchool App
FHPS Login Code: TFSS

Around the District: Construction Updates

During the summer months, a lot of construction and site improvements occurred. As part of the 2018 bond, paving occurred at Knapp Forest Elementary School and Meadow Brook Elementary School, Central Middle School's service drive, Central Woodlands 5/6 School, and the operations building. Current construction in progress includes Ada Vista Elementary School finishing up the final phase, Pine Ridge Elementary School, and the construction of Eastern Middle School's secure entrance. It is estimated that the project at Eastern Middle School will be completed next year. As part of the 2023 bond, projects began at the auxiliary field at Northern High School and the baseball/softball field at Eastern High School. For more information, please visit our website, www.fhps.net.



Ada Vista Elementary School



Pine Ridge Elementary School



Eastern Middle School



Northern High School's Auxiliary Athletic Field



Required Annual Notices August 2024

Dear Forest Hills Families,

Public school districts are required to send to the parents/guardians of our students a vast array of annual notices. These notices are the products of various laws, rules, orders, and rulings of the state and federal government. Updated and unabbreviated policies are located on the district website. Should you have questions about anything you read here, please do not hesitate to contact us at 616-493-8800, and we will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Forest Hills Public Schools

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

All types of bullying, including cyberbullying, without regard to subject matter or motivating animus are prohibited.

Bullying, including cyberbullying, a student at school is prohibited. Bullying is any written, verbal, or physical act, or electronic communication that is intended to or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one or more students directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- substantially interfering with a student's educational opportunities, benefits, or programs;
- adversely affecting a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the District's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress;
- having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; or
- causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the District's orderly operations.

Retaliation or false accusations against the target of bullying, anyone reporting bullying, a witness, or another person with reliable information about an act of bullying, are prohibited.

If a student, staff member, or other person suspects there has been a bullying incident, the person must promptly report the incident to the building principal or designee, or to the Responsible School Official(s), as defined below.

A report may be made in person, by telephone, or in writing (including electronic transmissions). If a bullying incident is reported to a staff member who is not the building principal, designee, or a Responsible School Official, the staff member

must promptly report the incident to the building principal, designee, or a Responsible School Official.

To encourage reporting of suspected bullying or related activities, each building principal, after consulting the Responsible School Official(s), will create, publicize, and implement a system for anonymous reports. The system must emphasize that the District's ability to investigate anonymous reports may be limited.

Complaints that the building principal has bullied a student must be reported to the Superintendent. Complaints that the Superintendent has bullied a student must be reported to the Board President.

All bullying complaints will be promptly investigated. The building principal or designee will conduct the investigation, unless the building principal or Superintendent is the subject of the investigation. If the building principal is the subject of the investigation, the Superintendent or designee will conduct the investigation. If the Superintendent is the subject of the investigation, the Board President will designate a neutral party to conduct the investigation.

A description of each reported incident, along with all investigation materials and conclusions reached, will be documented and retained.

If the investigator determines that a bullying incident has occurred, the District will promptly notify the victim's and perpetrator's parent/guardian in writing.

"At school" means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether it is held on school premises. "At school" also includes any conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if the device or provider is owned by or under the control of the District.

The district may utilize restorative practices that emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and school community in the correction of bullying behavior.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE OFFICER (EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY)

It is the policy of this district to provide an equal education opportunity for all students. Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, reli-

gion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity or sexual orientation), national origin, disability, or any other legally protected class that has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment or unreasonably interfering with the student's ability to benefit from the District's education programs or activities while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the school district's compliance officer listed below.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of sex-based discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, you may file a complaint with:

Christine Annese, Title IX Coordinator
Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Forest Hills Public Schools
620 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-493-8800
cannese@fhps.net

If you or someone you know has been the victim of disability-based discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, you may file a complaint with:

Sarah Castro, Student Section 504 and Special Education Coordinator
640 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-493-8660
scastro@fhps.net

Christine Annese, Section 504 Coordinator (non-student)
620 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-493-8800
cannese@fhps.net

If you or someone you know has been the victim of any other type of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, including unlawful conduct based on race, color, or national origin, you may file a complaint with:

Christine Annese, Civil Rights Coordinator
620 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-493-8800
cannese@fhps.net

A complaint of unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment or retaliation, may be made verbally or in writing.

Required Annual Notices (continued)

Complaints will be investigated. Any student making a complaint or participating in a school investigation will be protected from any threat or retaliation. The compliance officer can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity.

Any person who believes that he or she has been the victim of unlawful discrimination may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights listed below:

**U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights**
1350 Euclid Avenue; Suite 325
Cleveland, OH 44115
Telephone: (216) 522-4970
Facsimile: (216) 522-2573
Email: OCR.Cleveland@ed.gov

THE MCKINNEY-VENTO ASSISTANCE ACT

Federal Legislation requires school districts to address problems that homeless children and youth face in enrolling, attending and succeeding in school. Anyone who lacks a “fixed”, “regular” and “adequate” nighttime residence may qualify as homeless. Protections are in place so that children and youth facing homelessness have exposure to the same achievement standards of all students. Districts are required to abide by the laws, regulations, practices and policies to avoid any barriers to the education of children. If you believe a member of your household fits homeless eligibility criteria, please contact us immediately to obtain the necessary paperwork.

Tamasha James, Homeless Liaison

Forest Hills Public Schools
620 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-493-8800
tjames@fhps.net

THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)

IDEA is a United States federal law that governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education and related services to children with disabilities. It requires school districts to identify all children with disabilities from birth through 25 years of age. By identifying children with disabilities, the school district can provide them with the support and services they need to succeed in school. This also includes children attending private school, being home-schooled, or children who are wards of the state. It is very important that we identify children who may need service as research clearly indicates that children do better when they attend school.

SECTION 504 OF THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES REHABILITATION ACT

This is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimina-

tion against individuals with disabilities. This law ensures that children with disabilities have equal access to an appropriate education. Unlike the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 does not require the school to provide an individualized educational program (IEP) that is designed to meet the child’s unique needs and provides the child with educational benefit. Under Section 504, fewer procedural safeguards are available to children with disabilities and their parents than under IDEA. Section 504 is a consideration if a student requires additional support to have equal access to educational opportunities.

STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The board designates as “student directory information” the following: a student’s name; address; telephone number; photographs or videos depicting a student’s participation in school-related activities; date and place of birth; major field of study; grade level; enrollment status; dates of attendance; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of athletic team members; degrees, honors, and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or institution attended. The Board further designates District-assigned student email addresses as directory information for the limited purposes of: (1) facilitating the student’s participation in and access to online learning platforms and application; and (2) inclusion in internal school and District email address books. Directory information will not be released for purposes of solicitation.

Parents, guardians, and adult students may refuse to allow the district to disclose any or all such “directory information” by returning the Directory Information and Opt-Out form to the district within 10 days after receipt of this public notice. Notification should be sent to the office of the school building in which the student attends.

The district must provide United States Armed Forces recruiters at least the same access to the high school campus and to student directory information as is provided to other entities offering educational or employment opportunities for the purpose of informing students of educational and career opportunities available in the armed forces of the United States and the service academies of the Armed Forces of the United States.

FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES RELEASE TO MILITARY AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION RECRUITERS

Federal law requires the District to release a secondary school student’s name, address, and telephone number to U.S. Military recruiters and institutions of higher education recruiters upon their request.

If you do not want Forest Hills Public Schools to disclose name, address, and telephone number to military and/or higher education recruiters, you must notify the school office in writing by completing the Directory Information and Opt-Out Form by September 6, 2024.

Male students age eighteen (18) or older are re-

quired to register for the selective service within 30 days of their 18th birthday.

“Armed Forces of the United States” means the Armed Forces of the United States and their reserve components and the United States Coast Guard.

SCHOOL VISITORS

The board of education welcomes and encourages visits to school by parents, other adult residents of the community and interested educators. In order for the educational program to continue undisturbed when visitors are present and to prevent the intrusion of disruptive persons into the schools, it is necessary to establish visitor guidelines. During the times when school is in session, all visitors are required to report to the main school office to check in prior to visiting any other location in the school.

The superintendent, assistant superintendent, or the principal has the authority to prohibit the entry of any person to a school of this district or to expel any person when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be detrimental to the good order of the school. If such an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the administrator in charge is authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency whatever assistance is required to remove the individual.

Parents/Guardians, who are registered sex offenders and wish to participate in their child’s school activities, may be allowed on campus at the discretion and under the direction of the principal. Conditions may be imposed, including but not limited to the following: must have prior permission, must check in, must have approved escort in building or at event, must leave premises immediately upon conclusion of business, and may not visit while school is in session.

Non-staff access to students and classes must be limited and only in accordance with a schedule, which has been determined by the principal after consultation with the teacher whose classroom is being visited. Classroom visitations must be non-obtrusive to the educative process and learning environment and should not occur on an excessive basis.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS

Forest Hills Public Schools will make reasonable accommodations for any disabled person wanting to participate in events. Service animals used by persons requiring this type of assistance shall be permitted in all district facilities and at all school events. Certain restrictions may be applied when necessary due to allergies, health, safety, disability other issues of those attending the event. The goal shall be to provide all attendees with the same access and participation provided to other members of the public.

TITLE I PROGRAM INFORMATION

Parents/Guardians in Title I schools may request the following information about of their child’s

(continued on page 18, column 1)

Required Annual Notices (continued)

teacher: state licensure requirements for the grade level and content areas taught; the current licensure status of your child's teacher; and baccalaureate / graduate certification / degree. Parents may also request the qualifications of an instructional paraprofessional who serves your child in a Title I program. This information may be requested from the Human Resources Department by calling 616-493-8800 or sending a letter of request to the Human Resources Department, 620 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY (Board Policy 5401)

The District encourages parent / guardian involvement in their student's education (Board Policy 5401). Title I funding is used to offer support services to students who need extra time and instruction to master grade level curriculum. Title I schools are identified through a state formula each year. Families with students in identified Title I buildings will receive communication directly from the school.

PERSONAL CURRICULUM

What is a personal curriculum?

The personal curriculum (PC) is a process to modify specific Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) high school credit requirements and / or content expectations based on a student's unique learning needs and post-secondary goals. It is designed to serve students who want to accelerate or go beyond the MMC requirements and students who need to individualize MMC requirements to earn a high school diploma.

Who may request a personal curriculum?

- The parent / guardian of a student for whom a personal curriculum is sought
- The student, if the student is of the age of majority
- An emancipated minor
- A teacher who is currently teaching the student (who currently teaches in, or whose expertise is in, a subject area proposed to be modified by the PC, or who is determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise relevant to developing a PC)
- A school counselor or school employee is qualified to act in a counseling role.

If the request for a PC is made by the student's parent / legal guardian or, if the student is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the student, the school district shall develop a PC for the student under the parameters outlined in 380.1278b(5).

When may a personal curriculum be requested?

If the student has an Individualized Education Program (IEP), the personal curriculum request may be submitted before 9th grade. If the student does not have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), the personal curriculum request may be requested after the student has completed 9th grade.

DRUG PREVENTION

The board of education recognizes that the misuse of drugs is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the entire school community. As the educational institution of this community, the schools should strive to prevent drug abuse and help drug abusers by educational, rather than punitive, means.

For purposes of this policy, "drugs" shall mean: all dangerous controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by Michigan statute; all chemicals which release toxic vapors; all alcoholic beverages; any prescription or patent drug, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to board policy; "look-alikes," performance-enhancing drugs as determined annually by the Department of Community Health, and any other illegal substances so designated and prohibited by law.

The board prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of any drug at any time on district property or at any district-related event.

State law requires the permanent expulsion of any student who physically assaults a school employee, or who commits an act of rape or arson on school property, at a school event, or on school transportation. Students also may be expelled for assault, drug violations or other disciplinary reasons.

DANGEROUS WEAPONS, FALSE ALARMS AND BOMB THREATS

The board of education will not tolerate the possession of weapons by anyone while on school property or at a district-related event. In implementing this policy, the district will comply with M.C.L. 380.1313 which prohibits students from possessing a dangerous weapon, including but not limited to, a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, brass knuckles, or other devices capable of inflicting bodily harm while in attendance at school or a school activity, or on a school bus.

Students may also be expelled for actions such as false fire alarms, bomb threats, or intentional calls to falsely report a dangerous condition.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The board of education charges school authorities with the responsibility of safeguarding the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, school authorities may search school property such as lockers used by students or the person or property, including vehicles, of a student in accordance with Policy 5103.

LOCKER SEARCHES

Lockers are district property and may be made available for student use. Lockers are assigned to students on a temporary basis, and district administration may revoke a student's locker assignment at any time. The district retains ownership of lockers notwithstanding student use.

Students have no expectation of privacy in their lockers. The building principal or designee may inspect lockers without any particularized suspicion or reasonable cause and without advance notice. Upon the request of the building principal or designee, law enforcement may assist with searching lockers.

During a locker search, student privacy rights will be respected for any items that are not illegal or against Board Policy.

USE OF DETECTION DOGS

The District may use detection dogs, without a warrant or consent, to sniff property in an effort to locate illegal drugs or contraband according to the protocol outlined in Board Policy 3107. Detection dogs will not be used to search a person unless the search is otherwise authorized by law or Policy.

The District will inform students and personnel over the public address system when a detection dog is being used and may direct students and personnel to remain in place or relocate.

A detection dog alerting on a person's property constitutes reasonable suspicion to search the property. Anything found during a search that violates Policy, school rules, school handbook, or state or federal law may be seized and used as evidence in a disciplinary proceeding. Any illegal drugs, dangerous weapons, and other illegal items found during a search will be tagged and identified by a District administrator and turned over to law enforcement.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS IN SCHOOLS AND ON SCHOOL SITES

For the safety and security of all students, staff, family members, and volunteers, video surveillance cameras are used in all schools, school buses, and all school sites. Personal information and activities recorded are collected and may be disclosed for disciplinary and / or law enforcement purposes.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Forest Hills Public Schools is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, or sexual orientation), marital status, disability, or other legally prohibited characteristic in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities.

Any questions concerning compliance issues with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, including athletic issues, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, or inquiries related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to:

Christine Annese

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Forest Hills Public Schools
620 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-493-8800

Required Annual Notices (continued)

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) requires that the District notify you and obtain your consent, or allow you to opt your students out of, participating in any school survey analysis, or evaluation that involves one or more of the following 8 subjects ("protected information surveys"):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom the student has close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relations, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

The notification and opt-out requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure, or use of a student's personal information for marketing purposes ("marketing surveys") and certain physical exams and screenings.

You have the right to review a protected information or marketing survey before it is given to your student to determine whether you want your student to participate. If you want to review materials that will be used in a protected information or marketing survey please submit your request to the building principal. The building principal will let you know where and when you may review those materials.

If the District schedules a protected information or marketing survey after the school year starts, the District will notify you within a reasonable amount of time and give an opportunity to consent or opt your student out. The District also

will give you an opportunity to review the newly scheduled surveys or instructional materials upon request.

NOTIFICATION OF ASBESTOS PLAN

As required in 1989, our school district conducts an asbestos survey of all buildings. Based on these findings, a comprehensive management plan was drafted. This plan details the response actions the district would take regarding any asbestos materials found in our buildings.

Every three years, we conduct a full inspection of any remaining asbestos containing material. This inspection is required under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act.

This plan is available for inspection at our Operations Department without cost or restriction during normal business hours. If you want a personal copy, it will be mailed to you upon request. Please contact the Operations Department, 493-8780, with any questions.

PESTICIDE APPLICATION ADVISORY TO ALL PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

As part of its integrated pest management program, the District annually notifies its students' parents/guardians that they will be given at least 48 hours' advance notice before the non-emergency application of a pesticide on school grounds (other than application pursuant to a bait or gel formulation).

Notice will be provided by posting at the school's entrances and by posting in a public, common area of the school, other than the entrances. In addition to this notice, and upon request only, parents/guardians are entitled to receive notice by first-class mail postmarked three days before an application. Requests for this additional notice must be in writing and directed to the director of operations.

Pesticides may be applied without advance notice in an emergency. The District will promptly notify parents/guardians as set forth herein after any emergency application.

The District's integrated pest management program and pesticide application records are available for review. The person responsible for the school's pesticide application procedures is:

Cory Anderson, Director of Operations

Phone: (616) 493-8780

Email: coanderson@fhps.net

Please contact the director of operations if you have any questions regarding pesticide application.

WHAT'S NEW

at the FHPS Foundation



The Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation is dedicated to enriching the educational experience of FHPS students by supporting programs and initiatives that enhance learning and student success. Through community engagement and fundraising efforts, the Foundation ensures that students have access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive. In partnership with our community, the FHPS Foundation is committed to raising funds and awareness to support all learners and educators within the FHPS district.

Save the Dates!

All proceeds from the following events will be used to enhance the education of our students.

THE FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT FRIGHTS

FRIDAY THE 13TH OF SEPTEMBER

EGYPT VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB
7333 KNAPP STREET NE,
ADA, MI 49301

REGISTRATION TO BEGIN @ 9AM ON AUGUST 13TH

Fall Grant Season

We are thrilled to announce the beginning of the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation's fall grants season application process. This is an exciting time for our school community as any staff member of FHPS can apply for a grant to support innovative and impactful projects. The fall grant application process began on August 5 and closes on September 13, 2024.

Last year, the foundation awarded 88 grants to FHPS employees, totaling \$270,735. These grants significantly impacted every school in the Eastern, Northern, and Central attendance areas and key community buildings like the Fine Arts Center, Community Aquatic Center, and Transition Center.

The grants touched nearly all aspects of student development, with major themes emerging in the areas of STEAM technology, cultural arts, student well-being and mental health, literacy development, and adaptive equipment for special education students.

For more information on the fall grant cycle, visit fhpsf.org.

FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION IS PROUD TO PRESENT

Betting ON Bright Futures

11.8.2024

20 MONROE LIVE | GRAND RAPIDS, MI



FHN staff member receiving a grant check in 2023.

Invest in our children's futures. Donate today! Visit fhpsf.org or call 616.493.8500 for more information.

FHPS Fine Arts Center



2024/25 SEASON

20th Anniversary

Tickets on sale July 29th. Purchase your seats at the Fine Arts Center Box Office, Scan QR code to buy online, or call **(616) 493-8966**



Forest Hills Fine Arts Center
600 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 • fhfineartscenter.com

SHREK
THE MUSICAL

FALL IN LOVE
ALL OGRE AGAIN!

October 28, 2024

RPS
RAND PRODUCTIONS SHOWS

Holiday
In
THE AIR

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY: JEB K RAND

December 18, 2024

COLIN & BRAD
MOCHRIE SHERWOOD

FROM TV'S **WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?**

TWO LEGENDS. NO SCRIPT. NO PROBLEM!

ASKING FOR TROUBLE

mills

March 6, 2025

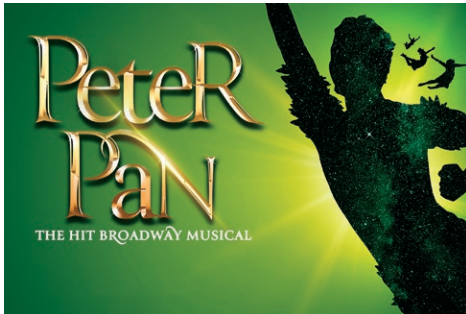
2024-25 FHPS High Schools' Musical Theater at the FAC



November 21-23, 2024 • Northern High Students



February 6-8, 2025 • Eastern High Students



March 20-22, 2025 • Central High Students

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Artist Exhibit Schedule 2024-2025



Collaborate - A Collection by Women Artists of Michigan

Collaborate -

A collection by women artists of Michigan

August 27 - September 27, 2024

Reception: September 5, 2024 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Grand Valley Artists

October 3 - November 15, 2024

Reception: October 10, 2024 6:00-7:30 PM

FHPS Staff & Community

November 20 - December 13, 2024

Reception: November 20, 2024 6:00-7:30 PM



Grand Valley Artists



M. Joy Lemon

M. Joy Lemon

January 8 - February 7, 2025

Reception: January 23, 2025 6:00-7:00 PM

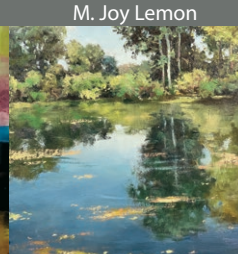
Ted Carlson

February 12 - March 13, 2025

Reception: February 13, 2025 6:00-7:00 PM



Ted Carlson



Richard Jordan

FHPS Student Art Exhibit

March 19 - May 2, 2025

Reception: March 26, 2025 6:00 - 7:30 PM



Kendall College of Art & Design

May 8-16, 2025



Richard Jordan

May 21 - June 27, 2025

Reception: June 5, 2025 6:00-7:00 PM

All exhibits are free to the public. Exhibit Hours 9am - 4pm Monday - Friday

Title Sponsor



Forest Hills Public Schools
Fine Arts
Center



FOREST HILLS
- PUBLIC SCHOOLS -

600 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Phone: 616.493.8965 Box Office: 616.493.8966
www.fhfineartscenter.com



Additional support provided by



Celebrating
20 Years!

The Forest Hills Fine Arts Center when it was completed in 2004.

See What's New for Fall 2024!



Forest Hills
FH
FOREST HILLS
— PUBLIC SCHOOLS —

Community Enrichment Classes and Programs for Youth, Adults, and Seniors

fall 2024

Volume 13, Issue 1 • www.enjoylearning.com

57
New Classes
Inside!

Look for Our Quarterly Class Catalog in Your Mailbox!

Register for Enrichment Classes Online at enjoylearning.com or Call Us at 616-493-8950.

43 New Classes for Adults

- Watercolor: Autumn in Michigan
- Watercolor: Holiday Greeting Cards
- Fundamentals of Oil Painting
- Complete Color Mixing for Artists
- Fundamentals of Drawing
- Exploring Zentangle: An Introduction
- Tangled Stain Glass Window
- Fabulous Frames
- Embodied Yoga
- Somatic Dance Movement
- Cook with Your Kids: Pizza Party!
- Perfect Scones and Teacakes
- Latte Art Cookies Decorating Class
- French Gateaux
- Stewpendous!
- Holiday Cookie Wreath Decorating
- iPhone/iPad: "After the Basics"
- Wellness and the GenAge Experience
- The Craft of Storytelling
- Personality Hub
- American Sign Language: Introduction
- ... and many more new and returning favorites, too!

14 New Classes for Youth

- After-School Painting Fun
- Calling All Swifties: Paint Party
- Michigan Ballet Academy: Pre-Ballet
- Michigan Ballet Academy: Ballet 1
- Michigan Ballet Academy: Elementary Jazz Dance
- Halloween Cooking Class: Witches Brew
- Scarecrow Cake Decorating
- Cat and Yarn Cupcake Decorating
- Little Musketeers Kinder Fencing
- Beginner Trampoline and Tumbling: Levels 1-2
- Tumbling for Dance and Cheer
- Seahorses Progression Swim Class
- ... and many more new and returning favorites, too!

620 Forest Hill Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-493-8800

Visiting Our Schools

We welcome and encourage family members to visit their children's school. Please check with your child's teacher for the best time to visit. When you arrive, you will have to press the "buzzer" in the school vestibule with a security camera to gain entrance. Then, be sure to sign in with the school secretary and secure a visitor's pass from the school office. For security reasons, we do not permit unauthorized visitors.

Volunteering in Our Schools

Volunteers are an important part of our school community. We have a proud tradition of providing a wide variety of high-quality activities for students and families. Since many of our activities would not be possible without the involvement of family volunteers, we encourage family members to learn about the many opportunities to get involved in their schools.

In our ongoing effort to keep our schools safe, we require each volunteer parent and community member to have a criminal background check provided by the Michigan State Police through their Internet Criminal History Access Tool, or ICHAT. All individuals volunteering in our schools must complete a form to initiate a background check and any response will be kept confidential. You must complete a new volunteer consent form each year. Forms are available online on your student's school web page. If you have questions, please ask your student's school secretary.



FHPS Football: Community Festivities

Central High School's Community Tailgate Friday, Sept. 27, at 4 p.m.

Come join the Rangers for their annual community tailgate party. Activities begin at 4 p.m., featuring food, games, cheerleaders, poms, the marching band, face painting, and much more. The event will take place on the fields between Central High School and Central Middle School. The night's football game will feature the Rangers taking on South Christian High School at 7 p.m.

Eastern High School's Hawk Rally Friday, Sept. 20, at 4 p.m.

The Eastern High School Athletic Boosters will host the annual Hawk Rally with family fun, food, games, music, activities for the children, and entertainment. The event will be held on the lawn outside the Hawk Stadium. The all-school athlete parade will begin at 6:45 p.m. Cheer on the Eastern Hawks as they go for a victory against Grand Rapids Christian High School at 7 p.m.

Northern High School's Husky Fest Friday, Sept. 13, at 5 p.m.

Parents of the Forest Hills Northern senior class will host homecoming and Husky Fest in the parking lot at the high school. The carnival will include food trucks, face painting, games, and activities for the entire family. After the carnival, follow the marching band into the stadium (spectators must purchase tickets at the entrance gates) where the Huskies will take on Forest Hills Central High School at 7 p.m.



Come out and support our Hawk, Ranger, and Husky athletic teams this year. Kids, be on the lookout for your school's mascot at sporting events and show your school spirit.

Board of Education

Kristen Fauson, President

Kristen Covelle, Vice President

Maggie Terryn, Secretary

CJ Michaud, Treasurer

Holly DeBoer, Trustee

Malorie Ninemeier, Trustee

Mary Vonck, Trustee

Ben Kirby, Superintendent

Publication information:

The Forest Hills Public Schools' "Focus" newsletter is published quarterly during the school year by the FHPS board of education. It is mailed to all residents within the FHPS district, and additional copies are sent to every district school for distribution to staff, new residents, and visitors. FHPS is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination of all its programs in relation to race, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, and genetic information. Questions and/or comments about this publication should be emailed to the editor at contact@fhps.net.