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Faribault Public Schools Newsletter







March/April 2025

Multicultural Festival

Our McKinley Early Childhood Center Multicultural Festival was a huge success! We invited all of our early childhood students and their families to explore cultures from around the world. We kicked things off with a story read in English, Spanish, and Somali, followed by information booths, face painting, coloring, sensory tables, bracelet-making, and so much more! It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together families from diverse cultures for a fun and meaningful celebration!





The Final Stretch: Let's Finish Strong

As we enter the final stretch of the school year, I want to celebrate the hard work, growth, and dedication of our students, staff, and families. This has been a year filled with learning, achievements, and memorable moments, and I am so grateful for your support every step of the way.

The last few weeks of school are not only a time to finish strong but also an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate our successes. Whether it's academic achievements, personal growth, athletic and artistic accomplishments, or the everyday moments of kindness and perseverance, our students have so much to be proud of. Their efforts and determination, supported by our incredible teachers, staff, and families, make Faribault a truly special place to learn and grow.

As we wrap up the year, I encourage our students to continue putting forth their best effort and enjoy the exciting events and celebrations ahead. Thank you for being an essential part of our school community. Let's make these last weeks meaningful, memorable, and full of Falcon pride!



Sincerely,
Jamie Bente
Superintendent
Faribault Public Schools

Scan here to access this newsletter in Spanish

Scan here to access this newsletter in Somali

Middle School Math Mania Competition

Ms. Fogelson and Mr. Roiger took 25 of our Faribault Middle School 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to Mankato to compete in the Math Mania Competition. We are incredibly proud of the students who participated—one team even earned 4th place!



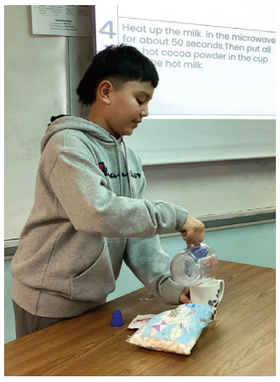
Join Us for Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

You and your child are invited to our Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration event on May 7 at Roosevelt. During the event, you'll be able to learn about our dual-immersion program, register your child for preschool or kindergarten, meet school staff, ask questions, and learn more about our programs.



4th Grade Procedural Reports

Ms. Williams-Peters' fourth graders truly impressed us with their procedural reports! Families were invited to come and watch their students present, and we were blown away by their presentations. Our students presented the procedures for making pancakes, hot cocoa, ham and cheese sandwiches, Rice Krispie bars, handwritten cards, bracelets, bubbles, paper squishies, folding a t-shirt, and more. We are incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm our 4th graders put into their presentations. A huge thank you to all the families who joined us to celebrate and support their students—it made the experience even more special!





Career Exploration Day

Faribault High School and Faribault Area Learning Center students had the opportunity to explore health care, law enforcement, business, and manufacturing careers. It was an engaging, informative, interactive, and fun day. We appreciate the many businesses and community members who took the time to share career information with our youth. A special thank you to Workforce Development Inc., South Central College, Rice County Law Enforcement Center with police and prison staff, Mayo Clinic, and Allina Hospital for organizing the day and opening their doors to our students to provide hands-on experiences and information. We also had the opportunity to stop at The Depot for a culinary presentation and lunch. We are grateful to chef and owner Jeff LeBeau for donating lunch to everyone! It was fun learning more about the history and journey of his career and many decades of ownership of this successful restaurant!







Jefferson Leads The Way In PBIS Training

For the past two years, a team of Jefferson staff members have been attending PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) Cohort 19 training. During their time there, they have been creating behavior practices, involving community and students in the PBIS committee, creating ways to celebrate student and staff accomplishments, and building upon the great things already happening at Jefferson.

This month, the Jefferson Elementary PBIS team graduated from Cohort 19, and we are proud of the progress they have made as a team for our district!



Roosevelt SOAR Council

Our Roosevelt SOAR Council students prepared a surprise to be handed out to all 3rd-5th grade students taking the MCA test. These leaders sure stay busy on the SOAR Council and make a positive daily impact at Roosevelt!





Faribault Teachers Partner With Our Local Businesses

We want to thank the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism and all of our local businesses who participated in the Faribault Business Mixer! Having our staff members connect with our local businesses helps support school-community partnerships and provides new collaborative opportunities. We want to emphasize what the Chamber said, "We appreciate our community's commitment to Faribault Public Schools and look forward to seeing the impact of these connections!"

DECA Conference

Congratulations to the DECA program on a great showing at the Minnesota State Career Development Conference. Faribault advanced five events into the state finals, with four of them placing in the top five. Finalists were awarded preliminary medals and competed against the top 12 in the state. The top eight are called to stage at the Grand Awards, where trophies and finalist medals are awarded. Students qualifying for the International Career Development Conference will compete in late April in Orlando, FL.





FMS Students Learn To Ski

45 FMS students traveled to Welch Village for a 'Learn to Ski' day. After completing their lessons, they were free to explore the slopes and enjoy one of Minnesota's favorite winter activities. We're grateful to provide this experience for our students!



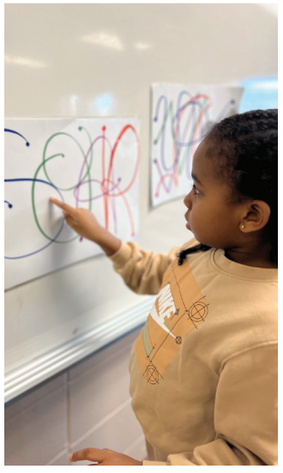




Lincoln Takes Innovative Approach To Learning

Check out Mrs. Murray's Kindergarten class inside our SMART room at Lincoln! We all know that movement plays a big role in learning. Our SMART room is designed to help students develop the essential sensory, motor, and self-regulation skills they need to thrive in the classroom.







Minnesota Wild Visits Roosevelt

Our Roosevelt students were in for a WILD surprise! Former NHL Minnesota Wild player, Nate Prosser, and former PWHL player and Olympian Natalie Darwitz visited Roosevelt to teach our students about the importance of exercise and healthy eating. Some of our students even got to take shots against Nordy (the MN Wild mascot) and Superintendent Bente! The Wild gave our school some hockey gear that our students can use in PE class! We want to thank Ms. Darwitz, Mr. Prosser, and the Wild for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!



Faribault Police Department Plays Dodgeball With Lincoln SOAR Students

Check out these Lincoln Elementary School SOAR Students of the Month! These outstanding students were recognized during an all-school assembly for showing what it means to SOAR every day. As a special celebration, they had the chance to play dodgeball with the Faribault Police—and let's just say, it was a total hit!



FEEP Provides Portable Welding Machine

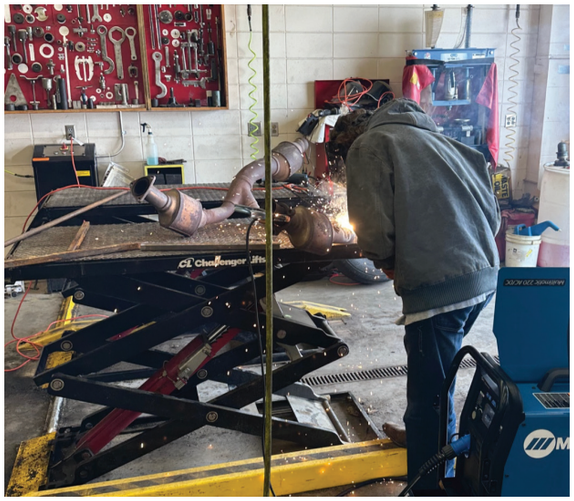
Students in Greg Boyd's automotive courses are gaining valuable hands-on experience this school year thanks to a FEEP grant!

The Falcon Educational Enrichment Program (FEEP) awarded grants to ten Faribault Public Schools teachers to fund classroom resources and learning opportunities beyond the district's budget.

Mr. Boyd's grant provided a portable welding machine and cart, giving 9th-12th grade students the opportunity to develop a key industry skill. This versatile tool not only enhances their learning but also allows for essential vehicle repairs while cars are raised on a shop lift.

The Multimatic 220 AC/DC TIG, MIG, and Stick welder will benefit students for years to come, helping them build practical skills for future careers.

To learn more about FEEP and its parent organization, FAPSETA, which supports Faribault Public Schools students, visit fapseta.org.



Join Our Team

We're looking for passionate and dedicated individuals to join our team! Faribault Public Schools has a variety of openings, including positions for teachers, custodians, paraprofessionals, and more. Come be part of a supportive community that values education, growth, and making a difference in students' lives. Apply at faribault.k12.mn.us



Kindergarten Celebrates 100 Days of School

Our kindergarten classes had a blast celebrating 100 days of school. While each of our elementary schools celebrated in their own unique way, they all did a wonderful job incorporating the theme of '100' into their learning!



Changes to Our School District for the 2025-2026 School Year

Falcon Families,

In January, the School Board approved our district's reorganization plan, set to take effect in the 2025-2026 school year. Developed with input from staff, families, and community members, this plan is designed to better align our resources, space, and programs to support student success. We understand that change can be difficult and are committed to supporting students, families, and staff through this transition.

Key Changes:

- Roosevelt will become our Pre-K and Kindergarten Center, meaning all Pre-K and Kindergarten classes will be held at Roosevelt. Principal Amy Bouma will oversee the Kindergarten program, and Early Childhood Coordinator Olivia Sage will lead the early childhood programs.
- Jefferson and Lincoln will serve as 1st through 5th-grade elementary schools. Nick Jurrens will continue as Principal at Jefferson, and Ashley Benhart will become Principal at Lincoln.
- The Faribault Area Learning Center (ALC) will transition from its current location to the McKinley building for the 2026-2027 school year.

This reorganization is a positive step forward in strengthening our district's resources and programs. While we know change can be challenging, it will ultimately benefit our students and help us provide the best possible education.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,
Jamie Bente
Superintendent of Faribault Public Schools

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7 Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Event

May 7 Senior Awards Night

May 10 Prom

May 23 Last Day for Seniors

May 26 No School/Memorial Day

May 29 Last Day of School

June 1 Graduation