



FOCUS ON FAIRLESS

Fall 2022

VOLUME 30 • ISSUE 1

Superintendent's Message

Happy Fall Fairless Ohio!

As this newsletter arrives at your home, we are in our eighth week of the school year. The leaves are changing colors, temperatures are dropping from the summer heat, and the daylight hours are decreasing. Some of our fall sports programs have already ended, such as golf, while others are in their last few scheduled meets or matches.

The district received their 21-22 Ohio Report Card. Our Fairless Team did not let the effects of the pandemic keep them from growing our students academically, they did not give up on themselves or their students. In many academic areas on the report card, we have exceeded our performance levels prior to the March 2020 shut down. As a district, we received 3 and 4 stars in every category, meeting or exceeding state standards. I am very proud of the staff and students of this district.

I know many of you have been watching the progression of the new high school. The brick veneer will soon be finished. Windows continue to be installed and entrance doors are soon to follow. The mechanicals: electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and fire suppression continue to advance, and are finished in some areas. The first step of interior painting, called block filler, is being applied in many parts of the building. On the front side of the building along 7th Street, sidewalks have been started, and the loop road in front of the building, has been cut in.

Even though we are making good progress on the building, the completion date has been moved to mid-May 2023. Most likely, we will not be finishing the school year in the new building.

The project has been battling labor shortages in

many of the contractor trades, at various times on this project. Ohio has so much construction going on across the state, the labor shortage in the trades is being magnified and causing many projects to fall behind. Most recently, concrete is now being rationed, impacting our job. Even though the completion date has been moved out a little, the excitement of opening a new high school for our students, staff and community is still SOARING high. The building is going to be amazing!

You will notice some group pictures of staff in this newsletter proudly wearing their new staff shirts. The message on the back of the shirts is S.O.A.R., meaning Safety, Ownership, Attitude and Respect. This is part of our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support program that has been implemented with our students to reinforce positive behaviors, reduce

challenging behaviors, create a positive school climate and increase academic performance. This program has been in place for a few school years, and we continue the work of enhancing it.

I wish you a fantastic fall, and thank you for reading our newsletter.

Sincerely
Broc Bidlack



Elementary School Cooks



High School Cooks



High School Staff



Middle School Cooks



Middle School Staff



Transportation



Elementary School Staff



Transportation



Visit Fairless Future Committee

For the most up-to-date Fairless Local Schools information,
visit our website at www.fairlesslocalschools.org



@FHSathletics for athletic information
@FairlessHS for high school information
@bab18231 for Fairless Superintendent

STAY CONNECTED

Fairless Local School District



(l to r): Treasurer Mark Phillips, Ken Killian, Charlie Snyder, Hope Hill, Jason Kirby, Jody Seward, and Superintendent Broc Bidlack.

Board of Education

Mr. Jason Kirby, President	330-879-9998
Dr. Jody Seward, Vice President	330-879-5080
Mrs. Hope Hill, Member	330-874-0425
Mr. Ken Killian, Member	330-705-1044
Mr. Charlie Snyder, Member	330-879-0004

District Office

11885 Navarre Rd, SW • Navarre, Ohio 44662
330-767-3577

Mr. Broc Bidlack	Superintendent
Mr. Mike Hearn	Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Mark Phillips	Treasurer
Mrs. Connie Horton	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Jamie Askren	Special Ed Director
Mrs. Julie Weyandt	Curriculum Director
Mrs. Julie Miller (330-767-7071)	Food Service Director
Mrs. Val Wiles (330-767-4259)	Transp. & Facility Director
Mr. Nate Held (330-767-7069)	Athletic Director

High School

11885 Navarre Road, S.W. • Navarre, Ohio 44662-9438
330-767-3444

Dr. Chad Merritt	Principal
Dr. Tammy Bixler-Zalesinsky	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Kelly Bailey	Secretary

Middle School

11836 Navarre Road, S.W. • Navarre, Ohio 44662
330-767-4293

Mrs. Cindy Class	Principal
Mrs. Brenda Jennings	Secretary

Elementary School

12000 Navarre Road, S.W. • Navarre, Ohio 44662
330-767-3913

Mrs. Lori Neuenschwander	Principal
Mr. Dan Nero	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Dawn Buckridge	Secretary

Fairless Local Schools, a nonprofit organization. News releases, story ideas, comments and suggestions should be addressed to [Focus On Fairless](#), Fairless Local Schools, 11885 Navarre Rd., S.W., Navarre, OH 44662-9438.

Fairless Local School District does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age or disability.

NEW STAFF

Rene Bloom

Middle School Cook

Residence: Brewster

HS Alma Mater/College: Fairless HS

Family: Husband Robert, daughters Barbara Reese, Lara Castillo, and Stefanie Webber, and eight grandkids

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I used to be very shy

Hobbies: Reading with my family, especially my grandkids.



Courtney Cearns

Fifth Grade Intervention

Residence: Canton

HS Alma Mater/College:

Malone University

Family: Parents, Paul and Diana, and brother Cameron

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I spent three weeks living and volunteering in Romania

Hobbies: Anything outdoors (hiking, kayaking, fishing, bonfires), reading, listening to music, and socializing!



Kyleen Leifer

Seventh Grade Reading

Residence: Navarre

HS Alma Mater/College:

The Ohio State University

Family: My mom was a teacher for over 30 years and just retired last school year, my dad is a retired maintenance worker for the USPS, and my older brother is a welder

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I completed two study-abroad courses in college, the first in Berlin, Germany and the second in Corfu and Athens, Greece

Hobbies: Gardening, cooking, running/biking, being outside, and playing with my dog and cats!



Kim Manack

Middle School Aide

Residence: Navarre

HS Alma Mater/College: Fairless HS

Family: Husband Jonah, children: Kameron (10), Karson (9), and Kutler (6)

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I attended middle school in the basement of Fairless HS

Hobbies: Watching my kids play sports, tending to my plants, and anything involving family and friends.



Colleen Matheny

Elementary Aide

Residence: Massillon

HS Alma Mater/College: Waynedale High School, currently attending Eastern Gateway Community College

Family: I am married, we have two precious doggos and we are close with both sides of our family

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I was attacked by a raccoon when I was five, I was forever traumatized by that. If you ask me, I'd love to share the details

Hobbies: I love to be outside, cooking or baking anything, reading books, walking my dogs, and traveling.



Nicole Mercer

EMIS Coordinator

Residence: Massillon (Tuslaw)

HS Alma Mater/College: Fairless HS

Family: Jon, Taylor, Madeleine, Chad, Nicole, and nine grandkids

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I have a cookbook collection (over 100)

Hobbies: Baking/cooking, golf, and reading.



Gayle Mizer

Elementary Cook

Residence: Beach City

HS Alma Mater/College: Fairless HS

Family: Two sons ages 23 and 20, and a daughter in fifth grade at Fairless Elem.

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I ride a dirt bike

Hobbies: Dirt bike riding and watching my daughter in her sports activities.



Ryan Murgatroyd

Ninth Language Arts, Football and Wrestling Coach

Residence: North Canton

HS Alma Mater/College: The University of Akron/Stark State College

Family: Ainsley Wilbur, fiancé

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I was a former host of a sports talk live show

Hobbies: Visiting National Parks, horror movies, and mountain biking.



Amanda Pyles

First Grade

Residence: Hartville

HS Alma Mater/College: Lake HS/ Wooster College

Family: I have three younger sisters

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I used to live in Florida

Hobbies: I love to read, do craft projects and spend time with family and friends.



District News

Stone Scott

Sixth Grade Science

Residence: Canton

HS Alma Mater/College: Port Clinton

HS/Bowling Green University

Family: Parents Scott and Mary Jo

Scott, and brother Beau

Students/Coworkers would be surprised

to know: I grew up in a city right on Lake Erie. My house was probably half a mile from the water. I participated in a lot of fishing and water sports growing up

Hobbies: Fishing, working out, and watching sports.



Leah Sorensen

First Grade Intervention Specialist

Residence: Canton

HS Alma Mater/College: Massillon

Washington HS/The University of Akron

Family: Fiancé Chris, parents, and many siblings

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I am currently planning a wedding

Hobbies: Organizing and cleaning, going on walks, exploring any/all local coffee shops, and meeting up with friends!



Dawn Seminatore

Media Specialist/Librarian

Residence: Canal Fulton

HS Alma Mater/College: Kent State

University

Family: one son, one daughter, both adults now

Students/Coworkers would be surprised

to know: I own a ferret

Hobbies: Crafting and reading (of course).



David Stuck

Seventh Grade Social Studies

Residence: Massillon

HS Alma Mater/College: Massillon

Washington HS/Ashland University

Family: Wife Stephanie (married eight years this October), son Dominick (two months old), dog Tango (9)

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I have a first degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do

Hobbies: Soccer, drawing, landscaping, reading, and the outdoors.



Brett Simmers

Middle and Elementary Schools Custodian

Residence: Beach City

HS Alma Mater/College: Dalton HS

Family: Trisha Simmers

Students/Coworkers would be surprised

to know: I retired from Lincoln Mfg. after 32yrs

Hobbies: Camping and four-wheeling.



Issac Weller

Assistant Bus Mechanic

Residence: Massillon

HS Alma Mater/College: R.G. Drage

Family: Parents Bryan and Carri, and sister Haley

Students/Coworkers would be surprised to know: I own multiple motorcycles

Hobbies: Riding motorcycles and fishing.



Adam Smith

Sixth Grade Intervention Specialist

Residence: Massillon

HS Alma Mater/College: The University of Akron

Family: Wife Katrina, two kids, Gabriel and Saylor

Students/Coworkers would be surprised

to know: I worked in corrections-based environments

Hobbies: Being a dad, golf - lots of golf.



John Williams

Elementary Custodian

Residence: Massillon

HS Alma Mater/College: Tuslaw HS

Family: Marsha Williams

Hobbies: Sports



HALL of HONOR Induction

Due to the pandemic, the Classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022 will be inducted together one ceremony at Fairless High School on November 4, 2022 at 1 pm. The inductees will then be celebrated at the Night of Hope gala event on November 5, 2022 at St. Clement Hall.

The Distinguished Fairless Falcon Award Committee exists to annually recognize outstanding

Fairless individuals that have achieved distinction in their lives and/or chosen fields after high school through significant contributions to their careers, communities, or personal achievements.

The purpose of the Hall of Honor is threefold:

1. Recognize and honor alumni, faculty, staff, non-graduates, and community members who have brought honor to the Fairless Local Schools.
2. To establish in the hearts of our youth a motivating influence to excel.
3. To foster pride, scholarship, preserve good sportsmanship, and citizenship in our school, city, and community.

Those who receive the Distinguished Fairless Falcon Award become members of the Fairless Hall of Honor.

The Class of 2020 Distinguished Fairless Falcons to be inducted into the Hall of Honor are: Greg Colaner and Dr. Casey Lucius.

Mr. Greg Colaner

Greg Colaner is a class of 1975 graduate of Fairless High School. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Education from Bowling Green State University in 1979 and a license to practice nursing home administration in 1983. Greg joined the Altercare company in 1986, where he served as the Administrator of Altercare Navarre. He held a succession of positions including president of Absolute Health Services and later assumed his role as president of Altercare in 2003. Greg has dedicated his career to the long-term care industry and has continued to serve Altercare by overseeing all aspects of operations for 25 rehabilitation and nursing care facilities across Ohio and Michigan. Greg has been steadfast in his support of the Fairless Local School District, and his roots have remained strong in our community as a Canton native. He is a past board member for the Stark County American Heart Association, Lincoln Healthcare Group, and Canton Central Catholic Schools. Colaner continues his support and community service with many organizations such as Alliance Area Development Board, Aultman College of Nursing Board and Mercy Development Foundation.

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High School News



Freshmen, the Class of 2026 This year our school year started with only freshmen attending school on the first day. Students learned about Fairless, Ohio from alumni and practiced their Year Cheer in a Freshmen only pep rally.

2022 Fall Sports

Our fall sports teams are up and running. All of our student athletes are growing and improving in their sport.



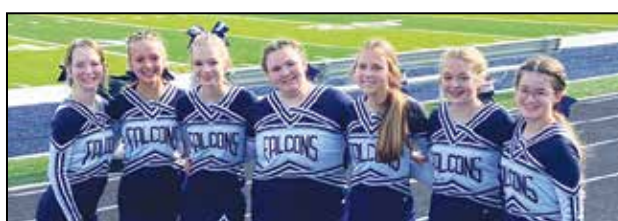
Varsity Volleyball



Junior Varsity Volleyball



Girls Cross Country



Junior Varsity Cheer



Girls Golf



Boys Soccer



Boys Cross Country



Football



First Pep Rally

Stark County Fair of Fairless Queens

Not just one, but two years in a row a Fairless student was named queen of the fair. The 2021 Stark County Fair Queen **Annabelle Ehmer** crowned the 2022 Stark County Fair Queen **Annabelle Kegley**. It is believed that it is not FAIRly common for two queens to have been from the same school with the same name.



High School News



Falcon Band Feels Complete

The beginning of the 2022-2023 school year has offered several opportunities for growth and success. In fact, the "Mighty Floq" has participated in several performances showcasing their hard work and dedication: Ohio State Fair, Stark County Fair, Eighth-Grade Band Night, Senior Recognition, football games, joint performance with the cheerleaders, joint performance with the alumni and fifth-grade bucket drummers, and the Northwest Band Show.

They also have several additional opportunities in upcoming performances:

Thursday, October 20, 2022	Spirit Parade	5:30 pm
	Pep Rally at HS	6:30 pm
Tuesday, October 25, 2022	Rock Brideweser at Brideweser Stadium.....	7:00 pm
Saturday, November 12, 2022	Navarre Christmas in Village	

We are also VERY excited to make the following additions to our organization:

Several accelerated eighth-grade musicians have been invited to join our marching roster. They have certainly risen to the task! We are very proud of their growth, and are excited for their future in FHS bands!

Finally, we are grateful for the support of our administration and school board, the artistic talents of **Abby Smith of Infinite Graphics and Progressive Auto of Massillon**. The band is traveling in style with the addition of our brand-new trailer and District Service Truck.



Hall of Honor Induction Continue from page 3

Dr. Casey Lucius, PhD

Casey (Miller) Lucius grew up in Brewster and graduated from Fairless High School in 1994. She attended Ashland University before joining the Navy in 1997. She was trained in Naval Intelligence and served on an aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf. In 2000, Casey earned a Master of Arts in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School and later earned a PhD in Political Science from the University of Hawaii. In 2005 Casey moved to Vietnam to work as the Operations Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi. Upon returning to the U.S. in 2009, she began teaching National Security Decision Making at the Naval War College in Monterey, CA. During this time, Casey served on the local City Council for four years and ran for the US Congress in 2016. She has also written two books on political decision-making and campaigns. In 2017 Casey and her family moved to Naples, FL where she is now working for the City of Marco Island. Casey is a member of the International City Managers Association and Women in Government Foundation. She is married to LCOL Robert Lucius, USMC (ret) and they have one son.

The Class of 2021 Distinguished Fairless Falcons to be inducted into the Hall of Honor are: Scott Burdge & Jane Williams.

Mr. Scott Burdge

Scott Burdge grew up in Brewster and is a 1980 graduate of Fairless High School. He also graduated from the two-year welding program at R. G. Drage. He obtained his Vocational Career license from Kent State University and has taught Welding and Metal Fabrication for 31 years at R. G. Drage Career Technical Center. Scott instills the three A's in his students - Attitude, Attendance, and Ability. Many of his students receive National Certifications before graduation, and 90% of his past students are employed by the welding industry. Scott is a CWI certified welding inspector and provides this service back to his students for free certifications. He serves on Labor Management and District Leadership Teams as well as the Student Learning Objective, Oil and Gas, and Alumni Committees. Scott volunteers to coordinate the Regional and State of Ohio Skills USA competitions and serves as a judge at these events. He sits on the National Visiting Committee as a representative through the National Science Foundation for WELD-ED and serves as the President of the Stark County Area Vocational Educators for R. G. Drage. Scott was nominated and selected by his peers to receive the 2016 Plummer Memorial Education Award, sponsored by the American Welding Society. Scott and his students have designed and fabricated many projects throughout the community, including the Falcon that graces the front of Fairless High School. Scott has been married to his wife, Sue, for 39 years. They have two children and eight grandchildren.

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Middle School News



Hello Week 2022

We held our Start with Hello Week (SWHW) early this year to coincide with the new school year, August 22-29. Each day had a different theme and project. Students wore leis and tropical attire on Aloha Day, posted "Hello" in different languages on a world map, and identified trusted adults and family members they can turn to and ways to reach out to classmates in need, just to name a few of the many activities. The purpose of SWHW is to empower students to recognize loneliness and social isolation in their peers, offering effective strategies to reach out and help, and ways they celebrate their diverse and inclusive community.

Eighth-graders "flocked together" to spread kindness and inspiration. Students picked a favorite quote to include on a feather. These falcon feathers are now lining the eighth-grade hallway, with the hope of encouraging kindness and community. As Blaise Pascal puts it, "Kind words do not cost much, yet they accomplish much."



Sixth Grade Orientation Day

Fairless Middle School held its first full-day sixth grade orientation on August 17, 2022. It was fun and informative for our incoming sixth graders. They were able to familiarize themselves with their teachers, classes, procedures, and the layout of the school, without the hustle and bustle of the seventh and eighth grade students being present. Students practiced opening their lockers, took a tour of the school, learned about 7 Mindsets and our new District-wide acronym, **S** (safety) **O** (ownership) **A** (accountability) **R** (respect).

FMS Student Council

Our FMS Student Council Members have been busy. In September, they helped elementary students make crafts. They have also helped Mr. Fogle with morning announcements.

Sixth Grade Dreams Big!

This month, students in the sixth-grade began the 7 Mindsets curriculum with the lesson "Dream Big." Students were encouraged to think about real jobs and careers that would bring them success and true happiness in life. Then, students had to envision how current decisions and actions connect to their future goals. Each student was given a sheet of paper to create a "Dream Board," using words or pictures to show their future. The papers were used to create a quilt showing all the students' dreams, and it was proudly displayed in the sixth-grade hallway.

Elementary News

Outdoor Classroom News!

First, our thanks to **Mrs. Best and her family** for all of the work they have done with our outdoor classroom this summer! We would also like to thank our custodial staff for putting the classroom tables together. Finally, a special thank you to community member, **Betsy Harrison** (Heavens to Betsy), for donating her time and talents making our Welcome sign!

Other additions to our classroom over the summer include:

- Stump seating by the pond
- Plexiglass wipe board
- Sound Wall
- Clay Ohio Installations made by previous fifth-grade students.



Hall of Honor Induction Continue from page 5

Ms. Jane Williams

Jane (Myers) Williams is a 1975 graduate of Fairless High School. In addition to being the starting center for the girls' basketball team, she began her career in the entertainment industry early as a Thespian Award Winner at Fairless. Jane attended the University of Tulsa, before heading to New York City in 1978. A 32-year member of IATSE, Jane has worked in the costume departments of over 35 movies and tv shows including *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, and *Godfather III*. A staple of Spike Lee's movies in the 90's, she wardrobe supervised *Malcolm X*, *Crooklyn* and *Clockers* for Oscar winner Ruth E. Carter. Jane is currently the founder/director of Morningside Theatre Company in Edina, MN, where she has taught the joy of theater to kids every summer, for the past 12 years.

The Class of 2022 Distinguished Fairless Falcons to be inducted into the Hall of Honor are: Dr. Davina Gosnell & Tim Stith.

Dr. Davina Gosnell

Davina Gosnell is a 1960 graduate of Brewster High School. She earned her diploma from the Massillon City School of Nursing, her BSN from the University of Pittsburgh, a Master's of Science and PhD of Nursing from the Ohio State University. She has had over 40 years of experience in nursing and has earned many honors. She served as the Dean of the College of Nursing at Kent State University and was a professor and founding director of Hiram College's Department of Nursing. During her career, she worked in foreign countries and was a consultant for the World Health Organization.

Mr. Tim Stith

Tim Stith served as a teacher in the Fairless Local School district for most of his career having served from 1973-1998 as a 6th grade teacher. He was a long-time Fairless Cross Country, Track and Field Coach who was instrumental in getting the district to install the 8-lane all-weather track. He was the head coach for the district's first individual state champion and coached a state championship runner up cross country team. He was Stark County Track Coach of the Year (1978), All-Ohio Cross Country Coach of the Year (1978), All-Ohio Track Coach of the Year (1979). Tim served as president of the Fairless Education Association and was highly regarded as a science teacher who served on curriculum committees at the local and state levels. Tim continues a lifetime of service as a member of many boards, is active as a cross country, track, and swimming referee for OHSAA.

Kindergarten



The kindergarten staff and students would like to thank **FES PTO** for purchasing t-shirts for the Class of 2035! The shirts were made by **Colucy's Farmstead Embroidery**. Our Falcons look great!



Miss Maggie's kindergarten class learned about the life cycle of a butterfly and got to watch the process with four caterpillars. We also learned about sequencing with the book, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle.



Book Vending Machine

Fairless Elementary would like to thank our **PTO** for helping us purchase a book vending machine. The staff will use the books to award students who are **SOARing** or making good choices. Students earn gold coins and then spend them to get a new book! We would also like to thank **Patty McGrath** and the **Massillon Public Library** for donating books.



First Grade

In first grade, we have been working on building math fluency by playing lots of fun new math games such as Penny Dice, Bunny Hop, and Top It. The classes also had a Math Exploration Day where students had the chance to explore math manipulatives using pattern blocks and geoboards.



Third Grade

The third-graders were sorted into their “houses” recently. The houses give students opportunities to work collaboratively on problem solving, and team building.



Second Grade

Our second-grade teachers and students are piloting a new phonics program this year called 95 Phonics Core Program, which is grounded in the science of reading. Students in the picture are using sound-spelling chips and boxes to learn about spelling patterns by first mapping the sounds, then spelling the words. We are SOARING readers!



Fourth Grade

Fourth-graders did some team building to start the year.



Fifth Grade

Fifth-grader **Khloe Fantone** recently entered herself and her teacher, **Mrs. Peters**, in a Back-to-School contest at **Dietrich Orthodontics**. Khloe received an Amazon gift card and Mrs. Peters received supplies for her classroom. Congratulations to these contest winners!!

Fifth-graders are learning about the scientific method in science class.

