

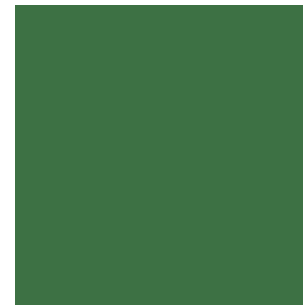


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Faribault Public Schools Newsletter



November/
December 2023

Faribault Public Schools Celebrates Unity Day

Lincoln Elementary had a blast celebrating Unity Day! The celebration began with readings and lessons in the classroom; teaching students kindness, acceptance, and inclusion, and ended with an all-school celebration in song and a walk around the block. School Social Workers, Ms. Kaune and Ms. Wolf went above and beyond to make it a fun and enlightening day for all students.



Happy December,

As you may have heard, Faribault Public Schools School Board is considering reorganizing the district. I was directed to bring the school board some options for possible reorganization and these options were presented to the board at a work session on November 6, and have since been narrowed down to two options. The next part of the process is to gather community input on these options. We will have several Town Hall meetings in December to gather community feedback about these options which will then be reported to the

School Board at future meetings. Please keep an eye on our Faribault Public Schools social media accounts for the dates and times of these upcoming meetings.

Sincerely,
Jamie Bente
Superintendent of Faribault Public Schools



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DECA Community Service Projects

DECA has been busy working on community service projects over the past few months. In November, the DECA students packed 166 boxes of meals for Feed My Starving Children. Those 166 boxes have enough food to feed 98 children for an entire year!



The DECA students also held a Dress for Success clothing drive this fall. Over one hundred articles of dress clothes, including blazers,

dress shirts, dress pants, ties, skirts, blouses, belts, and shoes were donated. DECA



plans to allow students to use the clothing for events where students need dress



clothes including academic competitions, formal dances, and job interviews.

Youth Data Summit

Twice per year, students from Faribault, Northfield, Waterville-Elysian-Morristown and Tri-City United meet to review state and district-level data and create action plans on how to address concerns in their respective districts. This fall, the students decided to focus on anti-bullying efforts. Our Faribault Public School students came up with three ways to address bullying: consult peer-led Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) program, work on bystander intervention tactics, and host a parent informational session on safe cell

phone use. The Youth Data Summit is supported by the Achievement and Integration funding and is a great

way to get our students involved in creating a safe and positive learning environment.



Faribault Lions Club Donates Dictionaries to Third-Graders

Faribault Lions Club continued their long standing tradition of delivering dictionaries to all Faribault Public

Schools third grade students. The students will use their dictionaries in class this year and at the end of the

year, they get to take them home to keep. Thank you, Faribault Lions Club!



First Graders Visit Buckham Memorial Library

Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt Elementary first-grade students visited Buckham Memorial Library. While there, they had storytime, toured the library, got their first library card and checked out a book. What a fun learning experience!



Faribault Middle School Students and Staff Participate in Health and Wellness Seminar

Health Teacher Mr. Ross invited FMS students and staff to learn more about nutrition, health, and wellness from guest speakers from Anytime Fitness of Faribault and All-Star Nutrition Mankato. The students really enjoyed it and asked great questions!



Jefferson Walk-A-Thon

Faribault students and businesses worked to raise \$7,607.15 for our PTO to go toward field trips and other fun events held at Jefferson. Top sellers in each grade level were: Charlotte VanDyke, Dylan Sammon, Phoenix Fisher, Grace Bock, Logan Boone, Boden Cox, and Isabella Flores. Mrs. Schrot's class was the top selling class. Thanks to all of our volunteers, staff, and students for making our colorful Walk-A-Thon so successful. Shout out to Mrs. Dalluge for all the hard work that went into making this day happen.



Jefferson Students Write 'Thank You' Cards for Staff

Mrs. Scheffler's 3rd grade class and Mrs. Cox's kindergarten class are classroom buddies and meet once a month. This month, they made thank you cards for staff at Jefferson. Students worked together to decorate and write messages to staff and hand delivered them when finished.



Met-Con Construction Leads Experiential Learning

Some of our elementary-age Community School students got to build a concession stand with Met-Con Companies, Inc. Met-Con employees Anthony and Hunter taught the students about the construction field; they connected classroom lessons to construction work and provided hands-on learning by teaching students how to safely construct the concession stand. In the next phase of the concession stand project, middle school-aged students will paint the stand! Once it's complete, the concession stand will be used by our Community Schools and various clubs to support student development in real-world applications by counting change, taking orders, providing customer service, and inventory management, and the proceeds from the concessions will go back to supporting more projects for our community!



Project ABLE Outing

Recently, participants of Project Able attended a Bats, Bones, and Bonfire event at the River Bend Nature Center. It was an afternoon of horse-drawn wagon rides, smores, games, and so much more.



Veterans Day Celebration

We had a fantastic Veterans Day celebration! The Color Guard American Legion Post 43 was in attendance and Sgt. Jason Strauch gave an overview of the military branches and shared a bit about his own experiences. Our choir, band and orchestra students put on a great performance, and our National Honor Society students took time to recognize our staff who served in the military as well as our students who plan to serve. To all Veterans, we thank you for your service!

Faribault Police Department Donates to Lincoln Safety Patrols

The Faribault Police Benefit Association donated walkie-talkies and flags to the Lincoln Elementary School Crossing Patrols. Officer Johns was pleased to pose for a photo with Wendy Hettinger, Lincoln Patrol Supervisor, and some of the Patrol group.



Faribault DECA Program Continues to Showcase Our Students

Our DECA members competed along with nearly 850 other members from around the state in the Back to Business Challenge at the Minneapolis Hyatt Regency. Back to Business is a conference that has developmental workshops and a practice competition in either the Principles of Marketing or Marketing Communications role play. Students are divided into beginning members and returning members. Faribault members won 13 medals that were awarded to the top 25 exam scores or the top role players in each section. Medal winners included: Ben Stoessel, Preston Berger, Sigrid Holmgren, Anna DeMars, Joey Steinberg, Logan Peroutka, Jillian Huberty, Will Dietz, Kelsie Vigasaa, Andrew Flicek, and Aubrey Filan. Advisor Jared Kegler said, "Back to Business is similar to a sports scrimmage where the students get to experience a competition and receive feedback. The information we gather helps us prepare the students for future competitions. We brought over 30 new members that experienced DECA for the first time with the goal of having fun, meeting new people, and experiencing what a competition is like. Winning some medals was just icing on the cake." Freshman Aubrey Paul said, "I loved my experience. It was so much fun and everyone was really supportive and friendly." Fellow Freshman Jovalynn Vangness added, "I had a lot of fun and the workshops were really helpful. It was nice to do a practice competition."



Congratulations to our DECA Members that won Virtual Business Awards! Seniors Joey Steinberg, Logan Peroutka, and Ben Stoessel were recently named Round One Virtual Business State Champions. Steinberg, competing in Virtual Business Restaurant, was also crowned the Central Region Champion and will move on to compete at DECA's international competition (ICDC) in Anaheim, CA in late April. Peroutka and Stoessel narrowly missed joining Steinberg at ICDC as they placed 4th in the Central Region in the Sports Virtual Business.

Faribault DECA will celebrate November's National DECA month by participating in a Community Service Project, Ethical Leadership Campaign, and a Promotional Campaign. The full team of about 75 members will next compete in the District 1 Competition on January 5th in Owatonna.

Hy-Vee Donates 1,800 Lunch Boxes to FPS Students

We want to thank Faribault Hy-Vee for donating lunch boxes to all of our elementary students. Hy-Vee saw a need and worked to support our students.



Lincoln Elementary Learns About Hearing and Vision Impairment

Every month, Lincoln Elementary showcases differences in our school community. This month, they focused on those who are blind or have vision impairment and those who are deaf or hard of hearing. Thanks to the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind for lending us the items to showcase.



Early Childhood Programming Expansion

Thanks to the Faribault Rotary Club, we were able to expand our early childhood and preschool programming. We are grateful for the resources they provided to help our program grow—and now serve over 200 of our community's youngest learners!



Building Closures and Falcon Flex Days

Faribault Public Schools will no longer be implementing traditional, "Snow Days," instead, we will have Falcon Flex days. If severe weather causes us to close our buildings, instruction will take place from home. Students will either follow their take-home Falcon Flex Day learning plans or participate in online learning assignments. Check out our website to stay informed on Falcon Flex Day practices.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Dec. 15	NO SCHOOL
Dec. 22-29	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Jan. 1-2	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Jan. 18	End of Semester 1
Jan. 19	NO SCHOOL
Feb. 9	NO SCHOOL
Feb. 15	PreK-8 Conf 3:30 - 8:30 / HS Reg.
Feb. 16	NO SCHOOL - Conf 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Feb. 19	NO SCHOOL
Feb. 22	PreK-5, Gr. 9-12 Conf 3:30 - 8:30
Mar. 1	End of Trimester 2 (MS)
Mar. 21	End of Quarter 3
Mar. 22	NO SCHOOL
Mar. 25-29	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
April 10	NO SCHOOL
April 19	NO SCHOOL