

IN Fox Chapel Area

Fox Chapel Area School District
2013-2014

State of the Schools

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MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the School Board, it is my pleasure to present to you the Fox Chapel Area School District Superintendent's State of the Schools. This year's State of the Schools showcases our district's accomplishments and milestones. We are very proud that the elementary, middle, and high school students continue to flourish and improve and that we are meeting or exceeding state standards.

The success of our students is due to the work of our quality staff and support of our families and community, but the work doesn't stop there. A quality education requires more than what is found in a textbook. The ultimate goal of the Fox Chapel Area School District is based on that premise, and we strive to develop the whole child – intellectually, physically, and emotionally – to help each student discover and build on his or her talents and prepare each of them for the future. We provide qualified and caring adults that help to create a learning environment where students can truly learn. We desire to actively engage all of our students in learning and connect them to our school and community. In the end, it is our goal to prepare students for college, further study, and employment in a highly competitive global environment. Every aspect of our curriculum, every athletic program, and every extracurricular activity has that ultimate goal in mind.

This work is never complete. It is a continual process of improvement to which we fully commit ourselves. As a school district, we are thankful to have such commitment and support from our community. Your support is our strength. Our work together will lead to success.

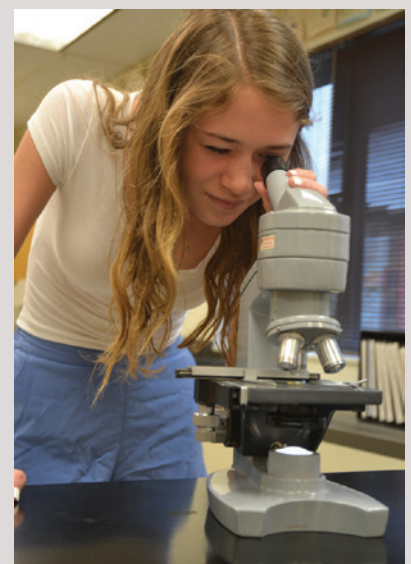
As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments and look forward to another successful year, sincere congratulations goes to our school leaders, teachers, and students whose dedication and hard work contribute to our reputation as a leader in education. We are also grateful to the parents and our community, as well as our business partners, for their interest, involvement, and unwavering support of our students.

As I begin my first full year as superintendent, my goal is for the district to demonstrate a continued commitment to educational excellence, both now and in the future. With your support, Fox Chapel Area School District will remain one of the top districts.

Sincerely,

Gene Freeman, Ed.D.
Superintendent

***"Your support is
our strength.
Our work together
will lead to success."***





2013-2014 State of the Schools Awards and Achievements

- High school freshman Mihir Garimella was a first place STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) winner in the Broadcom MASTERS 2013 National Science Fair. The 30 finalists, selected from across the nation, spent a week in Washington, D.C., and met President Barack Obama at the White House. Additionally, freshman Suvir Mirchandani was named a semifinalist in the competition.



- Two high school students won awards at the 2014 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Junior Rishi Mirchandani received a Third Place Grand Award and freshman Suvir Mirchandani won a Web Innovator Award. The international competition was held in May in Los Angeles.
- Eight seniors were designated as National Merit Finalists and 18 were named Commended Students in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. The Finalists were Andrew Brady, Natalie Campbell, Patrick Campbell, Ian Christie, Max Jahnke, Martin Kennedy, Andrew Ogren, and Masako Toyoda.

MISSION: *The Fox Chapel Area School District exists to maximize student learning, achievement, and development.*



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

2014 Keystone/PSSA Results

PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT OR ABOVE ON THE 2014 KEYSTONE EXAMS

School	Algebra I	Literature	Biology
Fox Chapel Area High School (Grade 11)	89%	90%	81%
State Averages – Spring Testing (Grade 11)	40%	52%	41%
State Averages – Winter Testing (Grade 11)	26%	38%	27%

The Keystone Exams replaced the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests at the high school. Beginning with the class of 2017, the state will require that students demonstrate proficiency in the end-of-course Keystone Exams in Algebra I, literature, and biology in order to graduate. However, it is already a requirement for Fox Chapel Area High School students to demonstrate proficiency in Algebra I and literature. The test results are banked until the students' junior year for reporting purposes.

PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT OR ABOVE ON THE 2014 PSSA

School	Math	Reading	Writing	Science
Dorseyville Middle School (Grades 6-8)	87%	89%	93%	80%
Fairview Elementary School (Grades 3-5)	98%	92%	98%	100%
Hartwood Elementary School (Grades 3-5)	84%	77%	80%	96%
Kerr Elementary School (Grades 3-5)	82%	79%	81%	85%
O'Hara Elementary School (Grades 3-5)	93%	88%	87%	95%

The PSSA tests are administered to students in grades three-eight in math and reading. Students in grades five and eight also take the writing tests. Science tests are only administered to students in grade four and eight. Students are rated as Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic.



GOAL AREAS:

*Learning • Achievement • Safety Nets
Communications • Resource Management*



- A total of 112 high school students were named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level AP examinations taken in May 2014. Receiving the National AP Scholar Award were: seniors Patrick Campbell, Roman Cano, Dante Cordaro, Martin Kennedy, Richard Szabo, and Daniel Tabas and juniors Gerry Chen, Rishi Mirchandani, and Samuel Waxman. They earned an average score of 4 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.
- High school senior Elizabeth Bianchini was named a winner in the 2013-2014 Coca-Cola Scholars Program and senior Yiyi Zhao was selected as a finalist.
- High school junior Aaron Bliss received a Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Scholarship and is spending his senior year of high school studying in Germany.

**PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROFILE – 2013-2014**

School	School-Level Score
Fox Chapel Area High School	93.2
Dorseyville Middle School	90.2
Fairview Elementary School	94.0
Hartwood Elementary School	92.0
Kerr Elementary School	80.0
O'Hara Elementary School	81.7

Pennsylvania is no longer using Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), which was based only on state-standardized test scores, to measure student performance. The entire state is now using the new Pennsylvania Accountability System, the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile (SPP), that was developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and approved by the federal government. It is important to note that academic achievement only makes up 40 percent of the numeric SPP score given to a particular school. Other indicators of school success include academic growth, closing the academic achievement gap, attendance, promotion rate, graduation rate, and the percent of students scoring Advanced on assessments. It is a district goal to have building SPP scores at all six schools above 90.



- High school seniors Danielle Burton and Martin Kennedy were named candidates in the 2014 United States Presidential Scholars Program.
- Fox Chapel Area High School received a Silver Medal rank from U.S. News & World Report for the fifth time. The annual rankings identify the country's top-performing public high schools.
- High school social studies and gifted support teacher Jennifer Klein was chosen to watch the State of the Union Address live at the White House.
- Junior Simran Parwani was named a winner in the national 2013 Cassini "Scientist for a Day" essay contest. She and her classmates participated in a videoconference with the winners and NASA scientists.
- High school freshman Mihir Garimella won a gold medal on the 2014 National Latin Exam.
- Junior Rama Godse won first place at the Pittsburgh Diocesan Qualifying Tournament and participated in the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Championship Tournament in Chicago.
- Sophomore Konrad Urban was a winner in The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America 2014 Essay Contest.
- For the third year in a row, the district was named among the Best Communities for Music Education. School districts are recognized for exceptional efforts in maintaining music education as part of the core curriculum.

2014 SAT/ACT/PSAT Mean Scores

2014 SENIOR YEAR SAT MEAN SCORES

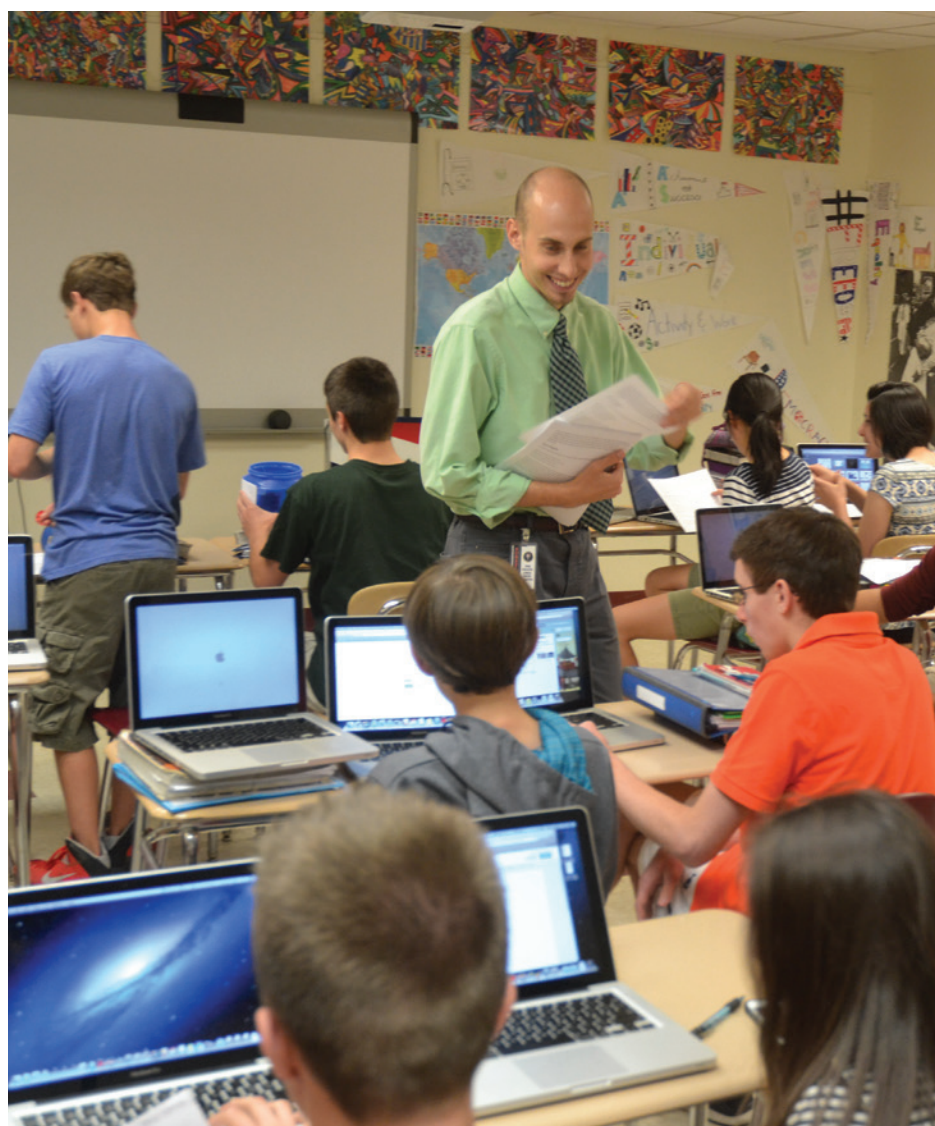
	Fox Chapel Area	Pennsylvania	Nation
Critical Reading	568	497	497
Math	583	504	513
Writing	569	480	487

A total of 256 members (79 percent) of the students in the Class of 2014 took the SAT during their junior or senior year.

2014 ACT RESULTS

	Fox Chapel Area	Pennsylvania	Nation
English	25.6	22.1	20.3
Math	25.9	22.8	20.9
Reading	26.0	23.0	21.3
Science	25.3	22.2	20.8
Composite Score	25.8	22.7	21.0

A total of 109 high school students took the ACT in 2014.



The high school offered 24 Advanced Placement (AP) courses during the 2013-2014 school year and many students take multiple courses. A total of 256 students completed 498 AP exams. Approximately 92 percent scored 3 or higher.



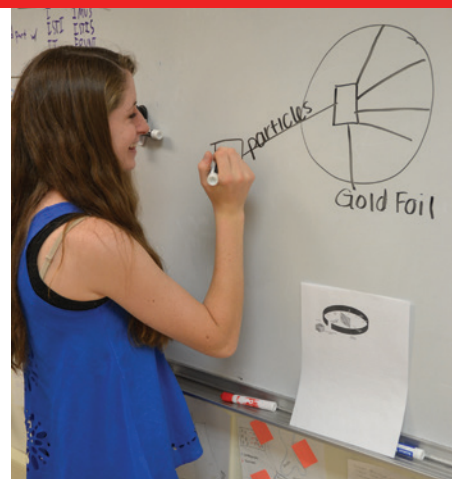
2014 GRADE 10 PSAT MEAN SCORES

	Fox Chapel Area	Pennsylvania	Nation
Critical Reading	47.0	45.2	42.6
Math	47.6	46.3	43.5
Writing	45.0	43.6	41.2

2014 GRADE 11 PSAT MEAN SCORES

	Fox Chapel Area	Pennsylvania	Nation
Critical Reading	50.1	47.4	47.4
Math	50.8	48.7	48.6
Writing	48.0	45.6	45.9

Fox Chapel Area High School students continue to outscore the state and nation on the SAT, ACT, and PSAT in all subject areas. The district administered the PSAT to all students in grades 10 and 11 during the 2013-2014 school year. The results of this assessment are being used to improve outcomes for students on the SAT and to increase college and career readiness.



- High school freshman Mary Clare O'Connor was named a Gold Medal winner in the national 2014 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Additionally, 21 students won Gold Keys in the regional Scholastic Art competition and two were awarded regional Gold Keys in the writing competition.

- Based on 2013 PSSA scores, the Pittsburgh Business Times' 2014 Guide to Western Pennsylvania Schools ranked Fairview Elementary School first in achievement in western Pennsylvania in grade four, third in grade five, and fourth in grade three. This is the seventh consecutive year that Fairview has been named a top-ranking elementary school. Overall, the school district had a ranking of 13 in the state in the 2014 guide and has maintained a ranking of six for academic performance in western Pennsylvania since 2008. The district was ranked sixth in western Pennsylvania as an overachieving school district based on the number of economically disadvantaged students who reach high levels of achievement. Fox Chapel Area High School 11th graders maintained a ranking of fifth in western Pennsylvania and Dorseyville Middle School eighth graders ranked 11th.



Gene Freeman, Ed.D., New Superintendent

On March 10, 2014, Gene Freeman, Ed.D., was sworn in and became the sixth superintendent to lead the Fox Chapel Area School District. He came to the district from the Manheim Township School District in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



High School Renovations

A groundbreaking ceremony on April 7, 2014, kicked off a major renovation and construction project at Fox Chapel Area High School. The project is expected to cost approximately \$30 million and the majority of the renovations should be completed near the end of 2015. The new construction will include a natatorium and a main entrance. Major renovations will improve and upgrade the auditorium, library/media center, and the cafeteria. New lighting, a new sound system, and a new scoreboard were installed in the main gym over the summer. The district took advantage of historically low market interest rates and funding for the project was made available through the sale of bonds. The last time the high school was renovated was in 2002.





- O'Hara Elementary School fourth graders Griffin Kerstetter and Annie Yonas were named the winners of the Most Outstanding Volunteers awards as part of the 2014 regional Jefferson Awards for Public Service. They represented western Pennsylvania at the national Jefferson Awards ceremonies.
- The high school's literary magazine "Tapestry" was named a first place winner in the magazine category in the American Scholastic Press Association's Annual Contest.
- Seniors Patrick Campbell and Habiba Shalaby were named semifinalists in the 2014 national Stossel in the Classroom essay contest.
- The high school choirs (Concert Choir, Vulpes Cantantes, and the Madrigal Singers) received gold ratings at the Heritage Music Festival held in Washington, D.C.
- Freshman Mary Clare O'Connor received second place for her painting, "Painted Over Fear," in the Waldman International Arts and Writing Competition. Students from both Pittsburgh and Israel were named winners in the contest.



STEMM EDUCATION – *Not Your Parent's Science Class*



STEMM Incorporated at All Elementary Grades

Fifth graders learned about planting shrubbery and other perennials that are not only attractive, but will thrive in the landscape surrounding Fairview's new school sign. They used a variety of skills, including plant science, measurement, and engineering to create a beautiful landscape project. Through research on plants and their care, the students learned about mulching and what plants could withstand conditions like summer dry spells, freezing temperatures, and road salt from adjacent Dorseyville Road. The sign also had to meet township code.

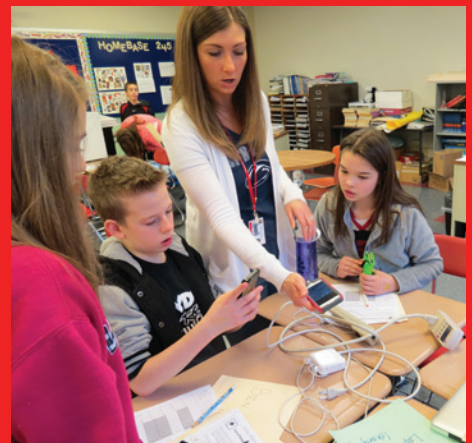
This fifth grade project is just one example of how STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine) was implemented at all grade levels at all four elementary schools. While different classes may not undertake the same STEMM-related project, all elementary students are engaging in projects that meet grade-level science goals, involve cross-curricular lessons, and make use of technology.





STEMM Concepts Taught Through Collaborative, Hands-On Projects

Dorseyville Middle School students benefitted from exploration and hands-on inquiry as they solved real-life problems that related to the STEMM curriculum. Sixth graders worked on activities in four areas – energy, recycling, food, and biodiversity – conducting energy audits, working on recycling projects, and studying biodiversity. Seventh graders studied the concepts of force and motion to design and construct roller coasters. Eighth graders researched and developed telegraph machines, built crystal radio sets and small generators, and developed water purification and waste handling systems in order to deal with a simulated catastrophic event that interrupted the nation's power.



- Six high school students placed at the 2014 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference in Nashville, including Brendan Courson, Will Kolbrener, Jacob Kronman, Varun Parwani, Vishal Soman, and Christopher Tran. A total of seven high school students qualified to participate in the FBLA national conference.
- Two high school students received first place in Pennsylvania in the FBLA Spring Challenge LifeSmarts event. They were the only team from Pennsylvania to qualify for the national competition.
- Three high school Spanish VI seniors, Andrew Ogren, Kaitlyn Schaffer, and Jacquelyn Wateska, had their poems featured in ¡ALBRICIAS!, the official magazine of the Spanish National Honor Society.
- High school orchestra teacher Mairi Cooper was named one of 13 finalists for Pennsylvania's 2015 Teacher of the Year.
- The Dorseyville Middle School Sinfonia and Philharmonic orchestras won first and second place Middle School Orchestra with a rating of "Superior" (the highest rating) and first place Overall Orchestra in the middle and high school division at a Music in the Parks Festival.
- The Dorseyville Middle School Girls Chamber Chorus and the Combined Honors Chorus received second place awards and were ranked "Superior" at a Music in the Parks Festival. The FoxTones placed second and were ranked "Excellent."
- The Dorseyville Middle School Honors Band earned a second place award at a Music in the Parks Festival and a rating of "Superior."
- Hartwood Elementary School fifth grader Reem Mansour was selected as a 2014 Carson Scholar.
- Dorseyville Middle School gifted education teacher Cathie Gillner was chosen as a Keystone Technology Innovator and received the 2014 Keystone STAR. She is one of 100 educators to receive the award which honors teachers throughout Pennsylvania who use technology in creative ways.



Summer STEMM Academy

More than 60 students from 14 different high schools participated in the third annual Western Pennsylvania Summer STEMM Academy which ran for three weeks at the high school. Participating students from various school districts interacted with doctors, professors, and business professionals in the STEMM fields through guest speakers, panel discussions, and field experiences at universities, research labs, and STEMM-related businesses. During this year's Summer STEMM Academy, students visited Allegheny General Hospital, the Human Engineering Research Labs, the University of Pittsburgh Quality of Life Technology Center, and the McGowan Institute of Regenerative Medicine. Students were actively engaged in topics related to environmental engineering, robotics, and human anatomy. Many of the students had the opportunity to job shadow medical professionals (including surgeons, oncologists, pharmacists, radiologists, and nurses) at UPMC St. Margaret Hospital. Each student also presented a final project to the group. This year, for the first time, students could opt to attend a STEMM sampler in which they could choose up to three different sessions. The STEMM Academy has proven to be quite successful and has resulted in partnerships with many of the area's top corporations and leaders in STEMM fields.





Elementary Benchmark Literacy and Writing

True differentiation of instruction is being achieved through the new elementary Benchmark Literacy and Writing programs which were fully implemented in classrooms at each of the elementary schools during the 2013-2014 school year. Through Benchmark Literacy, reading instruction is delivered in a nontraditional way. The Benchmark program offers a collection of multilevel reading materials for teachers to use based on the reading readiness of each student. Reading instruction is then provided in small groups. The Benchmark Writing program is used in conjunction with the reading program. Writing instruction is provided to the whole class on a style of writing, such as opinion. Teachers then demonstrate how to write or show samples of the particular type of writing and students apply this instruction to their individual writing pieces. Through individual or small group conferencing, the teacher reinforces the lesson and addresses various writing skills, including grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.



- Three district publications received national awards in the National School Public Relations Association 2014 Publications and Electronic Media Contest. Additionally, three publications received awards from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association and two received awards from the Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association.
- High school art teacher Jody Shell was a featured artist in a Philadelphia art show and nine of her paintings were on display. The show featured the works of 20 emerging important artists.
- Dorseyville Middle School was certified as a Common Sense Media School. The recognition is given to schools that educate students to be safe, smart, responsible, and ethical digital citizens.
- Eleven high school students won first-third place awards at the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association (TSA) State Leadership Conference and qualified for the national competition.
- A team of Dorseyville Middle School seventh and eighth graders (seven in all) received first place in the 2014 Pennsylvania TEAMS (Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science) competition. Additionally, two high school teams (14 students) also placed in the state competition. All three teams qualified to attend nationals.
- Sixteen high school and four middle school students won first place awards at the 80th Annual State Meeting of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS).
- A team of 12 Dorseyville Middle School sixth graders won first place in the 2013-2014 Pennsylvania 6th Grade Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl.



- Three high school seniors were named first place winners and seven won honorable mentions in the Pennsylvania Statistics Poster Competition for 2014. All ten qualified to participate in the national competition.
- Three high school students were selected for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) All-State Orchestra, four were chosen for the PMEA Western Region State Orchestra, and eight were selected for the PMEA District 1 Orchestra.



- Two high school students were chosen to perform with the PMEA All-State Band, four with the PMEA Region I Honors Band, five with the PMEA District 1 Honors Band, and six were selected for the PMEA District 1 Honors Band East.
- Four high school students were selected for the PMEA Region I Chorus and five were chosen for the District 1 Chorus.
- Dorseyville Middle School sixth grader Rajeev Godse was awarded first place in the Western Pennsylvania CalcuSolve Olympics.
- Kerr Elementary School was one of two schools in western Pennsylvania to be recognized as a Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports Model Site by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.



Creativity and Literacy Program

The Fox Chapel Area School District's Creativity and Literacy Program was launched in November 2013. The former Family Literacy Center for district residents with preschool-age children has been expanded to include an emphasis on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), as well as 21st century skills integrated with literacy through creativity, exploration, design, and play. Technology is an important component of the program. The Creativity and Literacy Program, which is located in a classroom at Kerr Elementary School, offered three sessions, each six weeks long, all at a variety of times. Preschoolers and their caregivers met once a week during each session. The program served 118 children from 107 families. Partial funding for the classroom at Kerr was provided by a STEAM grant offered through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and funded by the Benedum and Grable foundations. The classroom is also used by Kerr Elementary School students.





1:1 iPad® Initiative

Since their distribution in January, iPads have transformed how seventh graders approach learning – the students carry them everywhere, from home to school. They use their iPads for research, note taking, organizing their work, and completing assignments. Teachers post assignments and handouts on Edmodo (an educational social media site) and students complete science lab assignments and even take exams using their iPads. The iPad inspires creativity and investigation and supports hands-on project-based learning.

A total of 330 iPad minis™ preloaded with Apple-provided apps were distributed to the seventh graders and their parents. The distribution is part of a 10-year district technology plan that it is hoped will lead to the distribution of mobile learning devices to all secondary students. The seventh graders kept their iPads and will continue using them in eighth grade and 2014-2015 seventh graders received iPads at the beginning of the new school year.



- Senior Addison Lynch earned the “Best Delegate” (first place) designation at the University of Virginia Model UN Conference.
- High school sophomore Sreeroopa Som placed in the national third tier of the Mandelbrot math competition.
- Three high school students and one middle school student qualified to take the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME).
- Fox Chapel Area School District staff members continue to be elected to leadership positions in national, state, and local organizations. Their expertise is also valued as many of them are frequently invited to make presentations at national, state, and local conferences and workshops.
- Two seniors and three juniors were honored by the Asian Heritage Committee of the Pittsburgh Federal Executive Board.
- High school freshman David Han was named a winner of the third annual Luminari Award.
- The Community Library Association honored the Fox Chapel Area elementary school librarians as part of the annual Love the Library event this spring.
- Fox Chapel Area School District raised more than \$47,000 at the annual telethon which benefited the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia Chapter. Students from all six schools participated and Fox Chapel Area students have raised more than \$585,000 over the last 24 years.

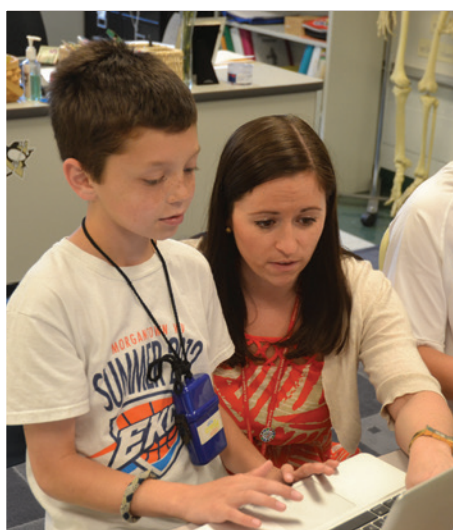


Fox Chapel Area Online

Started five years ago, Fox Chapel Area Online has evolved from Fox Chapel Area teacher-designed online blended courses to a full range of online options – all designed for learning anytime, any place.

A full-time cyber school, piloted for students in grades nine-twelve during the 2013-2014 school year, offers a complete curriculum delivered by highly-qualified Fox Chapel Area teachers, competing directly with other cyber schools. A school counselor is assigned to each student and students also have access to teachers who are available for consultation as needed during the school day. Core and elective courses are offered, plus access to a variety of Fox Chapel Area's blended courses. Fox Chapel Area Online-Cyber fulfills all high school requirements and graduating seniors receive a Fox Chapel Area High School diploma. Students enrolled in the cyber school also have access to Fox Chapel Area activities, clubs, and events. The program is expanding to Dorseyville Middle School for the 2014-2015 school year.

Fox Chapel Area Online-Blended (formerly FC Virtual) also continues to provide a variety of online offerings and has proven to be a popular option. In the summer, blended courses are offered as a means of acceleration, and credit recovery courses are also available online. During the school year, online blended courses offer flexible and enhanced learning options, including allowing students to take additional courses beyond the normal school schedule. Students still attend school, but take certain classes online and the program continues to expand during the 2014-2015 school year.



PowerSchool Replaces Edline

PowerSchool provided continuous online access for parents of students in the district. Parents can view specific assignments, teacher comments, and test and homework grades. PowerSchool also provides information so that parents can better understand specific assignments and expectations and see where their child has excelled and where he or she may need extra help. It also provides attendance information. Parents can access PowerSchool via the district website, and it is also available on iPhone and Android mobile devices. This system replaced Edline in 2013.

ATHLETICS

Sophomores Laurel Shymansky and Lacey Cohen were named the PIAA Doubles Champions, the WPIAL Class AAA Doubles Champions, and the WPIAL Class AAA Section 3 Doubles Champions.



2013-2014

Athletic Accomplishments

- Thirteen Fox Chapel Area athletes earned scholarships or roster spots on either Division I or Division II NCAA colleges and universities.
- Seventeen high school athletes qualified to participate in PIAA (state) individual championships. They were: Mary Humphrey, Colin Martin, and Ethan Martin (cross country); Emily Eames, Addison Lynch, and Miranda Simon (diving); Patrick Sheerer (golf); Noah Cagley and Frances Dean (swimming); Nigel Garnett, Andrew Golio, Elias Graca, Colin Martin, Brandon Mitchell, Tony Nguyen, and Brian Papich (track); and Lacey Cohen and Laurel Shymansky (tennis).
- High school seniors Jack Dickens (soccer) and Colin Martin (cross country) and junior Jaysen Zaelski (volleyball) were named to all-state teams.
- Two members of the Fox Chapel Crew, senior Robert Heister and sophomore Noah Kasian, attended the USRowing Midwest Speed Orders in Michigan. Both were invited to proceed in the national team selection process.
- Sixteen of 24 high school interscholastic athletic teams qualified for the WPIAL playoffs. The teams included: boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' cross country, girls' field hockey, girls' gymnastics, boys' golf, boys' lacrosse, boys' and girls' soccer, boys' and girls' swimming and diving, boys' and girls' tennis, boys' volleyball, and wrestling.





- The high school boys' cross country team won the WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 Title. The team finished the season undefeated in its section and qualified for the state cross country championships. Additionally, senior Colin Martin won first place in the WPIAL Class AAA Championships.
- Five members of the high school boys' track team won gold medals at the WPIAL Class AAA Track & Field Championships. Senior Colin Martin won the gold medal in the 3,200-meter run, senior Brandon Mitchell won the gold medal in the 300-meter hurdles, and the team of seniors Brandon Mitchell and Brian Papich and juniors Andrew Golio and Elias Graca won the gold medal in the 4x400 meter relay.
- Freshman Max Silberg was named to the 2013 Top Drawer Soccer Philadelphia Combine Best XI Boys Team. The team featured 11 of the East Coast's top young players. He was also the number two ranked player in Pennsylvania for the class of 2017.
- The high school girls' varsity basketball team won the WPIAL Class AAAA Section 2 Team Title and participated in the WPIAL and PIAA playoffs.



2013-2014 Girls Basketball Player of the Year

High school senior Erin Mathias was named the 2013-2014 Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Basketball Player of the Year. The award, which also recognizes academic achievement and exemplary character, distinguished Erin as Pennsylvania's best high school girls' basketball player. Additionally, she was named the first winner of the Miss PA Basketball award given by SportsRecruiters.com and was also named the Pennsylvania Sports Writers' Class AAAA 2013-2014 Girls Basketball Player of the Year.





WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 Champions

The boys' varsity golf team won the WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 Championship and was undefeated in the section. Additionally, senior Patrick Sheerer won the PIAA Western Regional Golf Tournament and was named the WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 Individual Champion.

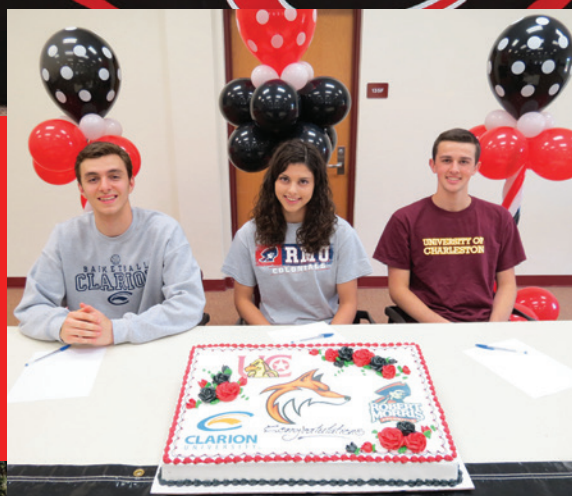


- The high school boys' varsity volleyball team qualified to participate in the WPIAL and PIAA playoffs.
- The high school girls' varsity soccer team was named the WPIAL Class AAA Section 3 Champions, was undefeated in the section, and qualified for the WPIAL playoffs.
- The high school girls' varsity field hockey team won the WPIAL Class AAA Section 2 Championship and qualified for the WPIAL playoffs.
- The high school boys' varsity soccer team shared the WPIAL Class AAA Section 3 Team Title and qualified for the WPIAL playoffs.
- Senior Kaitlyn Schaffer was presented with the title of Western Pennsylvania's "Most Positive High School Athlete" in the sport of girl's tennis.
- For the second consecutive year, the Fox Chapel Area athletics program earned a top-ten finish in the MSA Sports (Network) Cup standings as one of the top athletic programs in Quad A.





- Senior basketball players Matthew Damico, Erin Mathias, and Brian Papich scored their 1,000th career point during the 2013-2014 season. Additionally, Matt is also the school's all-time leading boys' basketball scorer.
- Nine members of the Fox Chapel Crew Club won gold or silver medals at the 2014 Midwest Scholastic Rowing Association Regatta which qualified them to compete at the Scholastic Rowing Association of America National Championships.
- High school athletes continued to be named to special all-star teams and all-conference teams.
- The middle school girls' field hockey team was undefeated with a record of 12-0.



FOX CHAPEL AREA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2014

*A total of 79 students in the Class of 2014
(25 percent) graduated with a Quality Point Average
(QPA) of 4.0 or higher.*



On June 8, 2014, a total of 325 seniors became the 53rd class to graduate from Fox Chapel Area High School. Approximately 89 percent of those graduates are continuing their education. More than half are enrolled in schools outside of Pennsylvania. The graduates continued the tradition of being accepted to the top colleges and universities across the nation, including: Harvard University, Yale University, Cornell University, Princeton University, Vanderbilt University, Brown University, Dartmouth College, Duke University, Columbia University, Northwestern University, American University, Boston University, George Washington University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia, Villanova University, Drexel University, Notre Dame University, Johns Hopkins University, Case Western Reserve University, Wake Forest University, Washington University, Rice University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the College of William & Mary, Emory University, Clemson University, Tufts University, and Temple University. A total of 79 students in the Class of 2014 (25 percent) graduated with a Quality Point Average (QPA) of 4.0 or higher.



**FOX CHAPEL AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
"Excellence is not an act,
but a habit." – Aristotle

611 Field Club Road
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412/963-9600
www.fcasd.edu



INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

We take the responsibility of delaying or canceling school very seriously. We recognize that delays and cancellations create inconveniences for parents/guardians who work outside of the home and that schedule changes take away from the continuity of teaching and learning. Please know that we will not interrupt the educational process unless we feel it is absolutely necessary.

Our number one concern is the safety of children. We depend upon the experience of our bus contractor to keep us informed concerning the ability of buses to travel the roads. The process of checking road conditions begins very early in the morning. From that information, a judgment is made to delay or cancel school. If we receive advance warning of a severe storm, and have sound information that it will arrive, we may cancel classes so that children do not arrive at school and become stranded.

Parents/guardians should discuss what their children should do in case of an early dismissal. If there is an early dismissal, children will be sent home on the buses. The high school students will be dismissed first, followed by the middle school and Hartwood Elementary students, and then the remainder of the elementary students. This order of dismissal is utilized so that older children can be at home when their younger brothers and sisters arrive. Parents/guardians should plan with their children how they wish to handle an early dismissal.

Buses may be unable to make it to the regular drop-off point. If that should occur, the driver will radio the bus garage and inform the school.

If the driver is able to see the bus stop and observe the children walk to the bus stop, the driver will allow the children to disembark from the bus to walk to their normal drop-off point. Parents should encourage their children to stand away from the side of the snow-covered roads and to use extreme caution at all times.

If the driver cannot make it to the drop-off point, he/she will radio the bus garage and inform the school. School personnel will then attempt to contact the parents/guardians. If the parents/guardians cannot be notified, the children will be taken back to school.

In the event that buses do not arrive at school on schedule at dismissal time, the children will be kept in the school. There are emergency provisions in each of the buildings and the students will be fed if they are stranded at school.

Parents/guardians of elementary children must have already completed and turned in to the building principal, an emergency card. This information will help the school personnel know who to contact in the event of an emergency or weather-related early dismissal. The card should include the parents'/guardians' emergency telephone numbers where someone can always be contacted.

Please be sure that your children are dressed for the weather. When there is a threat of snow and the wind chill is low, children should have hats, coats, boots, and gloves to wear.

Please remember that we are making a decision based on what is best for the entire school district. That decision may not always seem like the best decision for your section of the school district but may be appropriate for another area. The school district covers an area of approximately 36 square miles, so there are times when roads will be clear in one section and very bad in other areas. All roads are not treated or cleared at the same time, which can result in bus delays.

When there is a school delay, cancellation, or early dismissal, every parent/guardian in the district will receive a phone call from the district's school messaging system. Additionally, an announcement will still be placed on the district's information line at 412/967-2500 and on the district's website at www.fcasd.edu. Please note that during a power outage it *may not* be possible to place an announcement on the district's website and on the telephone information line. Delay, cancellation, and/or early dismissal announcements will also be placed on the following radio and television stations: KDKA (1020 AM), KQV (1410 AM), KDKA-TV, WPXI-TV, and WTAE-TV.

The YMCA-sponsored before- and after-school programs will still be available for children who are enrolled. If school is delayed, cancelled, or is dismissed early, the YMCA programs will still be held as scheduled. Only in an extreme emergency will these programs be cancelled. In the event that any of the YMCA programs are cancelled, there will be notification on the radio and television stations listed above, on the district's telephone information line, and/or someone from the YMCA will personally contact parents/guardians who have children enrolled in the programs.

It is also important to note that if school is cancelled and student makeup days are necessary, they will be held in the following order: June 8, June 9, June 10, and June 11, 2015.

