

Finn Hill Middle School Matters

December 18th, 2020
Eighteenth Edition



Dr. Joseph Smith
Principal, FHMS

Dear Falcon Families,

It is hard to believe that this challenging year is coming to an end; however, a new year, filled with hope is about to begin! We wish you a safe and happy Holiday season, filled with joy, happiness, and celebratory events!

Where we're heading next

We are in the second phase of formulating our Equity team member roster. Several weeks ago, we had asked for community family volunteers to participate on the FHMS Equity Committee.

We now have the go-ahead from central office, to continue with the process of adding community members to the Equity Team. Below are links to more information regarding the position. Please let us know if you are interested!

English: <https://bit.ly/3nzlkuy>

Spanish: <https://bit.ly/2WGoRwN>

UPDATES ON FHMS GRADING

This memo is intended to serve as an update for families as we continue to reshape our grading practices and policies during remote learning. Families are always welcome to reach out to the individual teachers or their child's counselor (including counselor contact info) with any questions, that would help. We know from experience that grading is significantly more of a challenge when students are not in our school and classrooms due to COVID-19. FHMS has been slowly adjusting its policies around grading in response to this new reality.

Hence, we are sharing the most recent updates below.

- The "N" replaces the "F" grade in this system but the plus for students is that it doesn't affect the overall GPA.
- If you receive an "N" grade, it means that the student has less than a 55% in our class.
- 'N' means not enough work was turned in to assess and determine if a student was at standard
- FHMS team is diligently working to reach out to students who have "N" grades in any class, because we know that means that students aren't connecting with their classes, and therefore aren't showing progress.

In the upcoming weeks, the LWSD central office, in collaboration with the LWEA, will provide more guidance around grading. Finally, for now, FHMS Team encourages you to reach out to individual teachers or their child's counselor (including counselor contact info) with any questions, that would help. We will continue to send updates and keep you informed!

Finn Hill Middle School Weekly Schedule Link

Upcoming Event:

IPCP Cultural Identity and Diversity Takeaway:
<https://www.lwsd.org/fs/resource-manager/view/c6fb15e7-a3b2-4bc5-9813-2910bd33cdef>

Winter Donation Drive:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0545A9A92DAAFE3-gift>

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."

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PTSA General Membership

Mark your calendar for January 19th- 7:00 pm for the January PTSA General Membership meeting where will be joined by LWS District School Board Member, Cassandra Sage. If you have anything specific for Ms. Sage please send it to Diane Devlyne-Thompson FHMSPTSAPresident@gmail.com

Important Upcoming Dates

December

16th- Wednesday, Juice w/ Joseph- 12:00-12:30 pm-
17th – Thursday, Java w/ Joseph – 11:00- 11:45 am
18th - Friday ,11am-1pm Winter Donation Drive:
21st – Jan. 1- Winter Break

January

6th - Juice with Joseph : <http://bit.ly/3mujknl>
7th – Java with Joseph: <http://bit.ly/2KvdV21>
18th- MLK Day Observance (No School)

February

11th-12th – Mid Winter Break (No School)
15th- President's Day (No School)

Shout-Outs-

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

- "Shout-Out" to Camila for being known as the "Wellness Woman"
- "Shout-Out" to FHMS-PTSA for their tremendous support!
- "Shout-Out" to Each and Every Teacher who has created opportunities to reach students by hosting Interests Groups!
- "Shout-Out" to FHMS Staff for supporting students with your collaborative spirit and brilliant thinking!
- "Shout-Out" to Maddie for making information easy for families to find. Within a day of receiving information from the district, the Weaver Events and Internet/Service Outage" message from district was added to FHMS website, in both News & Announcements and on the rotating home page
- "Shout-Out" to Sandi for increasing positive school culture with staff by acknowledging staff birthdays!
- "Shout-Out" and a BIG welcome to Ryan Wood! Welcome to Finn Hill and please let us know how we can support you!
- "Shout-Out" to the FHMS Department leaders for revising the school's Improvement Plan!

Helpful Links

FHMS - Counselor's Link

Counseling Newsletter
November 2020

TSA (Technology Student Association):

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1602257238/lwsd.org/siwehl29wqllefo2tcsq/TSAAnnouncement.pdf>

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

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

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



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