



# FOCUS ON FAIRLESS

Spring 2024

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 3

## Superintendent's Message

Dear Fairless Community,

As we approach the end of another school year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for all that our students and staff have accomplished together. It has been a year of challenges, growth, and remarkable achievements, and I am excited to share some highlights which have occurred since the last newsletter.

In the winter 2024-2025 season, Athletic Director **Nate Held** will be retiring after serving students for over 30 years. He has impacted thousands of students as a teacher, coach, and athletic director. While he will be sorely missed as a member of the Fairless Family, he has earned this opportunity to be a full-time husband, dad, and grandpa. Congratulations and best of luck on your retirement, Nate!

I would like to introduce the Fairless Community to the next Athletic Director of Fairless Local Schools, **Zach Michel**. Zach comes to Fairless from the Jackson Local School District where he served as a teacher, coach, and director of K-12 football and lacrosse operations. He is visionary, energetic, and excited to be a Falcon! Welcome to Fairless Zach!



*Zach Michel*

Renovation work at Brideweser Stadium is progressing well. Within the next few weeks, the stadium grandstand work will be complete. Wood has been replaced with aluminum, aisleways added, access bridge widened, handicapped accessible seating added, and a new ADA approved entrance ramp installed. Visitors to Brideweser will also note that we have installed assistive listening technology which will allow those with hearing impairments to hear stadium announcements through their bluetooth enabled hearing aids or provided devices. In early May, work will start to improve drainage in the stadium and then the area connecting the grandstands to the concession stand will be paved. Our overall goal with this work was to improve the experience of our guests through enhancements of safety and accessibility, while honoring the gift that the Athletic Complex Team volunteers built for our community. In the fall, we will rededicate the stadium and hope to have the Athletic Complex Team members and their families present to celebrate.

Work at the new high school is nearly complete. The construction crews have been largely off-site since early February, but will be back for punch list items in June. The main work remaining, involves corrections to site work where we have seen some issues with drainage, and areas that need reseeded. We are getting close to this project being complete - thank you for all the patience shown as we work to improve our campus!

Our mission to "Educate and Empower Fairless to Soar to Excellence" has been at the forefront of everything we do. From the classroom to the athletic field, from the arts to academics, our students have demonstrated a commitment to excellence that is truly inspiring. They have embraced new opportunities for learning, shown resilience in the face of adversity, and consistently exceeded expectations.

At Fairless, we aspire to be more than just a school district; we strive to be the community where families want to learn, live, work, and grow. Our vision guides us in creating a supportive environment where every student can thrive. This year, we have continued to strengthen our partnerships with families, businesses, and community organizations, recognizing that together, we can achieve so much more than we could alone.

As we reflect on the past year, let us celebrate the achievements of our students and staff. Whether it's academic honors, athletic championships, artistic performances, or acts of kindness and service, each accomplishment

*Continue on page 3*



Fairless Local Schools

Soaring to Excellence Every Day

School Nutrition Updates Spring 2024

## Exciting News!

From the desk of...  
Julie Miller, Food Service Director

I am thrilled to share some exciting news with you regarding the latest development in our commitment to providing exceptional meals and service at Fairless Local. Over the past few months, we have been diligently working on the implementation of online menus through the innovative platform, My School Menus.

Our primary goal throughout this process has been to enhance transparency and accessibility when it comes to the food options available in our cafeterias. Although menus are subject to change due to product availability, this new tool is designed to keep everyone informed about the delicious and nutritious offerings we provide.

My School Menus serves as a valuable resource for students, staff, and parents, offering real-time information on the daily and weekly menu choices. This platform not only showcases our diverse and well-balanced meal options but also provides insights into the nutritional content of each dish.

By embracing this technology, we aim to empower our school community with the knowledge they need to make informed choices about the food they consume. We believe that My School Menus will be a game-changer in fostering a healthier and more transparent approach to child nutrition.

As we begin on this exciting journey, we appreciate your patience and support. We are confident that My School Menus will contribute to an even more positive dining experience for everyone.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the well-being of our students.

My School MENUS



DOWNLOAD

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store





**STAY CONNECTED**

**Fairless Local School District**

**Board of Education**

- Dr. Jody Seward, *President* ..... 330-874-6118
- Mrs. Hope Hill, *Vice President* ..... 330-874-0425
- Mr. Justin Henry, *Member* ..... 330-807-7056
- Mr. Ken Killian, *Member* ..... 330-705-1044
- 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.



**Tenth Annual  
Fairless Alumni Association  
Fairless Helping Fairless  
Golf Outing**

**Lyon's Den Golf Course**

6347 Manchester Ave. NW Canal Fulton, OH 44614

**Lyon's Den Golf Course  
Saturday, May 18, 2024  
Shotgun - Scramble  
Fee: \$70 PP Includes Golf, Cart,  
Hot Dog - Beverage & Dinner  
50/50- Skins- Hole Contests  
~Door Prizes  
Cash for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place**



**Registration: 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
Tee Off: 8:30 a.m.  
Format: Four Person Scramble  
Hot Dog & Beverage: Turn  
Dinner: Following Golf**

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY-Make Checks Payable to: Fairless Alumni Association, Inc.**

**Hole Sponsor \$100** Company/ Individual Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION- Make Checks Payable to: Fairless Alumni Association, Inc.**

**Players: \$70/person (4 players per team)**

1. _____	_____	_____
Name	Address	Phone
2. _____	_____	_____
Name	Address	Phone
3. _____	_____	_____
Name	Address	Phone
4. _____	_____	_____
Name	Address	Phone

**Questions:**  
Jacqueline  
330.603.6535  
Mike  
330.232.6779

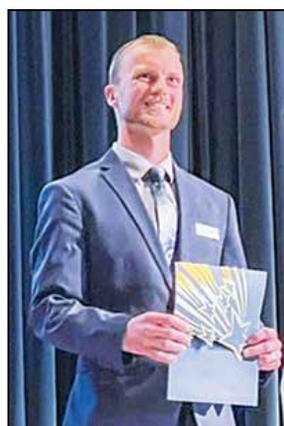
*Return to: Elizabeth Musacchia, 320 S Wabash Ave, Brewster, Oh 44613*



## Outstanding Student and Educator Award Ceremony

Fairless Local Schools had several students and an educator honored at the annual SST-9 Outstanding Student and Educator Award Ceremony, held on March 16 at RG Drage Career Technical Center. Six students received honorable mention awards for the RA Horn Outstanding Student Award: **Hudson Eisenbrei** (kdg), **Cali Warstler** (6th), **Ana Martinez** (6th), **Austin Bailey** (8th), **Waleili Gregory** (12th), and **Martin Sander** (12th).

Educator **Ben Russell** was also honored as a nominee for the Franklin B. Walter Outstanding Educator Award. Congratulations to all of the award winners for your outstanding accomplishments!



## Ohio Summer Food Service Program

All children ages 1 through 18 are eligible to receive free meals during the summer months at participating program sites. Individuals ages 19 through 21 who have been identified as having mental or physical disabilities and are following Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) through their current enrollment in educational programs also are eligible for free summer meals.

For more information, call 1-866-3-HUNGRY (486479). To report a meal site listed that is not operating please contact the Office of Nutrition:

(614) 466-2945 or (877) 644-6338  
[child.nutrition@education.ohio.gov](mailto:child.nutrition@education.ohio.gov)

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is a testament to the dedication and talent within our community. I am immensely proud of all that we have achieved together, and I am filled with optimism for the future.

As we look ahead to the coming months and the end of this school year. Let us remain committed to our mission of excellence and our vision of community. Together, we can continue to educate and empower Fairless to soar to even greater heights.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. I am grateful for the privilege of serving as your superintendent, and I am excited for all that the future holds for our Fairless community.

Go Falcons!

Mike



### 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.



## Fairless High School National Honor Society

# NHS Induction Ceremony

Ten scholars into the Fairless High School Chapter of the National Honor Society. Students were inducted based upon four criteria; Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character. Congratulations to all of our new members!



*(l to r) New members: AJ Soehnlen, Alannah Bailey, Gavin Seibert, Lily Askren, Jacob Postlewaite, Clara Snavely, Noah Hagi, Bryce Gregorich, Adyson Vetrone, Rebecka Ickes.*



*Silver Wings at Coffeehouse Concert*



# High School News

## The ADDAMS Family Musical

The cast and crew of the Falcon Playhouse brought the house down with an outstanding performance of *The Addams Family Musical*. Guests at The Lucinda J. Frailey Performing Arts were treated to a fantastic musical about love, family, honesty and growing up. Well done Cast and Crew!

### Tech Crew for Addams Family



**Dylan Lamp**  
High School



**Joey Benson**  
High School



**Blake Hess**  
High School



**John Miller**  
Middle School



## Massillon Rotary Recognition

Seniors **Calli Soehnen**, **Tiffany Gantz**, **Marlee Hannum**, and **Kaydee Goff** represented Fairless High School at the Massillon Rotary. They did a great job sharing about their accomplishments and experiences at Fairless!



Falcon Playhouse  
@falcon.playhouse

The Addams Family  
A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY



(l to r) Senior members of the court: **Maura Seibert**, **Brent Hrynko**, **Clementine Provost**, **Daniel Soehnen**, **Ella Cox**, and **Austin Bamford**.

## Winter Homecoming

Students enjoyed a western-themed Winter Homecoming at Fairless High School on January 27.



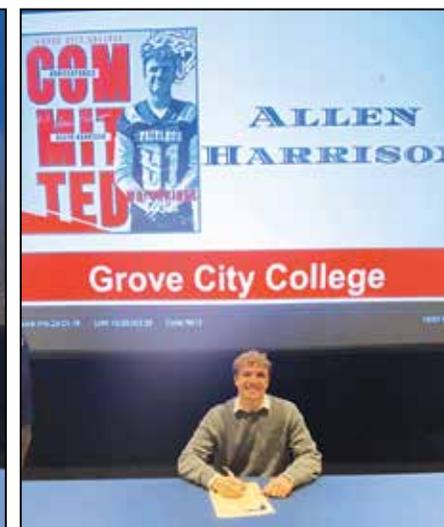
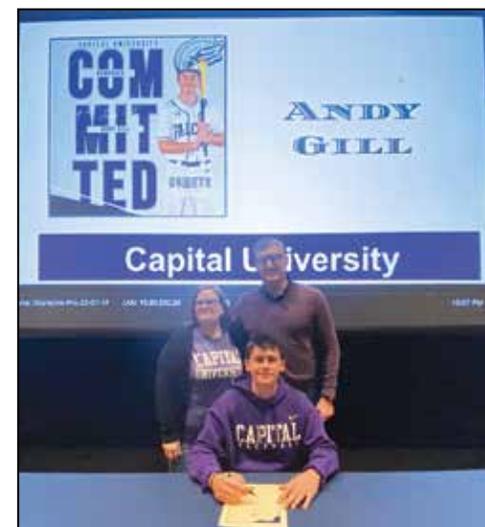
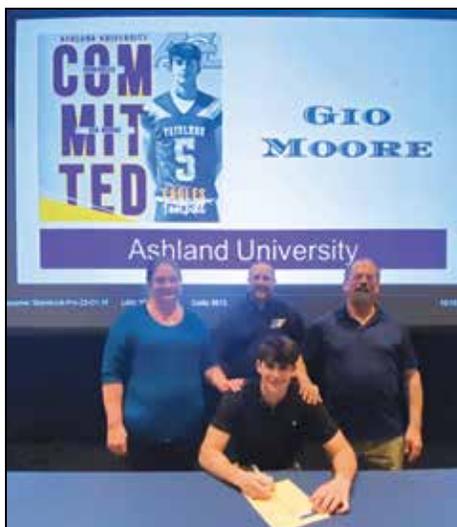
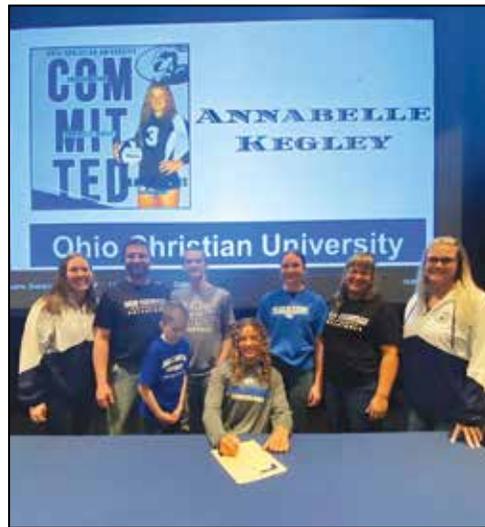
# SIGNINGS

## Falcons SOARing to College

Nine Fairless athletes signed letters of intent during the Winter Sports Awards night held at Fairless High School.



ROW 1: Jaileigh Price (Volleyball), Maura Seibert (Track and Field), Annabelle Kegley (Volleyball), Lydia Highben (Softball); ROW 2: Carson Colucci (Football), Xavier Collier (Football), Giovanni Moore (Football), Andy Gill (Baseball) and Allen Harrison (Football).

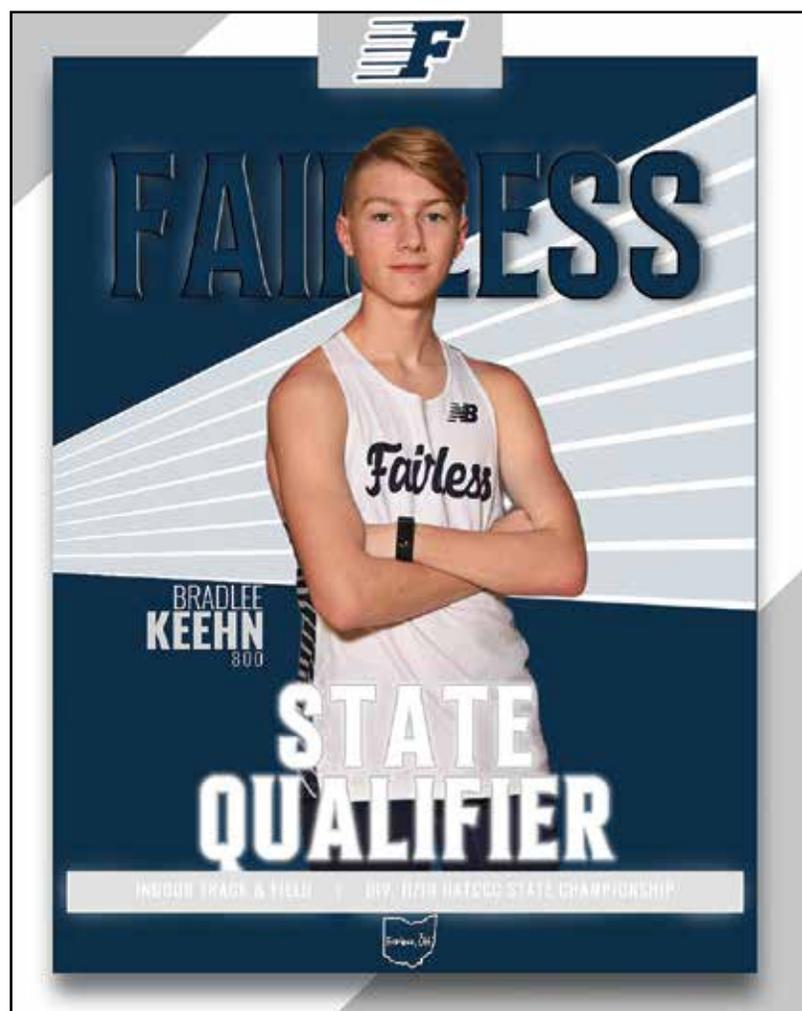
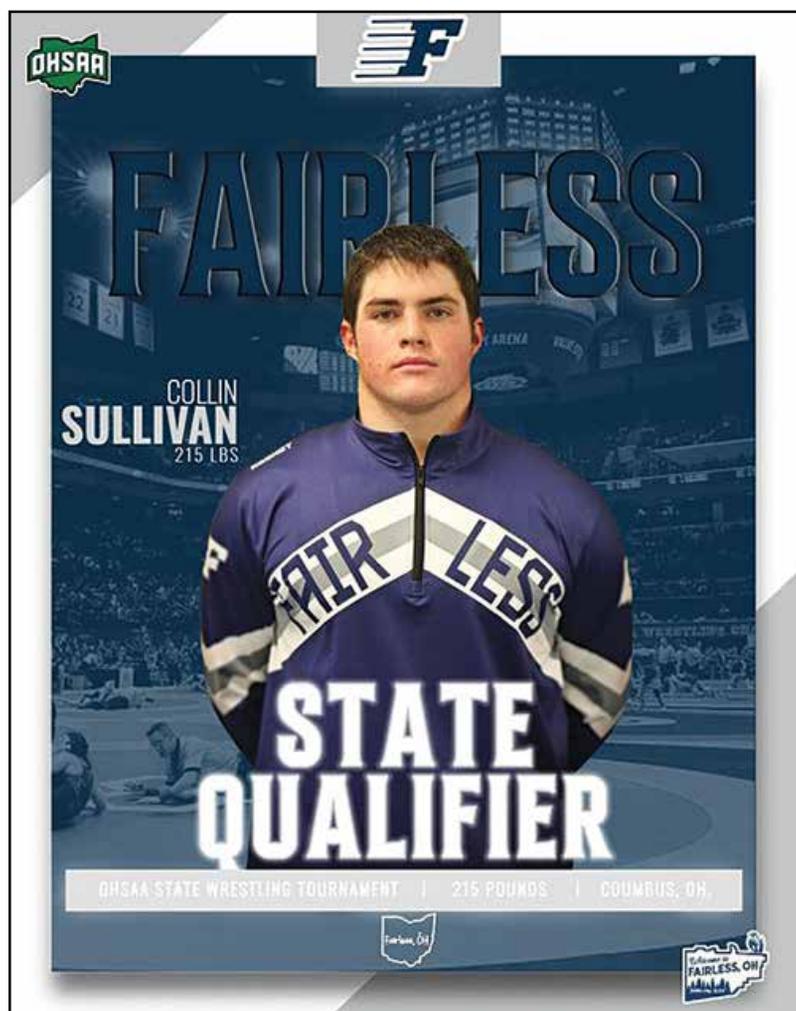


**Good Luck to all of our Falcons who will compete at the next level!**



## Falcons SOARing at State!

Fairless was represented by three athletes at the state level during the winter sports season, **Collin Sullivan** (wrestling) as well as **Bradlee Keehn** and **Andrew Hearn** (Indoor Track). Congratulations to all on an outstanding season!





## Fine Arts

It has been a busy year for the Fine Arts Department! Both high school and middle school students participated in the first two productions performed in the Lucinda Frailly Performing Arts Center at Fairless High School. Students participated in all aspects of each production, from acting, stage direction, technical support, props and costumes. It was a rewarding experience not only for the cast and crew, but also for the faculty and staff involved.

In the classroom, students created a multitude of art projects, but the favorite among seventh-graders was the **Ninja Portraits**. In this project, the students learned about observational drawing and facial proportions. Because some people tend to be uncomfortable with having their portrait drawn, they all had to choose someone from across the room without letting them know who was being drawn.

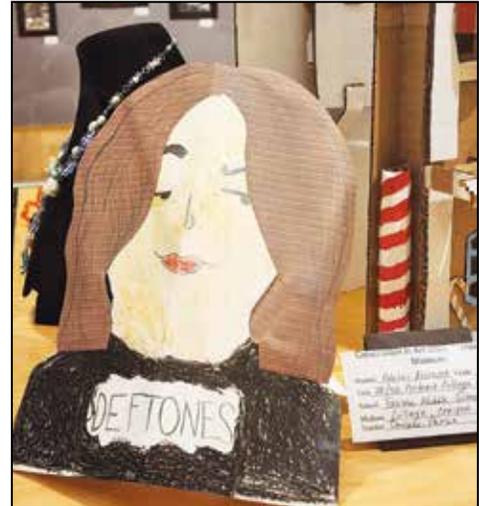
In the community, seven students were chosen to display their artwork in the Celebration in Art Exhibition at the Massillon Museum. This is a huge honor for students, because only seven pieces can be submitted from Fairless Middle School. The artwork is currently on display in the library.



*Christmas Show: Theater - McKaylin Cupples, Leah Fleck, and Stage Manager Lauren Knight rehearsing for the Christmas Showcase!*

## Visual Arts

### Seven Students' artwork selected for the Celebration in Art Exhibition at the Massillon Museum



*Adelai Albrecht, 6, 2D/3D Portraits*



*Ryker Huff, 6, Design Challenge: Treehouse*



*Noah Barkan, 7, Halloween Repousse*



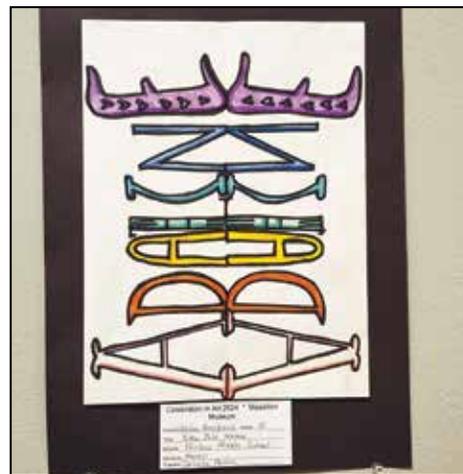
*Sophia Ciccolini, 8, Acetate Portraits*



*Kallie Allison, 8, Tim Burton Portraits*



*John Miller, 8, Acetate Portraits*



*Adaline Borojevich, 8, Totem Pole Names*



*(left and above) Ninja: seventh-grade art students covertly draw another student from across the room without them knowing.*

# Middle School News

## Fairless Middle School Spelling Bee

On February 6, 32 sixth, seventh, and eighth-graders competed in the Fairless Middle School spelling bee. The top five competitors were:

#1 **Theoden Murtaugh**-7th grade; #2 **Kameron Manack**-6th grade; #3 **Caysen Long**-6th grade; #4 **Jordan Tormasi**-8th grade; #5 **Landon Kasler**-8th grade.

The winning word was “superior.” **Caysen Long** participated in the regional spelling bee at Kent Stark, making it to the fourth round, correctly spelling “digression,” “marooned,” and “beret.” Great job!



Caysen Long

## Sixth Grade

In December, Mrs. Fritz’s third-period reading class read the novel, *Children of the Great Depression* by Russell Freedman. This story brings to life the hardships faced by American families, especially their children, during the Great Depression of the 1930’s. Over Christmas break, sixth-graders were given the challenge to think about a toy they could create, with a child of the Great Depression in mind, using only materials that they could find, and been given permission to use, to create their masterpiece. Nothing used was to be purchased by their parents or family members. They created the toys in January, and presented them to their class in February. Mrs. Fritz said, “I’m proud to say that a plethora of creativity and ingenuity was shown by these students.”



In March, Mrs. Fritz’s third-period reading class were given classic novels to choose from to read. The girls chose to read *Black Beauty*, by Anna Sewell, and the boys decided on *Call of the Wild* by Jack London. They were given the challenge to create a group project that depicts their favorite events of the plot in each story, and be prepared to present their projects to their classmates after the OST ELA testing days this month. They have had class time, time at home, and the girls have even come to the classroom during lunch, to work on this assignment. The girls’ group decided to create a diorama, a poster, and even include a stick horse. The boys divided up into three groups, creating a doghouse, an informative/explanatory essay, and a Google Slideshow to depict their favorite plot events. Both the girls’ group, and the boys’ groups described, in detail, how they determined the events from their novels to identify, without being a spoiler. The objective of their project was to pique the interest of other classmates, which in turn, would hopefully encourage them to read their novel.

## Falcon Writers Soar at Power of the Pen Tournaments

Eight Power of the Pen writers qualified for the regional Power of the Pen tournament on February 24. Seventh-graders **Leighton Brown**, **Grace Hollstein**, **William Ickes**, and **Savannah Thompson** and eighth-graders **Adaline Borojevich**, **Bridget Newtz**, **Adelyn Peterson**, and **Sylvia Twaddle**. Seventh grade placed 12th, and the eighth grade placed 10th out of 26 teams. The teams were coached by seventh-grade teachers **Julie Feucht** and **Kyleen Leifer**.

Adaline placed eighth and Bridget placed fourth at the regional tournament, and will compete in the state tournament at Ashland University on May 17. Bridget’s story “Ignorance” was the top story for round three at the tournament. Great job, Falcon writers!



Front: **Ana Quinteros**; Back: **Adaline Borojevich**, **Adelyn Peterson**, **Bridget Newtz**, **Nova Day**, **Catalina Martinez**, **Sylvia Twaddle**, **Ila Warstler**. **Madelyn Vigil** not pictured.

(l to r): **Madelyn Vigil**, **Ila Warstler**, **Nova Day**, **Sylvia Twaddle**.



## Big Sisters

In an effort to inform fourth and fifth-grade girls about what opportunities are available to them in their home and school community, ten eighth-grade girls got together and wrote a grant. The Junior League of Stark County awarded the girls a Junior Leaders Service Grant in the amount of \$2,000 to hold a program after school on March 15, from 3:30-5:00pm. The girls provided activities in the Fairless Elementary School gym immediately after school and then invited them into the cafeteria where booths and representatives from various sports and community organizations met with the girls. A taco bar from Campesino’s Grill in Strasburg and goodie bags were provided. The eighth-grade girls spoke to the elementary students about their experiences and how important it is to get involved in their school and community.



## Fifth Grade

Fifth-graders persevered during “Survivor Week.” Miss Wolf’s homeroom, however, earned the “Ultimate Falcon Survivor” title. Our ELA classrooms were transformed into Survivor Mode. All reading and writing challenges were survivor themed.



## Kindergarten

Mrs. Ruffier’s students received a gold coin to visit the book machine for turning in their Spring Break Reading Challenge.



## First Grade



Miss Pyles first-graders in Mrs. Smith’s reading group read an informational book on how to make a terrarium (a small garden in a jar). They focused on the water cycle and how it affects it. As a culminating activity, they were very excited to make their own terrarium to observe.



In March, the first-graders celebrated the 120th Day of School! They had lots of fun making cereal necklaces, stacking 120 cups, and much more.



## Third Grade

Students in third grade learned about many different types of energy. They experimented with magnetic, thermal, light, sound, and electrical energy.

# Elementary News

## Second Grade



The second-graders had a wonderful time exploring and learning at the McKinley Museum, Monument, Planetarium, and Discover World in March. They loved getting to see so many new things!



Ms. Sandy Goist's class has been busy in science class learning about motion and the solar eclipse. They "rode" an imaginary roller coaster and received eclipse glasses from Miss Sandy. The students also participated in the Spring music program and were excited about the Walk-a-Thon Kick-off in March!

## FES Celebrates at St. Baldrick's "Brave the Shave" Event

It was a day of cheers, smiles, and a whole lot of hair on the floor, at the North Canton Racquet Club on March 10. Fairless Elementary raised \$2,570, showcasing their commitment to a cause close to many hearts: funding pediatric cancer research.

**Gabriella Burgess** had the unique chance to shave **Mr. McKenney's** hair, and **Bella Leatherman** plastered a pie in the face of **Mr. Nero!** **Mrs. Morris** donated 12 inches of her hair to Wigs for Kids! **Levi Karam** and **Hayden Eisenbrei** braved the shave! Thank you for your support and generosity!



**Gabriella Burgess**  
and **Mr. McKenney**



**Bella Leatherman**  
and **Mr. Nero**



**Mrs. Morris**



**Levi Karam**



**Hayden Eisenbrei**



**Nya Gayheart**

## Falcons Giving Back!

Our aluminum pop tab collection has been amazing! As of April 1, we have one and a half large trash barrels and it continues to grow daily! **All the tabs will be donated to Ronald McDonald House of Central Ohio (RMHC) in May.**



The inspiration for this service project, was a Falcon family who recently benefited from RMHC and the services they provide. Last fall, alumni Tara (Tressel) and Austin Wiles spent several months staying at RMHC while their newborn, Annabelle, was in a Columbus hospital. Annabelle's very proud Grandmas are Carol Tressel, 2nd grade teacher at FES, and Valerie Wiles, our district Transportation Coordinator. It is our hope to collect as many tabs as possible, as a way of giving back and helping RMHC as it continues to help families at their greatest time of need.

## The Annual FES Art Show

The show's theme this year was *Things with Wings* and our Falcons soared with their art displays. Each year Mrs. Best holds a raffle for the chance to win assorted student art/craft supplies, and the students also make items to sell at the show. One-hundred percent of the money raised from these sales goes back to the community. This year a total of \$927 was raised and was split between Akron Children's Hospital, Fairless Alumni Association and The Wilderness Center.



## Music

Our second and fourth-graders were honored to perform their Spring Programs on March 14 in the new Lucinda J. Frailly Performing Arts Center at the High School! Audiences were treated to favorite old-fashioned songs by the second grade, and songs from the movies by the fourth grade. A big thank you to our music teacher, Mrs. Kurtz, for her work with our elementary students!

# 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.