



Forest Hills Public Schools

All Learners Achieving Individual Potential

August/September 2017

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Website: www.fhps.net

focus



A Message from the Superintendent

Welcome Back to School



Superintendent Behm

It is hard to believe that our school bells will be ringing again on Aug. 28 to welcome our students back to school. If you are like me, you are wondering where the summer went, and are trying to enjoy the last moments

of Michigan's summer splendor before packing backpacks and getting lunches ready.

With starting school one week earlier than normal, our year-round staff have done an incredible job making sure things are ready for teachers, students, and families. As you will read throughout this publication, we have several new things to announce this school year. In this "Focus," you will learn about our new transportation app, and transportation e-link system to view bus information. You also will learn about new apps to download to make life easier, a new program to make financial deposits into student lunch and athletic accounts, and how our schools will be using SchoolMessenger more this year.

With many new and exciting things hap-

pening in our schools, I am personally pleased to announce some changes in building principals and welcome new individuals to leadership roles. These individuals are ready to help our families and students, and build upon the strong educational culture that exists throughout Forest Hills Public Schools. **Please help me welcome the following individuals into their new school leadership roles.**

Ada Elementary School



Mrs. Van Antwerp

Mrs. Kimberly Van Antwerp will serve as principal for Ada Elementary School. Mrs. Van Antwerp follows

Mrs. Jo Ellen Anderson who retired as Ada's principal after a career of dedicated and caring service to children and families. Mrs. Van Antwerp comes to this position with nearly two decades of experience as a classroom teacher, an early literacy specialist, and a teacher coach. She brings to this role a love for children and a consistent record of building strong relationships with colleagues and families. Most recently, Mrs. Van Antwerp served multiple districts in West Michigan as an early literacy coach

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New!

Bus Route Information Communicated to Families Via Versatrans e-Link

The transportation department is excited to launch a new electronic system to communicate bus stop information. Bus stop information will no longer be mailed to families. Beginning this school year, the transportation department will communicate bus stop information using the new Versatrans e-Link system. This secure link allows parents/guardians to view essential school bus information such as where their children should wait for the bus, what time the bus should arrive, and other pick up and drop off information.

To get your child's bus schedule, go to: www.fhps.net/departments/transportation, and click on the e-Link information. For additional assistance with e-Link,

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Welcome Back to School

(continued from the front page)

through the Kent Intermediate School District (ISD).

Orchard View Elementary School



Mr. Fournier

Mrs. Amy Burton-Major will fill the principal position at Central Woodlands 5/6 School. With the move of Mrs. Burton-Major, the district hired Mr. Tim Fournier as the new principal for Orchard View Elementary.

Mr. Fournier is a former FHPS teacher, and most recently a program director for Grand Rapids Public Schools. Mr. Fournier was a beloved teacher for many years in Forest Hills. For the past four years, Mr. Fournier helped to administer two programs in GRPS that involved supporting over 80 teachers in numerous schools throughout the region. Mr. Fournier has a strong record of deep dedication to students and families. He has over two decades of classroom teaching experience. He began his career in 1990 as a teacher in the United States Peace Corps. He also taught in the Detroit Public Schools and in two foreign countries prior to coming to West Michigan in 1998.

Central Woodlands 5/6 School



Mrs. Burton-Major

Mrs. Amy Burton-Major is the new principal at Central Woodlands 5/6 School, and Dr. David Simpson is the new principal at Northern Hills Middle School. Mrs. Burton-Major has a wonderful record of achievement as a

teacher and a principal, and in particular, at the upper-elementary level. She has served as the principal for Orchard View Elementary in Forest Hills for the past four years. She is excited to support teachers' focus on interdisciplinary learning, deep thinking, and project-based learning. Mrs. Burton-Major is embarking on her 20th year as an educator. She has been a fifth-grade teacher, a middle school language arts teacher, a performing arts teacher, an instructional coach, assistant principal, and school reform specialist. Prior to Forest Hills, she served as principal of Ealy Elementary School in Whitehall, Mich.

Northern Hills Middle School



Dr. Simpson

Dr. David Simpson will serve as principal of Northern Hills Middle School. Dr. Simpson follows Mrs. Nancy Susterka who retired as NHMS principal at the end of June. Dr. Simpson served as principal at Central Woodlands

5/6 School for four years. He brings with him not only a strong track record of success as a principal in Forest Hills, but he also brings valuable experience as a middle school principal and assistant principal. Prior to Forest Hills, he served as the interim principal and assistant principal for Royal Oak Middle School in Royal Oak, Mich., and he began his administrative career as an assistant principal and athletic director at Derby Middle School in Birmingham, Mich. Dr. Simpson obtained both his M.A. and Ph.D. in K-12 educational administration from Michigan State University.

Central Middle School



Mr. Vonk

Mr. Glenn Mitcham resigned from his principal position at Central Middle School to take on a new leadership role as central office administrator for East Lansing Public Schools. Mr. Charlie Vonk will now serve as the principal of Central Middle School. As a teacher and assistant principal for many years at CMS, Mr. Vonk possesses the experience, skills, and love for kids that makes him the ideal fit for this important position.



Mr. Simon

Help us welcome and congratulate Mr. Jeff Simon who will replace Mr. Vonk as the assistant principal for CMS. Mr. Simon has been a middle school teacher, a teacher coach, a mathematics coach and specialist, and an acting administrator when administrators were out of the building. Mr. Simon comes to Forest Hills from New Berlin, Wisc. Mr. Simon has two master's degrees,

one from the University of Texas in curriculum and instruction, and the second from Concordia University-Wisconsin in educational administration.

Forest Hills Eastern High School



Mrs. Yelding

Please help us welcome Mrs. Kristine Yelding as the new assistant principal at Eastern High School. She fills the vacancy created in December when Mr. Edgar Wilson retired as assistant principal. Mrs. Yelding

comes to us from West Ottawa High School in Holland where she spent nine years as an English teacher and the last two years as an assistant principal at the high school. She and her family live in the Grand Rapids area. She is very invested in our community, in education, our students, and is excited to begin the new school year.

As you can see, we have made some exciting changes and additions throughout the summer. We are ready to embrace the 2017-2018 school year with enthusiasm, a renewed sense of energy, joy, and a profound passion toward learning. Together we are helping all learners achieve their individual potential. Welcome back to school and have a wonderful school year!

Warm regards,

Daniel S. Behm, Superintendent

Did You Take Part in Our Summer Climb?

Every week throughout the summer, our elementary buildings posted weekly reading tips to support and encourage our young readers. A complete list of reading tips is posted on our website, www.fhps.net, keyword search "summer climb." These tips



Bond Update

Bond Projects Completed During the Summer

In November 2013, the voters in the Forest Hills Public School District approved a \$45 million bond issue to address technology, security, and building improvements. The monies from this bond continue to support these initiatives. Here's a list of the summer 2017 projects that occurred throughout our district:

- **Paving:** Ada Vista Elementary School, Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School, Central High School, Forest Hills Fine Arts Center, and FHPS Operations
- **Roofing:** Ada Elementary School, Thornapple Elementary School, Central High School, and Northern High School
- **Turf field replacement:** Eastern High School and Northern High School
- **Snowmelt system:** Central Woodlands 5/6 School and Northern Trails 5/6 School
- **Media center furniture refresh:** Central Woodlands 5/6 School, Northern Hills Middle School, Eastern Middle/High School
- **Temperature controls:** upgrades throughout the district

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Radiant pipes were installed under the sidewalk at the bus drop-off and pick up area at Central Woodlands 5/6 School.



Northern Trails 5/6 School also received a new snowmelt system.

2017-2018 District Calendar

2017

August 28	First day of school; full day for students
September 1-4	No school for students or staff
September 29	K-12 students half day a.m. / Staff professional learning p.m..
October 27	K-6 students half day a.m. / K-6 record marking p.m. / 7-12 students full day
November 22 - 24	No school for students or staff / Thanksgiving recess
December 1	K-12 students half day a.m. / Staff professional learning p.m.
December 25 - January 5	No school for students or staff / Winter recess

2018

January 8	School resumes
January 15	No school for students / Staff professional learning
January 24	K-6 students full day / 7-12 students exams a.m. / 7-12 record marking p.m.
January 25	K-6 students half day a.m. / 7-12 students exams a.m. / K-12 record marking p.m.
January 26	K-6 students half day a.m. / 7-12 students exams a.m. / K-12 record marking p.m.
February 16	K-12 students half day a.m. / Staff professional learning p.m.
March 29	No school for students / Staff record marking and collaboration
March 30	No school for students or staff / Spring recess
April 2 - 6	No school for students or staff / Spring recess
May 11	K-12 students half day a.m. / Staff professional learning p.m.
May 28	No school for students or staff / Memorial Day recess
June 6	K-6 students full day / 7-12 students exams a.m. / 7-12 record marking p.m.
June 7	K-6 students half day a.m. / 7-12 students exams a.m. / K-12 record marking p.m.
June 8	Last day / K-6 students half day a.m. / 7-12 students exams a.m. / K-12 record marking p.m.

High School Graduations

May 21, 2018	Central High School Graduation, Van Noord Arena (Calvin College)
May 22, 2018	Eastern High School Graduation, Van Noord Arena (Calvin College)
May 23, 2018	Northern High School Graduation, Van Noord Arena (Calvin College)

2017-2018 Enrollment Information

New Students

If you are a new family to our district and/or are enrolling a new student in Forest Hills Public Schools, please enroll your student at their school building's office as soon as possible. If you are unsure which school building you should enroll a student in at Forest Hills Public Schools, please try our interactive district map available online at www.fhps.net, or contact us at 616-493-8800. All school offices are now open Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Although you may stop in anytime during these hours, we encourage you to call your school to confirm their availability.

All of our schools have back-to-school events, open houses, and/or orientations when students can tour the building; however, we welcome you any time prior to school to tour our facilities. If you'd like to meet with specific teachers, counselors, principals and/or staff, we encourage you to call and arrange an appointment.

If transportation is needed for the upcoming school year, bus route information is available to enrolled families through our e-Link system online at www.fhps.net/departments/transportation.

Kindergarten Age Requirements

According to Michigan law, children must turn 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2017, in order to register for school. Children who turn 5 after Sept. 1, 2017, and no later than Dec. 1, 2017, may request an early entrance waiver to attend kindergarten. This waiver may be found on our enrollment page online at www.fhps.net.

Kindergarten Enrollment Forms

To enroll a new kindergarten student, please complete the following forms and return them to your school as soon as possible. Find them at fhps.net, under "Enrollment."

- K-12 enrollment form
- Health appraisal (with vision and hearing screening)
- Health history form
- Information from preschool form (if applicable, from previous preschool)
- Kindergarten parent questionnaire
- Classroom guidance/prevention education form
- Concussion awareness form

First - 12th Grade Enrollment Forms

To enroll a new first- through 12th-grade student, please complete the following forms and return them to your school as soon as possible. Find them at fhps.net, under "Enrollment."

- K-12 enrollment form
- Health history form
- Classroom guidance/prevention education form
- Concussion awareness form
- Request for records (if transferring from another school)

Additional Documents Required for All New Students

In addition to completing the referenced forms above, please bring the following with you to your school's office:

- Two proofs of residency in the Forest Hills Public School district:
 - Lease agreement (including the page with landlord and tenant signatures)
 - Mortgage statement (within last month)
 - City assessor's tax statement (current year)
 - Current utility bill or cable bill (within last month)
 - Notarized Affidavit of Residence if living in someone else's home/apartment
 - + This person's driver's license and two (2) proofs of their residence
 - + The parent must also provide two (2) proofs of their residence
- Driver's license (of parent or guardian)
- Child's certified birth certificate (must be an original copy)
- Immunization records
- Vision and hearing screening (required for kindergarten)
- Court documents, if applicable (e.g. guardianship, foster care, etc.)
- Most recent report card (applies to seventh- and eighth-graders)
- High school transcript (applies to 10th-12th grades only)

Finally, please have the following information with you as well: emergency contact names/phone numbers, physician's name/phone number, and previous school name/address, phone and fax numbers.

Special Education Enrollment

You may contact the school principal within your attendance area to enroll your child who has special needs. It is very helpful to have your child's last Individualized Education Plan paperwork as well as reports that were written at the time of your child's last evaluation. Arrangements can be made to copy those files in order for personnel to use them in creating the best placement for your child. For additional information, call the FHPS special education office, 493-8660.

Student Insurance

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.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Forest Hills Public Schools is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, or any legally protected 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 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to: Christine Annese, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Forest Hills Public Schools, 6590 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546, or 616-493-8805.

2017-2018 Enrollment Information (continued)

Required Childhood Immunizations for Michigan Schools

The following are the minimum requirements for childhood immunizations for entry to all Michigan public and non-public schools.

The immunization chart is from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' website: www.michigan.gov/mdhhs.

	All Kindergarteners and 4-6 year old transfer students	All 7th Graders and 7-18 year old transfer students
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP, DTaP, Tdap)	4 doses DTP or DTaP 1 dose must be at or after 4 years of age	4 doses D and T or 3 doses Td if 1st dose given at or after 1 year of age 1 dose Tdap at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher
Polio	4 doses 3 doses if dose 3 was given at or after 4 years of age	
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)*	2 doses at or after 12 months of age	
Hepatitis B*	3 doses	
Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY)	None	1 dose at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher
Varicella (Chickenpox)*	2 doses at or after 12 months of age or Current lab immunity or History of varicella disease	

During disease outbreaks, incompletely vaccinated students may be excluded from school. Parents and guardians choosing to decline vaccines must obtain a certified non-medical waiver from a local health department. Read more about waivers at www.michigan.gov/immunize.

* If the child has not received these vaccines, documented immunity is required.

All doses of vaccines must be valid (correct spacing and ages) for school entry purposes.

Where Can I Get Immunized?

If you have health insurance, go to your family doctor. For others, vaccines are available at local health departments.

Immunization Waiver Information

According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, in December,

2014, the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved a new educational requirement for Michigan parents opting their children out of getting vaccinated before entering school.

To learn more about the laws pertaining to the waiver, please visit the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' website: www.michigan.gov/mdhhs.

School Attendance is Important!

Be There Every Day ... All Day!

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 child 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. In order to accomplish this, students should be in school for the entire school day. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher, guidance counselor, or principal when you have questions about attendance.

Children's Health Care Needs During the School Day

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 prior to the first day of school. An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is needed for those students with potential complications such as allergies, asthma, seizure disorder, or diabetes. The EAP must be signed by both the physician and the parent/guardian. See your school secretary for the required forms.



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 grade 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. A copy of the medication authorization form is available online. If you have additional questions, please contact your child's school.

FHPS Phone Numbers, Attendance Lines, and Contacts

Administration Building 493-8800
6590 Cascade Road SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Elementary Schools

Ada Elementary 493-8940
Attendance Line: 493-8943

731 Ada Drive SE
Ada, MI 49301
Principal: Kimberly Van Antwerp

Ada Vista Elementary 493-8970
Attendance Line: 493-8976

7192 Bradfield Street SE
Ada, MI 49301
Principal: Jesús Santillán

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: Scott Haid

Meadow Brook Elementary 493-8740
Attendance line: 493-8748

1450 Forest Hill Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Principal: Tim Shaw

Orchard View Elementary 493-8930
Attendance line: 493-8936

2770 Leffingwell Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
Principal: Tim Fournier

Pine Ridge Elementary 493-8910
Attendance line: 493-8916

3250 Redford Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Principal: Tamasha James

Thornapple Elementary 493-8920
Attendance line: 493-8926

6932 Bridgewater Drive SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Principal: Greg Shubel

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: David Washburn

Northern Trails 5/6 493-8990

Attendance line: 493-8993

3777 Leonard Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
Principal: Susan Gutierrez

Middle Schools

Central Middle School 493-8750

Attendance line: 493-8762

5810 Ada Drive SE
Ada, MI 49301
Principal: Charlie Vonk
Assistant Principal: Jeff Simon

Eastern Middle School 493-8850

Attendance line: 493-8856

2200 Pettis Avenue NE
Ada, MI 49301
Principal: David Washburn
Assistant Principal: Tricia McPheron
Northern Hills Middle School 493-8650

Attendance line: 493-8666

3775 Leonard Street NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Principal: David Simpson
Assistant Principal: Joe Curcuru

High Schools

Central High School 493-8700

Attendance line: 493-8712

5901 Hall Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Principal: Steve Passinault
Assistant Principals: Hillary Baker and
John DeStefano

Eastern High School 493-8830

Attendance line: 493-8836

2200 Pettis Avenue NE
Ada, MI 49301
Principal: Steve Harvey
Assistant Principals: Tim Hollern and
Kristine Yelding

Northern High School 493-8600

Attendance line: 493-8610

3801 Leonard Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
Principal: Jon Gregory
Assistant Principals: John Dolce and
Stephanie Hare

Additional Numbers

Student Services/
Special Education Offices 493-8660

3787 Leonard Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
Director: Jann VanAirsdale

Operations 493-8780

150 Alta Dale Avenue SE
Ada, MI 49301
Director: Ron Boezwinkle

Transportation 493-8785

6001 Hall Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Director: Darryl Hofstra

Food Service 493-8774

160 Alta Dale Avenue SE
Ada, MI 49301

Community Services 493-8950

Community, Aquatic, and Senior 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: Julie Jewell

Please Call in Your Child's 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 Forest Hills 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.

FHPS Food Service Information

Online School Menus

Forest Hills Public Schools, in partnership with Chartwells K12, uses Nutrislice to publish school menus to an interactive website. Families can view menu item descriptions and photographs, filter common food allergens, translate the menus into another language, view carbohydrate counts and calories, and much more.



It's easy to check out daily, weekly, and monthly lunch menus. The fastest way to access lunch menus is to:

- Go to our website: www.fhps.net.
- Click on the words "Food Service" at the top of the home page.
- Click on the "Lunch Menus" button.

When viewing online menus, you can also print the month's menu by clicking on the printer icon. Finally, you may also download a free app for a smartphone or mobile device to view menus when you're on the go. Links to these apps also are on our food service website page.

Meals Are Always Available

We will always offer a meal to all students regardless of their lunch account balance. If a child's lunch account balance is zero or below, we will offer a child a meal; however, they will not be allowed to purchase any à la carte items. We will allow them to charge on their lunch account up to three hot lunches, which will create a negative balance on their account. If funds are not deposited into a student's lunch account after these three lunch charges, we will only offer



that student a cheese sandwich meal. The student will be charged full price for this meal. A cheese sandwich meal consists of: cold cheese sandwich, fruit and vegetables, and white milk. This child will continue to be offered this meal until his/her lunch account is brought back to at least zero.

Food Service Forms and Menu Substitutions for Students with Allergies

Additional food service information, forms, policies and free and reduced-price lunch application forms may be found online at: www.fhps.net/departments/food-service.

Food Service Questions

Our ongoing goal is to provide fresh, nutritious food for our students. We focus on nurturing our students' well-being by preparing delicious and healthy meals they enjoy. Should you have questions or need assistance, please contact our food service department at 616-493-8774.

2017-2018 School Lunch Prices

Elementary (K-4) with milk.....	\$2.80
Grades 5-6 with milk.....	\$3.05
Grades 7-8 with milk.....	\$3.35
Grades 9-12 with milk	\$3.55
Adult lunch with milk	\$3.90
Milk only	\$0.65
*Reduced-price lunch with milk.....	\$0.40

*All schools participating in the National School Lunch Program must make free and reduced-price meals available to eligible children. To view this year's eligibility requirements and for a confidential application, go online to: www.fhps.net/departments/food-service, or contact your school's secretary for a hard copy of the application. Children who receive a free or reduced-price meal have the same school lunch card as all of the students in FHPS, so a student's participation in the program remains confidential.



New Student Account System in Place to Deposit Money for Food Service and Athletics

Forest Hills Public Schools has implemented a new and improved way to handle electronic payment of school meals and athletic pay-to-participate fees. SchoolPay has replaced SendMoneyToSchool. All funds that were previously in an account in Send-MoneyToSchool were transferred to the new SchoolPay system. SchoolPay handles all

payments from one easy-to-use, fully self-service interface. You can access SchoolPay through the Parent Portal of PowerSchool.

If you need additional assistance in establishing an account or depositing money,

please contact the food service department, 616-493-8774, or your school's athletic department.

SchoolPay®



2017-18 Board of Education Meetings

The regular monthly meetings of the Forest Hills Public Schools Board of Education will be held on the following dates and at the following locations. All regular meetings begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Monday, August 21, 2017

Transportation Department
6001 Hall St. SE

Monday, September 18, 2017

Eastern High School
2200 Pettis Ave. NE

Monday, October 16, 2017

Thornapple Elementary School
6932 Bridgewater Dr. SE

Monday, November 20, 2017

Pine Ridge Elementary School
3250 Redford Ave. SE

Monday, December 18, 2017

Orchard View Elementary School
2770 Leffingwell Ave. NE

Monday, January 15, 2018

Central High School
5901 Hall St. SE

Monday, February 19, 2018

Meadow Brook Elementary School
1450 Forest Hill Ave. SE

Monday, March 19, 2018

Ada Elementary School
731 Ada Dr. SE

Monday, April 16, 2018

Northern High School
3801 Leonard St. NE

Monday, May 14, 2018

Community and Aquatic Center
660 Forest Hill Ave. SE

Monday, June 4, 2018

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center
600 Forest Hill Ave. SE

2017-2018 Board of Education Members

Mary Vonck, President

Martha Atwater, Vice President

Susan Lenhardt, Secretary

Walter F. Perschbacher III, Treasurer

Susan Callahan, Trustee

Nicole Meloche-Gregory, Trustee

Michael Seekell, Trustee

Daniel Behm, Superintendent

Before- and After-School Care

When parents work or have to be somewhere before school starts, they want a place they can take their child that is safe and fun, and helps start their child's day on a positive note. Likewise, parents want the security and peace of mind knowing their child is safe after school. When school schedules and parent schedules just don't match, the Forest Hills Public Schools has a fee-based, before- and after-school child care program.

Our before- and after-school care programs are located in the district's elementary school buildings, including Ada Vista Elementary School and Northern Trails 5/6 School. Central Woodlands 5/6 School only has before-care. All before- and after-school care programs run from 6:45 a.m. to the time that the school starts, and from the time school ends until 6:15 p.m.

All students enrolled in the child care program are required a minimum enrollment of three days per week per program. Before care and after care are separate programs and require separate registrations. Before-school care is \$11 per day and breakfast is included. After-school care also is \$11 per day and a snack is included. There is a 10 percent discount applied for five-day scheduling. The before- and after-school care combined cost for one child per day is \$19.80, reflecting a built-in 10 percent discount.

These programs are for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. If your child is enrolled in the before- and after-school care program then they may automatically attend the Forest Hills Public Schools Child Care Program on inclement weather days housed at Central Woodlands 5/6 School and Northern Trails 5/6 School. If your child is enrolled in the before- and after-school program, parents/guardians may also register their child to attend the Child Care Program at Central Woodlands during winter, midwinter and spring breaks, when school is closed for staff professional learning days, and much more. Please note, FHPS Child Care programs are not in session on district observed holidays.

Child care programs will begin Monday, Aug. 28. Registration in any before- or after-school care program guarantees full day child care if needed, on non-school days. Please call the Child Care office, 616-493-8787 for current fees, availability, and additional information. A \$35 annual registration fee will be applied to your first invoice.

Families may register online for the before- and after-school care program. A link to the online registration may be found at: www.fhps.net/departments/child-care-services.



Like Us on FB!

www.facebook.com/fhps.net

Summer Bond Projects

(continued from page 3)

Thank you Forest Hills residents for your continued support of the district's goal to preserve district assets the community has invested in, and maintain a quality learning environment for our students.



Thornapple Elementary School received a new roof, including new steel decking, edge metal, and flashings.

For a look back on building projects completed throughout the district due to the November 2013 bond, visit the FHPS website, www.fhps.net, and do a keyword search for "bond."



A new turf field was installed at Forest Hills Northern High School.

Stay in Touch and Receive the Latest School News

As another school year begins, it is important that our schools and school district remain in contact with our families. 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've taken the necessary steps to receive the information.

District Website and Online School Information

The district website, www.fhps.net, contains a wealth of information and is mobile friendly. The best way to use the site, if you're looking for something in particular, is to use the search mechanism in the upper right-hand corner of the homepage. The district's website provides communication to students, parents/guardians, staff, families, community members and the public at-large. The site is a communication tool for the school and staff to showcase learning, events, activities, and accomplishments of staff and students, to the world through the Internet. It also is a vital information link to parents and community members.

FHPS Emailed News Bulletin

Our district emailed news bulletin system is getting redesigned and will be re-released soon. It will be a district-wide emailed news bulletin, sent only once a week to our subscribers. To subscribe to this emailed news bulletin, please visit our website, www.fhps.net. The subscribe to FHPS weekly news bulletin button is at the bottom of the home page.

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 enrolled families of school delays or closures, when there is an emergency at a school, and information from the superintendent. SchoolMessenger will also be used more this year by each of our schools to communicate, primarily through email, non-emergency 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 68453 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 iOS devices. Please note, that this communication tool will be the primary method for schools to communicate information to enrolled families.

FHPS News App

Families, residents and the entire community can get the latest news and information from FHPS. The FHPS News app gives you access to featured news and highlights from around the district. It is available for both Android and iOS devices. Go to the app store, do a keyword search for Forest Hills Public Schools, look for the FHPS logo, and download the app.

Follow Us on Facebook, Twitter, School News Network, and More

Social media also is a way you can receive information about district news. "Like" the district page on Facebook and follow fhpsnews on Twitter to get additional district news. There also is a district YouTube channel which houses some of our latest videos. School stories also are covered online by School News Network, www.schoolnewsnetwork.org.



For additional information about any of these communication sources, visit the FHPS website: www.fhps.net, or email technology@fhps.net.

Bus Route Information

(continued from the front page)

including how to create an account and access your child's bus schedule, please email our transportation office at, transportation@fhps.net.

Please remember that during the first few weeks of school, arrival times may vary slightly as everyone gets acclimated to their new schedules. We encourage you to make sure your child arrives to their bus stop at least five minutes prior to their designated bus time noted in e-Link. Due to security reasons, we do not post bus stop locations and times on the district website or publish them for general use.

In our continuous effort as a school district to allocate financial resources to support quality instruction and to standardize transportation services across the district, we continue to make adjustments to our routes. These small changes help our district allocate more money which goes directly back into your child's classroom. More specifically this year, some of our bus routes will have fewer stops. There are some neighborhoods where buses may make several stops within the neighborhood in the morning, but may have only one stop outside of the neighborhood in the afternoon; and we continue to phase out transportation for Schools of Choice families, in-district transfers, and dual-attendance areas.

Finally, please remember that the safety of children is not only our priority, but we partner with you to help keep children safe going to and coming from the bus stop.

Should you have questions pertaining to bus travel and route information, please contact the transportation department, 616-493-8785, or email: transportation@fhps.net.



New Bus App: Versatrans MyStop

Versatrans MyStop app provides mobile access to bus information. With MyStop, parents and guardians know exactly where their child's bus is on the route and an estimated time of arrival (ETA) at their stop. The location of the bus is automatically updated to accommodate any delays. Update frequency is dependent on a user's data plan. The app is available for both iPhone and Android devices. When using the app, parents and guardians can choose to receive push notifications alerting them to changes in their child's bus schedule. Links to the apps are available on our website at www.fhps.net/departments/transportation.



Sharing the Road with School Buses

School buses are the safest mode of transportation for getting children back and forth to school. Riding in a school bus is safer than walking, riding a bicycle, or being driven to school in private vehicles.

Here are some safety tips for drivers sharing the road with school buses:

- Prepare to stop when a slowing bus has its overhead yellow lights flashing.
- Stop at least 20 feet away from buses when red lights are flashing, unless driving in the opposite direction on a divided highway.
- All 50 states have a law making it illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.
- All 50 states require that traffic in both directions stop on undivided roadways when students are entering or exiting a school bus.
- Traffic behind the school bus (traveling in the same direction) must stop. In Michigan, you must also stop if the school bus is on the opposite side of the street and when the lanes are not separated by a barrier, such as a concrete or grass median, island or other structures that separate the flow of traffic.

- Never pass a school bus on the right. It is illegal and could have tragic consequences.
- Slow down in or near school and residential areas.
- Watch for children between parked cars and other objects.
- Children are unpredictable. Children walking to or from their bus are usually very comfortable with their surroundings. This makes them more likely to take risks, ignore hazards, or fail to look both ways when crossing the street.

School buses are like traffic signals. Remember: When overhead lights are flashing yellow: Prepare to stop!

When overhead lights are flashing red: Kids ahead ... STOP!

— Information from the National Safety Council



Looking for a Great Part-Time Job?

Consider Joining the FHPS Transportation Team as a Bus Driver!

Top three reasons to be a bus driver:

1. As long as kids get evenings and weekends off, so will you.
2. You'll never take work home with you. In fact, it would be illegal.
3. Substitute drivers start at \$15 an hour doing what most parents do for free.

Forest Hills Public Schools is in the process of expanding the pool of school bus drivers available to our school district. Driving a school bus is a part-time job, requiring 2-3 hours in the morning and 2-3 hours in the afternoon (180 days). In addition to the benefits listed below, bus drivers serve as important role models for the children of our community.

Requirements

Individuals must hold or be willing to obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with the "P" Passenger endorsement and "S"

School Bus endorsements and pass a Department of Transportation physical.

Benefits

Benefits are available after the first year pending the minimum hour requirement.

Forest Hills Public Schools offers the 18-hour classroom training required by the State of Michigan. All applicants are required to be fingerprinted and receive a full background check. Drivers are enrolled in a mandatory drug and alcohol random testing program and receive six hours of continuing education every two years. Every applicant receives comprehensive, behind-the-wheel training to ensure that the high standards of the district are met. Forest Hills Public Schools provides transportation in a 68-mile area encompassing Ada, Cascade, Grand Rapids and Kentwood. In addition, we provide academic, athletic, and extra-curricular trip transportation. Our No. 1 goal is to

transport all eligible students to and from their destination in the safest and most cost-effective manner.

Come join the professionals at Forest Hills Public Schools transportation department. Applications should be submitted online. Please visit: www.fhps.net/departments/transportation or call 616-493-8785.



2017 High School Football Schedules

Forest Hills Central High School Football



Date	Opposing Team	Game Location	Time
08/24/17 (Thu.)	Jenison	Home	7 p.m.
08/31/17 (Thu.)	West Ottawa	West Ottawa HS	7 p.m.
09/08/17 (Fri.)	GR Ottawa Hills (Tailgater)	Home	7 p.m.
09/15/17 (Fri.)	Greenville	Greenville HS	7 p.m.
09/22/17 (Fri.)	Northview	Home	7 p.m.
09/29/17 (Fri.)	FH Northern	Fifth Third Ballpark	7 p.m.
10/06/17 (Fri.)	Lowell (Homecoming)	Home	7 p.m.
10/13/17 (Fri.)	Cedar Springs	Cedar Springs HS	7 p.m.
10/20/17 (Fri.)	Wayland	Wayland HS	7 p.m.

Forest Hills Eastern High School Football



Date	Opposing Team	Game Location	Time
08/24/17 (Thu.)	Petoskey (Youth Night)	Home	7 p.m.
08/31/17 (Thu.)	Holland Christian	Holland Christian	7 p.m.
09/08/17 (Fri.)	South Christian (Hawk Rally)	Home	7 p.m.
09/15/17 (Fri.)	Catholic Central	Catholic Central	7 p.m.
09/22/17 (Fri.)	Thornapple Kellogg	Thornapple Kellogg	7 p.m.
09/29/17 (Fri.)	Wayland (Senior Night)	Home	7 p.m.
10/06/17 (Fri.)	GR Christian (Homecoming)	Home	7 p.m.
10/13/17 (Fri.)	East Grand Rapids	East Grand Rapids	7 p.m.
10/20/17 (Fri.)	Wyoming	Wyoming	7 p.m.

Forest Hills Northern High School Football



Date	Opposing Team	Game Location	Time
08/24/17 (Thu.)	Byron Center	Home	7 p.m.
08/31/17 (Thu.)	East Grand Rapids	East Grand Rapids HS	7 p.m.
09/08/17 (Fri.)	Northview	Home	7 p.m.
09/15/17 (Fri.)	East Kentwood (Husky Fest, Homecoming)	Home	7 p.m.
09/22/17 (Fri.)	Ottawa Hills	Houseman Field	7 p.m.
09/29/17 (Fri.)	FH Central	Fifth Third Ballpark	7 p.m.
10/06/17 (Fri.)	Cedar Springs	Home	7 p.m.
10/13/17 (Fri.)	Lowell	Lowell HS	7 p.m.
10/20/17 (Fri.)	Greenville	Greenville HS	7 p.m.

Publication information:

The Forest Hills Public Schools' "Focus" newsletter is published bimonthly 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 ebrink@fhps.net, or call 616-493-8800.

High School Fall Football Community Festivities

Central High School

Friday, Sept. 8, 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 the Bengals from Ottawa Hills at 7 p.m.

Eastern High School

Friday, Sept. 8, 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 the Grand Rapids South Christian Sailors at 7 p.m.

Northern High School

Friday, Sept. 15, at 3 p.m.

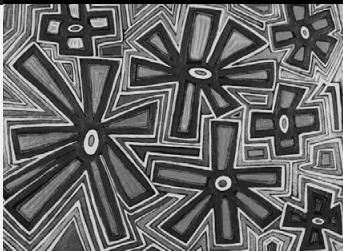
Parents of the Forest Hills Northern senior class will host homecoming and Husky Fest in the commons at the high school. The carnival will include face painting, games, and activities for the entire family. The senior class parents will prepare the "Husky Meal Deal" for \$5 per person. After the carnival, follow the marching band into the stadium where the Huskies will take on the East Kentwood Falcons.



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

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

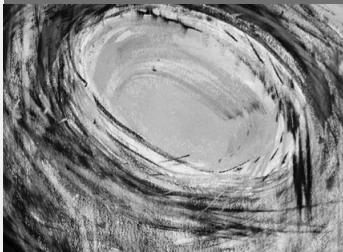
17/18 Artist-in-Residence & Exhibit Schedule



LOFTIS



BRYANT



BERENDS



WALBURN



HOSTERMAN



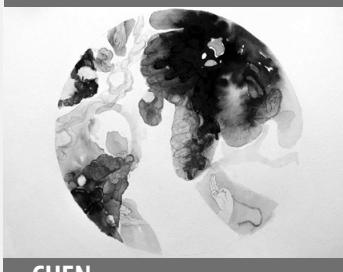
WONG-LIGDA



DICKSON



MEYER



CHEN

All exhibits are free to the public.

Exhibit Hours

9am - 5pm Monday - Friday

Summer Exhibit Hours

9am - 5pm Monday - Thursday

Artist Receptions

6pm - 7pm in the FAC lobby.

Everyone Welcome

CARMELLA LOFTIS

August 24 - September 22, 2017

Reception: Thursday, September 7, 2017

MIKE BRYANT

September 28 - October 26, 2017

Reception: Thursday, October 5, 2017

FHPS STAFF & COMMUNITY EXHIBIT

November 28 - December 15, 2017

Reception: Thursday, December 7, 2017

ANNE BERENDS

January 10 - February 2, 2018

Reception: Thursday, January 18, 2018

LINDA WALBURN

February 8 - 27, 2018

Reception: Thursday, February 15, 2018

BILL HOSTERMAN & ED WONG-LIGDA

March 2 - 23, 2018

Reception: Wednesday, March 7, 2018

FHPS STUDENT EXHIBIT

April 12 - May 11, 2018

Reception: Tuesday, April 17, 2018

JILLIAN DICKSON

May 25 - June 22, 2018

Reception: Wednesday, June 6, 2018

KATE MEYER

June 29 - July 27, 2018

Reception: Thursday, July 12, 2018

BEIBEI & LEILEI CHEN

August 3 - 24, 2018

Reception: Thursday, August 9, 2018

Artist-in-Residence Artists are in gray.

Presenting Sponsor for the 17/18 Exhibit & Artist-In-Residence Program



AIR/Exhibit Supporting Sponsors



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

Coming Soon

2017 - 2018 Season
of Professional Performances
at the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center



Forest Hills Adult Community Band

Did you play an instrument in high school and/or college and would like to get back into playing music? Come join the Forest Hills Adult Community Band. This band is an organization of adults who share a common interest in making music. This band includes college students, retirees, professionals, music instructors, and other family and community members from the Grand Rapids area. Musicians of all skill levels and ability are welcomed. Retired music teacher, Greg Christensen, serves as conductor. Visit www.fhacband.org for more information. The Forest Hills Community Band rehearses every Thursday from September through May, from 7-9 p.m. at Forest Hills Eastern High School. To register to become a band member, or for more information, please call FHPS Community Services at 493-8950 or visit www.enjoylearning.com. The cost to join the band is \$49.

Free • Everyone Is Invited!

Adult Community Band: Fall, Winter Concerts

■ Fall Concert – Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017, 2:30 p.m.

■ Winter Concert – Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017, 2:30 p.m.

Both concerts will be presented in the Eastern High School Auditorium, 2200 Pettis Ave. NE, Ada. Concerts are free and fun for the entire family!

Forest Hills Community Services

Senior Citizen Corner

Learning Café

Every Day with Morrie

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2017, noon

Discuss the lifelong lessons that Morrie, from the best-selling book, "Tuesdays with Morrie," imparted on the author and readers around the world.

Pneumonia Prevention

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017, noon

More than 60 percent of adults over 65 get admitted to hospitals due to pneumonia. Learn the steps to stay healthy.

To register, or for additional details, program costs, and menu items, call (616) 493-8950 or visit enjoylearning.com.



Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2017, 1 p.m.

(Doors open at 12:30 p.m.)

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Sponsored by:



Join us for hits from the 1950s and 1960s from Debbie Reynolds, Ray Charles, the McGuire Sisters, Elvis, Tina Turner, Johnny Cash, the Shirelles and more. These classics will be performed by Mary Rademacher, Tom Hagen, Cherie Lynn, and Brian Adams.

Call 493-8950 or visit enjoylearning.com to register. Cost: \$10 if you register by Monday, Oct. 23, by 4 p.m.; or \$15 at the door. (Cash/check only on day of show.)

Computer Learning Center News

The Computer Learning Center offers computer software/technology classes for all ages. New fall classes for adults include: Keeping Up with the Kids/Grandkids: Social Media; Protecting Yourself in a Digital World; Manage and Protect Online Passwords; Time to Cut the Cable Cord; One-on-One Tech Help, and Basic Android Phone or iPhone Training. For more information about the Center and its classes, visit enjoylearning.com or call Community Services at 493-8950.

Forest Hills Community Services

Register Now for Fall Enrichment and Sports Classes

Forest Hills community enrichment classes allow students of all ages to explore their creativity, broaden their talents, develop new skills, and just have fun! Browse through our catalog online at enjoylearning.com.

Learn to Swim or Enjoy a Water Workout

The Aquatic Center offers the American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim program on Saturday mornings from 9:10 a.m. to noon for ages 5 to 17. Each class is 50 minutes long and starts Sept. 9, and wraps up on Nov. 11, with an omit date of Sept. 23. Preschool swimming lessons are offered throughout the week. Details for each class can be found on our website at enjoylearning.com.

For adults this fall, we have six revitalizing water exercise classes to choose from, including Fit 'n' Fins, Splashercise, and Swimmercise: Deep Water. All of our adult water exercise classes are co-ed.

Our fall pool schedule runs from Aug. 28 to Dec. 22, 2017. Visit enjoylearning.com, click on "Quick Links," and then "Pool Schedule" for the latest pool schedule information.

Youth Enrichment Classes

Community Services offers traditional after-school enrichment classes and sports. Here are some of the highlights for fall 2017:

- **Art Classes from Kendall College:** For first- through fourth-grade students, three new classes are available this fall: Sculpting the Zoo, Drawing A B SEES, and Painting to Music.
- **Ballet and Dance Classes:** Creative Movement (ages 3-5), Primary Ballet (ages 5-7) and Beginning Ballet (ages 7-8) will be taught by MBA Studios' experienced instructors.
- **Bricks 4 Kidz Classes:** Students in first through sixth grades can sign up for new classes using LEGO block constructions to teach the wonders of science and technology.
- **ACT, PSAT Seminars:** High school students will become more familiar with these college entrance exams and will review exam preparation techniques.

Other returning favorites such as volleyball, basketball, soccer, fencing, and self-defense also are on our fall 2017 class roster.



Starting in October, Community Services will offer four basketball courses at elementary and 5/6 schools for boys and girls in third through sixth grades.

A complete list of fall youth classes and sports is included in the Community Services class catalog mailed in August. Class information also is available online at enjoylearning.com, or call 493-8950.

Middle School Sports

For seventh- and eighth-graders, co-ed swimming and diving is offered. This class starts on Nov. 6 and meets Monday through Thursday. Join the middle school swim and dive season. A complete practice and meet calendar will be given out on the first day of practice.

To participate, athletes must have a physical on file dated after April 15, 2017, before they can attend a practice. Please call 493-8950 to register for this class (no online registration).

Adult Enrichment Classes

This fall we are offering several new classes in a variety of areas:

- Portrait Drawing;
- Watercolor: Animals;
- Introduction to Digital Photography;
- Self-Defense: Mother/Daughter;
- Meal Prep 101;
- Protecting Yourself in a Digital World;
- One-on-One Tech Help;
- Time to Cut the Cable Cord; and
- Basic Android Phone and iPhone Training.

There are many more new classes and returning favorites in language, art, technology, fitness, sports, dance, foods, and other special interest areas. Check out our fall catalog, or visit us online at enjoylearning.com.

This Fall, We're Going the Distance!

Youth Running Class and Race: Run for the Hills Running Team Grades 1-6

Students will train at their respective schools for a 1-mile or 2-mile race on Oct. 11, 2017. This year's race venue will be Eastern Middle School. All coaches are trained in youth running and will format each session to be an age-appropriate workout accommodating the abilities of each student. The registration fee will include a training t-shirt and race day favors. Register for this class at enjoylearning.com or call the Community Services office at 493-8950.



Sweethart Swirl

Save the date, Friday, Feb. 2, 2018, for our annual dance for girls in grades K-6 and an accompanying adult. Attendees will dance the night away at Meijer Gardens. Look for more information coming your way in November and visit our website, enjoylearning.com.





FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

August/September 2017

Building Our Future

Together with our Forest Hills community, we are helping make our schools a better place. With decreased funding from the state, and other revenue sources shrinking, educators need a place to turn, to help fund costs associated with excellence in education. The mission of the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation is to provide funding for all areas of academic excellence in Forest Hills Public Schools. The Foundation relies on donations from individuals, parents, alumni, educators, businesses, companies, and organizations to continue to support its mission and to expand the quality of education for students within Forest Hills Public Schools. With financial support, the Foundation is able to distribute funds through grants positively affecting teachers and students. Thanks to the generosity of the community, the Foundation has distributed over \$1.8 million since 1986 and over \$800,000 in the last five years.

All FHPS educators are able to request funds through three primary grants. They are as follows:

1) Destination: Innovation grants support advanced teacher training by funding the exploration of new learning methods, structures, and ideas. These funds enrich teachers with the essential resources — such as time, training, and technology — so they can deliver a new type of learning in a new

way. During the 2016-2017 school year, over \$50,000 was approved and distributed via Destination: Innovation grants.

2) Individual teacher grants support the promotion of academic and arts excellence through programs or activities related to curriculum. These grants focus on opportunities and experiences for students. During the 2016-2017 school year, the Foundation distributed over \$127,000 in individual teacher grants.

3) Support Our Schools grants are opportunities identified by each building principal as a need for their school that needs funding. This fundraising initiative is highlighted each year at The Gala. It provides the Forest Hills community an opportunity to support their schools by giving directly to the school(s) of their choice to fund specific needs identified by the principals at each school. At the 2016 Gala, the Forest Hills community raised over \$94,000 to fully fund every need identified by the principals of our schools.



Make Plans to Attend!

*the
Gala*

November 15, 2017

Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park

Visit fhpsf.org or call 493-8954

FHPSF Events in 2018 Save the Dates!

- **State of the District Luncheon**
May 3, 2018
Watermark Country Club
- **Charlie Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament**
June 13, 2018
Thornapple Pointe Golf Club

You Too Can Support the Foundation

The Foundation's success is thanks to the generous support of our community. This continued and growing support has a substantial ripple effect on classrooms and students across the district. Funds granted to educators allow for innovative, creative programs that inspire students to new levels of success! There are many ways you can support academic excellence in Forest Hills through the Foundation:

- Attend any of our fundraising events.
- Make a year-end gift through our Annual Appeal Campaign.
- Designate your United Way gift to the FHPS Foundation.
- Shop on Amazon. While shopping, click on AmazonSmile and select the FHPS Foundation as your charity recipient.
- Consider a planned gift to the FHPS Foundation.
- Talk to your employer about a "matching gift" program.
- Contact the Foundation and discuss donation options. Gifts can be made securely online at fhpsf.org, by mailing to 600 Forest Hill Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546, or by calling Jana Siminski, Foundation director, at 616-493-8964 or email: jsiminski@fhps.net.

Stay Connected with Your Foundation!

To receive updates on Foundation programs and events, please subscribe to our newsletter at fhpsf.org on the bottom of our homepage.

FHPS Foundation

Jana Siminski, Director

616-493-8954 or jsiminski@fhps.net

www.fhpsf.org



Forest Hills Public Schools

6590 Cascade Road SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Phone: 616-493-8800

POSTMASTER:

This publication contains dated material. Deliver to homes no later than Aug. 21, 2017.

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2017-2018 School Year

AAA Events and Support Meetings

**If at First You Don't Succeed ...
That's OK!**

"Do Your Kids Have the Right Mindset for Success?"

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2017, 7 - 8:30 p.m.
Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Becky Telzerow, LLPC
Northern Hills Middle School Counselor

Learn how you can help your child become the best person, student, athlete, artist they can be. Your words can change your mindset. Having a growth mindset is a shift in the way of thinking, solving problems, and responding to obstacles.

Instead of ... Try Thinking ...

I'm not good at this.	What am I missing?
This is too hard.	This may take some time.
It's good enough.	Is this really my best work?

Learn how to identify mindsets, understand why this matters, and explore real-life scenarios using tools to help you and your children acquire more of a growth mindset. After this session, you'll be able to implement some of the skills right away and start seeing the right mindset grow!



Coming in February 2018
"Angst: Breaking the Stigma Around Anxiety"

From the producers of the award-winning "Screenagers," comes the film "Angst: Breaking the Stigma Around Anxiety." The film will be shown by AAA at Celebration Cinema North this winter. The documentary looks at anxiety, its causes and effects, and what we can do about it. "Angst" features interviews with kids and young adults who suffer or have suffered from anxiety and what they have learned. The film includes experts who help people manage their anxiety, those who focus on research, and those who offer some tools and resources that provide hope. Watch for more information. AAA programming is supported by the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation.

Circle of Support

AAA also coordinates Circle of Support for parents. This group meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month, beginning in September, to find support in other parents who are experiencing similar issues or mental health challenges with their children. Circle of Support meets at St. Robert's Church (and is not affiliated with any religious organization), 6477 Ada Dr., Ada, in room #204 on the second floor. Take entrance "F." Childcare is not available at this time. A school counselor leads the support group meetings. For more information, email: AAACOS.FHPS@gmail.com.

For additional information about AAA, visit www.fhps.net, and do a keyword search for mental health and well-being.

Presented by:

Sponsored by the
Forest Hills Public Schools
Parent Group

**Awareness
Acceptance
Advocacy of Mental Health**

Substitute Teachers Needed

Have you ever thought about being a substitute teacher? Forest Hills Public Schools has substitute teacher shortages almost every school day. We would love to add you to our pool of substitutes to help our schools when someone on the teaching staff is absent.

One of the many benefits of being a substitute teacher is that you decide when and where you'd like to sub. You can also accept or decline any job, and you can work on the days that fit within your schedule. You do not need a teacher certificate to be a substitute. All you need is to have an official college transcript with at least 90 or more semester credit hours and a minimum grade point average of 2.0 from a four-year accredited college or university.

FHPS and all school districts within the Kent Intermediate School District contract substitute teachers through EDUSTaff. To learn more about substitute teaching, visit our website, www.fhps.net, or kentisd.org. To start the application process, go to www.edustaff.org. For further information, please call the FHPS human resources department, 616-493-8805.

Forest Hills High School Class of 1967

50th Reunion

Saturday, Sept. 30, 2017, 6 p.m.
Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park
(Informal get-together at Gippers, Friday, Sept. 29, 2017, 6 - 8:30 p.m.)

For more information about these and other weekend activities, please email the reunion committee at foresthills1967@gmail.com or call Claudia (Voigt) Ferch at 616-828-3141 or 616-942-8787.