

IN

An IN Community Magazine

Fox Chapel Area

2018-2019
FOX CHAPEL
AREA SCHOOL
DISTRICT
STATE OF
THE SCHOOLS

PAGE 8



Fall Festival Fever

PAGE 54

FOX CHAPEL AREA

School News



Fox Chapel Area School District

- 9 Message from the Superintendent
- 10 Highlights
- 12 New Kerr School Opens
- 13 Major Security Upgrades Take Effect
- 14 Student Achievement
- 18 Student Awards & Achievements
- 20 Fine Arts & Music Achievements
- 22 Science & Technology Recognitions
- 23 Staff Awards & Achievements
- 24 New DMS Schedule Developed
- 25 High School Recognized for Inclusion
- 26 Service to the Community
- 27 2018-2019 Fox Chapel Athletic Accomplishments
- 30 Fox Chapel Area High School Class of 2019



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Friends,

Just as this magazine is a look back on the past school year, I find myself reflecting upon the time I have spent at Fox Chapel Area as I enter my final year as the district's superintendent. Together, we have accomplished some amazing things. During the 2018-2019 school year alone:

- We built a new Kerr Elementary School.
- We established a schoolwide police force and implemented tools and initiatives to make this an even safer district.
- We developed a new schedule at Dorseyville Middle School that enables our students to spend a bit more time in the core subjects and to choose the electives they enjoy most.
- We continued to become even more inclusive as a school district, culminating in recognition by Special Olympics and ESPN.
- We celebrated our climb in both local and state rankings, including in the Pittsburgh Business Times and Niche.

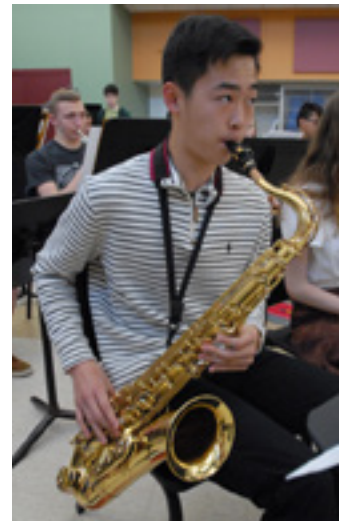
In addition to all these things, our students continue to excel in academics, arts and music, and athletics, and we continue to provide other activities for students to pursue other interests.

Truly, we have built something special together. We have taken this district and student achievement to new heights.

However, as we reflect upon the past, we also must look toward the future. As many of you know, I am retiring at the end of this school year. Over the next several months, the School Board will be working to name my successor. I expect that he or she will continue Fox Chapel Area's rich tradition of excellence. I know that this community expects nothing less.

Sincerely,

Gene Freeman, Ed.D.
Superintendent



HIGHLIGHTS



- Once again, the Fox Chapel Area School District climbed in the Pittsburgh Business Times rankings in its Guide to Southwestern Pennsylvania Schools, published in the spring of 2019. In 2019, the district ranked number two in Southwestern Pennsylvania (up two places from 2018) and fifth (up three places from 2018) in the state. The 11th grade was ranked number four, eighth grade was ranked fifth, seventh grade was ranked sixth, and sixth grade was ranked sixth in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The districtwide fifth-grade ranking was fourth, the fourth-grade ranking was third, and the third-grade ranking was number one. The annual Pittsburgh Business Times' school guide ranks the 102 school districts in the region and the 493 districts in the state based on scores from the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) and Keystone Exams. Fox Chapel Area has consistently ranked among the top-performing schools on the list since the rankings were first published in 2005. Additionally, the Pittsburgh Business Times ranked Fox Chapel Area High School number five in Southwestern Pennsylvania based on both the 2018 SAT and ACT scores.

- In the 2019 Niche rankings, Fox Chapel Area continued to rank among the best school districts in the country. The district received its fourth consecutive

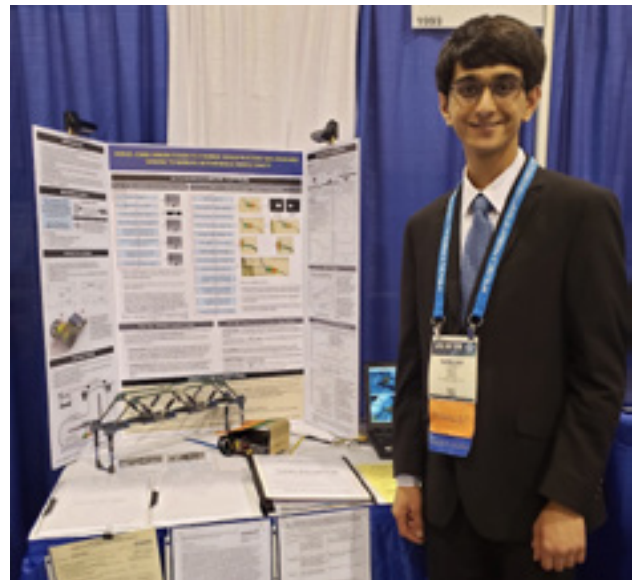


overall A+ grade and was ranked one of the top 10 school districts in the state. The district also placed in the top 2% of districts in the nation in the categories of Best School Districts, Districts with the Best Teachers, Best Places to Teach, and Safest School Districts.

- High school junior Rajeev Godse received a perfect score on the Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics Exam. He was one of two students in the world to receive a perfect score. Globally, 222,501 students took the exam.
- A total of 26 high school seniors were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program. Justin Breen, Theresa Heidenreich, Rachel Himmel, Elizabeth Kaslewicz, Zachary Lakkis, Mitchell Miles, Annika Urban, Gina Wang, Landon Williams, and Ziya Xu were named 2019 National Merit Finalists, and Arnav Gupta was named a Semifinalist. The following 15 students were Commended: Vaishavi Agrawal, Abigail Baldauf, Benjamin Cagan, Steven Cano, Kristen Friday, Marissa Hardiman, Sanjana Harish, Cara Himmel, Jayanth Kashyap, Trevor Klatt, Eric Moore, Jared Nord, Robert Shymansky, Benjamin Weiss, and Chloe Yofan.
- Sophomore Sanjay Seshan was named one of four overall winners at the Covestro Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair and qualified to participate in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, which is the Olympics of student science competitions. The international competition was held in May in Phoenix.



- Sophomore Jacques Moyer was selected as a winner in the 2019 Disney Dreamers Academy Essay Contest. As a winner, Jacques received an all-expense-paid trip to the Disney Dreamers Academy at the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida in March. A total of 100 high school students were selected for the Academy, which is a four-day event where students are inspired, motivated, and prepared to dream big.
- Fairview was the top-performing elementary school in the state for the 2017-2018 school year based on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) grades three-five scores.
- Fox Chapel Area High School student Hannah Petrucelli was chosen to be a part of a national advertising campaign for Aerie. Hannah, a senior, is featured in the campaign, which promotes Special Olympics, positive body images, and celebrating differences. The campaign also features Olympic gymnast Aly Raisman and #AerieREAL role model Iskra Lawrence. The #AerieREAL campaign uses unretouched ads and encourages women to embrace their power and positivity. Hannah is a member of the high school's Best Buddies Club and is also a sprinter on the Unified Track & Field Team.
- The Fox Chapel Area School District was named an ALICE Certified Organization for the 2018-2019 school year, which means that the district "has successfully met the requirements of the ALICE Training Institute's Certified Organization program, in active shooter response preparedness. ..." The district is one of several dozen organizations in the nation to earn the certification. ALICE, an active shooter response program, stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate.





NEW KERR SCHOOL OPENS

After more than a year of construction, the new Kerr Elementary School opened its doors to students at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year. The school was built on the same property as the former school, and construction began in June of 2018. The new school features innovative learning spaces where students can gather to work on projects, conduct research, collaborate, and plan. This includes a collaboratory that houses the library, a makerspace, a SMALLab learning space, and a computer science robotics lab. The new Kerr also hosts the district's new Pre-Kindergarten program, as well as the new Spanish Immersion pilot program. The cost of the school was approximately \$21.5 million.



Administrators and teachers spent the 2018-2019 school year planning for the full-day Pre-Kindergarten program and the Spanish Immersion program. Both were implemented at Kerr for the 2019-2020 school year.

The Pre-Kindergarten program is for 4-year-olds and is aimed at preparing young learners for school. The five-day-a-week schedule

is designed to promote positive approaches to learning, including a supportive classroom environment; strengthening social, emotional, and behavioral skills; and working collaboratively with families. Children enrolled in the program are required to meet income eligibility requirements.

The Spanish Immersion program is offered to a class of first-graders at Kerr, and the class has 25 students from across the district. The students spend the majority of their school day listening, speaking, and learning core subjects in Spanish. Once the first-graders enrolled in the initial Spanish Immersion class become second-graders, a new first-grade class will begin, and, eventually, the program will be offered to first- through fifth-graders. The program is the first of its kind in Western Pennsylvania.



MAJOR SECURITY UPGRADES TAKE EFFECT

The Fox Chapel Area School District emphasized the safety and security of students and staff during the 2018-2019 school year. Several new safety initiatives were launched, the most important being the creation of a school district police force.

Joseph Kozarian, a 15-year veteran of law enforcement, assumed the newly created role of Fox Chapel Area's safety and security coordinator in October 2018. Mr. Kozarian oversees the school police force, which has an armed officer in each of the district's six buildings. All officers are retired federal agents; state, municipal, or military police; or sheriffs.

According to Mr. Kozarian, keeping students and staff safe is the officers' main priority. But, another big part of the role is developing relationships and building trust with the students, which he says is one of the main deterrents of crime.

"Our school resource officers have worked really hard to get to know the students in each of their schools," he said. "They have exceeded my expectations, because it normally takes two to four years to build a relationship with students, and our officers did it in less than a year. They are getting a great response out of the students, and the officers are bridging the gap between youths and law enforcement."

Mr. Kozarian and the officers also helped facilitate safety drills at the district's schools and worked throughout the year to develop relationships with local law enforcement, fire departments, and emergency medical services personnel. Mr. Kozarian is the only Basic and Advanced National Association of School Resource Officers instructor in Pennsylvania and is an ALICE instructor. He's also a Certified Physical Security Specialist through the Department of Homeland Security and is just one of a few people in the state qualified by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to perform security assessments on schools.

Also during the 2018-2019 school year, the district implemented the Ruvna crisis communication tool. Ruvna, a replacement for paper and clipboard rosters, works in conjunction with Fox Chapel Area's student information system to enable staff members to



account for each and every student. Ruvna keeps track of students in the event of a drill or actual emergency, facilitates faculty interaction, and dispatches help immediately to students or staff members who require assistance. It also provides messaging capability and access to resources such as the district's safety plan and building floor plans. The implementation of Ruvna was made possible through a \$25,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

The Raptor Visitor Management system was also implemented throughout the district. In addition to offering instant sex offender screenings, checking school visitors against databases for custody alerts and banned visitors, and keeping accurate records for every visitor who enters a school, the district's clearances for volunteers are run through the Raptor system. More than 2,300 visitors were screened from January-June 2019.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The overall Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) scores for Fox Chapel Area School District students have risen incrementally during the past five years. The PSSA was first aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards in 2015. That same year, the district began to use a comprehensive benchmarking and response-to-data process for students in kindergarten through grade 11 in math, English Language Arts (ELA), and science. Students are assessed several times a year to identify strengths, as well as areas that need improvement. This data allows teachers to customize student learning opportunities and guides their planning and instruction. Teachers continue to receive training in the use of data from benchmark and classroom-based assessments.

Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments administered in Algebra I, literature, and biology. Fox Chapel Area students demonstrate high achievement levels on the keystones and continue to rank among the top schools in the region and state.

The following pages are an overview of not just the 2019 student achievement results, but a comparison since 2015.



- The PSSA ELA assessment encompasses reading, writing, and language arts.
- Students in grades three-eight take the ELA and math assessments.
- Students in grades four and eight also take a science assessment.
- Students are rated as Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic based on their display of grade-level skills. Fox Chapel Area students always score above the state averages.

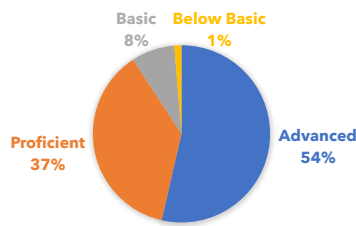
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADES 3-5 - 2015



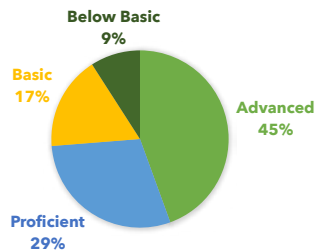
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADES 3-5 - 2019



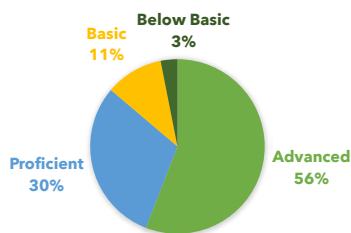
MATH

GRADES 3-5 - 2015



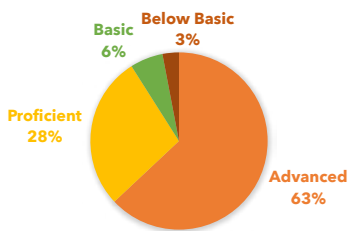
MATH

GRADES 3-5 - 2019



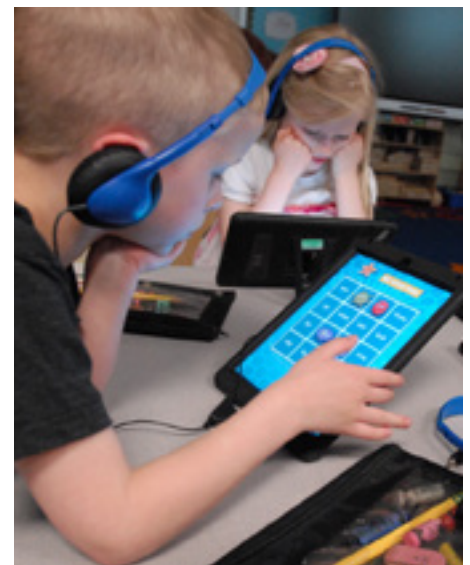
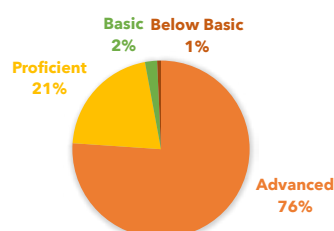
SCIENCE

GRADE 4 - 2015



SCIENCE

GRADE 4 - 2019



ELEMENTARY PSSA RESULTS COMPARISON BY BUILDING

	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
	Math	Math	ELA	ELA	Science*	Science*
Fairview Elementary Grades 3-5	87.5%	94.2%	94.1%	96.8%	98.6%	100%
Hartwood Elementary Grades 3-5	72.4%	83.4%	81.4%	91.2%	89.8%	93.2%
Kerr Elementary Grades 3-5	58.3%	79.5%	70.5%	83.3%	90.6%	96.4%
O'Hara Elementary Grades 3-5	78.6%	87.0%	86.9%	91.5%	87.5%	98.0%
State Averages Grades 3-5	45.2%	48.3%	60.8%	61.3%	77.3%	77.8%

% = Percent scoring advanced and proficient, ELA = English Language Arts

*Science is only tested at grade four.

DISTRICT ELEMENTARY 2015-2019 PSSA MATH/ELA/SCIENCE SCORES COMPARISON

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
3rd Grade Math	82.0%	85.6%	88.4%	91.0%	92.0%
3rd Grade ELA	88.0%	86.6%	90.3%	93.4%	92.0%
4th Grade Math	70.5%	75.8%	81.0%	81.6%	85.0%
4th Grade ELA	80.3%	83.4%	88.0%	87.9%	92.1%
4th Grade Science*	90.8%	91.8%	95.3%	95.7%	97.0%
5th Grade Math	72.3%	71.2%	78.6%	83.4%	82.8%
5th Grade ELA	82.8%	83.8%	86.1%	88.7%	87.9%

% = Percent scoring advanced and proficient, ELA = English Language Arts

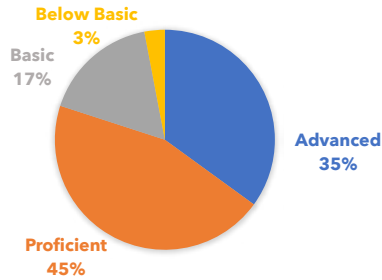
*Science is only tested at grade four.

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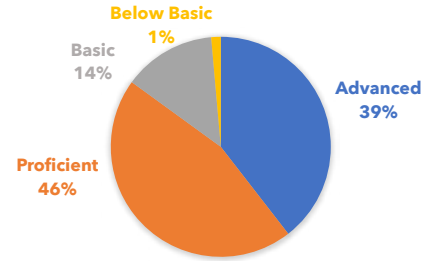
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADES 6-8 - 2015



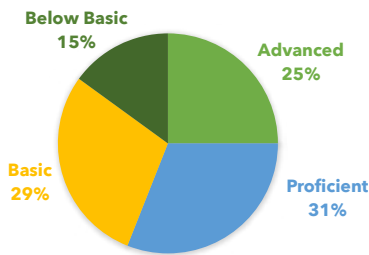
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADES 6-8 - 2019



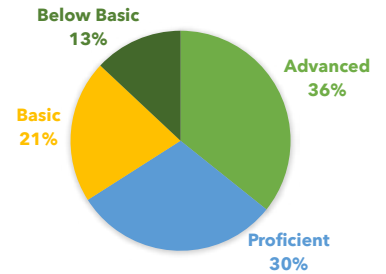
MATH

GRADES 6-8 - 2015



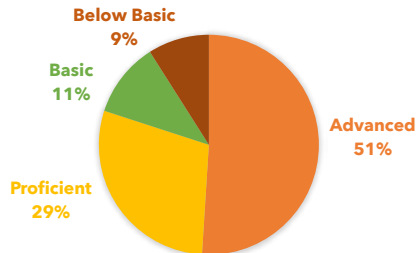
MATH

GRADES 6-8 - 2019



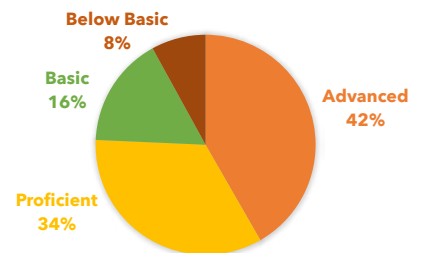
SCIENCE

GRADES 8 - 2015



SCIENCE

GRADES 8 - 2019



MIDDLE SCHOOL PSSA RESULTS COMPARISON

	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
	Math	Math	ELA	ELA	Science*	Science*
DMS Grades 6-8	57.0%	65.9%	80.8%	85.0%	79.9%	76.6%
State Averages Grades 6-8	34.1%	36.5%	59.1%	60.5%	58.8%	58.2%
% = Percent scoring advanced and proficient; ELA = English Language Arts						
*Science is only tested at grade eight.						

MIDDLE SCHOOL 2015-2019 PSSA MATH/ELA/SCIENCE SCORES COMPARISON

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
6 th Grade Math	59.9%	69.3%	57.2%	67.9%	68.4%
6 th Grade ELA	80.6%	81.6%	83.1%	84.9%	88.7%
7 th Grade Math	53.3%	60.9%	67.0%	68.4%	69.4%
7 th Grade ELA	77.8%	87.5%	85.2%	87.0%	82.9%
8 th Grade Math	58.3%	60.5%	66.1%	67.4%	62.1%
8 th Grade ELA	84.4%	81.0%	86.7%	87.0%	83.0%
8 th Grade Science*	79.9%	78.5%	79.0%	78.6%	76.6%
% = Percent scoring advanced and proficient; ELA = English Language Arts					
*Science is only tested at grade eight.					



HIGH SCHOOL KEYSTONE EXAM RESULTS COMPARISON

	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
	Algebra I	Algebra I	Literature	Literature	Biology	Biology
High School (Grade 11)	88.0%	89.6%	89.0%	90.4%	78.0%	90.1%

% = Percent scoring advanced and proficient

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments administered at various grade levels and the results are banked until the students' junior year for accountability purposes. Fox Chapel Area students continue to score well above state averages in all three subject areas assessed.



2019 SENIOR YEAR SAT MEAN SCORES

	Fox Chapel Area	National
ERW	608	536
Math	616	531

ERW = Evidence-Based Reading & Writing

A total of 258 members (78 percent) of the 329 students in the Class of 2019 took the SAT during their junior or senior year. Fox Chapel Area High School students have outscored the state and nation on the SAT in all subject areas for many years.

FOX CHAPEL AREA HIGH SCHOOL 2019 AP TEST RESULTS

Total AP Students	Total AP Tests Taken	Tests Scored 3+
339	714	665

The high school offered 26 Advanced Placement (AP) courses during the 2018-2019 school year, and many students take multiple courses. Success on an AP exam is defined as a score of 3 or higher, which represents the score point that research finds predictive of college success and college graduation. Nearly 95 percent of Fox Chapel Area students scored 3 or higher.





STUDENT AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- A total of 165 Fox Chapel Area High School students were named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board for demonstrating college-level achievement on the AP exams. Seniors Vaishavi Agrawal, Daniel Andrud, Abigail Baldauf, Arnav Gupta, Marissa Hardiman, Theresa Heidenreich, Rachel Himmel, Jayanth Kashyap, Elizabeth Kaslewicz, Zachary Lakkis, Tristan McClelland, Mitchell Miles, Ryan Setzenfand, Annika Urban, Ziya Xu, and Chloe Yofan, and juniors J. Oliver Choo, Rajeev Godse, Noah Hertzman, Sina Shaikh, and Aaron Wu all qualified for the National AP Scholar award.
- Several high school students won awards in forensic competitions. Senior Vaishavi Agrawal, juniors Hanna Chen and Rajeev Godse, and sophomore Jackson Romero qualified to participate in the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Championship Tournament, and Rajeev and Jackson finished in the top eight in the nation. Additionally, nine high school students qualified for the Pennsylvania High School Speech League State Championship Tournament, and four students placed among the top four in various categories in the state.
- High school senior Elizabeth Kaslewicz was named a candidate in the 2019 United States Presidential Scholars Program.
- Thirty-seven Fox Chapel Area High School students placed in the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Regional Leadership Conference and qualified for the state competition. Eleven students went on to place at the state level, and three sophomores, Allison Carey, Kaylee Werner, and Zoey Zoschg, qualified for the national conference.
- Fox Chapel Area High School's 2017-2018 literary arts magazine, "Tapestry," was named a first-place winner in the magazine portion of the 2018 American Scholastic Press Association's Annual Review and Contest.



- Four students earned medals at the 2019 PENN HOSA-Future Health Professionals State Leadership Conference, and seniors Vaishavi Agrawal, Gina Wang, and Rachel Himmel, and junior Jenna Tupponce qualified for international competition.

- Seniors Lauren Copeland, Alaina Kotchey, and Adina Munin were named winners in C-SPAN's 2019 StudentCam competition.

- High school sophomores Michael VanDemark and Victor Yang were among the highest scoring teams at the 2019 National Kidwind Challenge. The pair designed and built a wind turbine using a 3D printer.

- High school junior Paige Asbury was named a winner in the Nancy Thorp Poetry Contest.

- Junior William Generett received a Certificate of Accomplishment as part of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations.

- Three high school seniors placed in the regional Draw the Lines PA spring mapping competition, and Rachel Himmel advanced to the state level.

- Two A.W. Beattie Career Center culinary arts and Fox Chapel Area High School students placed at state competitions. Junior Max Austin won a silver medal at the Pennsylvania Association of Family Career and Community Leaders of America State Leadership Conference. Sophomore Ashton Monroe placed seventh at SkillsUSA Pennsylvania.

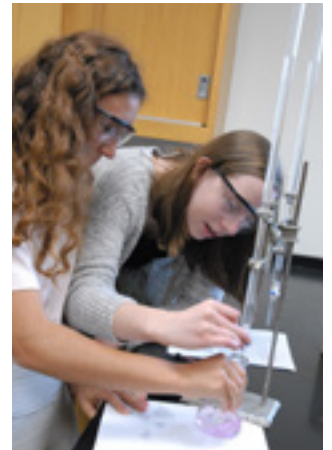
- High school junior Grace Han placed in the FBI Pittsburgh's 2018-19 HOPE (Heroin Outreach Prevention and Education) PSA Contest.

- Junior Gwendolyn Davison won a Gold Key in the Pittsburgh Regional Scholastic Writing Awards 2019 competition and qualified for nationals.

- Several high school students won awards in Model UN competitions throughout the school year. These competitions often include students from several states.

- Fourteen high school students placed in the Three Rivers German Day Competition.

- High school senior Jordan Jackson was selected as a winner in the City Theatre's Annual EQT Young Playwrights Contest. Jordan's play will receive a professional production during the EQT Young Playwrights Festival in the fall of 2019.





FINE ARTS & MUSIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Fox Chapel Area School District was named among the 2019 Best Communities for Music Education. This is the eighth year in a row that the district received this prestigious designation. Fox Chapel Area was one of 92 school districts in Pennsylvania and one of 623 in the nation chosen for this honor, which recognizes outstanding commitment to music education.
- Senior Michela Nicholas and junior Anzu Sekikawa were named national Gold Medal winners in The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 2019. Michela received a Gold Medal for her digital art, and Anzu won a Gold Medal for her drawing and illustration. Additionally, senior Seo Yeon "Christina" Wang won three Silver Medals, and juniors Anzu and Amelia Bothe also won Silver Medals. Only the top 1% were recognized nationally. Fox Chapel Area High School Gold Key winners in the Pittsburgh Arts Region of the Scholastic Art Awards of 2019 were seniors Rachel Himmel, Michela Nicholas, Sofia Porter Bacon, Chelsea Taylor, and Seo Yeon "Christina" Wang; juniors Amelia Bothe, Alyssa Mattheis, Anzu Sekikawa, and Alexis Vivino; and sophomore Jessica McCann. All regional Gold Key winners qualify for nationals.
- Fox Chapel Area High School junior cello player Noah Hertzman was selected to perform as part of Music for All's 2019 Honor Orchestra of America. Honor Orchestra of America members represented 56 high schools in 23 states. The orchestra is recognized as one of the finest scholastic ensembles in the nation.
- Seniors Hannah Kim and Glenna Van Dyke, and junior Jacob Rendall were selected to perform with the 2019 National Association for Music Education (NAfME) All-Eastern Honors Band. The band was made up of the top student musicians from the East Coast.
- Senior Jeremy Platt was selected to perform with the 2019 NAfME All-East Chorus. The chorus features top singers from the Northeastern United States.
- Five Fox Chapel Area High School students were selected by audition to perform with 2019 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) all-state music ensembles. Senior Megan Hayes was selected to perform with the PMEA All-State Wind Ensemble. Senior Alexander Perez and sophomore Joey Wang were selected to perform with the PMEA All-State Concert Band. Noah Hertzman and Chaehyun "Cuna" Kim were chosen for the PMEA All-State Orchestra.
- Eight high school students were chosen by audition to perform with the PMEA Region I Honors Band, four were chosen to perform with the PMEA District 1 Honors Jazz Ensemble, and 10 were chosen to perform with the PMEA District 1 Band East.
- Four high school students were selected to perform with PMEA Region I Chorus, and 10 were chosen for the PMEA District 1 Chorus.
- Several Fox Chapel Area High School students were selected to perform with PMEA orchestras. Six students performed with the 2019 PMEA Western Region State Orchestra, 11 were selected for the 2019 PMEA District 1 Orchestra, and 18 were chosen for the 2018 PMEA District 1 Honors String Orchestra.





- Five Fox Chapel Area School District elementary students were selected to perform at the PMEA District 1 Elementary String Festival. The students who participated were Fairview Elementary School fifth-graders Xing Carlough and Simon Littwin, and O'Hara Elementary School fifth-graders Gigi Mettenburg, Zehra Ozkaya, and Katie Siddons.

- The Dorseyville Middle School Honors Band earned first place at a Music in the Parks Festival in Sandusky, Ohio. The band also earned a rating of "Superior," which is the highest rating possible, and received the Best Overall Jr. High/Middle School Band award for obtaining the highest score in the competition.

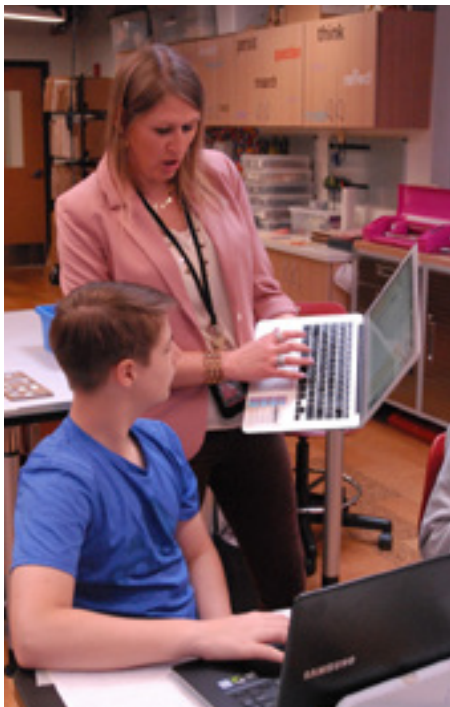
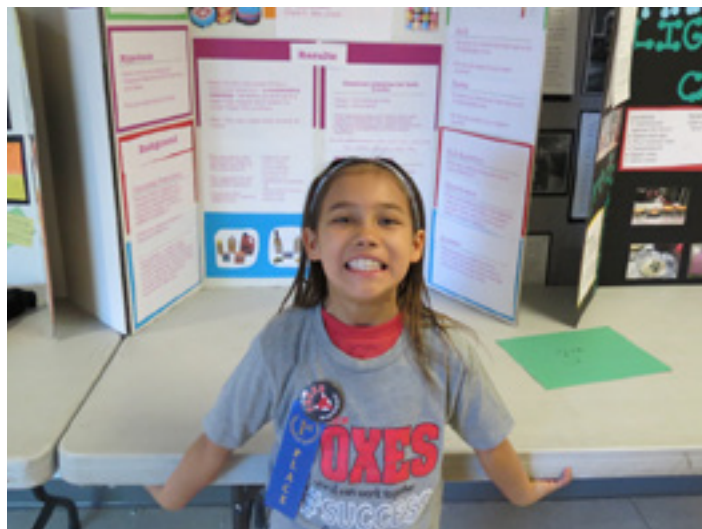
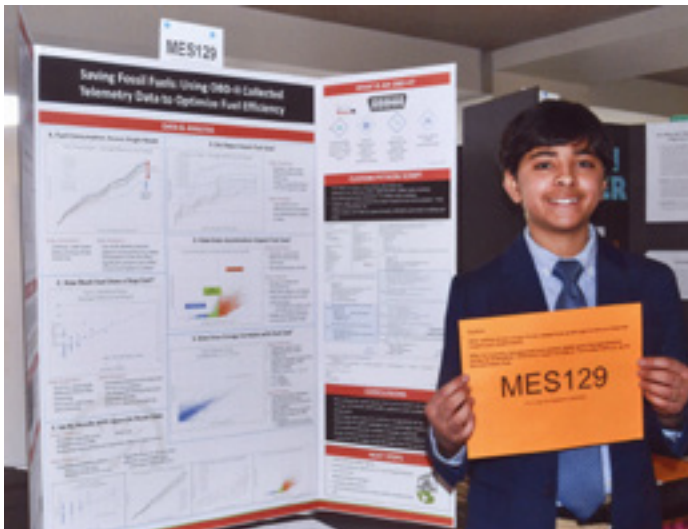


- The Dorseyville Middle School Girls Chamber Chorus and the DMS FoxTones performed both independently and together as the DMS Mixed Choir at a Music in the Parks Festival in Bowie, Maryland. The Mixed Choir took first place and was rated "Excellent," the second highest rating. The DMS Girls Chamber Chorus also placed first, earned the highest rating of "Superior," and received the best Overall Jr. High/Middle School Choir award. The DMS FoxTones earned a first place and a rating of "Superior." Additionally, the DMS groups were the only choirs, in both the middle school and high school divisions, to receive "Superior" ratings.

- The Dorseyville Middle School Philharmonic and Sinfonia orchestras placed at a Music in the Parks Festival near Cincinnati. The Philharmonic placed first in its division with a "Superior" rating and won first-place overall orchestra. The Sinfonia also placed first in its division with a "Superior" rating. Additionally, DMS seventh-grader Mia Costello won the Outstanding Instrumental Soloist Award, the first time a Dorseyville Middle School student has ever won this prestigious designation.

- Fox Chapel Area High School junior J. Oliver Choo was selected as one of the winners of the 2019 Young Artists Auditions sponsored by the Pittsburgh Concert Society.





SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY RECOGNITIONS

- Dorseyville Middle School eighth-grader Arvind Seshan was named among the Top 300 middle school innovators in the ninth annual Broadcom MASTERS – the nation's premier Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) competition for middle school students. The Top 300 students were selected from more than 2,300 applicants.
- Junior Rajeev Godse and eighth-grader Arvind Seshan won first place at the Covestro Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair. Twelve other students also won awards, and Arvind and seventh-grader Adhitya Thirumala were nominated for Broadcom MASTERS.
- Sophomore Amulya Garimella and freshman Janise Kim were selected as honorable mention recipients of the 2019 National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) Award for Aspirations in Computing. They were two of 400 winners chosen from across the nation. The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing recognizes young women for their achievements in computing, leadership, and academics.
- Twelve students won first-place awards at the 85th Annual State Meeting of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS). They are juniors Rajeev Godse, Zeynep Ozkaya, and Ameya Velankar; sophomores Catherine Heidenreich, Anthony Nguyen, Vinisha Sant, and Sanjay Seshan; freshmen Mona Gerges, Janise Kim, and Zoe Lakkis; eighth-grader Arvind Seshan; and seventh-grader Adhitya Thirumala. Fifteen qualified for the state competition.
- A team of high school students won first place in the 2019 Allegheny County Envirothon. The team members also qualified for the state competition.
- A team of Dorseyville Middle School students placed at the 2019 Western Pennsylvania Science Bowl. The team included eighth-graders Elijah Conklin, Ananth Kashyap, and Arvind Seshan; seventh-grader Adhitya Thirumala; and sixth-grader Murugan Ayyanar.
- Fox Chapel Area School District's mobile Fab Lab was featured in "Space to Learn," a publication by Remake Learning.

STAFF AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ashley Constantine, Ed.D., the district's executive director of elementary education and instruction, was the first-ever recipient of the Dr. Jean E. Winsand Emerging Woman in Education Award in March. The commendation is given by the Tri-State Area School Study Council and honors an exemplary emerging educational leader.

- Fox Chapel Area's online learning coordinator, Stephanie Reilly, was named the winner of the 2019 Carnegie Science Center's High School Educator Award. Mrs. Reilly, who joined Fox Chapel Area in January 2019, previously was a math and science teacher at Plum High School. Mrs. Reilly helped to establish an annual STEAM Playground at Plum. She also organized STEAM camps for teachers and girls in grades five through eight. Additionally, in April, Mrs. Reilly was awarded the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) Aspirations in Computing Educator Award for Central and Western Pennsylvania. The NCWIT award is given to educators who demonstrate a commitment to encouraging young women's aspirations in computing.

- Fox Chapel Area High School multimedia teacher Ryan Devlin received the inaugural Young Alumni Award from Waynesburg University. The newly created award is presented to an alumnus younger than 35 for his or her accomplishments and service, by having distinguished himself or herself as a leader among his or her peers and in his or her profession, community, and/or the university.

- The Fox Chapel Area School District won national and state awards in publications contests. The district won an award of merit and an honorable mention for the IN Fox Chapel Area Community Magazine in the National School Public Relations Association 2019 contest. The district won two awards of honor in the 2018 Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association communications contest for the IN Fox Chapel Area Community Magazine. The winning publications were coordinated by Bonnie Berzonski, the district's coordinator of communications, and by Jill Leonard, the district's community engagement specialist.

- Kerr Elementary School RtII facilitator Carrie Ferguson was inducted into the Pitt-Johnstown Athletics Hall of Fame in April. Ms. Ferguson, a 1991 graduate of Pitt-Johnstown, played women's basketball for the university from 1987-1991. She was a member of two NCAA Tournament teams, including a team that won a regional title in 1987-1988.

- Kerr Elementary School computer science teacher Stan Strzempek was selected as a Keystones: Technology Innovator. Pennsylvania teachers are chosen for this award for using technology in creative ways to engage learners and improve student performance.



NEW DMS SCHEDULE DEVELOPED

Starting in the 2019-2020 school year, DMS students are spending more instructional time in the core subject areas.

According to Dorseyville Middle School Principal Jonathan Nauhaus, the middle school schedule had not changed in many years, and an upgrade was necessary to give students the best education possible.

"The change was imperative for several reasons, including increased rigor in the Pennsylvania Core Standards and students needing more experience with skills such as collaboration, problem-solving, and creative thinking," he said. "But we knew that it was important for students to continue to be exposed to the arts and other elective offerings."

The process of changing the schedule involved parents, administrators, and teachers. Planning included a survey, as well as the development of model schedules. The district also held public meetings about the schedule throughout the process to keep everyone informed. The final schedule was the consensus of all stakeholder groups.

Several priorities were set for the development of the new schedule. It was understood that the program must be unique to the needs of the middle school learner and the middle school philosophy, including built-in academic and emotional supports, an increase in class time for core subjects, and maintaining strong connections between students and staff. Additionally, the schedule needed to preserve a wide exposure to the arts and also offer other experiences to help students develop additional academic interests.



The schedule runs on a quarterly six-day cycle and includes a 34-minute morning homebase and 60 minutes each for the core classes of English language arts/literacy, math, science, and social studies. It also includes time for physical education, music, world languages, art, technology education, computer science, health, and family and consumer sciences. Eighth-graders also have the opportunity to further study electives, and classes were added in computer science and music. Additionally, the schedule allows for later lunch periods, the study of four languages (Spanish, French, German, and Latin) in sixth grade, and a Level I world language option in grade seven.



HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNIZED FOR INCLUSION

Fox Chapel Area High School was selected as a 2019 National Banner Unified Champion School by Special Olympics. This prestigious honor is given by the international headquarters of Special Olympics to a small number of schools that demonstrate a commitment to meaningful inclusion and Unified Champion Schools programming. These schools demonstrate a commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 standards of excellence. Those standards are centered around inclusion, acceptance, and respect, and were developed by Special Olympics and educators.

Approximately 125 schools throughout the country were honored with this recognition for 2019, and only two are from Pennsylvania. Fox Chapel Area High School is the first school in Allegheny County to receive this designation.



According to the President and CEO of Special Olympics Pennsylvania, Matthew Aaron, the recognition is a "testament of what each of you, the coaches, staff, and your students, do in your school community every day. ... Your high school has an enriching and nurturing climate which exudes a sense of collaboration, engagement, and respect for all members of the student body and staff."



Additionally, Fox Chapel Area High School was named to the Special Olympics – ESPN Honor Roll for 2019. This is a list of the top 34 schools from across the country, chosen as part of ESPN's Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools National Recognition Program.

According to Fox Chapel Area School District's Director of Special Education and Pupil Services Tim Mahoney, the award is a tribute to the entire school community.

"I am so incredibly excited and proud of this designation," he said. "This is another example of how inclusive our students, staff, and community are, and how collaboration enables us to provide the best experiences for our Fox Chapel Area families."

Of note, Fox Chapel Area is the first high school in Allegheny County to have a Unified Track & Field team, which was established during the 2018-2019 school year. The high school also has had a Unified Bocce team since the 2017-2018 school year. These teams include students with and without disabilities, and these athletes work side-by-side in both training and competition.

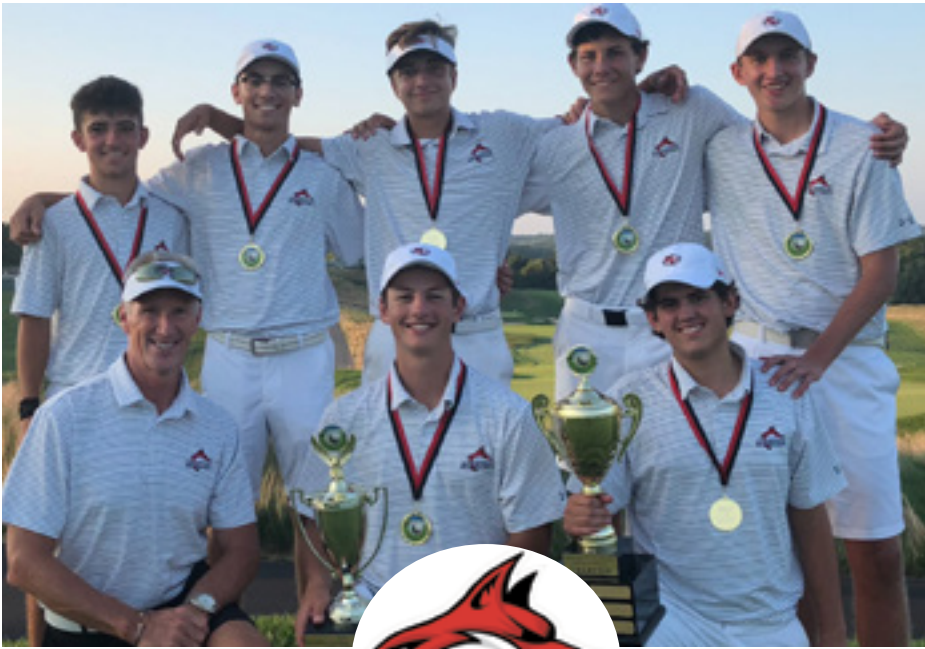


SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Fox Chapel Area students and staff raised money and collected items for local and national organizations, including veterans groups, the Backpack for Hunger program, and hurricane victims. A number of other community service projects were also conducted.

- The district responded to the Tree of Life Synagogue tragedy in October. The high school Jewish Student Union coordinated an effort for students and staff members to write notes of condolence and support. Additionally, the high school digital media production class produced a video during which students reflected on the tragedy. Dorseyville Middle School held a memorial, and a slideshow highlighted the Tree of Life victims. The O'Hara Elementary School PTO hosted an event during which children and their families participated in art projects to be given to the victims, their families, and/or the helpers and first responders. Fairview Elementary School teachers and staff contributed for a gift for Indiana Township Officer Scott Palmer and his K-9, Ares. Officer Palmer was a first responder at Tree of Life.
- The district held its 29th annual telethon in December and raised more than \$45,400. The telethon raised money for Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia.
- Kerr Elementary School students and staff supported Angels 211 throughout the school year. Angels 211 is an assisted living facility in Sharpsburg. The students visited with residents, performed for them, and collected items of need. They also participated in the Give a Gift program, during which they raised money and donated gifts for local families.
- Dorseyville Middle School held its annual Turkey Trot to raise money for families in need. Student council visited area senior citizens facilities to connect with the residents. Dorseyville students also visited World Vision to sort and organize clothing to be sent to Third World countries. They also supported Meals on Wheels, Angels 211, and held a first responder appreciation breakfast. The students and staff also created a Little Free Library/pantry for the school and made and donated two rain barrels to help keep rain water out of the rivers.
- High school students and staff continued their emphasis on helping others, and many activities were led by the student government community outreach committee. This included work with a local food bank; blood drives; volunteering at a veterans hospital; collections for the Foxes Burrow; food and toy drives; gathering items for the residents of Angels 211; volunteer work for the Ronald McDonald House at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh; the Sharpsburg Earth Day cleanup; and helping a soup kitchen and a rescue mission.
- District teachers supported Backpack for Hunger, held a Thanksgiving dinner drive, conducted a drive for the Foxes Burrow, and participated in an Earth Day cleanup.
- Hartwood students and staff supported the Network of Hope Food Pantry.



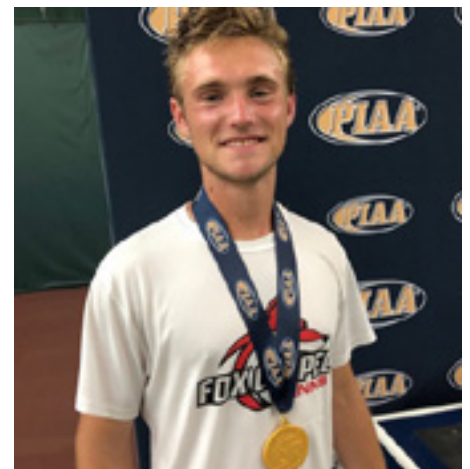


2018-2019 ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The athletic teams had another outstanding year, as evidenced by their performances and the number of individuals and teams that represented the district at PIAA and WPIAL events. A few facts about the Fox Chapel Area athletic program include:

- Girls' golf, girls' cross country, and boys' tennis had perfect section records.
- Twenty of the 26 interscholastic teams and/or individuals from those teams qualified for postseason competition. The list is as follows: baseball, boys' basketball, girls' basketball, boys' cross country, girls' cross country, boys' golf, girls' golf, gymnastics, boys' indoor track, girls' indoor track, boys' lacrosse, girls' lacrosse, boys' soccer, boys' swimming and diving, girls' swimming and diving, boys' tennis, girls' tennis, boys' track and field, girls' track and field, and wrestling.
- Section champs were girls' cross country, boys' golf, girls' golf, girls' lacrosse, and boys' tennis.
- A total of 21 seniors will continue to play sports in college.
- All high school teams maintained a combined average 3.5 QPA.

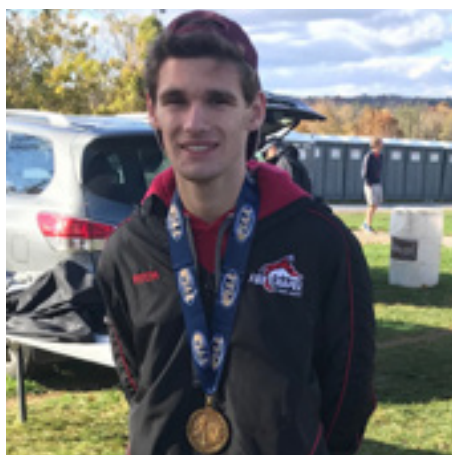
- Fox Chapel Area High School freshman Zoe Skirboll was named a National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association All-American. Student-athletes are named to the list based on the top 100 recorded times in each event in the season.
- Senior Graham Childs was selected as a US Lacrosse High School All-American.
- Six Fox Chapel Area High School student-athletes were named to all-state teams. Cross country runners senior Sarena Seeger and junior Christian Fitch were named first team all-state, and junior Grace Sisson was named second team all-state. Additionally, senior golfer Gregor Meyer was named first team all-state, and freshman swimmer Zoe Skirboll and sophomore diver David Manelis were also named all-state.



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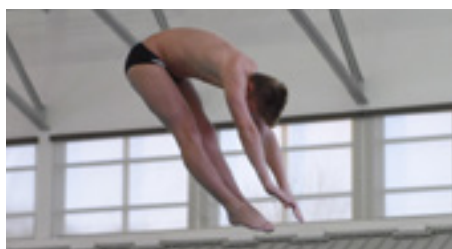
- Senior Robby Shymansky won the PIAA Class AAA, the WPIAL Class AAA, and the WPIAL Class AAA Section 3 singles championships. Additionally, seniors Jay Kashyap and Brandon Wei also qualified for the PIAA Class AAA doubles tournament.



- Freshman Zoe Skirboll won first place in the 200 individual medley (IM) and second place in the 100 breaststroke at the PIAA Class AAA Swimming and Diving Championships. Additionally, she won first place in the 100 breaststroke and second place in the 200 IM at WPIALs. Other state qualifiers were juniors Grace Gackenbach and Leia Ross, and sophomore Vivian Shao.
- Senior Jonah Cagley and sophomore David Manelis qualified for the PIAA Class AAA Diving Championships, where David won second and Jonah won fifth. Additionally, Jonah won first place in the WPIAL Class AAA Diving Championships, and David won fourth place.
- Boys' varsity golf team member senior Gregor Meyer qualified for the PIAA individual golf championships, where he placed fifth. Additionally, Gregor, junior Scott Bitar, and sophomore Aidan Oehrle qualified for the PIAA Western Regional Tournament.

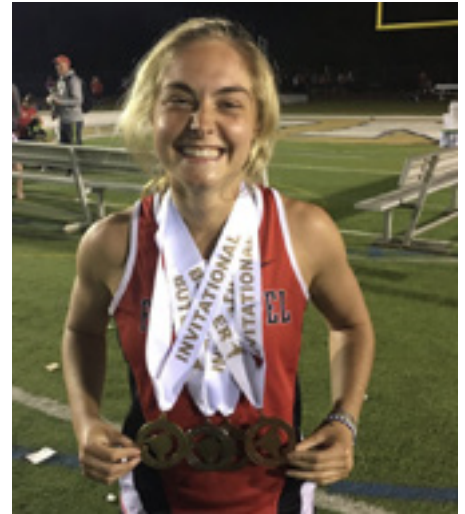


- The boys' varsity tennis team won the WPIAL Class AAA team championship. Additionally, the team also won the WPIAL Class AAA Section 3 team championship and qualified for the PIAA tournament. Members of the team were seniors Shan Hassan, Jay Kashyap, Jared Nord, Robby Shymansky, and Brandon Wei; juniors Avik Agrawal, Milo Baron, and Clay Quackenbush; and sophomore Zain Hassan.
- The girls' cross country team qualified for PIAAs. The team members who participated were seniors Anna Folkerts, Sarena Seeger, and Annika Urban; juniors Brooke Krally and Grace Sisson; and freshmen Rachel Grimsley, Gabrielle Kline, and Riley McIntyre. At states, the team placed fifth, and Sarena and Grace placed fifth and ninth, respectively, as individuals. Additionally, boys' team member, junior Christian Fitch, placed fifth at PIAAs.



- Four members of the high school indoor track team won first place at the Tri-State Track Coaches Association championship meet. Senior Kate Carnevale won first in the 60-meter dash and the 200-meter dash, and the distance medley relay team of seniors Kate and Sarena Seeger, and juniors Brooke Krally and Grace Sisson also won first place.
- Six Fox Chapel Area High School Indoor Track Team members qualified for the Pennsylvania Track & Field Coaches Association Indoor State Championships. The distance medley relay team of seniors Sarena Seeger and Annika Urban, and juniors Brooke Krally and Grace Sisson placed eighth. Additionally, Senior Kate Carnevale qualified in the 60-meter dash and the 200-meter dash, and Sarena and Grace also qualified in the mile. Junior Christian Fitch qualified in the 3,000 meter.

- The boys' varsity basketball team qualified for the PIAA Class 6A playoffs. The team members were seniors Ryan Kerr and Noah Marks; juniors Samuel Brown, Will Livingston, Shane Susnak, and Arnold Vento; sophomores Kent Baldauf and Alex Blaylock; and freshmen Jacob DeMotte, James Dockey, Russell Fenton, Jarred Helgert, Lorenzo Jenkins, and Eli Yofan.
- The girls' varsity basketball team qualified to participate in the PIAA Class 6A playoffs. The team members were seniors Megan Friday, Danielle Moretti, and Grace Ritter; juniors Giovana de Souza Anselmo, Claire Fenton, Gabriella Guerrieri, and Kyrie Nestel; sophomores Domenica Delaney, Samantha Dunlap, Allison Hager, Madyson Kondel, Marissa Ritter, and Elizabeth Schwartzman; and freshmen Iona Clark, Olivia Guerrieri, Olivia Hager, Amelia Herzer, and Ava Rhodes.
- The Fox Chapel Area High School Unified Track & Field Team won the Westmoreland Regional Unified Track & Field Championship. The team then advanced to the Special Olympics PA Interscholastic Unified Track & Field State Championships.
- Six members of the Fox Chapel Area High School Track Team qualified for the 2019 PIAA Track & Field Championships. Seniors Kate Carnevale and Sarena Seeger, and juniors Christian Fitch, Abigail Kieffer, Brooke Krally, and Grace Sisson all qualified for the state competition.
- Two Fox Chapel Area High School wrestlers, senior Avery Bursick and junior Alexander Wecht, received the High School Scholar All-American Award. The award is given by the National Wrestling Coaches Association and the United States Marine Corps. The candidates for this award must have at least a 3.5 GPA and be a varsity letter winner. Avery and Alex are two of 15 wrestlers from across Pennsylvania to receive this award, and the only two from Western Pennsylvania.
- Fox Chapel Area High School junior Brent Brewster was named Western Pennsylvania's Most Positive High School Athlete in boys swimming as part of the Eighth Annual C. Harper Positive High School Athlete Awards. Additionally, senior Kate Carnevale was given a Comeback Player award.
- High school boys' soccer coach Erik Ingram was named the WPIAL Class 4A Section 1 Coach of the Year.
- High school athletes continued to be named to prestigious all-star and all-conference teams, and also were chosen to participate in all-star games.

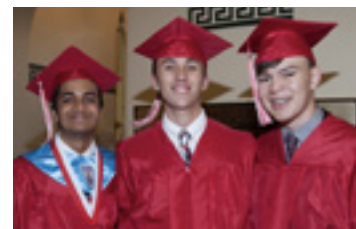
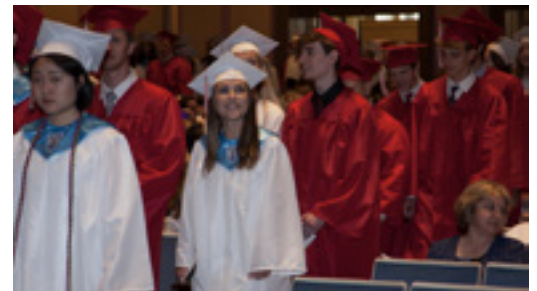
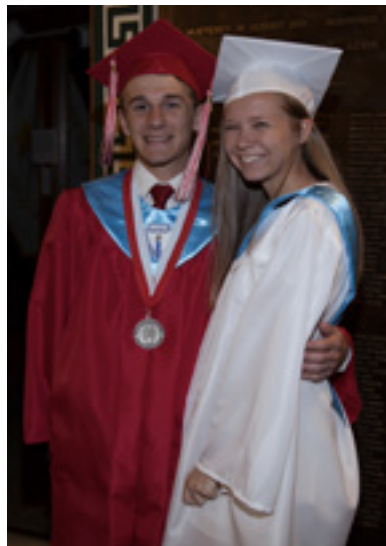


FOX CHAPEL AREA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2019 COLLEGE CHOICES

Allegheny College (3) • American University • Arizona State University (2) • Auburn University (2) • Bryn Mawr College • Bucknell University • Butler County Community College • California University of Pennsylvania (2) • Carlow University • Carnegie Mellon University (6) • Case Western Reserve University (2) • Chatham University (5) • Community College of Allegheny County - Allegheny Campus (16) • Community College of Allegheny County - Boyce Campus (2) • Community College of Allegheny County - North Campus (3) • Clemson University (5) • College of Charleston • Colorado State University (2) • Columbia University (2) • Cornell University • Dartmouth College • Davidson College • Drexel University • Duke University • Duquesne University (7) • Edinboro University (5) • Elon University • Emory University • Florida State University • Gannon University (2) • George Mason University • George Washington University • Georgetown University • Gettysburg College • Grand Valley State University • Grove City College • High Point University • Hofstra University • Indiana University • Indiana University of Pennsylvania (3) • Ithaca College (2) • James Madison University • John Carroll University (2) • Johns Hopkins University • Juniata College • Kenyon College • La Roche College • Lafayette College • Lawrence Technological University • Lynn University (2) • Manhattan College • Marquette University • McGill University • Miami University (3) • Michigan State University • Michigan Technological University • Montana State University • New York University • North Shore Community College • Northeastern University • Northern Michigan University • Northern Virginia Community College • Nova Southeastern University • Ohio Northern University • Ohio State University (4) • Ohio University • Pace University • Palm Beach State College • Parsons School of Design • Penn State Altoona (2) • Penn State Behrend (2) • Penn State New Kensington (2) • Pennsylvania College of Technology (3) • Pennsylvania State University (18) • Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics • Pittsburgh Technical College • Point Park University (2) • Purdue University (3) • Reed College • Robert Morris University (3) • Rochester Institute of Technology • Rosedale Technical College • Saint Louis University • Saint Vincent College • Savannah College of Art and Design • Seton Hill University (2) • Skidmore College (2) • Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (5) • Southern Methodist University • Syracuse University • Temple University (2) • Texas A&M University • The College of Wooster (4) • Trinity College Dublin • Tulane University • University of Akron • University of Arizona (3) • University of California • University of Colorado (2) • University of Dayton (2) • University of Delaware (2) • University of Florida • University of Georgia • University of Maryland • University of Miami (2) • University of Michigan (4) • University of Montana • University of New Hampshire • University of North Carolina (2) • University of Notre Dame (2) • University of Pennsylvania • University of Pittsburgh (16) • University of Pittsburgh - Bradford • University of Pittsburgh - Greensburg (3) • University of Richmond • University of Rochester - Eastman School of Music • University of South Carolina (2) • University of Southern California • University of Pittsburgh - Johnstown (2) • University of Toledo • University of Utah (3) • University of Vermont • University of Virginia • University of Wisconsin (2) • University of Washington • Villanova University • Wake Forest University • Washington & Jefferson College • West Chester University • Westminster College • West Virginia University (6) • Yale University

FOX CHAPEL AREA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2019

On June 9, 2019, a total of 329 seniors became the 58th class to graduate from Fox Chapel Area High School. Of these, 88 students had a 4.0 weighted Quality Point Average (QPA) or above when they graduated. Approximately 88 percent of the Class of 2019 are continuing their education, and 55 percent are enrolled in schools outside of Pennsylvania. The graduates continued the tradition of being accepted to the top colleges and universities across the nation.



Fox Chapel Area
SCHOOL DISTRICT

611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
412/963-9600 | www.fcasd.edu