



# BUZZ FROM THE HIVE

A newsletter of the Ferndale Area School District

SUMMER

“ Big Enough to Challenge, Small Enough to Care”

2014

## Saying Good-Bye

Three Ferndale Area School District employees will be leaving the hive at the end of the 2013-2014 school year. Congratulations and best wishes to our retirees.



*Sally Allison*  
Special Education Secretary  
34 years



*Marlene Kessler*  
Cafeteria Cook  
21 years



*Brian McDermott*  
Jr-Sr High School Principal  
4 years

## State Treasurer Robb McCord Visit

On March 27, 2014, State Treasurer Robb McCord visited Ferndale Area School District. He spent time visiting our K4 classrooms to learn more about pre-school education. He also was treated to a demonstration of how our elementary teachers use technology in education. Finally, he met with district office staff and teacher representatives to discuss school funding and challenges to education.



**Ferndale Area School District**

**Board of Education**

**President**

Mr. Wayne Meekins - Lorain

**Vice-President**

Mrs. Sandra Chobany - Dale

**Secretary**

Mrs. Melissa Garman - Ferndale

**Treasurer**

Mr. Dale Harrison - Middle Taylor

**Board Members**

Mrs. Susan Boyle - Dale

Mr. Jason Moschgat - Middle Taylor

Mr. Richard Pavic - Ferndale

Mr. Stephen Thompson - Ferndale

Mrs. Patricia Wilson - Dale

**Administration**

Ferndale Area School District

100 Dartmouth Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15905

814-535-1507

**Superintendent of Schools**

Mrs. Carole M. Kakabar

**Business Manager**

Mr. John Kowal

Ferndale Area High School

600 Harlan Avenue

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814-288-5757

**High School Principal**

Dr. Brian McDermott

**Assistant High School Principal**

Mr. Robert Boyle

Ferndale Area Elementary School

100 Dartmouth Avenue

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**Elementary Principal**

Dr. William Brotz



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**School Board Meetings**

The Ferndale Area School District Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Elementary School Board Room at 6:00 p.m. except for the months of May and December, unless otherwise advertised. Meetings are not scheduled for the month of July.

**District Adopts 2014-2015 Budget**

The Ferndale Area School Board adopted the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget on June 18, 2014. Real estate millage was set at 73.1 mills, which was an increase of 2.3 mills. After review, the Pennsylvania Department of Education approved the tax rate. The increase was less than the 2014-2015 index of 3.3% which was required by Act 1 participating districts.

**Ferndale Area School District  
is a Smoke-Free District**

It is the policy of the Ferndale Area School District that all buildings, property (including sidewalks and parking areas), outdoor fixed seating areas, vehicles owned or contracted and other designated areas of the Ferndale Area School District are designated to be tobacco free environments.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

 Congratulations Graduates

Tara Marie Barbarich  
Jeremy Dallas Barber  
Carly Nichole Baumbaugh  
Scott Alan Blasko  
Charles Phillip Boyer  
DeAnna Mae Burkett  
Thomas Glenn Burkett  
Mikayla Jane Burnheimer  
Joseph Angelo Carnevali  
Cody James Cooper  
Courtney Marissa Cornell  
Ashlyn Hope Devlin  
Levi Michael Eisenhuth  
Amanda Elizabeth Gaydos  
Tyler Justin Geiser  
Sanad Khalil Hammad  
Allison Taylor Harrison  
Jill Anne Held

Kennedy Lynn Hess  
Jacob Andrew Hoffman  
Jakob Ian Hollis  
Justin Andrew Hrabosky  
Summer Lee Huffman  
Brianna Laurel Jeschonek  
Madison Lynn Johnson  
Alexander Ray Lopez  
Alaina Dahn Malfer  
Joel Lyndon Mattis  
Ryan Joseph Mihalaki  
Alexa Ann Mills  
Harry John Morgart  
Hannah Jane Morris  
Samantha Ann Moss  
Kayla Nycole Ohler  
Lindsay Marissa Olszewsky  
Kyllie Rae Onkst

Samantha Noelle Persuhn  
Carrie Nichole Rager  
Vincent Lee Reynolds  
Hannah Rose Richards  
Isaiah Mykal Sajatovich  
Kathryn Margaret Saylor  
Lindsay May Shay  
Tevin Makiah Stiles  
Kayla Lynn Thomas  
Aaron Daniel Tomak  
Brittany Varner  
Cassandra Ann Vivis  
Arron Christopher Walters  
Nathaniel Edward Washington  
Aimee Kathleen Weaver  
Julian Ryan Wright



## 2014-2015 School Calendar

The calendar for the 2014-2015 school year was adopted by the Ferndale Area Board of School Directors on April 16, 2014. The first day of school for students is August 25, 2014; the last day is May 29, 2015.



Teacher in-service days and Act 80 Days are scheduled for August 18, August 19, August 20, August 21, October 13, January 19, May 1, and June 1.

Scheduled make-up days are February 16, April 2 and May 22. If additional days are used for emergency reasons, the make-up days will be added at the end of the school term in June.

- August 18 ..... In-Service Day for Faculty
- August 19 ..... In-Service Day for Faculty
- August 20 ..... In-Service Day for Faculty
- August 21 ..... In-Service Day for Faculty
- August 25.....First Day for Students**
- September 1 ..... Labor Day (No School)
- September 10..... Open House (HS)
- September 24..... Open House (Elem)
- September 25..... Open House (Elem)
- October 13..... Act 80 Day for Faculty
- November 10.. Parent/Teacher Conferences (No School)
- November 11 ..... Veterans Day (No School)
- November 27 - Dec 1 ..... Thanksgiving (No School)
- December 24 - January 2..... Christmas (No School)
- January 19 ..... Act 80 Day for Faculty
- February 16 ..... Make-Up Day (No School)
- April 2 ..... Make-Up Day (No School)
- April 3 - April 6..... Easter (No School)
- May 1 ..... Act 80 Day (No School)
- May 22 ..... Make-Up Day (No School)
- May 25 ..... Memorial Day (No School)
- May 29 ..... **Last Day of School**
- June 1 ..... In-Service Day (No School)



### Marking Period Ends

October 24	(44)
January 14	(45)
March 18	(44)
May 29	(47)

## First Book at Ferndale Area Elementary

First Book is an international nonprofit social enterprise dedicated to working with teachers and school to provide brand new, free and low-cost books to kids from low-income families. Since 1992, First Book has distributed more than 100 million new books to thousands of schools and community programs nationwide that work directly with children in need.

Ferndale Area Elementary had almost 20 teachers participate in First Book and receive hundreds of FREE, high interest books for students to keep, read and take home. According to First Book, these additional reading materials improve interest in reading and increase a student's desire to learn and increase reading at home.

## Student Authors at Ferndale Area

Students in several classrooms at Ferndale Area Elementary had the opportunity to become published authors this year. The students were in Mrs. Dryer's, Mrs. Olson's, Mrs. Hrabosky's, Mrs. Priest's, Mrs. Mino's, and Mrs. Riffle's classes. The students learned all about the writing process and worked very hard turning their words into a hardback book. The company, Student Treasures, donated a book to each student.

The students were able to show off their work on March 3 at our Young Author's Night! There were about 150 people gathered in the cafeteria to support the students. The teachers were so excited to see such an outpouring of support!

## Flags at Grandview Cemetery

Every year during the month of May, flags are placed on the graves of United States veterans at Grandview Cemetery. It has become our fourth grade tradition to participate in this project. Eli Vuckovich, our music teacher's husband, is a veteran of the Pennsylvania National Guard, with 30 years of service. Mr. Vuckovich, along with VFW Post 155, provided flags for us to place on the graves again this year. We were very honored to do this. We have talked to our students throughout the year about veterans, military personnel, and honoring them and our country in different ways. We feel that this was a very worthwhile activity for our students, especially since we placed the flags on the graves close to Memorial Day.

## A Very Different Kind of Classroom

*Joshua Mottillo, Business, Computer, Informational Teacher*

On May 23, members of the Business Club and National Honor Society traveled to Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio for a fun day of learning and enjoyment. Accompanied by Mr. Josh Mottillo and Mrs. Lori Dodson, 26 students attended the park's Amusement 101 class before getting to enjoy all the fun things Cedar Point has to offer.

The program taught the students many things about running the daily operation of the park as well as what goes on once the park closes for the season. The students got to learn about the many departments of the park including, ride operations, marketing, ticket sales, hotel management, food service, merchandise operations, accounting and finance, and games. The students didn't realize that so much goes into the daily operation of the park. One of the questions asked by the students was why doesn't Cedar Point put in a new roller coaster every year. They stated that roller coasters are put in as part of their five year plan since they are such a monetary investment for the park and they require a lot of space in the park which means a lot of surveying has to be done in the event other rides have to be moved to another area of the park. For example, Cedar Point's newest roller coaster "Gatekeeper" opened last year and cost the park \$30 million dollars. The students also learned that the offseason is the accounting department's busiest time of year since that's when a lot of the financial preparations for the next season are completed.

Another question was asked whether they have a rivalry with Disney or not. The answer the students were given is that Disney is a destination and in a class all of their own since a trip there requires so much planning and usually takes at least a week because there is a lot of travel involved getting there as well as lodging. On the other hand, Cedar Point can be done in a two or three day trip if you are a regional visitor, or even a day if you are local. While the recession hurts Disney due to the cost involved with it, Cedar Point actually saw an increase in their attendance since people view it as a much more affordable option.

After the class, the students got to enjoy all the fun the park had to offer. When asked what their favorite rides were, many of the students replied with the "Gatekeeper," as well as "Top Thrill Dragster" which launches riders from 0 to 120 mph in only 6 seconds, along with its 400 foot drop; and "Millennium Force" which features a 310 foot drop and takes riders along at speeds up to 92 mph.

Overall, everyone had a very enjoyable day at the park as well as enjoying a nice, sunny day while they were there. The students also got to learn in a very different environment than what they are accustomed to and very much enjoyed their "outdoor classroom" for a day.



## Ferndale Area Musicians Have A Successful Festival Season

*Dustin Rainey, Band Director/Choral Instructor/Music Teacher*

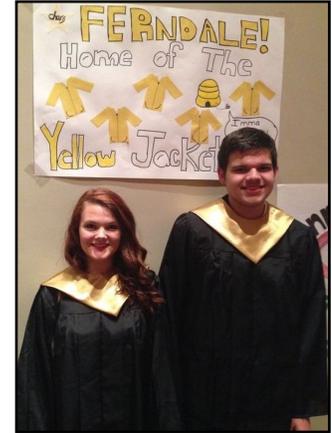
It was an exciting festival season for the Ferndale Area Jr.-Sr. High music program. It began with the Cambria County Band festival, held at Penn Cambria. After completing a successful audition, the top students from fourteen different schools are selected to participate in the ensemble. Ferndale Area was well represented with twelve students attending the festival: Gillian Ambroe, Ariel Ansell, Adam Blasko, Haley Bennett, Matthew Clawson, Madeline DeFonzo, Brittany Fitz, Paige Leftwich, Alex McClain, Erin Mills, Nicole Pellow, and Kaitlyn Strosco. This is the highest number in the last fifteen years! The students worked hard to prepare their music and had a great time working with the guest conductor, Mike Bodolowski, the band director from UPJ.

This year, one FAHS student, Ariel Ansell, qualified for PMEA District Band. The festival was held at Meyersdale Area High School and was directed by Dr. Stephanie Caulder from IUP. Through another set of auditions, Ariel advanced to the PMEA Region Band festival, which was hosted by State College High School. The students got to work with Dr. Richard Bundy, the director of Penn

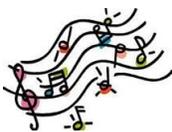


State Blue Band. It was a great experience, capped off by performing the concert in PSU's beautiful Eisenhower Auditorium.

For the first time in ten years, FAHS participated in PMEA Chorus festivals. Two of our students, Charis Biancuzzo and Ryan Mihalaki, participated in the District Chorus festival held at Central Cambria. Dr. Stephen Barr from Slippery Rock University directed the ensemble through the challenging folder, including three pieces in a foreign language. Charis also advanced to the Region Chorus Festival at Greater Johnstown, which was directed by Dr. Ryan Beeken from IUP. This was the first time a Ferndale Area student has advanced to the Region Chorus ensemble since 1989!



Congratulations to all of our music students who participated in these festivals. These experiences give our students the opportunity to perform with some of the best ensemble in the state and a chance to challenge themselves as musicians. After a year full of musical milestones, it's clear that music is alive and well at Ferndale Area!



## National Honor Society

Lorraine Dodson, Guidance Counselor

Five students were inducted into the Ferndale Area National Honor Society this year. The Induction Ceremony was held in the high school auditorium on May 19, 2014. Current members of the NHS including Hannah Morris - President, Kennedy Hess - Vice-President, Scott Blasko - Co-Treasurer, Courtney Cornell - Co-Treasurer and Hannah Richards - Secretary, conducted the ceremony and hosted a banquet for the new inductees and their families in the cafeteria immediately following the ceremony. Current members, including seniors: Lindsay Olszewsky and Carrie Rager and juniors: Charis Biancuzzo, Brianna Cornell, and Jaiden Locher assisted with the ceremony and banquet. Current members, Tara Barbarich, Taylor Harrison, Ariel Ansell and Michael Pellow were not in attendance.

New inductees were chosen by a selection committee after achieving four criteria—Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. Students who were inducted this year included: juniors, Devon Valinsky and Steven Sharp and sophomores: Trey McGough, Ceara Ohler and Grace Bailey. Trey McGough was not able to attend the ceremony.



This year, the National Honor Society hosted a Post Prom open to all juniors and seniors which provided a safe outlet for students following prom on May 9. The celebration was held at the Greater Johnstown YMCA. Door prizes and an elaborate amount of food were available to students. Some door prizes included Curve and Pirate tickets, bowling and golf outings, gift cards for many local restaurants and all day passes to DelGrosso's and Lakemont Park. Junior, Michael Shaffer, was the lucky grand prize winner.

He took home a Samsung 4G Tablet and case.

In all, the event turned out to be a wonderful celebration with many local businesses, organizations, alumni and community members contributing to a very worthwhile cause. The event could not have been possible without the generosity of the Ferndale community! The National Honor Society members thank all those who helped and contributed to the event this year and wish all students a happy and safe summer!

## Senior Exit Survey Results

For the past three years, during graduation practice, seniors have taken an exit survey. Questions on the survey are meant to provide information about services, programs, and preparedness for life after graduation. Following are some results of this year's survey:

- 34% will continue schooling at a 2 year college or trade school
- 40% will continue schooling at a 4 year college
- 12% will enter the job market
- 14% are entering the military
- 88% report getting their 1st choice in what they want to do after graduation
- 81% felt supported and respected by their teachers and principals
- 66% felt safe and secure at school
- 88% felt their time at school was well spent
- 56% said if we could get rid of just a few people (bullies), our school climate would be much better
- 22% felt the discipline policy needs updated/some revisions

We are doing a great job, but there is always room for improvements, as the survey results indicate.

### The Challenge Program



The Challenge Program, Inc. distributed financial awards to the seniors at Ferndale High School for excelling in the areas of Attendance, Academic Improvement, Academic Excellence, STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and Community Service. *Martin-Baker* is the sponsor of the program at the school. Pictured above are Barbara Grandinetti of The

Challenge Program, Inc. and Brian Galote of Martin-Baker with senior winners of The Challenge Program, Inc. awards: Samantha Persuhn (Attendance); Thomas Burkett (Academic Improvement); Hannah Morris (Academic Excellence); Scott Blasko (STEM Award); and Lindsay Olshefsky (Community Service).



## Elementary School Special Recognition Awards

### American Citizenship Award

#### K4

Brenna Beckman  
Justin Robine

#### Kindergarten

Isaiah Kring  
Addason Reffner  
Chance Washington

#### Grade 1

David Lenhart  
Caci Polenik  
Jorja Stancombe

#### Grade 2

Vincent DeVico  
Joshua Hernandez  
Kyla Sidor

#### Grade 3

Madison Forss  
Noah Hendershot  
Ryan Stancombe

#### Grade 4

Nathan Beckman  
Jamell Jolley  
Anastasia Sidor

#### Grade 5

George Ambroe  
Justin Pavic  
Kailyn Ribaric

#### Grade 6

Bryce Eisenhuth  
Madison Myers  
Chloe Ohler

### Perfect Attendance Award

George Ambroe  
Andrew Christofes  
Emily Custer  
Mya Derricott  
Kai Gorzelsky  
Corie Harkness  
Alaina Keiper  
Mollie Moschgat

Codi Norman  
Harlie Rager  
Kailyn Ribaric  
Logan Ritter  
Damon Slater  
Mason Smith  
Irelin Urban

### Presidential Award for Educational Excellence

Morgan Bennett  
Logan Boyd

Tyler Cenko  
Chance Kelly

### Presidential Award for Educational Achievement

Kaylee Antesberger  
Ivan Arone  
Jada Bifano  
Alex Carr  
Jonathan Dick  
Loghan Furfari  
Shawn Kornprobst  
Chloe Lux  
Amber Mardis  
Brooklyn McKendree

Madison Myers  
Kainat Quraishy  
Tyler Porazsky  
Tyler Reighard  
Danelle Rhodes  
Alexsandra Sanna  
Saheed Simms  
Mackenzie Taylor  
Lance Watson  
Holly Wilson

### 35th Senatorial District "Good Citizenship Award" from Senator John N. Wozniak

Morgan Bennett  
Jada Bifano  
Andrew Christofes

Danielle Clark  
Tyler Reighard  
Holly Wilson

## Cambria County Commissioners' Award

Last November the Jr. Sr. High School hosted the Cambria County Board of Commissioners meeting in the auditorium. Pictured is Hannah Morris, senior class president, receiving a check in the amount of \$150. In appreciation of our hospitality, the award was to be presented to a deserving senior at this year's awards ceremony. On behalf of Commissioners Douglas Lengenfelder, Thomas Chernisky and Ferndale's own Mark Wissinger, Amanda Gaydos was the recipient of the award.



## Scholarships and Awards

U.S. Army Reserve Junior Scholar-Athletes .....	Taylor Kinsey Charis Biancuzzo	National Honor Society Awards .....	President Hannah Morris Co-Vice President Kennedy Hess Secretary Hannah Richards Co-Treasurer Scott Blasko Co-Treasurer Courtney Cornell Tara Barbarich Taylor Harrison Lindsay Olshewsky Carrie Rager
U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athletes .....	Scott Blasko Hannah Richards	Student Council Award .....	Samantha Moss
U.S. Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award .....	Taylor Harrison	Drama Award .....	Hannah Morris
U.S. Marine Corps Award for Musical Excellence .....	Kennedy Hess	Outstanding Senior Band Member Award .....	Jakob Hollis
U.S. Navy Outstanding Scholar .....	Hannah Morris	Outstanding Senior Chorus Member Award .....	Brianna Jeschonek
U.S. Navy Outstanding Athlete .....	Isaiah Sajatovich	Director's Award .....	Summer Huffman
U.S. Navy Inspirational Leadership Award .....	Kennedy Hess	District VI Band Award .....	Ariel Ansell
U.S. Navy Outstanding Educator Award .....	Mr. Dan Endler	Region III Band Award .....	Ariel Ansell
Cambria County Commissioners' Award .....	Amanda Gaydos	District VI Chorus Awards .....	Charis Biancuzzo Ryan Mihalaki
S.T.E.M. ....	Scott Blasko	Regional III Chorus Award .....	Charis Biancuzzo
Class of 1973 Scholarships .....	Kennedy Hess Carrie Rager	Accounting Award .....	Joseph Carnevali
Conemaugh Valley Detachment #287 Marine Corps League Scholarship .....	Summer Huffman	Biological Sciences Award .....	Joseph Carnevali
Ferndale Area Education Association Scholarship .....	Ashlyn Devlin	Computer Awards .....	Taylor Harrison Lindsay Olshewsky
Ferndale Lions Club Scholarship .....	Lindsay Olshewsky	Chemistry Award .....	Taylor Harrison
Drs. William and Nancy Grove Scholarship .....	Joseph Carnevali	Computer Programming Award .....	Jeremy Barber
Red Cross Making a Difference Educational Scholarship .....	Jeremy Barber	Family & Consumer Science Award .....	Ashlyn Devlin
Mount Aloysius Merit Scholarships .....	Taylor Harrison Summer Huffman Lindsay Olshewsky Kyllie Onkst Carrie Rager Lindsay Shay	Food Award .....	Vincent Reynolds
PA Academy of Cosmetology Scholarship .....	Samantha Persuhn	Mathematics Award .....	Scott Blasko
PASSHE Board of Governors' Award from IUP .....	Hannah Morris	Citizenship Awards .....	Jeremy Barber Scott Blasko Taylor Harrison Kennedy Hess
Penn Highlands' Board of Trustees Academic Scholarship .....	Vincent Reynolds	Valedictorian .....	Hannah Morris
Provost Achievement Award from Gannon University .....	Hannah Richards	Salutatorian .....	Allison Harrison
UPJ Presidential Scholarship .....	Scott Blasko Justin Hrabosky		
UPJ Achievement Scholarship .....	Cassandra Vivis		
Speicher Award .....	Isaiah Sajatovich		
Hamer Award .....	Tyler Geiser		
District VI Sportsmanship Awards .....	Joseph Carnevali Carrie Rager		
All-Conference Team			
Varsity Golf .....	Joseph Carnevali		
Varsity Volleyball .....	Carly Baumbaugh		
Varsity Football Awards .....	Levi Eisenhuth Isaiah Sajatovich		
Varsity Boys' Basketball Award .....	Rakwon Hinton		
Varsity Girls' Basketball Award .....	Kayla Ohler		
Varsity Baseball Awards .....	Taylor Kinsey Isaiah Sajatovich		
Varsity Softball Awards .....	Taylor Yuhas Cassandra Vivis		
Outstanding Male Athlete .....	Isaiah Sajatovich		
Outstanding Female Athlete .....	Cassandra Vivis		

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Ferndale Area School District is to be **“Big Enough To Challenge”** all students, but **“Small Enough to Care”** about each student. To accomplish this mission, the Ferndale Area School District will strive to provide a safe and nurturing environment for excellent teaching and learning experiences where students prepare for a life of continual learning, and acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to solve problems, communicate effectively and be a responsible citizen.

## Athletic Highlights

*Stephen Clawson, Athletic Director*

### FALL SPORTS

The Varsity Football team started this season with a new coaching staff led by Head Coach Chip Ryan. The team started out with 21 players and was quickly depleted down to as low as 13 players and finished the season with an 0-9 record. Every player should be proud of finishing the season. With all odds stacked against them, they fought to the end week in and week out. Isaiah Sajatovich led the team as a senior and was asked to play multiple positions, which he did an outstanding job in all of them. David Budash, a Junior standout who stayed in the weight room with Bradon Shawley all offseason, led the defense for the Yellow Jackets. Isaiah Sajatovich was selected to represent Ferndale Area in the 2014 Ken Lantzy game. The coaching staff is optimistic about the upcoming season and hope that many players come to summer workouts.

The Junior High Football team had its most successful season in quite some time. After going 0-8 last season, the team improved to a 5-3 record this season. The Jackets opened the season with a 14-0 win over rival Conemaugh Valley. We dropped our next two games, one was a last minute loss to North Star, but rebounded with wins against Shade and Meyersdale. Rockwood snapped the Jackets win streak at two with a last minute win at Rockwood. However, the Jackets showed their resiliency by posting two consecutive shut-out wins against Blacklick Valley and Windber. The team was led by 8<sup>th</sup> grade leadership on offense and defense. Quite a few 7<sup>th</sup> graders contributed to the successful season, too. Four of the five wins were shut outs. Ferndale Area outscored their opponents 140-76. The coaching staff is excited to build upon the success of this season.

The Varsity Volleyball team finished the season with an overall record of 12-6 and a JV record of 9-9. The team also qualified for Playoffs, losing to Portage in the 1<sup>st</sup> round. Carly Baumbaugh led the team with 147 Kills & 112 Blocks, Cassandra Vivis had 212 Assists, Carrie Rager had 141 Digs, Charis Biancuzzo Served at 97%, and Kayla Ohler had 43 Aces.

The 2013 Varsity Golf team finished the season with a winning record of 5-3. The team continued to make improvements throughout the season, and we are excited to compete this coming fall for a WestPAC championship. Jacket Golf will lose Seniors Joe Carnevali and Jacob Hoffman to graduation, but we are excited about the return of Zach Beneke, Cody Berkebile, Mike Hockensmith, Marshall Kurchak and Brady Plaza. The members of the team enjoy the sport and have a great admiration and respect for the game. We would like to thank the School Board and members of the Ferndale Area community for their commitment to this "life time" sport as we continue to make our school and community proud of the accomplishments of our student athletes.

The Jr. High Girls' Basketball team made major improvements over the past year. After ending the 2012-2013 season winless, the Lady Jackets worked extremely hard preparing for the 2013-2014 season. The girls ended the season with a record of 3-9. The team continued to work hard over the winter playing in the East Hills 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade league. The

girls were competitive in every game and finished with 5 wins. The team will continue to work hard over the summer and is looking forward to the 2014-2015 season. Coach Riffle and Coach Hauger are very proud of the girls' hard work and dedication.

The Varsity Cheerleaders were busy this year. While cheering on the football team and the boys and girls basketball teams, they have also been volunteering their time to many community service projects. The girls worked in the soup kitchen for the Salvation Army, they rang bells in the Galleria for the Red Kettle Drive, and they organized gifts for families helped by the toy drive. The girls worked hard to organize all three cheering squads for the community pep rally. Seniors Samantha Moss and Taylor Harrison organized the Pink Out game for Breast Cancer Awareness with funds being donated to The Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center. The girls also had the opportunity to attend a PITT game and cheer on the sidelines with the PITT cheerleaders.

The 2013-2014 Junior High Cheerleading season was an exciting year for the girls. Most of the girls on the squad were 7<sup>th</sup> graders this year and just starting with their high school sports experience. The girls cheered the Junior High Football team on to a winning season in the fall. They also cheered at the Jr. High Girls Basketball games. During the winter, they cheered the Junior High Boys Basketball team onto a winning season as well. The girls also participated in many charitable activities and helped out in the community over the 2013-2014 cheer season. Overall we had a fun and exciting season.

### WINTER SPORTS

This year's Varsity Boys' Basketball team finished with an overall record of 6-14. After losing 4 Seniors the previous year, this season was a rebuilding year for the Yellow Jackets. Rakwon Hinton finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the area in scoring with 23.5 PPG. According to Maxpreps, he led all Sophmores in the state of PA in scoring. Isaiah Sajatovich was selected to play in the Ameriserv All Star game and averaged 10.7 PPG.

The Girls Varsity Basketball team came into the year hoping to improve after last year. The team finished 5-16 for the 2013-14 season but came on strong at the end of the year. The team was led by Kayla Ohler who averaged 12.4 pts per game and 17.7 rebounds. Lindsay Olshewsky averaged 11.4 points per game. Kayla set a single game rebounding record with 38 rebounds in a home game victory against Blacklick Valley. For her career, Kayla also went over the 500 rebound mark and was also selected to the All Conference WestPAC team. All of the girls worked hard all season and finished strong.

The Boys Jr. High Basketball program posted a 10-2 record. The team consisted of 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders that performed well as a team. The team also participated in a summer league and 2 tournaments, doing well in both. The winning record reflected what the boys were capable of and each and every year the program continues to grow.

*(Continued on last page)*

Ferndale Area School District  
100 Dartmouth Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15905

Phone: 814-535-1507

Fax: 814-535-8527

We 're on the web!  
[www.fasdk12.org](http://www.fasdk12.org)

Mailing Label

*Athletic Highlights (Continued from page 11)*

For the first time in many years, the Yellow Jackets Hockey Club failed to make the playoffs. The season ended with a 4-16 record. Despite the disappointing record, the effort was always there. The 2013-2014 hockey team was a mix of players from different high schools. Other than Ferndale Area, we had players from Berlin, Bishop McCort, and Shade. Though this presents quite a challenge, it is always great to see players from many areas mesh together. The seniors, led by Scott Blasko, Tevin Stiles, and Aaron Walters, created another successful "Jess Ambroe" game. As in the years past, the game was well attended. It is always great to see the players and the school district rise to the occasion to stage the event. Statistically, the Jackets were led in scoring by Trey McGough who had 18 goals and 17 assists in the 20 games. Mike Hockensmith and Zach Beneke averaged a point per game. In goal, Marshall Kurchak had all 4 wins in his first year of Varsity Hockey.

Overall the Ferndale Middle School Hockey team did well this season posting a 6-8-2 record despite having a short bench. The team almost made playoffs, but fell short by one point. We are looking forward to next season as we are only losing two skaters, Adam Blasko and Dylan Valinsky, who will be moving to the Varsity level. Ferndale Area should be very proud of a great group of young men to represent the school.

**SPRING SPORTS**

The Varsity Baseball team finished the 2013-14 season with a 4-12 record. Taylor Kinsey led the team with a .396 batting average,

19 hits, and a .483 OBP. Isaiah Sajatovich led the team with 16 runs scored and 12 stolen bases. Trey McGough led the team with 14 RBI's on the season. Losing only 2 senior starters and with many returning players participating in various Summer baseball leagues, the coaching staff is very optimistic about improving our record next year.

The Softball team finished with a 7-10 regular season record. Taylor Yuhas led the team with a .390 batting average, 23 hits, and had 4 homeruns for the team this season. Taylor also chalked up all 7 wins for the Lady Jackets while accumulating 93 strikeouts along the way. Lindsay Olshewsky was second with a .339 batting average and 21 hits. The team also qualified for the District VI playoffs, appearing in a first round play-in game.

The Jr. High baseball team continued the success of last year's program with a 6-3 record behind strong hitting and pitching. The team continued to progress in learning the Major League style of playing baseball and showed great teamwork in the process.

The Junior High Volleyball team finished with a JV record of 6 - 9 and a Varsity record of 0-15. We had 5 returning girls from last season, so for most of the girls, this was their first time playing organized volleyball. As the season went on, they showed improvement in their skills and knowledge of the game. The girls are going to play in the Roxbury Volleyball League this summer, and we are looking forward to the 2014-2015 season.