


A close-up photograph of an owl's face, showing its large, detailed eye and part of its beak. The owl has brown and grey feathers. The background is a solid dark blue.

Finn Hill Middle School

# Future Falcon Night

JANUARY 25, 2022



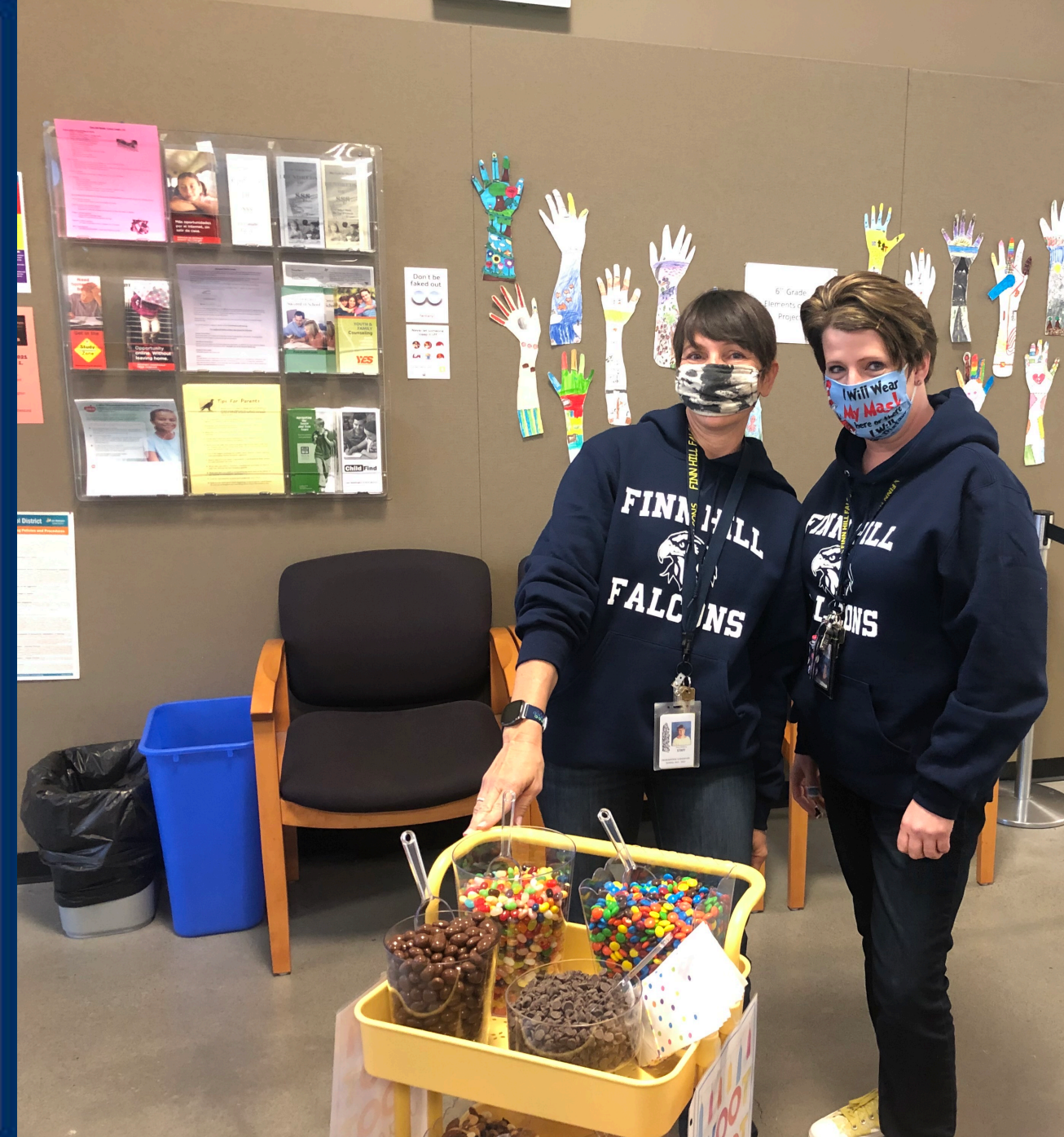


# Points of Discussion

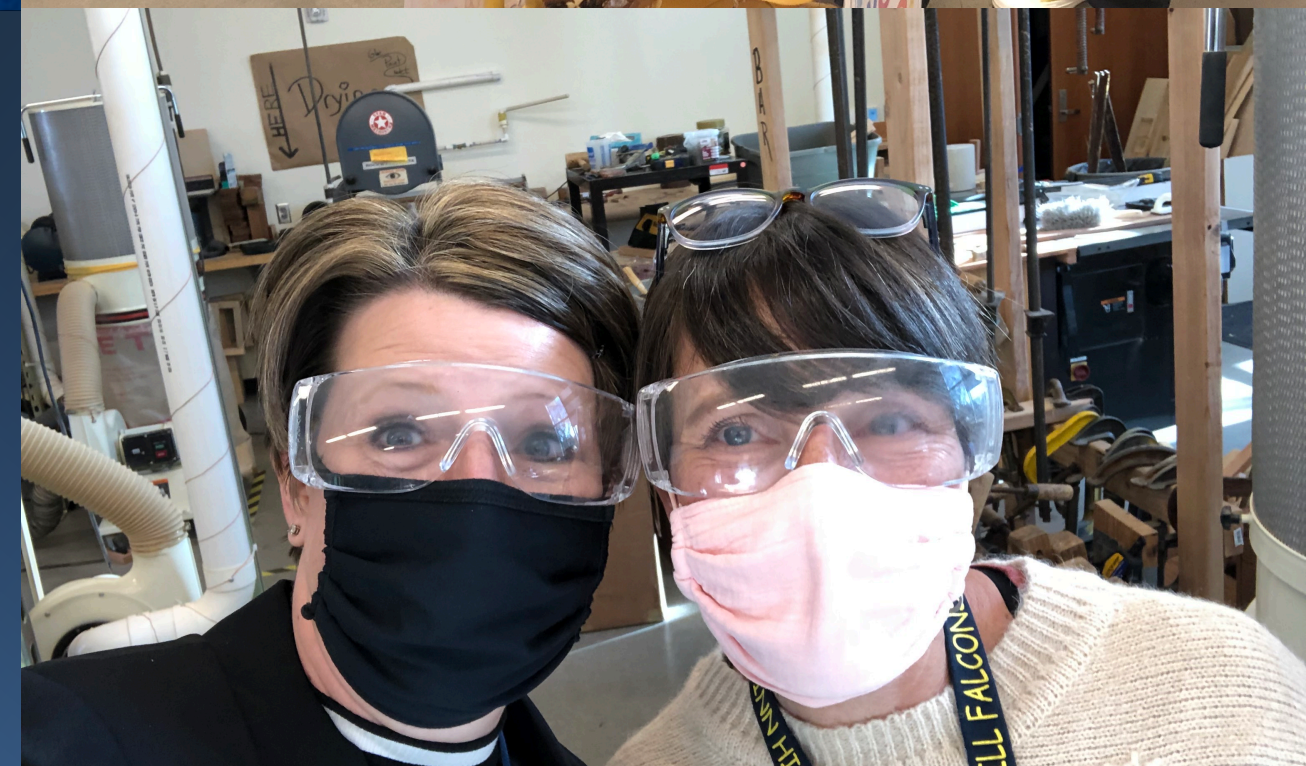
## Topics to be Covered

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Brief Overview of Finn Hill Middle School
3. Transitioning to Middle School
4. Class Offerings, Scheduling & Registration
5. Extracurricular Offerings
6. FHMS PTSA
7. What's Next?
8. Important Links





# Introductions





# Mission & Vision

Every Student Future Ready:

- *Prepared for College*
- *Prepared for the Global Workplace*
- *Prepared for Personal Success*



## **Mission**

Each student will graduate prepared to lead a rewarding, responsible life as a contributing member of our community and greater society.

## **Themes**

Our school is focused on developing Falcon P.R.I.D.E. as a way to help each student be the best he or she can be! P.R.I.D.E. is an acronym that stands for

*Positivity*

*Respect*

*Integrity*

*Determination*

*Empathy*





# Good Things

- ★ 670 students in grades 6-8
- ★ Math acceleration available in grades 7 & 8
- ★ 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Rotation ("Q")
- ★ Programming to meet students' unique needs: Safety Net, multi-lingual education, special education, AVID
- ★ Robust elective offerings including music, world languages, health and fitness, state-of-the-art foods and nutrition program, photography, robotics, leadership, glass fusing, pottery
- ★ Emphasis on SEL during Falcon Time
- ★ PBIS approach to behavior: Falcon PRIDE & House System
- ★ Twice weekly College Prep programming to meet personalized needs



# Differences Between Middle & Elementary



- Daily transitions
- Class changes with several teachers
- Different students in each class
- More students & larger building
- Daily task demands increase
  - Self-advocacy and organization skills
  - Time management
  - More responsibility on student

- Social and athletic activities
- Lockers
- School Resource Officer on campus
- Electives
- No parent-teacher conferences
- No recess
- 1:1 tech



# Transitioning to Middle School

Middle School is considered the **most significant transition** of a child's entire education.

It is essential we provide our children with the necessary knowledge, support and skills to successfully navigate this challenging time.

FHMS supports this transition through...

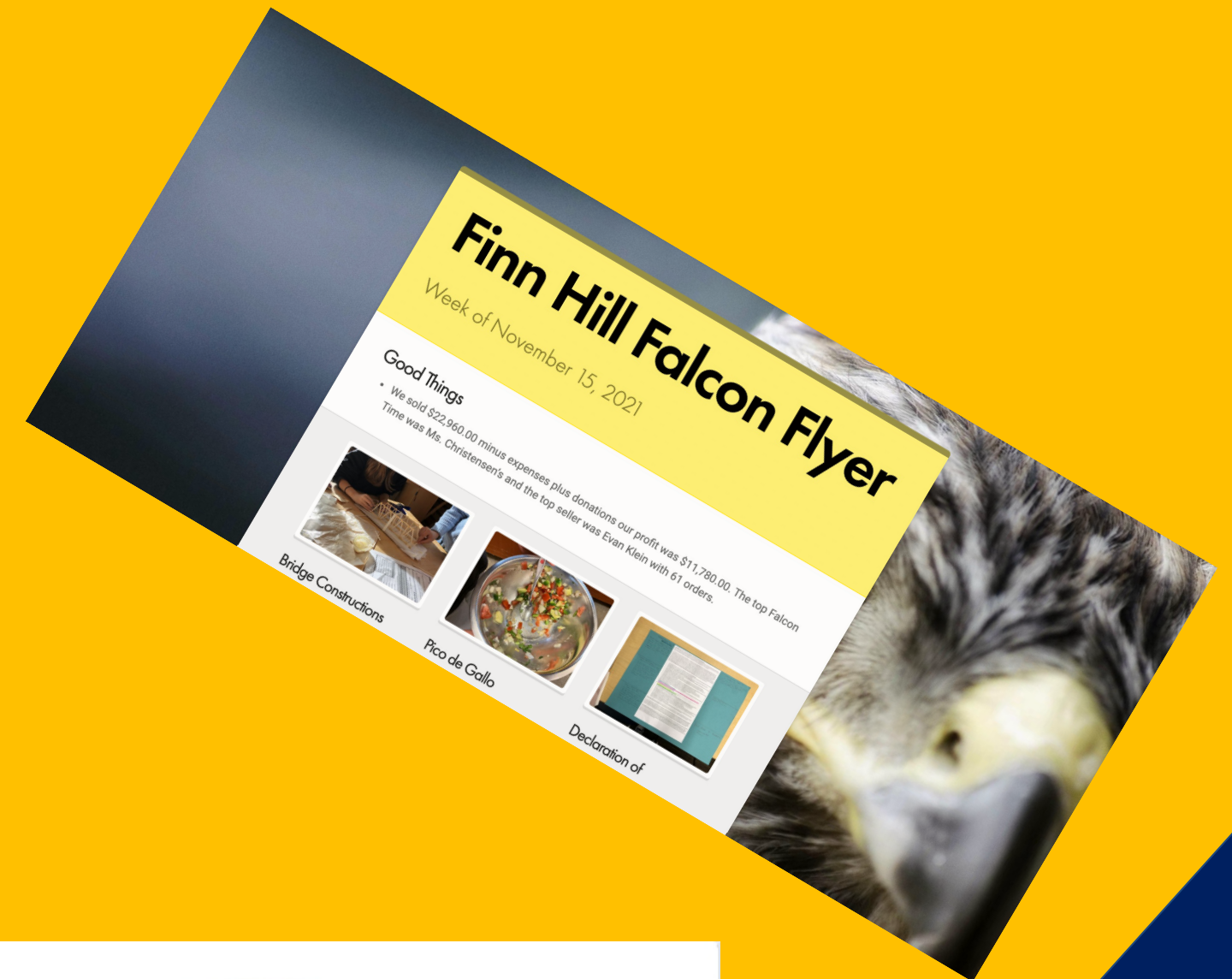
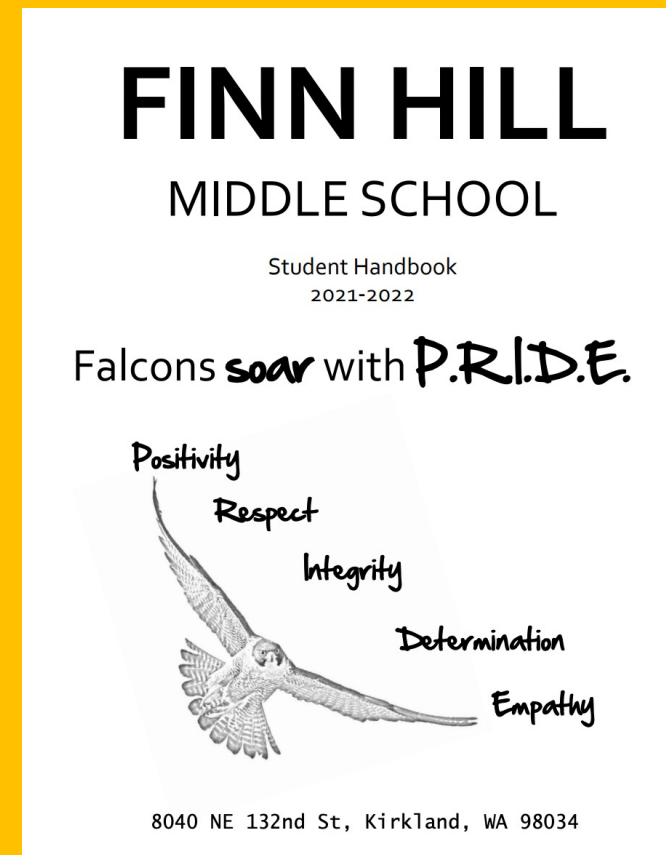
- Orientation activities
- Minimizing transitions
- Falcon Time
- College Prep
- Modeling/teaching organization & planning skills
- Staff support
- Falcon Pride Ambassadors
  - For our 6th graders, our ambassadors act as older siblings - answering questions, giving advice and tips, and making students feel welcome in our school





# Home-School Communication

- Handbook
  - Issued to ALL students in Fall
  - Includes rules/regulations
- Planner
  - Review nightly
- Email
- Teams & OneNote
- Skyward
- Weekly Falcon Flyer





# Daily Schedule

## Daily Schedule M/T/Th/F

First Bell	8:30
1st Period	8:35 - 9:25
2nd Period	9:29 - 10:19
3rd Period	10:23 - 11:13
<b>A Lunch</b>	11:13 - 11:43
4th Period	11:47 - 12:43
4th Period (part 1)	11:17 - 11:43
<b>B Lunch</b>	11:43 - 12:13
4th Period (part 2)	12:17 - 12:43
4th Period	11:17 - 12:13
<b>C Lunch</b>	12:13 - 12:43
5th Period	12:47 - 1:37
Falcon Time/College Prep	1:41 - 2:11
6th Period	2:15 - 3:05

## Wednesday Schedule

First Bell	8:30
1st Period	8:35 - 9:13
2nd Period	9:17 - 9:55
3rd Period	9:59 - 10:37
<b>A Lunch</b>	10:37 - 11:07
4th Period	11:11 - 12:07
4th Period (part 1)	10:41 - 11:07
<b>B Lunch</b>	11:07 - 11:37
4th Period (part 2)	11:41 - 12:07
4th Period	10:41 - 11:37
<b>C Lunch</b>	11:37 - 12:07
5th Period	12:11 - 12:49
6th Period	12:53 - 1:35

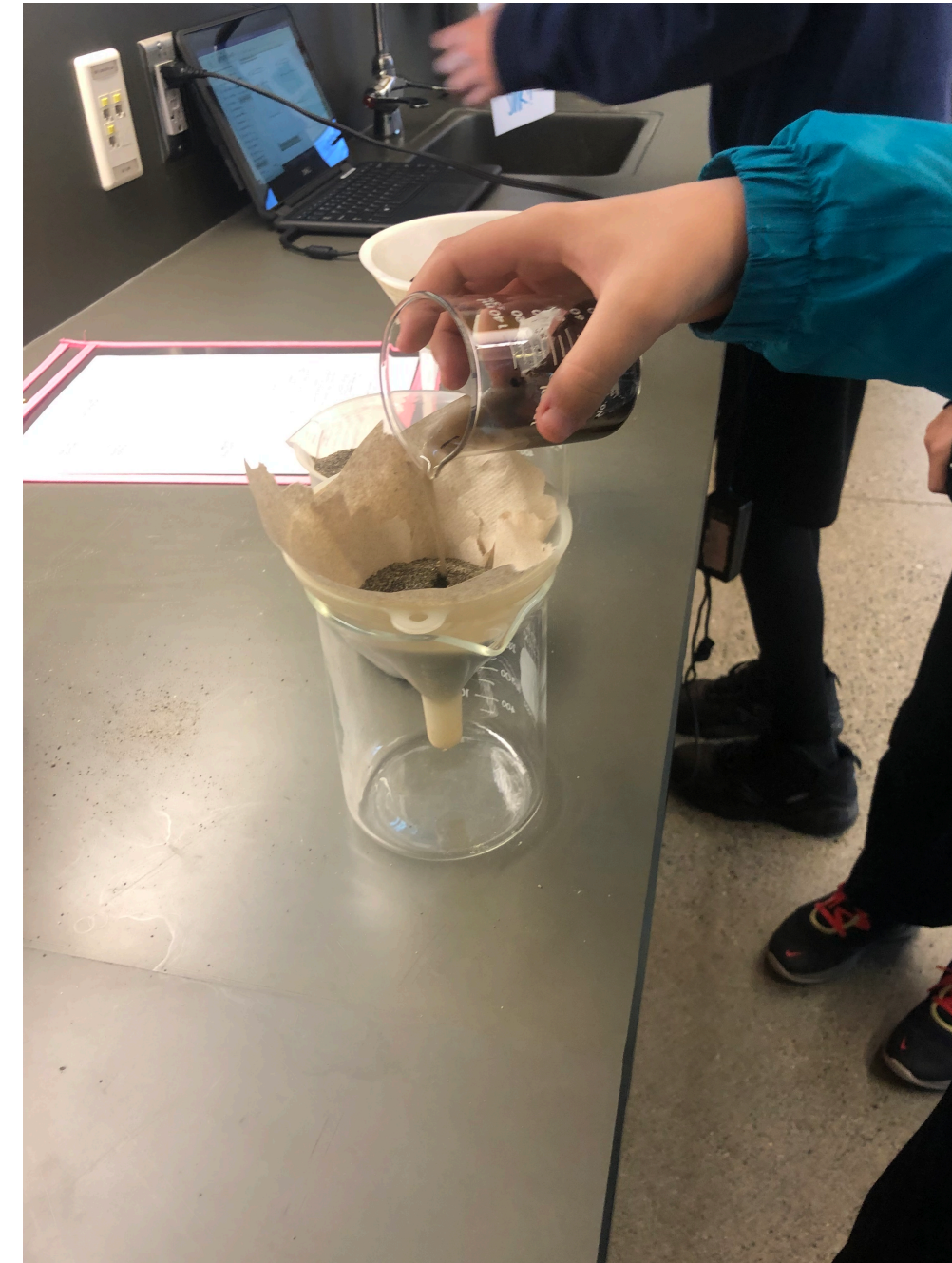


# Core Subject Classes

All 6th Graders take the following classes:

- A full year of language arts
- A full year of math
- A full year of science
- A full year of social studies

Additionally, all 6th Graders will take one semester (half year) of Physical Education and one semester (half year) of CASS





# Falcon Time

"Advisory" Model

Announcements

Social-Emotional  
Learning  
Lessons:  
Character Strong

Community  
building  
activities



# 6th Grade Elective Classes

- 2 types of 6th Grade Electives:
  - Year Long Electives
  - Quarterly Electives
- **Year long electives are *requested during registration*.**
- **Quarterly electives are *randomly assigned* to student schedules to provide as many unique course experiences as possible in 6th grade.**



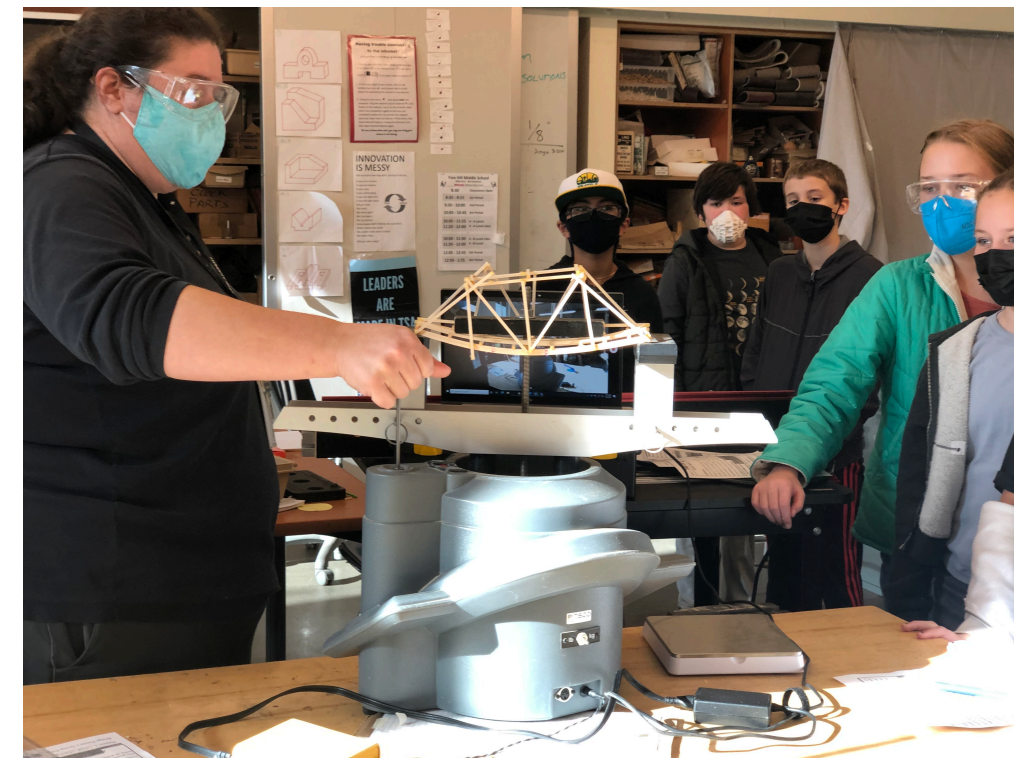
# Quarterly Elective Classes ("Q")



- Q classes are designed to give students a chance to explore the different electives we have at Finn Hill.
- Students will be in each Q class for one quarter and then will rotate to the next one.
- Students could get Q classes in any order, but they will have each one at some point during the year.

## Q-Class Descriptions

Intro to Art	Life Skills	STEM	Fit to Serve
This course will introduce you to the basic skills and concepts of art through cartooning, 3D drawings, and other various methods.	This course will give you experiences in all areas of Family and Consumer Science and help you discover areas of interest through preparing food, planning meals, budgeting, and other skills.	This course will introduce you to the engineering process through hands-on learning experiences like aerodynamics with rockets, sketching, measurement, and structural design.	This course will teach you the foundations of "Servant Leadership" model. Through fitness challenges and mind-strengthening techniques, you will understand how to help you bring out the best in self and others.





# Year Long Elective Offerings

Orchestra, band, and choir are year long electives open to 6th graders. No prior experience is required.

If students choose a year long elective, they are committing to staying in the class for the entire year. They are not allowed to drop the class at the semester.



\* Students in band can also choose to join jazz band. It is an *optional class* that meets before school.



# FHMS Sports

## Season 1

- Boys'/Girls' Cross Country
- Boys' Tennis
- Boys' Basketball

## Season 2

- Girls' Badminton
- Co-ed Soccer

## Intersession Intramurals

- 3 on 3 Soccer and Pickle Ball
- Badminton and Ultimate Frisbee

## Season 3

- Girls' basketball
- Wrestling

## Season Four

- Boys'/Girls' Track and Field
- Girls' Tennis
- Girls' Volleyball



For more information, contact  
FHMS Athletic Director Taylor  
Holland at [tholland@lwsd.org](mailto:tholland@lwsd.org).



# Clubs & Activities

- Clubs are a fantastic way for students to get involved at FHMS.
- Students connect with and make new friends.
- We offer both academic and recreational clubs.

GREEN  
TEAM



Middle School  
DANCE



## Examples of Current & Past Club Offerings & Activities:

- Chess Club
- Games Club
- TSA
- GLOW (Gay, Lesbian, or Whatever Club)
- Green Team
- School Socials
- Model Airplane Club
- School Dances
- Math Olympiad
- Battle of the Books
- Talent Show
- National Junior Honor Society
- School Play



# Typical Concerns of Sixth Grade Students

- **Learning the building**
- **Following a schedule**
- **Changing classes**
- **Getting adjusted to new teachers**
- **Completing/turning in work**
- **Making new friends**
- **Encountering other students**
- **Dealing with a locker**



# How you can help your rising sixth grader with transition anxiety:

- **Talk to your child** regularly about their excitement and concerns around the transition to middle school
- **Invite discussion** with neighbors, family members, or older students about middle school experiences or share your own
- Help your child **establish a strong homework routine**
- Encourage and scaffold **self-advocacy** skills
- **Proactively address academic concerns** with your child's elementary school prior to their transition
- **Practice with a master lock** at home to familiarize how to use a lock for lockers



# What's Next?



## **Spring**

FHMS counselors visit elementary schools to talk about the “fun stuff”

- Activities
- Lockers
- Lunch
- Sports
- Schedules
- Tips for success

## **Late May/Early June**

Future Falcon Day-TBD

FHMS admin visit elementary PTSAs

## **August 25**

Prep Day

- Complete back to school forms
- Join PTSA
- Purchase PE shirts
- Purchase ASB cards
- Receive students’ schedules
- Take school pictures

## **September 6**

First Day of School





Every parent, guardian, teacher and staff member of a student at Finn Hill Middle School is a member of our PTSA. The PTSA supports our students' educational experience through both fundraising and volunteerism at Finn Hill. Parental involvement is crucial to our mission of helping our school remain one of the top middle schools in our state. We look forward to helping you find a place to be involved where you are able! Please see below for some ways you can get involved and find out what is going on:

Email us at [membership@fhmsptsa.org](mailto:membership@fhmsptsa.org)

Check out the PTSA website at <https://fhmsptsa.org/Home>

Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FHMSPTSA>

Thank you so much for your interest.

We look forward to meeting you next year!



# Important Links

- Links to the information in this presentation can be found on the [Finn Hill Middle School website](#)
- [Click here for the 22-23 FHMS Course Catalog](#)
- General Questions can be directed to the FHMS Main Office: 425-936-2340
- Class/Transition related question can be directed to your student's counselor:

- Mrs. Larson (A-K) [clarson@lwsd.org](mailto:clarson@lwsd.org)
- Mrs. Lee (L-Q) [gvecchiet@lwsd.org](mailto:gvecchiet@lwsd.org)
- Mrs. Doughty (R-Z) [kdoughty@lwsd.org](mailto:kdoughty@lwsd.org)



# Thank You For Attending!

