(ECRWSS) **FAIRLESS RESIDENT** NON-PROFIT ORG. **US POSTAGE PAID** MASSILLON, OHIO PERMIT NO. 60



FAIRLES FOCUS ON

Fall 2024 **VOLUME 32 • ISSUE 1**

Superintendent's Message

Dear Fairless Community,

Please join me in celebrating the work of our students and staff in all they have achieved since the start of this new school year! Of particular note to celebrate is the 4 Star overall rating that the district has been awarded by the Ohio Department of Education on the latest local report card. Within this report card, there are several areas where the district hit the highest rating awarded - 5 Stars - including Graduation and Gap Closing. For the second year in a row, Fairless Elementary School earned an overall rating of 5 Stars. FES also earned 5 Stars in Progress and Gap Closing. Fairless High School hit a 4 Star rating for the first time and showed growth in Progress and Graduation. Across the board all three buildings improved from last year. This year, we will focus heavily on improving our outcomes in the Achievement category of the report card. Our strategic plan learning goal is to earn a 5 Star rating in the Achievement category by 2026.

Warm Regards,

Mike



School Report Cards



2023 - 2024 Report Card for

Fairless Local

Meets state

standards in

academic

exceeds state

standards in

graduation rates

Districts and schools receive an overall rating of 1 to 5 stars in half-star increments. The overall rating is comprised of five rated components. The College, Career, Workforce and Military Readiness Component is report only and does not contribute to the overall rating on the 2024 Ohio School Report Cards.

Achievement

This component represents whether student performance on state tests met established thresholds and how well students performed on tests overall. Performance Index

Graduation

The Graduation Component is a measure of the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate and the five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.

96.0% of students graduated in 4 years 98.4% of students graduated in 5 years

Progress

This component looks closely at the growth all students are making based on their past performances.

Early Literacy

is a measure of reading

through third grade.

The Early Literacy Component

improvement and proficiency

Improving K-3 Literacy Third Grade Reading Proficiency

for students in kindergarten

Promotion to Fourth Grade

Evidence that the district met

student growth

standards in early literacy (K-3)

Gap Closing

The Gap Closing Component is a measure of the reduction in educational gaps for student groups.

Annual Performance Goals

College, Career, Workforce and Military Readiness

This component looks at how well-prepared Ohio's students are for future opportunities, whether training in a technical field or preparing for work or college

Students who are Ready

76.6%

Significantly

exceeds state

standards in

closing

educational gaps

Renewal Levy Information

At its June 2024 meeting, the Fairless Local School District Board of Education acted to place a 4.5 Mill Emergency Levy on the Tuesday, November 5, 2024 general election ballot.

Facts about the renewal levy

- The levy is a combination of levies originally passed in 1993, which was renewed by voters last in 2015.
- The levy is a renewal for ten years.
- The levy WILL NOT RAISE TAXES on the Fairless Local School District residents.
- The levy generates \$1,864,760 annually for operating expenses.
- The levy represents 11% of the district's annual operating budget, which is used to pay current expenses and maintain programs and staffing.
- The operating budget includes instructional supplies, utilities, fuel, extra-curricular activities, transportation, maintenance, supplies, and salaries for teachers and staff.
- If you have any questions about the financial status of the district or the information above, please feel free to contact either the Superintendent Mike Hearn or Treasurer Mark Phillips at 330-767-3577.

What's Inside

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Tay Connected Tay

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

Superintendent
Treasurer
Administrative Assistant
Special Ed Director
Curriculum Director
. Food Service Director
sp. & Facility Director
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

Mr. Dan Nero	Principal
Mrs. Brenda Jennings	Secretary

Elementary School

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

Mrs. Lori Neuenschwander	Principal
Mrs. Natalie Gilkerson	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Madison Strong	Secretary

Fairless Local Schools, a nonprofit organization. News releases, story ideas, comments and suggestions should be addressed to <u>Focus On Fairless</u>, 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.

Brideweser Stadium Renovation and Rededication

On August 31, 2024 Brideweser Stadium was rededicated after going through a major renovation project. The men and women who built the stadium, known as the Athletic Complex Team, were honored at the event and participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Superintendent Mike Hearn told the members of the ACT and attendees "what you did here is permanent. The benefit to the students, families, and community is immeasurable as thousands of people enjoy this facility every year. Today, we not only rededicate this facility, we also dedicate ourselves to ensuring your story remains part of our story and the fabric of who we are. We commit that the next generation of Fairless Falcons will be taught the values of volunteerism, service to others, and work ethic that you taught us."

ACT Members Bill D'Annaballe, Marie Bair, Joel Marchand (representing his father Burt), Joe Musacchia, Larry Seward, and Ken Youngman met with Superintendent Hearn and Treasurer Mark Phillips last December to review the renovation plan



and provide their invaluable feedback.

In the end, the project would include replacing all of the old wood with aluminum. Additional aisleways were added, mid aisle risers were added to make the stairs less steep to climb, the access bridge was widened, handicapped accessible seating added, and a new ADA approved entrance ramp installed. The entire area leading from the grandstand to the restrooms and concession stand was paved. 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 blue-tooth enabled hearing aids or provided devices. 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.

MISSION

Educate and empower Fairless to SOAR to EXCELLENCE!



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.



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.

District News

Public Release

Fairless Local Schools today announced its 2024-2025 program year policy **free and reduced applications** 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 of determining 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 Local Schools Superintendent
800 7th Street 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/ad-3027.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.

Soaring to Excellence Every Day!

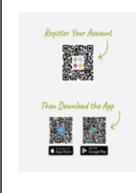
2024-2025 Public Release Last Revised June 2024

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



Alumni News

Class of 2024 Hall of Honor

Members to be Inducted November 1, 2024 at 1pm in the Lucinda J. Frailly Performing Arts Center at Fairless High School

About the Hall of Honor

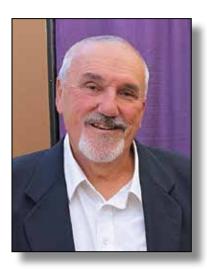
The Distinguished Fairless Falcon Award Committee exists to annually recognize outstanding Fairless individuals that have achieved distinction in their lives and/or chosen fields after high school through significant contributions to their careers, communities, or personal achievements.

The Class of 2024 Distinguished Fairless Falcons



Mr. Barry Askren

Former teacher, principal, director of special programs, and interim superintendent of Fairless Local Schools. Barry was a servant leader with a very promising future which was cut short.



Mr. Ed Whitmore

Fairless HS Class of 1970. Ed was a teacher, coach, and administrator for Fairless Local Schools for over 20 years. He served as the principal at Fairless HS, has been active in serving the community, and was the inaugural Head Coach for the Fairless Girls Softball Team.



Dr. R. G. Drage

Navarre HS Class of 1934, former Supt. of Plain Local and Stark County Schools. He helped draft the legislation which created Career Tech Ed in Ohio, and served public education for 43 years.



Mr. Aaron Melhorn

Fairless HS Class of 2007. One of the most decorated athletes to graduate from Fairless. Aaron is a three-time State Champion in Cross Country and Track. He was a standout athlete at Malone University, where he is ten-time All-American, National Champion and school record holder in multiple events.



Mr. Scotty Morrison

Brewster HS Class of 1946. He was the first head coach for the Fairless Falcon Football team in 1960, Stark Co. Football Coach of the Year in 1975, Head Coach of the North-South All Star Game in 1976, and inducted into the Ohio High School Football Hall of Fame.

The purpose of the Hall of Honor

- 1. **Recognize and honor alumni**, faculty, staff, non-graduates, and community members who have brought honor to the Fairless Local Schools
- 2. To establish in the hearts of our youth a **motivating influence to excel**.
- 3. To **foster pride**, **scholarship**, **preserve good sportsmanship**, **and citizenship** in our school, city, and community.

Those who receive the Distinguished Fairless Falcon Award become members of the Fairless Hall of Honor.

Alimnilens



a Night of 到(包)出 **NOVEMBER 2, 2024**



Enjoying an Evening together for our Community!



Our keynote speaker, Brian Zeigler will share his inspiring and motivational story while we enjoy a delicious dinner

and continue the celebration with our

Fairless Hall of Honor Inductees from 2024!

We will then continue with our annual live Auction and dance the night away to some great 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

\$500/Table of 8 (Silver Sponsor) \$1000/Table of 8 (Blue Sponsor) **BLUE SPONSOR COCKTAIL HOUR 5PM-6PM**

Dinner provided by:



Dinner & Dance Music provided by:

John Chapman &





Call/Text Annie 330.605.1935 or Jenny 330.327.6819 for more information.

Sponsored by the Fairless Alumni Association, Inc./Fairless Helping Fairless, a 501 (c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

District News

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Fairless Local Schools Calendar 2024-2025

August	
15-19	Teacher Day – No School
20	First Student Day
	Grades 1-6, 9
21	Grades 1-12
<u>Septemb</u>	
2	Labor Day
25	Early Release
<u>October</u>	
2	PT Conf Evening
4	PT Conf All Day
10	PT Conf Evening
14	Teacher Day - No School
25	End of 9 weeks (46 days)
Novemb	<u>er</u>
28-29	Thanksgiving Break
Decembe	<u>er</u>
2	No School
23-31	Christmas Break
January	
1-3	Christmas Break
16	End of 9 weeks (45 days)
16	End of semester (91 days)
20	Martin Luther King Day
29	Early Release
<u>Februar</u>	<u>y</u>
5&13	PT Conf Evening
17	Presidents Day
March	
20	End of 9 weeks (42 days)
21	Teacher Day – No School
24-28	Spring Break
April	
18	No School
May	
26	Memorial Day
29	End of 9 weeks (43 days)
	End of semester (85 days)
30	Last Student & Teacher Day
30	Early Release
	•

Calamity Day Make-Up Schedule: 1st Day – June , 2024 – consecutive weekdays as needed

- Teacher Day No Students
- First & Last Student Day
- No School
- Teacher Exchange Day No School
- Early Release

Teacher Days – 185 Student Days – 177

February 2025						
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h School News







Our new aviation program is off to an exciting start with over 40 students enrolled in its inaugural year. Students are exploring the world of aviation through launching, engineering, and creative problem-solving in their initial class. This summer, our middle school students embarked on their aviation journey with the MAPS Air Museum, one of our key partners. For 10 weeks, the museum hosted the Air Academy, where students learned about aviation and honed their skills on flight simulators. The academy culminated with a thrilling project: students navigated their simulators on a virtual flight from Canton Akron Airport to Burke Lakefront Airport.

Another highlight of the program was the Aeronautics and Engineering Expo hosted by Kent State University's Aviation Department on September 7 at the university's airport. Students enjoyed a wide range of experiences, including a ride on the Goodyear blimp, exploring the flight deck of the Beach City Baby—a restored DC-3 with a rich history, from serving Ohio's governor to its restoration after years at Beach City Airport—flying drones, and engaging with virtual reality space flight simulations.









We are excited to continue expanding our program and look forward to partnering with more organizations to provide our students with extended classroom visits and real-world aviation experiences.

Figh School News









Class of 2028 Orientation

We welcomed the Class of 2028 to the high school. While they are not the first class to enter the new school, they will enjoy the many features the new building has to offer. Students enjoyed learning about high school, including how to cheer at pep rallies and games with the high school cheerleaders. They formed the numbers 2-0-2-8 on the field. It was a memorable experience for all.

Ametic News

Fall Athletics

Fall sports season is in full swing, and there's nothing quite like the excitement it brings. From golf and soccer to volleyball, cross country, and football, our teams are showcasing their talents. Our marching band made its annual appearance at the Stark County Fair, adding to the festive atmosphere. It was also a special moment when our young cheerleaders and players teamed up with the high school athletes for a Friday night game. There's still plenty of time to join us and enjoy a game, concert, or meet at the stadium, gymnasium, or running course. We look forward to cheering on all our fall athletes as they compete and perform!















Athletic News



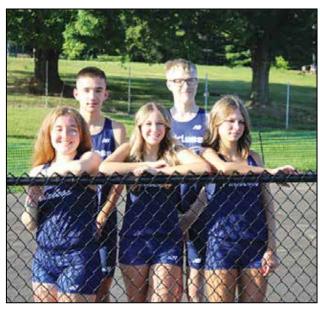


















cice school lews



SEE IT. REPORT IT. MOBILE APP 1-844-5-SAYNOW SAYSOMETHING.NET



New Faces at Fairless Middle School

We are excited to have some new faces at the middle school this year! Many of them are not new to Fairless, but they are new to our building!

	<u>Pictured</u>	left to	right:
--	-----------------	---------	--------

Rose Hammel	Seventh Grade Social Studies
Adam Amato	MTSS
A.J. Sarbaugh	Dean of Students
Dan Nero	Middle School Principal
Brandon Shook	Eighth Grade Math

Not pictured:

Kerrie Childers	Paraprofessional
Kim McCune	Cafeteria

Welcome to Fairless Middle School!



L to R: Ethan Kelly-Mast, Aaron Ecenbarger, Lucas Ritterbeck, and Jaxon Berresford



L to R: Evan Holderbaum and Devin LeGlise



L to R: Calvin Kegley, Cali Warstler, Emma Zimmerman, and Kenlee McCracken



L to R: Brantly Davis, Mark Strabala, Braden McKenzie, Parker Hood, and Levi Karam

Great Start to the New Year

Fairless Middle School students and staff are excited to be back at school. Everyone's looking forward to making new friends, learning new things, and getting back into a routine. Have a great year everyone!

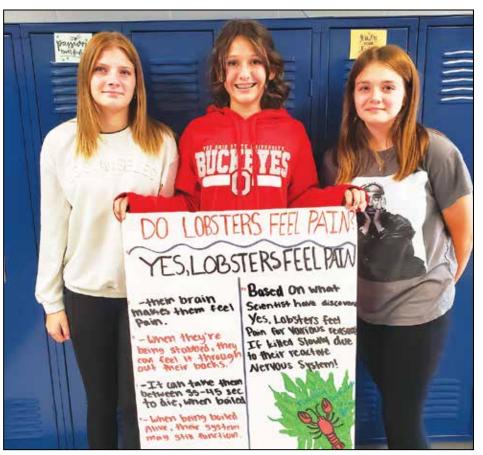


L to R: Garrett Heisler, Dylan Mast, Chance Haines, Chase Cottrill, and Raven Kemp Gantzler

Playmaker Camp

The Multiple Disabilities classrooms from all three buildings attended the Playmakers Camp at the Hall of Fame, where varsity football players from around the county led drills with the students. It was a great experience that provided opportunities for social skill development and exercise. Mr. Ferrell's class from the Middle School focused on kicking, passing, and carrying the ball, and they even had fun practicing their end zone celebrations.

Middle School News



L to R: Bethany Durst, Hailey Roeder, Brynlee Crossland



L to R: Savannah Thompson, Lynzi Ball, Keyanna Sheegog, Sophia Davis, Isabella Koehler

Eighth Grade

The beginning of the school year is an exciting time to reunite with friends, reignite school spirit, review expectations, and inspire new learning. The eighth-graders kicked off the year in science class by revisiting a thinking method they had previously encountered in writing, known as "claim, evidence, and reasoning." They learned how this process parallels the scientific method, with examples of making a claim, testing it through experimentation and data collection, and explaining how the evidence supports or disproves the claim.

The students watched a video on "liquid mountaineering," a fictional sport that claims humans can run on water (check it out on YouTube), and were tasked with identifying the claim and supporting it using evidence from the video. They then

researched and answered the question: "Do lobsters feel pain?" The students did an excellent job supporting their individual claims with evidence from reputable sources. The challenge intensified when they were randomly grouped and had to choose a group claim, even if it contradicted their personal beliefs. Once they agreed on a claim, they compiled their evidence and reasoning into posters, which they presented to the class.

Overall, the eighth-graders exceeded expectations and rose to the challenge!



L to R: William Ickes, Addyson Fogle, Zaliyah Kulik, Aubrey Miller



L to R - Floor: Ethan Kelly-Mast; Front Row: Natalie Fike, Savannah Thompson, Hailey Roeder, Aubrey Miller, Sophia Davis; Back Row: Brooklyn Hall, Kylee Blaney, Madalyn Putt, Aubreigh Downing, Ashton Vincent.

Career and Money Management

New this year! The eighth-grade Careers & Money Management course is now being offered for high school credit. This course satisfies the Ohio Department of Education's graduation requirement for a half-credit in financial literacy. Students who pass the course by the end of the year will have met this requirement and will not need to retake it in high school.

The Careers & Money Management class provides essential personal finance education, equipping students with skills to become financially capable. Topics include banking, investing, credit, insurance, budgeting, and taxes. Toward the end of the year, students will also explore potential careers and create a pathway to achieve their future goals. If a student does not take the course in eighth grade, they can fulfill the requirement through a Financial Literacy course in high school.



Celebrating our New Falcons in the House on the first full day of Kindergarten!

Thank you to our FES PTO and Only Opal Designs for our shirts!



Welcome New Staff!

Emily Rudd	Second Grade
Jayla Seery	Gym Teacher
Tiffany Jennings	Kdg. Intervention Specialist*
Ashley Schott	Third Gr. Intervention Specialist
Allison Dewees	. Fourth Gr. Intervention Specialist
Mike Carpenter	Custodian*
George Shammo	Custodian*
Jessica Asplin	Paraprofessional
Michalia Barcus	Paraprofessional

Whitley Pulley	Paraprofessional
Anna Rankl	Paraprofessional*
Dana Nash	-
Natalie Gilkerson	
COUNTY	
Amanda McLaughlin	MD Aide
Sean Gerber	PS Aide
Sylvia Scharver	OT
-	*Not picturea

Elementary News















First Grade has been using their math tools in new and exciting ways while working together in groups to problem solve.



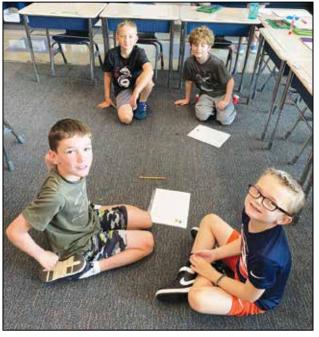


Preschool is excited for gym class!

Elementary News









Third Grade math students are practicing rounding numbers, calculating how much time has passed, and determining the differences between numbers.



Fifth Grade students read *The Day You Begin* in the outdoor classroom. The book focuses on building relationships and sharing personal stories to create connections with peers. After reading, the students partnered up to learn more about their classmates as they began the new school year.



Mrs. Goist's Class



Mrs. Goist's Class and Mrs. Cox's Class enjoying PlayMaker Day at the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

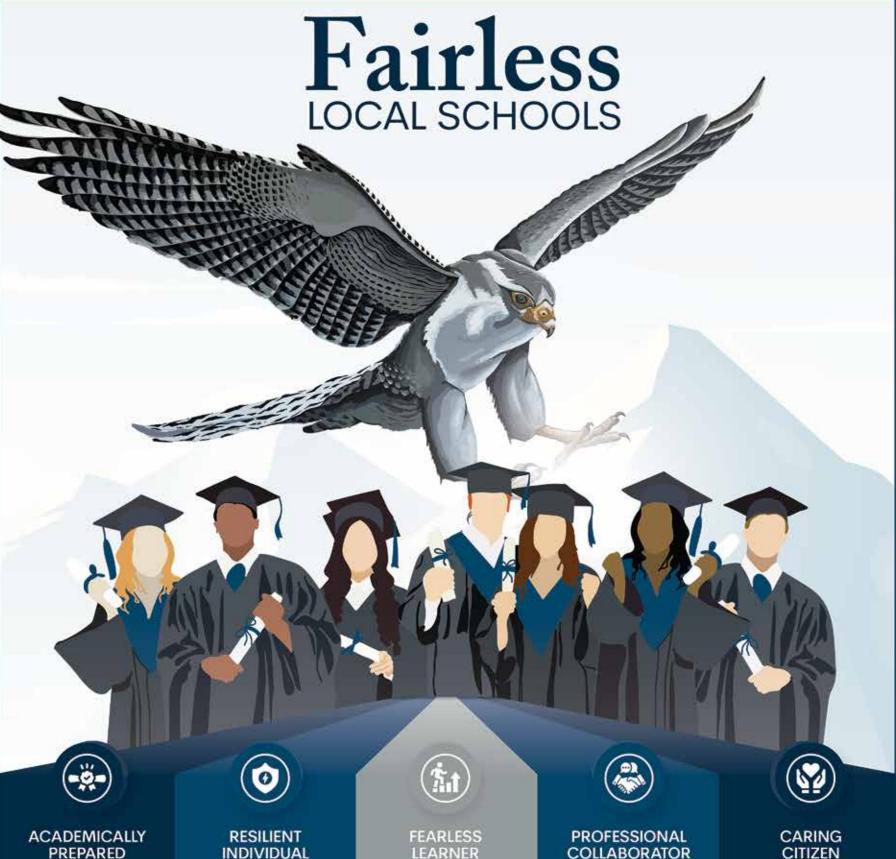


Third-graders



Fifth-graders

Music Class has been great fun for our third and fifth-graders who are learning to perform with ribbons and play the ukulele.



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

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.

Critical Thinking unter will develop critic king and reasoning skills

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 compromise in problem solving

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.