

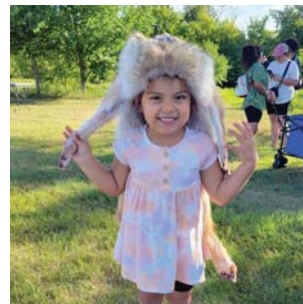


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Faribault, MN 55021

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# Faribault Public Schools Newsletter



July/August 2023

## Back to School

**T**he 2023-2024 school year is quickly approaching! We look forward to welcoming our students and families back into our buildings. School supply lists and open house information can be found on our website.

Thanks to the renewal of the operating levy last fall, we will be able to continue offering innovative classes and the technology necessary to support student learning and development in subject areas like manufacturing, robotics, engineering, and health and human services, allowing students to gain hands-on experience both in the classroom and through internships at local businesses and other community-based learning.

This year, we will continue to elevate and empower each student, every family and our entire community to achieve their full potential. By having high expectations for every student and providing the specialized care

and dedication they need, we are continuously working on our mission of providing a high-quality and equitable education that nurtures, inspires, challenges and empowers all students to engage and grow as learners and citizens.

Our dedicated staff work diligently to improve the lives of our students every day. Get ready for an outstanding 2023-2024 school year.

Sincerely,  
Jamie Bente

Superintendent of  
Faribault Public Schools



### DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Aug. 30** ..... First Day for Kindergarten
- Sept. 4** ..... NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
- Sept. 5** ..... First Day for PreK
- Sept. 22** ..... NO SCHOOL
- Sept. 29** ..... Homecoming
- Oct. 17** ..... HS/MS Conferences 3:30 - 8:30
- Oct. 18** ..... NO SCHOOL - HS/MS Conferences 7:30 - 11:30
- Oct. 19-20** ..... NO SCHOOL - Fall Break
- Nov 2** ..... End of Quarter 1
- Nov 3** ..... NO SCHOOL - Teacher Contract Day
- Nov 16** ..... PreK-5 Conferences 3:30 - 8:30 pm
- Nov 21** ..... End of Trimester 1 (MS)
- Nov 21** ..... PreK-5 Conferences 3:30 - 8:30 pm
- Nov 22** ..... NO SCHOOL
- Nov 22** ..... PreK-5 Conferences 7:30 - 11:30 am
- Nov 22** ..... PreK-Gr. 5 - PM off
- Nov 22** ..... HS/MS - Teacher Contract Day
- Nov 23-24** ..... NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break



Scan here to access this  
newsletter in Spanish



Scan here to access this  
newsletter in Somali



# Free School Lunch Program

In March, Governor Walz signed a Free School Meals for Kids bill that will provide **one free breakfast** and **one free lunch**, daily to Minnesota students starting this upcoming school year. In order to avoid being charged for extra items, please make sure your child knows what is (and what is not) included with their meals. For breakfast, students have the option to take all components offered: one main dish, one fruit and one carton of milk. Similarly, students have the option to take all five components for lunch, including: the main dish, one side, a fruit, a vegetable and a carton of milk. Students must take at least 3 of the 5 components offered, including the main dish and a fruit or vegetable. Extra entree and/or sides will be charged to the student account.



## Since meals are free, should I still fill out my Educational Benefits form?

Yes. There are many benefits to qualifying for Educational Benefits, including—but not limited to—free or reduced fees on:

- Sports or activities
- iPad protection plan
- School supplies
- Field trips
- College applications

Visit our website at [faribault.k12.mn.us/departments/food-and-nutrition](http://faribault.k12.mn.us/departments/food-and-nutrition) to learn more.



# FHS Autos Partners with Ford and GMC

Faribault High School Autos teacher, Greg Boyd has developed relationships with Ford and GMC that will allow students to start working on their certifications in

high school. Starting in the fall, FHS Autos students will have access to Ford and GMC training modules, job shadowing and on-the-job training.



# Kids World Registration is Now Open

Kids World is a fee-based school age child care program that provides high quality childcare. Options include:

- Before school care, starting at 6:30 am
- After school care, until 6 pm
- Open on non-school days and in the summer

Your child will be cared for in a safe and fun environment, where they can learn, play and grow.

Scan the QR Code to learn more.



# Enroll in FOA

Falcons Online Academy is free and open to all students in Grades 7-12 anywhere in Minnesota. Online-Anytime. With Falcons Online Academy, students can create their own schedule and take one or more courses online.

We have experienced Faribault Public Schools teachers and staff who will support your student's learning and development. Your child will be empowered to learn at their own pace and be eligible to join all school sponsored activities and events. Learn more at [faribault.k12.mn.us/schools/foa](http://faribault.k12.mn.us/schools/foa) or scan the QR Code.



# Take Driver's Education Classes

Do you have a soon-to-be 14 year-old? It might be time to start thinking about driver's education classes.

See below for a list of our upcoming classes. Learn more and register using the QR Code.

## FALL SESSIONS:

- September 18 – 29 from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- October 23 – Nov. 3 from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 27 – Dec. 8 from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- Parent Class Nov. 29 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



# Family Literacy Summer Enrichment

Our Family Literacy Specialists hosted a dozen Family Literacy Nights this summer to help keep students and their families engaged in learning all summer-long.





## No Tummies Left Behind Eliminates Student Lunch Debt at Faribault Public Schools

Please join us in thanking Ella Bettner and her donors and supporters for their work. We know many of our Falcon Families have benefited from her contributions.



Photo courtesy of No Tummies Left Behind.

## Consider Donating to the Falcon Educational Enrichment Program (FEED)

Since 2019, FEED has approved over \$68,500 in grants that have enriched the educational experience of the students in Faribault school district. The grants helped students in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), literacy, robotics, and cultural awareness.



This fundraising campaign is truly a community effort and is only possible with

support from Faribault's businesses, citizens, and organizations.

## What Were Our Summer STEAM Students Up To?

- What a fun day our Summer STEAM students had when news anchor and author Shayla Reaves read "Echo In The Distance" to our elementary-aged students. They were accompanied by Crystal, founder of The Chalk Bloc. Together, they encouraged our students to have the courage to follow their dreams.



- The Police Department and Fire Department visited our Summer STEAM sites. Our students loved learning about these agencies and building connections with some of our local heroes.



- STEAM students and their families were invited to Nature Night where they got to explore the outdoors and learn more about our environment.



## Become an AmeriCorps Promise Fellow

Promise Fellow positions are available at the Faribault Middle School! As an AmeriCorps Promise Fellow (also referred to as a Student Success Coach) you'll spend a year helping a small group of Minnesota students in grades 6-8 to get the support and mentorship needed to start off

strong in life. Scan the QR Code to apply.

Questions? Contact Alex Soth (asoth@mnyouth.net).



## Kids World and Summer STEAM Students Build Healthy Habits

Sodexo Community Wellness and Education Coordinator, Lexi Vanderlinde, hosts a healthy cooking class twice a week for students. All of the meals/snacks are heart healthy options. The students create a recipe book and fill it with the recipes that Vanderlinde taught them.

Eighth grader Jaclia Dismuke shared, "I feel like I'm learn-

ing a lot about how to cook; and we learned about the different groups, like grains and stuff, and why we need them." Eighth grader Gabriella Coronado said she learned about some of the vitamins and minerals that are in various foods, like that potassium is in bananas. "That's why I came here: to learn," she added.

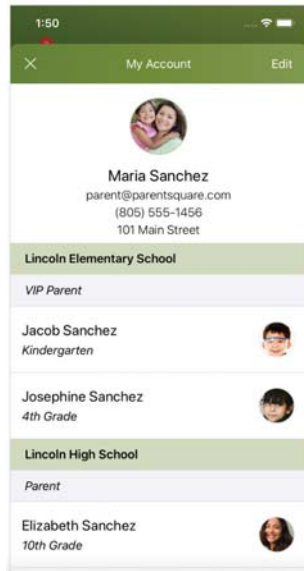


Quotes and photo courtesy of the Faribault Daily News.



## ParentSquare Enables Text Message Communication

We are excited to announce that we will be implementing ParentSquare this school year. This home-to-school communication platform is designed to keep parents and guardians informed on what their child is doing in school and better connect the school district staff to parents and families. Through ParentSquare, teachers and administrators will be able to send text messages to parents/guardians that automatically translate into their preferred language as reported in Infinite Campus.



## Supporting FAPSETA Scholarships & Programs

The FAPSETA organization awarded \$114,000 in scholarships this past year. Visit [fapseta.org](http://fapseta.org) to learn more and donate if you are able.



## Nest Donations

Faribault students received thousands of items last school year thanks to the Nest. We are grateful for all of the support and donations from the community.

We are looking forward to accepting donations for the upcoming school year. We are in need of School Supplies: backpacks, highlighters, notebooks, mechanical pencils; hygiene items: deodorant, hairbrushes, small lotions, hair bands; clothing items: socks, mens underwear; monetary donations.

Donations can be brought to the high school main office.

## Contract with Faribault Transportation Continues

Faribault Public Schools is proud to announce a continued partnership with Faribault Transportation. We have partnered with Faribault Transportation since 1948. We want to thank Faribault Transportation for all that they do for our students.



## FPS Works to Provide More Diverse Lunch Options

Faribault Public Schools, Sodexo, our food service provider, and Afro Deli and Grill, a restaurant chain in the Twin Cities that serves African and Mediterranean cuisine, are working on a plan to provide students

with food that is more culturally appropriate for the increasingly diverse population. Read the Faribault Daily News Article to learn more.

*Story and photo courtesy of the Faribault Daily News.*



## We're Hiring

Do you love helping students learn? Join our team as a Special Education Paraprofessional. Our pay rate is \$19.14 per hour and we have multiple positions open. Visit our website or scan the QR Code to apply.

