



FOCUS ON FAIRLESS

Fall 2023

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 1

Superintendent's Message

Fairless Community,

We have had an outstanding start to the 2023-2024 school year! Recently, Ohio released the Local Report Card for our district, which received an overall 3.5 out of 5 stars. The elementary school earned an overall 5-star rating! While there is much to celebrate, we are focused on implementing the strategies established in our new strategic plan to earn a 5-star district rating by 2026.

Our new strategic plan focuses has five vision areas:

Learning - Ensure engaging, relevant, and rigorous educational opportunities where all become expert learners.

Culture and Climate - Ensure a culture that is safe, supportive, and successful for all.

Experience - Provide a positive experience where all feel valued.

Communication - Provide clear and consistent two-way communication in which all remain informed and have a voice.

Resources - Ensure responsible and transparent use of the community's resources to provide an exceptional education for all.

The district leadership team is committed to living up to these vision areas and ensuring all decisions made, work towards achieving the goals set in the strategic plan.

The new high school is open and serving our students. Contractors are actively completing punch list items, which will most likely continue throughout this year and during school breaks, to keep disruptions to learning minimal. The former school has been demolished, and final site grade work is in progress. Soon road construction will start to connect the parking lot behind the new school to Brideweser Stadium's parking lot. Thank you for the amount of grace, patience, and flexibility that has been shown by our entire school community as we have been working through opening this beautiful facility.

Please join me in congratulating **Mrs. Jennifer Best** on being named Ohio District 8 Teacher of the Year. She was also a finalist for Ohio teacher of the Year! Mrs. Best teaches art at Fairless Elementary where she serves nearly 700 students. She is a proud Fairless graduate and an active member of the Fairless Alumni Association where she co-chairs the Back to School Supply and Night of Hope Committees. Mrs. Best is an advocate for all students, and has incorporated "studios" into her everyday teaching to provide choice in how they express themselves. Aside from being an outstanding teacher, Jennifer holds an annual art show where EVERY student has work on display. She puts dozens of hours into setting up and carefully ensuring that every student's artwork is displayed in a professional manner. The art show is open to the public, and is packed every year with parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and many proud students. Our community loves this event and it is truly inclusive of every student in our school. Congrats Mrs. Best!



Canton Ballet to Perform at FHS

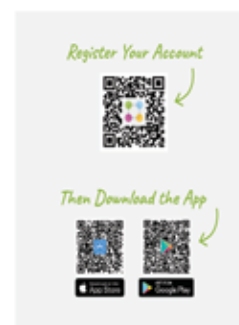
Fairless Local Schools has partnered with the nationally acclaimed and internationally known Canton Ballet, for the grand opening of our new Performing Arts Center at Fairless High School. A public performance will be held on the evening of Friday, December 1 to kick off the holiday season, and will feature select dances from Canton Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, as well as performances of the Falcon Playhouse. **Founding Falcon Playhouse Director, Mrs. Lucinda Frailly will be featured.** Much more to come on this - stay tuned to our website and ParentSquare for more information, and information on how to purchase tickets.

Our School is Using ParentSquare!

ParentSquare is a simple and safe way to connect and communicate.

Register now so you can:

- customize email, text and/or app notifications,
- RSVP for classroom and school activities,
- sign permission slips, and
- securely receive important student documents.



ParentSquare®





STAY CONNECTED

Fairless Local School District



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

Board of Education

Dr. Jody Seward, President	330-874-6118
Mrs. Hope Hill, Vice President	330-874-0425
Mr. Ken Killian, Member	330-705-1044
Mr. Jason Kirby, Member	330-879-9998
Mr. Charlie Snyder, Member	330-879-0004

District Office

800 7th Street SE • Brewster, Ohio 44613
330-767-3577

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

High School

800 7th Street SE • Brewster, Ohio 44613
330-767-3444

Dr. Chad Merritt	..... Principal
Dr. Tammy Bixler-Zalesinsky	..... Assistant Principal
Mrs. Kim King	..... Secretary

Middle School

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

Mrs. Cindy Class	..... Principal
Mrs. Brenda Jennings	..... Secretary

Elementary School

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

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

Fairless Local Schools, a nonprofit organization. News releases, story ideas, comments and suggestions should be addressed to [Focus On Fairless](#), Fairless Local Schools, 800 7th Street SE, Brewster, OH 44613.

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

PaySchools Central

PaySchools Central is now available to pay student chromebook fees, as well as adding money to your child's school breakfast/lunch accounts. Create an account by visiting payschoolscentral.com.

- Set up an account
- Deposit money anytime it's needed
- Set up email reminders for when your child's account gets low
- Set up automatic payments
- Check your child's account balance

Requirements:

- An email address
- A credit card (Cards will only be charged IF you choose to make a payment)
- Your child's student ID number (You can locate this number in your child's profile in FinalForms)

*Note - When you set up your account it may take up to 24 hours for the account information to be available

One account will cover all the children in your family. If you choose to use payschoolscentral.com, the company will charge you a processing fee per transaction. Any money put on the account will generally appear within 24 hours. If you have trouble setting up an account, please call 877-393-6628, they are open 8:30am - 7:30pm M-F.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Miller at (330) 767-7071 or via email at julie.miller@fairless.sparcc.org.

Information is on the fairlesslocalschools.org food service page. Students who qualify for Reduced meals receive free breakfast and lunch this year. Fill out an online application or ask your school for a paper application to be sent home with your student.

MISSION

Educate and empower Fairless to SOAR to EXCELLENCE!

VISION

Fairless is the community where families want to learn, live, work, and grow.

VISION AREAS



Learning

Ensure engaging, relevant, and rigorous educational opportunities where all become expert learners.



Experience

Provide a positive experience where all feel valued.



Culture and Climate

Ensure a culture that is safe, supportive, and successful for all.



Communication

Provide clear and consistent two-way communication in which all remain informed and have a voice.



Resources

Ensure responsible and transparent use of the community's resources to provide an exceptional education for all.

High School News



Principal's Message

Fairless Families,

It is a great time to be a Fairless Falcon! The students and staff have been excited to come to school each day in the new Fairless High School! This facility will serve our students, families and community well into the future. We welcomed the class of 2027 on the first day of school, and had many activities planned for them to make a successful transition to high school.

There have been many exciting events that have been happening at the high school in the arts, academics and athletics. High school staff have been utilizing all of the new technology in the building to deliver engaging lessons for students. Our focus for this year has been to steadily improve lessons and assessments.



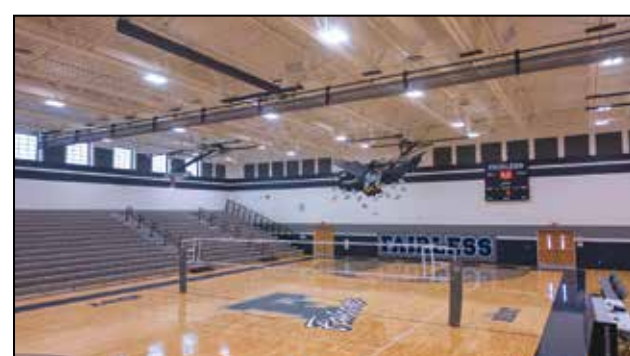
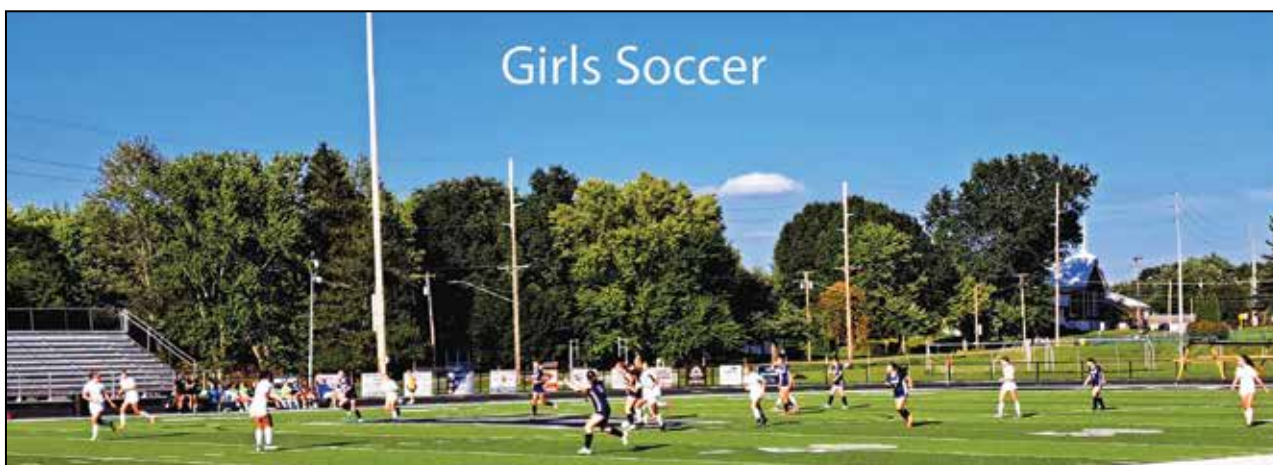
Freshmen, Class of 2027 *This year our high school year started with only freshmen attending school on the first day.*



In the arts, our band has performed in several shows, including the Stark County band show, and Falcon Playhouse and Silver Wings are looking forward to performing in the theater. In athletics, the Falcons have SOARED to excellence on the fields, court and courses. Several student-athletes have earned Player-of-the-Week honors, and we look forward to entering into league and district competitions in the next few weeks. Homecoming will be held on October 14 in the main gym with a luau theme. Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff!



High School News



Upcoming Dates

OCTOBER

- 5 & 11 P/T Conf. – Evening
- 6 P/T Conf. – All Day
- 9 Teacher Day – **NO SCHOOL**
- 20 *End of 9 weeks*

NOVEMBER

- 22-24 Thanksgiving Break – **NO SCHOOL**
- 27 **NO SCHOOL**

DECEMBER

- 20 *End of 9 weeks*
- End of semester*
- 21-29 Christmas Break – **NO SCHOOL**

JANUARY

- 1 & 2 Christmas Break – **NO SCHOOL**
- 15 Martin Luther King Day – **NO SCHOOL**



Math Classes

Math classes at FMS use a curriculum called CPM. Students use a mathematician's notebook and vertical whiteboards, while working in teams. There are many interactive, hands-on activities; here is some feedback about what students say about math class.



(l to r) **Wesley Smith** and **William Ickes**

Ashton Vincent explains, "In math I enjoy the book. I think it is easier than having to get a piece of paper every single day. Now everything we need is equipped in the books." **Jaxon Berresford** adds, "I love that there is always positivity from the class." **Graham Stracke** states, "I like working together as a group on the problems," while **Kylee Blaney** appreciates the vertical white boards, which make it easier to solve problems.



(l to r) **Savannah Crawford**, **Allie Newtz**, and **Lillian Garbiella** are standing by their posters.

Sixth Grade Healthy Living



Sam Gilkerson poses by his poster.

The sixth grade students in Healthy Living have been busy learning about health and wellness, along with potential risk factors. The students have learned how to make good decisions and set goals for their health. They also reviewed the traits of good character and designed their own set of classroom rules using what was learned. They created their own comic strips to show Healthy Living examples. They designed some great symbols for some specialists (Allergist, Pediatrician, Cardiologist, and Ophthalmologist). The students did a great job on their posters and assignments. If anyone is interested, we have some pretty good designers!

PRISM Award

On May 4, 2023, **Graham Stracke** attended the PRISM Ceremony at the Massillon Public Library. He was nominated by his sixth-grade teachers for his character, courage, and perseverance during sixth grade.

PRISM stands for **Performance Recognition In the Service Area** of the Massillon Public Library. It seeks to recognize students who have made special accomplishments, whether in traditional arenas such as academics or athletics, or in out-of-the-ordinary circumstances.

In his nomination form provided by the Massillon Public Library to his teachers. They stated that he was polite to peers and staff members, consistently completed his work, and was eager to learn. He finished up his year with a great attitude and had improved his grades, along with his attendance. He was one of the few Massillon area students who were selected to receive this award.



Susan Fritz, **Graham Stracke**, **Mary Stracke**



Students are writing notes of appreciation to friends, family, and staff members.



RileyJane Black, **Peyton Hersberger**, and **MaKaylin Cupples** make words of kindness with letter tiles.

Start With Hello

During the week of September 18, students at the middle school participated in Start With Hello. The purpose of this yearly tradition is to encourage empathy and have students spread kindness while connecting with others. The week included special announcements, activities at lunch, and themed spirit days.

Student Leadership Academy attends the International Day of Peace

On September 23, the ten members of the 2023-2024 FMS Student Leadership Academy attended the International Day of Peace at Centennial Plaza in Canton. Our middle and high school Academy members joined students from Canton City, Green, Jackson, Plain, Alliance and Rittman, to participate in this worldwide yearly event. They interacted with each other during activities, presentations, crafts and discussions all aimed at fostering peace, understanding and inclusiveness for all.



Teagan Dowdy, **Sylvia Twaddle**, **Adaline Borojevich**, **Bridget Newtz**, **Brice Fuller**, **CJ Pumneo**, **Rowan Askren**, **Catalina Martinez**, **Ashton Scheibe**, and **Ana Quinteros**.

Elementary News



Kindergarten

Miss Maggie's kindergarten class is learning how to "SOAR" on the bus and are wearing R-E-D to celebrate learning the color!



First Grade

First grade has been learning new math games, such as Bunny Hop and Penny Dice! These games help develop counting on a number line, and teamwork.



Second Grade

Second grade teachers, para-pros, and students are "all in" to SOAR with safety, ownership, attitude, and respect this year!



Third Grade

Third grade just celebrated their House Sorting Day! Students were placed in their Houses for the school year. The students will participate in competitions, and receive rewards, based on house points earned throughout the year! Students showed their house spirit by decorating the sidewalk outside the elementary school in their house colors, motto, and mascot.



Fifth Grade

The fifth grade team transformed their classrooms for the annual "Watermelon Day."

Students spent a day moving through various math, reading, science, and social studies activities. These activities showed students that learning is found anywhere, even in something as simple as a watermelon.



Fourth Grade

Fourth graders spent September 11 learning about the heroes, honoring those that were lost, and pledging to "Never Forget."



Playmakers Football Camp

Students in Mrs. Amiee Cox and Ms. Sandy Goist's classes, participated in the Playmakers Football Camp at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Coaches and players from local high schools helped conduct camp drills and provide positive reinforcement as they learned the fundamentals and values of the game.

Public Release

Fairless Local Schools announced its 2023-2024 program year policy for **free and reduced** for students unable to pay the full price of meals or milk served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast, After School Care Snack or Special Milk Programs. Each school office and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines will be used to determine eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the federal guidelines are eligible for free and reduced price meals or free milk if the school participates in the Special Milk Program.

Application forms are distributed to all homes in a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free and reduced-price benefits, households should complete an application and return it to the school. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. A complete application is required. Households which currently receive Special Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits (SNAP, formally known as food stamps) or Ohio Works First (OWF) funds for a child must provide the child's name, the SNAP or OWF case number and signature of an adult household member on the application. Households that do not receive SNAP or OWF funds must provide the names of all household members, the last four digits of the Social Security Number of the adult signing the application or state "none" if the adult does not have a Social Security Number, the amount and source of income received by each household member (state the monthly income) and the signature of an adult household member. If any of this information is missing, the school cannot process the application.

FREE HEALTH CARE: Families with children eligible for school meals may be eligible for free health care coverage through Medicaid and/or Ohio's Healthy Start & Healthy Families programs. These programs include coverage for doctor visits, immunizations, physicals, prescriptions, dental, vision, mental health, substance abuse and more. Please call 1-800- 324-8680 for more information or to request an application. Information can also be found on the web at <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/familychild.stm>. Anyone who has an Ohio Medicaid card is already receiving these services.

The information provided on the application is confidential and will only be used for the purpose to determine eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program official. To discourage the possibility of misrepresentation, the application forms contain a statement above the space for signature certifying that all information furnished is true and correct. Applications are being made in connection with the receipt of federal funds. Schools or other officials may check the information on the application at any time during the school year. Deliberate misrepresentation of information may subject the

applicant to prosecution under applicable state and federal laws.

Households will be notified of the approval or denial of benefits.

Foster children are categorically eligible for free meal benefits regardless of the household's income. If a family has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for such meals or milk for them, contact the school for more information.

Under the provision of the policy, Julie Miller Food Service Director will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian disagrees with the decision on the application or the result of verification, the decision may be discussed with the determining official on an informal basis. If a formal appeal is desired, the household has the right to a fair hearing. A fair hearing can be requested either orally or in writing from:

Mr. Mike Hearn,
Fairless Superintendent
800 7th ST. SE
Brewster, Ohio 44613
330-767-3577

The policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

Households may apply for benefits any time during the school year. If a household is not currently eligible and if the household size increases or income decreases because of unemployment or other reasons, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for free or reduced-price benefits if the family income falls at or below the levels shown above.

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or

contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online

at:

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-ComplaintForm-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington,
D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

a Night of
HOPE

NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Enjoying an Evening together for our Community!

Our keynote speaker, **Renee Powell** will share her inspiring and motivational story while we enjoy a delicious dinner and continue the celebration with our **Fairless Hall of Honor Inductees from 2023!** We will continue with our annual live **Auction** that will surely ignite the crowd and conclude the evening by dancing the night away to our favorite tunes!

ST. CLEMENT'S PARISH HALL
216 E. WOOSTER ST. NAVARRE 44662

DINNER 6:30 PM (DOORS WILL OPEN AT 5:30 PM)

-CASH BAR AVAILABLE

AUCTION 7:30 PM/MUSIC 8:30 PM

\$55/Per Ticket

Limited tickets available through Fairless Alumni
\$500/Table of 8 (Silver Sponsor)
\$1000/Table of 8 (Blue Sponsor)
To become an event sponsor,

RSVP HERE

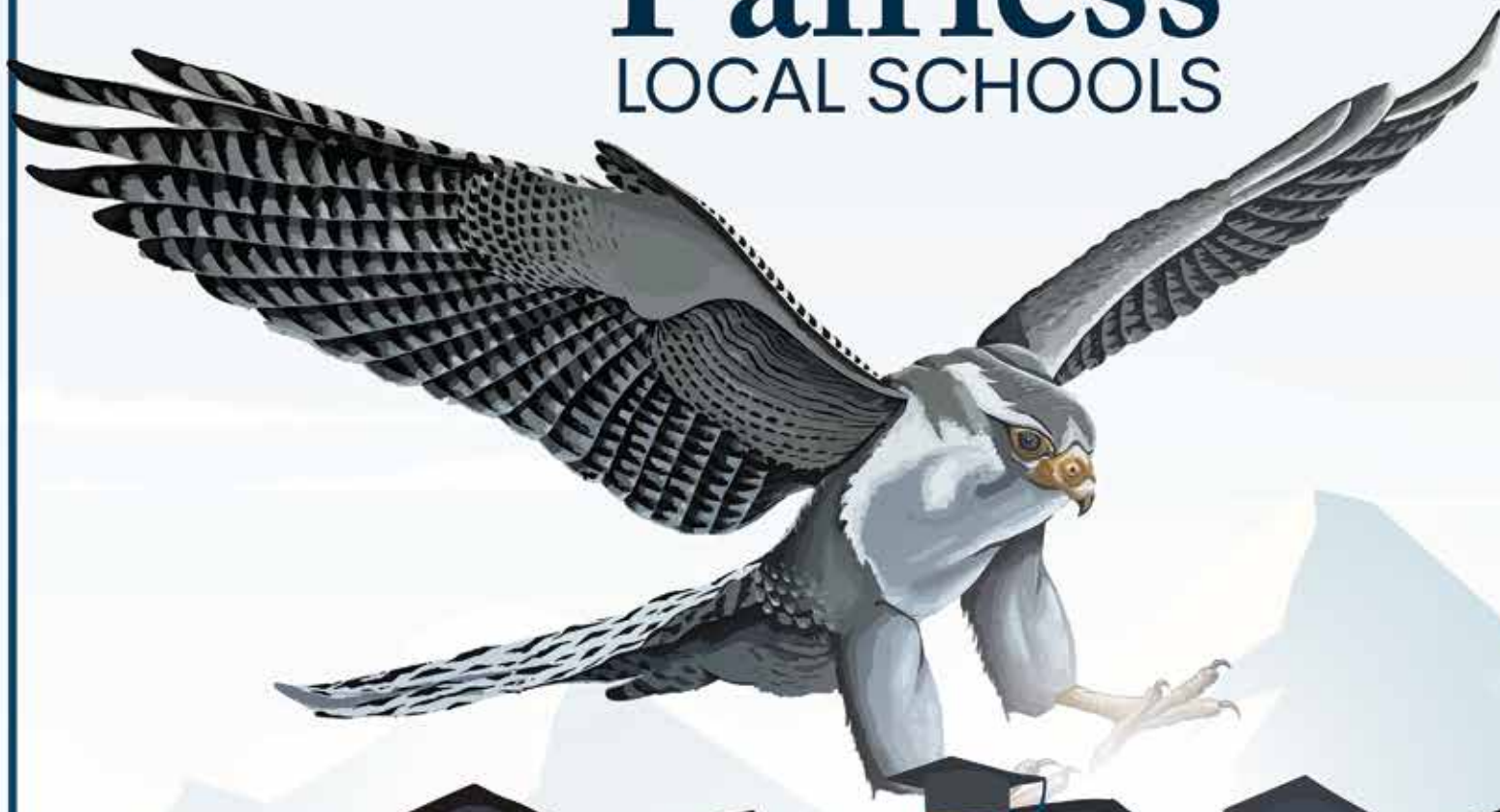
Call/Text 330.605.1935 or 330.327.6819 for more information or questions
Sponsored by the Fairless Alumni Association, Inc./Fairless Helping Fairless, a 501 (c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

Dinner provided by

Music provided by:


Fairless

LOCAL SCHOOLS



ACADEMICALLY PREPARED

Foundational Knowledge

Graduates will have an academic experience that achieves high expectations for each student's individual development.

Well-Rounded Content

Graduates will have access to a range of options for co-curricular and extracurricular activities that reflect students' interests, goals and learning profiles.



RESILIENT INDIVIDUAL

Adaptability

Graduates will use their skills, knowledge, and experiences to identify possible solutions for complex problems.

Growth Mindset

Graduates will embrace challenges and be persistent in their learning.

Motivated

Graduates will show an eagerness to ask questions and explore beyond what is required, discovering, learning and understanding.



FEARLESS LEARNER

Critical Thinking

Graduates will develop critical thinking and reasoning skills, problem-solving competencies, and technology proficiency.

Innovative

Graduates will be self-directed learners, who are flexible with their knowledge and learn as they go, adapt to the situation, and use critical thinking skills.

Curious

Graduates will ask thoughtful questions, dig deeply into issues, and consider multiple perspectives when tackling problems and developing new processes.



PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATOR

Intrapersonal Skills

Graduates will assume developmentally and age-appropriate responsibility for learning through effective decision-making, goal setting, and time management.

Effective Communication Skills

Graduates will clearly, concisely and truthfully articulate their thoughts in verbal and written formats while respecting the targeted audience and other points of view.

Collaborator

Graduates will work well with others by respecting differences and actively listening in order to practice cooperation and compromise in problem solving.



CARING CITIZEN

Service Learning

Graduates will engage in community service experiences to help meet societal needs.

Ethical

Graduates will act with integrity and take responsibility for their actions and decisions.