

Finn Hill Middle School Matters

November 25th, 2020
Turkey Edition Vol. 13



Dr. Joseph Smith
Principal, FHMS

Dear Finn Hill Middle School Families, Faculty, Staff, and Students,

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday break, I feel grateful for the privilege of serving our FHMS community to which feels like I have belonged to for 5 years. I also am thankful that our community not only has risen to all the unprecedented challenges of the past eight months, but also, in adhering to all health and safety guidelines, has helped Lake Washington School District to maintain low levels of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations since the middle of last June.

As we make our holiday plans, Thanksgiving comes at a worrisome stage of the pandemic, with cases and hospitalizations surging to record levels throughout much of the country.

We are all battling coronavirus burnout and pandemic fatigue. I recognize the effort and commitment that everyone has made to continue to carry out our work and we should all be proud of that. As we continue to get satisfaction from our achievements in this difficult time, we should remember that staying committed to health and safety measures will help us get through the next few months – and bring us closer to the day when we can start making travel plans for family and holiday gatherings. In the meantime, as with so much else, we can still have a meaningful Thanksgiving holiday – and look forward to more joyous holiday gatherings next year!

[Finn Hill Middle School Weekly Schedule Link](#)

[Upcoming Event:](#)

The LWPTSA Council, in conjunction with LWSU is offering upcoming events for families : LGBTQ+

Panel – 12/2

IPCP Cultural Identity and Diversity Takeaway:

<https://www.lwsd.org/fs/resource-manager/view/c6fb15e7-a3b2-4bc5-9813-2910bd33cdef>

[Content Library Links](#)

You can visit each of these OneNote content libraries for grade level information and weekly overviews for core classes.

[6th Grade OneNote](#)

[7th Grade OneNote](#)

[8th Grade OneNote](#)

[Library News](#)

“No-contact book check out is now available.

Please follow the instructions Mr. Strong has posted on the library Teams page. All holds must be placed by Friday, pick-up can only occur on Mondays from 2 to 4 per district safety guidelines.”

[Announcements and Updates](#)

FHMS Interests Groups –

Some interest groups have already begun, and some will start up after the Thanksgiving break. Interest groups will range from cooking and baking classes to discussions on current social matters. Also, in the upcoming days, students will be receiving a survey to complete asking them about their preferences. Finn Hill Middle School teachers and staff feel strongly that Falcon students are missing out on peer socialization. Hence, they a fourth of the teachers committed to creating social spaces that will foster peer engagement. The link below will take you to an attachment that delineate what’s available to FHMS students currently.

- <https://fhms.lwsd.org/activitiesathletics/activities>

[Important Upcoming Dates](#)

[November](#)

26th-27th- Thanksgiving Observance

[December](#)

2nd – Juice w/ Joseph- 12:00-12:30 pm

3rd – Java w/ Joseph – 11:00- 11:45 am

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Highly Capable Eligibility Update #1

We are moving forward with CogAT universal screening for highly capable eligibility.
 All CogAT screening will be done online through the Riverside Insights secure browser. Except for the 1st grade screening, all assessments will be proctored by Accelerated Programs staff including K5HC teacher facilitators. Students who meet the screening criteria will move to the CogAT Post. ***Additional assessment information for eligibility will be communicated to all staff and families after the screening process has been completed.**

Helpful Links

FHMS -Counselor's Link

<https://www.lwsd.org/fs/resource-manager/view/bbd0bf89-c4db-4df3-8c95-158a23c18214>

Date	Topic/Audience
11/30	Application window closes
12/14	CogAT screener for 6-7
12/21	Private and 5-7 students notification of screening results
1/11 - 1/15	CogAT Post for 5-7 (for those who met screening criteria)

TSA (Technology Student Association):

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1602257238/lwsd.org/siweh129wqllefo2tcsq/TSAAnnouncement.pdf>

G.L.O.W. Club Flyer (Gay, Lesbian, or

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1602005563/lwsd.org/pvqlza7m2zuo zz8gohs0/GLOWP oster.pdf>

Shout-Outs-

Please forward any shout-out to me by Thursday of each week!

- **Shout-Out to FHMS-PTSA for their tremendous support !**
- **Shout- Out to the Front Office Staff for organizing a safe, process for families to visit FHMS!**
- **Shout-Out to FHMS Staff for supporting students with your collaborative spirit and brilliant thinking!**
- **Shout-Out to Jenna Schulz for creating workout videos for PE and including FHMS staff cameos , to increase student engagement!**
- **Shout-Out to Adell Bergum and Kiersten Humble for developing a positive behavior system for students in their co-taught class!**

Once again, we thank each of you for helping to make remote learning successful. Have a great weekend!



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