IN Fox Chapel Area

An IN Community Magazine

Light Up Fox Chapel Rings in the Season

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A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Fox Chapel Area Community,

As we look toward a new year, I want to take a moment to share an update on one of the most impactful initiatives underway in our district: the development of our new comprehensive plan. During the next few months, we will engage in conversations with a wide range of stakeholders to collaboratively shape the next chapter of the Fox Chapel Area School District. This process is more than a requirement – it is the roadmap that will guide our priorities, our work, and our aspirations for years to come.

We are grateful for the voices that will help shape our comprehensive plan – students, parents, community members, business owners, and our staff and school board members. Each brings an important perspective, and together they reflect the strength and diversity of the Fox Chapel Area community. The conversations we have with these groups help ensure that our plan is grounded in the experiences, needs, and hopes of the people we serve in our school community.

As we embark on this work, I find myself reflecting on our last comprehensive plan, the one that resulted in the development of our district's four pillars: purpose, passion, care, and community. You have heard me speak about these values often, and that is intentional. They are not simply words on a page; they represent the heart of who we are and who we strive to be. Purpose reminds us to always act with intention. Passion fuels learning and inspires growth. Care helps us center the well-being of every student and adult in our district. Community underscores that our work is not done alone, and that our partnerships with families, neighbors, and local organizations strengthen it.

Through this work, we plan to build on these pillars, while perhaps adding new areas of focus. Developing these ideas takes thoughtful time, conversation, and reflection, but it is time well spent. These values guide our culture, our decisions, and the way we support students each day.

We also recognize the importance of elevating student voice in this work. I meet regularly with students from both Fox Chapel Area High School and Dorseyville Middle School. Through these superintendent cabinets, we ensure that our learners have a seat at the table as we plan for their future. Their ideas, insights, and questions consistently remind us why we do this work and why their perspectives must be heard and valued. We plan to offer more avenues for student agency in the months to come.

Thank you for your support, your partnership, and your commitment to the success of the Fox Chapel Area School District. Together, we will continue to foster a community where every student is known, valued, and inspired to achieve their best.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac
Superintendent

We are grateful for the voices that will help shape our comprehensive plan – students, parents, community members, business owners, and our staff and school board members. Each brings an important perspective, and together they reflect the strength and diversity of the Fox Chapel Area community.

Members of the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel Area join Dorseyville Middle School students during the school's Peace Pole dedication ceremony.

'PEACE POLES' SERVE AS POWERFUL REMINDER

At every Fox Chapel Area school campus, a "Peace Pole" now greets visitors with one message in eight languages: "May Peace Prevail on Earth."

The Peace Poles are a generous gift from the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel Area. Each pole features the saying in English, Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Arabic, French, and Hebrew.

According to Rotary International, "Rotary Peace Poles are powerful catalysts for bringing communities together." The message on the Peace Poles serves as an affirmation of peace, and the poles are intended to inspire unity among people of all cultures, ethnicities, and backgrounds.

The idea of placing the Peace Poles at the district's schools came from the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel Area Sergeant-at-Arms, Dr. George Dull. Dr. Dull, a former past president of the Rotary Club, was a counselor at Dorseyville Middle School until his retirement in 2002.

He says that a big part of Rotary's mission is to create hope and understanding in the world, and that the Peace Poles are one of the most visible symbols of that mission.

"In order to help spread the Rotary's mission of fostering peace, we thought it would be meaningful to include the students of the Fox Chapel Area School District in the Peace Pole project," Dr. Dull says. "The students of today will be the stewards of peace in the years to come."

"We are so grateful that the Rotary's donation enables us to be included in this project," says Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac, Fox Chapel Area School District's superintendent and a Rotary member. "There is no better place to share a message of peace than in our schools, where we want everyone to feel a sense of togetherness and belonging."

Rotary Club Sergeant-at-Arms George Dull, a former Dorseyville Middle School counselor, shows students the message on the Peace Pole at Hartwood Elementary School as Fox Chapel Area School Board Vice President and Rotary Club member Ron Frank looks on.

Each school held a special ceremony to commemorate the donation of its Peace Pole. Dr. Dull attended each ceremony, as did other members of the Rotary Club. He spoke about the powerful phrase, "May Peace Prevail on Earth."

"It's a wish – and a promise – shared by people all around the world. It reminds us that peace begins with each of us, right here, every day," Dr. Dull says. "By placing a Peace Pole at every Fox Chapel Area school, we wanted to create a quiet symbol that speaks loudly that kindness matters, that respect matters, and that peace starts with you – in your classrooms, on the playground, and even at home."

Dr. Dull also says he hopes that, as students pass by the pole each day, they will take a moment to think about what peace means to them, and that they realize they have the power to bring peace wherever they are. "It might mean being a good friend, helping someone who feels left out, or finding calm when things get stressful. Every act of kindness adds up – and together, they make our schools and our world more peaceful places."

At the elementary level, all third-grade students participated in the special ceremonies. Lessons in third-grade social studies center on communities, landmarks and symbols, citizenship, civic engagement, and celebrating others.

At the high school, two of the school's diversity council leaders participated in the ceremony. One student wrote an original poem that was read during the dedication. At Dorseyville Middle School, members of the Foxes Council commemorated the installation of the school's Peace Pole as the message relates to the district's pillars of purpose, passion, care, and community.

Rotary International is a global network of more than 46,000 local clubs with 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – in themselves, in communities, and across the globe. There are currently more than 250,000 Peace Poles around the world.

A student at O'Hara Elementary School tells Superintendent Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac about the words on the Peace Pole that are in his native language.

Peace is not the silence after a storm
It is the choice not to summon one.

While war blares louder
The aftermath lasts even longer

What do we really get out of rage and vengeance
But the suffering and the task of repairing all that's broken afterwards.

Hate requires us to fuel its destruction
Peace does not require such
It does not parade and demand.
It plants, slowly, steadily,
Seeds of hope that cover the earth, replacing the ash.

It does not mean everything is agreed upon
Only that we value life beyond ourselves more than victory
That we believe in healing over hurting
In bridges over divides

Peace ... , true peace, is not passive
It is the boldest and bravest act we can make
Even if it means standing alone
It is strength without the need to conquer.

For without peace,
Our brightest dreams are drowned by fear
With it
Even the smallest child can carry the world forward.

Personally, I'm afraid of drowning.
So let's keep paving ahead.
With peace.

– Fayth Johnson, FCAHS Senior

NEW DIRECTOR OF FINANCE PLEDGES CLARITY, STRONG FINANCIAL RESULTS

For Ryan Manzer, the decision to come to the Fox Chapel Area School District was clear: The district's reputation for excellence – and the people who uphold it – made it the ideal next step in his career.

"Fox Chapel Area is known as one of the best school districts in the region," the district's new director of finance says. "During the interview process, both (Superintendent) Dr. Reljac and (Deputy Superintendent) Dr. McCommons made me feel very comfortable. I felt that my experience and background were a great fit for the position."

Though still new to the district, Mr. Manzer says it was the people who made the biggest impression on him, and that from day one, he felt welcomed and supported, and quickly sensed the strong community spirit that defines Fox Chapel Area.

"I believe the best part of any school district is always the people," he says. "Everyone I've met has welcomed me, and you can feel the sense of community within the district."

With a strong background in finance, Mr. Manzer's priorities for the district are rooted in stability, clarity, and support for student learning.

"I plan to continue the strong financial performance of the district to best support teaching and learning," he says. "My goals are to provide clear, understandable financial information to the administration, school board, and community, while running an effective and efficient business office."

Financial reporting has always been a passion for Mr. Manzer, shaped by his early career experiences. As a certified public accountant (CPA) with a background in public accounting, he brings a level of expertise needed to oversee the district's long-term financial health.

Before coming to Fox Chapel Area, Mr. Manzer began his career as an auditor at PricewaterhouseCoopers, followed by a role as a financial analyst in corporate financial reporting at PPG. From there, he transitioned into school business leadership, serving in the Pine-Richland, Freeport Area, and Plum Borough school districts.

One accomplishment he's particularly proud of occurred during his time at Plum. "We were able to upgrade our bond rating several times," he says. "These upgrades not only reflected improved financial performance, but also lowered the district's overall cost of borrowing."

Mr. Manzer grew up in Mars and earned his bachelor of science degree in business administration, with a major in accounting, from the University of Pittsburgh in 2005. He lives in Penn Township, Butler County, with his wife, Lauren, and their five children.

As he settles into his new role, he's optimistic about the future and committed to helping the district continue to thrive.

"I'm excited for the challenges and opportunities ahead," he says. "I'm grateful to be part of a community that truly cares about its schools."

"I plan to continue the strong financial performance of the district to best support teaching and learning. My goals are to provide clear, understandable financial information to the administration, school board, and community, while running an effective and efficient business office."

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION

The Fox Chapel Area High School National Honor Society officers are, from left to right, Treasurer Zinta Jacob, Vice President Rodrigo Silva, President Zehra Ozkaya, and Secretary Avery Jones.

Fox Chapel Area High School held its annual National Honor Society (NHS) induction ceremony in September. Speakers included the four senior NHS officers, President Zehra Ozkaya, Vice President Rodrigo Silva, Secretary Avery Jones, and Treasurer Zinta Jacob.

This year, 101 students were inducted into the Fox Chapel Area High School NHS. Those inducted were seniors Quinn Carey, Chase Carney, Aaron Chung, Rocco Didomenico, Abigail Haas, Charles Hill, Warren Kerstetter, Molly Krajkovic, Emma Kuhns, Korra Littwin, and Emilia Sutkowski; and juniors Nisreen Al-Bataineh, Olivia Arca, Ella Bandurski, Jolie Cessna, Zachary Chan, Max Choset, Nathan Chu, Elizabeth Datt, Nadre Digbohou, Evan Donaldson, Holden Driver, Aiden Drucker, Paige Dugan, Ella Ettinger, Collin Fasanella, Kathryn Fasanella, Grant Fenton, Noelle Fouron, Caroline Franklin, Abigail Freyvogel, Brynn Gamblin, Despina Gambotto, Sadie Gass, Remi Goldstein, Ella Golomb, Ainsley Goode, Simon Goode, Juliette Hirshberg, Nolan Horne, Sarah Huang, Lydia Humes, Darshen Jayaratnam, Zhanyu Jiang, Ethan Kabus, William Kelly, Rachel Kim, Tristan Kobylinski, Keita Komatsu, Norah Kovach, Camden Krotine, Joshua Laman, Elizabeth Leland, Antonia Linzoain, Mikhail Lukichev, Victoria Macklin,

Jane Maurer, Lucia McElwain, Emily McKee, Sofia Melani, Iris Minturn, Luke Montgomery, Gia Mort, Drew Moyer, Eli Nanci, Eli Olifson, Allison Olivieri, Mark Ong, Grace Patel, Victoria Pfendler, Mateo Phelan-Vidal, Melanie Pietz, Georgy Pistsov, Alyssa Poole, Evie Rosen, Charlotte Rusche, Rayyan Saidi, Ozlem Sayrak, Marlowe Schmidt, Liesel Schwartz, Aislynn Senn, Abigail Shelton, Emma Smith, Josephine Stanczak, Sadie Stephenson, Brady Stocker, Taylor Stocker, Altrian Story, Hayden Trac, Camila Trott, Joshua Ummer, Elsie Webb, June Webb, Ava Wegley, Caylie Wilkinson, Taylor Wilkinson, Ashley Wingard, Phineas Wood, Joe Yoshikawa, Nico Zgurzynski, and HanYing Zhang.

Students in their sophomore year who have an unweighted cumulative quality point average (QPA) of 3.7 or higher are invited to apply for membership. Applicants must also have a minimum of two service activities and be involved in at least two additional clubs and/or groups. They must exhibit leadership qualities and provide character references. Once they are inducted, they must maintain their QPA and continue their community service work through NHS projects and other organizations.

PLINK
FOX CHAPEL

FCXC
FCAHS
GERMAN CLUB

HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES

Homecoming 2025 was a memorable event for more than 2,000 students, families, alumni, and Fox Chapel Area community members who came together in October.

For the 13th year, a carnival was held prior to the football game and included student- and community-run booths with games and fundraisers, activities, and food trucks. Live music by students and faculty was also featured at the carnival.

Fox Chapel Area High School seniors Emma Kurtz and Finnegan McManus were crowned homecoming queen and king during halftime festivities. The other members of the homecoming court were seniors Ross Calig, Elisabeth Hamilla, Molly Krajcovic, and John McGough. This year's crown bearers were homecoming princess Lour Aweidah and prince Yusuf Sharifzoda.

Homecoming activities were coordinated and sponsored by the Fox Chapel Area High School student activities department and the Fox Leadership Council.

27 SENIORS RECOGNIZED IN NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Ten Fox Chapel Area High School seniors were designated as National Merit Semifinalists in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program: Michael Costello, Riley Hemingray, Alan Jiang, Eloise Johnson, Ulyana Kubini, Joanna Li, Gavin Lynch, Rodrigo Silva, Yash Tahiliani, and Helen Xu. The Semifinalists represent less than 1% of the nation's high school seniors, and the Commended Students place in the top 5% for their exceptional academic promise. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT or ACT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test. Semifinalists must also participate in school and community activities, demonstrate leadership abilities, and receive other awards and honors.

Seventeen were named Commended Students: Marin Airik, Arman Alborzi, Tobias Conklin, Greta Erdner, Laila Golla, Charles Hahl, Nora Kelley, Steven Li, James Manges, Max Melocchi, August Mierwald, Dayna Mullan, Zehra Ozkaya, Zachary Rubin, Joshua Shah, Joseph Shin, and Ian Wellman.

All of these students were selected based on their Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) scores. Each year, more than 1.3 million juniors complete the PSAT/NMSQT and are automatically entered in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 16,000 advance to become Semifinalists, and about 34,000 are named Commended Students.

The Fox Chapel Area High School National Merit Semifinalists are, from left to right, Helen Xu, Alan Jiang, Yash Tahiliani, Eloise Johnson, Michael Costello, Gavin Lynch, Ulyana Kubini, Rodrigo Silva, Joanna Li, and Riley Hemingray.

The Semifinalists now have the opportunity to advance to the Finalist level and compete for approximately 7,000 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly $26 million to be offered in the spring of 2026.

SCHOOL BOARD REORGANIZES, SETS 2026 MEETINGS

The Fox Chapel Area Board of School Directors held its annual reorganization meeting December 2. President Marybeth Dadd, Vice President Ronald Frank, and Assistant Secretary Vanessa Lynch were all re-elected to their offices.

The board will meet on the following dates in 2026:

- January 12 (Combined Agenda Study Session & Regular Business Meeting)
- February 2 (Agenda Study Session)
- February 9 (Regular Business Meeting)
- March 2 (Agenda Study Session)
- March 9 (Regular Business Meeting)
- April 7 (Combined Agenda Study Session & Regular Business Meeting) (Tuesday)
- May 4 (Combined Agenda Study Session & Regular Business Meeting)
- June 1 (Agenda Study Session) (Auditorium)
- June 8 (Regular Business Meeting)
- August 10 (Combined Agenda Study Session & Regular Business Meeting)
- September 14 (Combined Agenda Study Session & Regular Business Meeting)
- October 5 (Agenda Study Session)

The newly elected members of the Fox Chapel Area School Board were sworn in by Magisterial District Judge Matthew Rudzki, a Fox Chapel Area graduate. From left to right are Dr. Jessica Haselkorn, Amy Cooper, Matthew Rudzki, Ariel Zych, and Adam Goode.

- October 12 (Regular Business Meeting)
- November 2 (Agenda Study Session)
- November 9 (Regular Business Meeting)
- December 7 (Reorganization Meeting and Combined Agenda Study Session & Regular Business Meeting)

All meetings are held in the Fox Chapel Area High School large group instruction (LGI) room on Mondays (unless otherwise noted) and begin at 7 p.m. The December 7 reorganization meeting will be followed immediately by the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting.

Treasurer Eric Hamilton, and members Amy Cooper, Katie Findley, Adam Goode, Dr. Jessica Haselkorn, and Ariel Zych are the other members of the Fox Chapel Area School Board.

The lights, the sounds,
the scenes.

May your holidays
be merry and bright.

Fox Chapel Area School District

Holiday Card 2025
Artwork Created By:
Lauren Matthews & Sarah Sejvar ~ Grade 8
Dorseyville Middle School

TRIPLE TRIUMPH

Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Field Hockey Teams Win WPIAL Gold

Fall 2025 was one of the best, if not the best, seasons ever recorded for Fox Chapel Area High School athletics. In all, nine teams qualified for the WPIAL playoffs, along with several individuals. For some Foxes, their journeys didn't end there; they advanced to the most elite level of high school competition – the state championships.

Congratulations to our all-state athletes, junior Emily McKee (girls soccer) and senior Rocco Didomenico (boys soccer), and Under Armour first-team All-America kicker senior Harran Zureikat, who is also a three-time No. 1 kicker in the nation. In addition, Carson Kittsley was one of 12 golfers in the state named to the inaugural Team Pennsylvania.

Boys Soccer: WPIAL Champs Again After Epic Shootout

Winning one WPIAL championship is a feat of its own, but winning two in a row is something very special. In a dramatic upset over top-ranked Seneca Valley, the Foxes' match ended with no score after 110 minutes of play before heading to penalty kicks. It's never the way players like a playoff game to be decided, but still, the Foxes were brilliant, with seniors Calyx Kimbrough, Rocco Didomenico, Nick Squeglia, and Sean Regan burying the ball under intense pressure. Keeper Brady Matthews, a senior, was outstanding all evening and played the game of his life – remarkable considering it was his first playoff defending penalty kicks.

In the end, the No. 2-ranked Foxes captured back-to-back WPIAL Class 4A titles in a 4-2 shootout win, marking the seventh title in program history.

Longtime coach Erik Ingram wasn't surprised by the game's intensity or physicality. He had prepared the team to battle, even though his squad had already defeated Seneca Valley twice during the regular season.

"The team's strengths all year were their unity, work rate, and consistency, along with a great deal of technical ability and heart," coach Ingram says. "Facing Seneca Valley was a true indication of how strong both teams are. We had a target on our back coming in as WPIAL champions last year, but it was a good game of soccer. We knew we had to bring our 'A' game, and we did."

Rocco Didomenico, also named a member of the United Soccer Coaches All-East Region Team, says many motivators drove the team this season. "Winning the WPIAL was our main goal, but we also wanted to win the section and beat some of our rival teams," he says.

Often double- or triple-covered, Rocco drew confidence from knowing his teammates had offensive strength across the field.

The evening also featured two acts of pure sportsmanship. When a Seneca Valley player went down near the goal with a cramp, Brady paused to help stretch his leg while play continued at the opposite end of the field. Coach Ingram and Seneca Valley coach George Williams also stood together as the teams took their penalty kicks.

After winning the WPIAL title, the Foxes advanced to the PIAA playoffs and won their first-round match against Central York, 2-1, before falling to the eventual state champions Abington

Senior High School, 3-1, in the quarterfinals. The Foxes' squad ended the year with a 17-3 record and was undefeated in its section.

What Rocco says he will most remember about this year's team is their bond. He shares, "This year is the closest I have ever felt to my teammates. We have become so close throughout this season, and it translated onto the field."

In addition to his all-state and All-East Region awards, Rocco received all-WPIAL honors and was named the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 Player of the Year by the Big 56. Senior Sean Regan, and juniors Rocco Poli and Sharif Zureikat also received all-WPIAL status. For the ninth time, coach Ingram was recognized as the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 Coach of the Year.

Girls Soccer: Foxes Capture Crown in Double-Overtime Thriller

Proving it doesn't matter where you start, but where you finish, the Foxes girls soccer team completed its season with a storybook ending, claiming the 2025 WPIAL Class 3A championship with a hard-fought win over South Fayette, 1-0.

To get there, coach Carlo Prati had to replace six four-year starters and spent weeks experimenting with different lineup combinations. But the players persevered, things began to click, and from that point on, they couldn't be stopped. The Foxes won the Section 1 title, earned the top seed in Class 3A, advanced to the PIAA quarterfinals, and finished with an impressive 20-2-1 record.

Senior captain Cassie Classen recalls those early weeks saying, "We were a little anxious going into the season because we were so unsure who and how we would fill those positions," she says. "As the season progressed, I think we felt more and more like a team, and everyone felt so confident and comfortable in their positions. We knew we would make it far as a team."

Months before the postseason, coach Prati began preparing the team for the intense games ahead. From the beginning of the season, he had them competing against some of the strongest teams a class up in 4A, including Peters Township – the 2024 4A WPIAL champions, whom the Foxes defeated earlier this season – as well as Seneca Valley, Norwin, and North Allegheny, the 2025 title holder. They won every game but one, and that game was played in the season's infancy, when the group was still adjusting to a new lineup.

That harmony helped advance the Foxes' postseason with three WPIAL playoff wins: Laurel Highlands, 7-0, when junior Emily McKee contributed five goals; Plum in the semifinals, 2-1; and then South Fayette for the title. In their first round of the PIAA tournament, the Foxes defeated Harbor Creek, 2-0, but then fell to DuBois, 3-1, in a quarterfinal upset.

Winning the WPIAL championship wasn't easy. Half the team had no playoff experience, and the game was played in relentless, pelting rain. With no score at the end of regulation play, the competition spilled over into double overtime. Only minutes before the battle would have gone to penalty kicks, senior forward Lily McLaughlin booted in the winning goal. It was the third title in program history. Last season, the Foxes were the runner-up to South Fayette.

"The playoffs are always tough because no matter how good your team is, one bad game can end it all. But their commitment to what we wanted to create has taken this program to another level," says coach Prati.

Continued on next page >

All season, the Foxes displayed offensive and defensive power. Pitt recruit Emily McKee, who has shined since she was a freshman starter, recently added to her medal collection when she was selected as the Moe Rosensteel Most Outstanding Player Award winner and was named to the all-WPIAL and all-state teams.

Defensively, all-WPIAL Cassie Classen and all-WPIAL junior Caylie Wilkinson anchored the back line, and senior Seton Hill commit Summer Hill and juniors Antonia Linzoian and Taylor Wilkinson contributed to both the midfield attack and defense.

"I think having such a strong defense is one of the most important aspects of a team," Cassie says. "While we do have chemistry, we had so much talent in so many areas across our back line. We communicate so well together, we attack as one, we are all aggressive and never give up, and we have so much skill in every one of our players that we are almost guaranteed to win one on one every time, offensively or defensively."

For a team that began the year searching for answers, the journey ended with trust, growth, and confidence. There will be big shoes to fill again next year, but with such a young, deep bench, combined with players who have gained playoff experience, the Foxes are ready to carry forward their tradition of excellence.

They will be tested, though. The new WPIAL realignment places the Foxes back in Class 4A, but two years ago the girls proved themselves in that conference, too, when they defeated North Allegheny to seize the WPIAL title.

JUNIOR EMILY MCKEE ADDS TO HER RÉSUMÉ

Emily McKee recently added another impressive honor to her growing list of accolades. In addition to earning three all-section and three all-WPIAL awards, and back-to-back all-state nods, she was just recognized as the prestigious Moe Rosensteel Most Outstanding Player Award winner, which designates her as the top girls soccer player in the WPIAL. She was also selected to the United Soccer Coaches All-American and All-East Region teams, and was named girls soccer player of the year by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and TribLive High School Sports Network (HSSN). This season alone, Emily scored 49 goals, 14 of them in the playoffs. In three seasons, she has earned 108 career goals and 30 assists, placing her second among the Foxes' all-time top scorers. The record is held by 1986 graduate Patty Thompson, who finished her high school career with 166 goals.

Field Hockey: 2-0 Win Delivers Long-Awaited WPIAL Title

It was far from a perfect night for a championship game; in fact, it poured sideways the entire time, but the rain didn't dampen the Foxes field hockey players' efforts to accomplish something they and those before them had dreamed about since 2016 – winning a WPIAL title. This year, they achieved that, and in thrilling fashion, by dethroning top-ranked Peters Township, 2-0. Last year, the Foxes finished as the WPIAL runner-up to Peters Township.

For the past three years, the Foxes had settled for the runner-up position, a nice finish, but it was unsatisfying. This season, a combination of experience, abundant talent across all grade levels, and a new field strategy aligned perfectly to help the Foxes capture gold in the WPIAL Class 2A championship game.

Senior Brooke Thiele pinpoints what made the difference in this year's finale, saying, "We truly outfought them. We knew we were very even teams, skills-wise, and the winner was going to be who wanted it more."

"I really give a ton of credit to the seniors and the captains," says coach Kellee Cribby. "The girls have been on a mission all season to win; it's been their goal since day one, and the seniors have really set the tone for that consistency. They've done a great job of holding their teammates accountable to practice at the level they want to play, so when we got to the championship game,

I think they had a high level of confidence in their training and preparation, which translated to the way they played on the field."

Junior Melanie Pietz was the first player to score at the finale, which she did in the first quarter, and set the tone for the rest of the game.

Then, as time ran out in the second quarter, junior Catelyn Pastoor converted a corner shot for the Foxes' second goal. The team held that lead, despite a strong pushback from the Indians, especially in the fourth quarter.

Going head-to-head with such a formidable team required discipline and teamwork. Senior Katie Siddons says, "We had been practicing for this moment for weeks. By the second half, I wasn't worried. We're strong at clearing the ball and moving it up the field quickly, and with such a good goalie behind us (sophomore Maggie Klamut), I knew we were in good hands."

After the exciting end to WPIAL play, the team advanced to the state playoffs for the first time in nine years. The Foxes faced Hershey High School and, despite a valiant effort, fell to the Trojans, 2-0. The Foxes finished their season with a record of 13-4-3.

Senior Emma Srodes was named the WPIAL Class 2A Offensive Player of the Year by the WPIAL Field Hockey Coaches Association and also earned all-WPIAL honors, along with Katie Siddons, Brooke Thiele, and Melanie Pietz.

Other Fall Athletics Achievements

Boys Cross Country

- The Fox Chapel Area High School boys varsity cross country team won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 title. The team was undefeated in its section for the seventh year consecutive year, and qualified for the WPIAL meet.
- Senior Michael Costello was the first-place winner at the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 individual meet.
- Michael Costello and freshman Asher Eckel qualified for the individual PIAA Cross Country Championships.

Girls Cross Country

- The girls cross country team won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 title and qualified for the PIAA Cross Country Championships. The team was undefeated in its section, qualified for the WPIAL meet, and was the WPIAL Class 3A runner-up.

Boys Golf

- The boys golf team was undefeated and earned the WPIAL Class 3A Section 7 title for the fifth consecutive year.
- Senior David DiGregory, along with fellow seniors Anderson Dockey, William Gagliardino, and Grady Johnson; junior Carson Kittsley; and sophomore Barron Bitar qualified for the individual WPIAL Class 3A playoffs.
- Carson Kittsley was the WPIAL Class 3A and the WPIAL Class 3A Section 7 champion, and won the PIAA Class 3A championship for the second consecutive year.

Girls Golf

- The high school girls golf team won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 title for the eighth consecutive year and tied for third at the PIAA championships. The team was undefeated in its section.
- The team was the WPIAL runner-up in Class 3A, losing to Peters Township by one stroke.
- Senior Ava Calandra won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 individual golf title, with junior Clara Koteski and senior Morgan Monteverde placing second and third, respectively.
- Clara Koteski qualified for the PIAA individual championships.

Girls Tennis

- The girls varsity tennis team qualified for the WPIAL Class 3A playoffs.
- Sophomore Clara Drahnak and freshman Zoey Liu placed third at the WPIAL doubles tournament.
- Zoey Liu placed third at the WPIAL singles tournament.

Girls Volleyball

- The Foxes girls volleyball team qualified for the WPIAL Class 4A playoffs for the third consecutive year.
- Senior and back-to-back all-WPIAL player Emma DiRocco committed to play at Old Dominion University.

TWO-TIME STATE GOLF CHAMP BUILDING LEGACY

Foxes golfer Carson Kittsley has the kind of temperament that every coach seeks in athletes – calm under pressure, exceptionally dedicated, and driven by an outstanding work ethic. Those qualities, and a maturity that belies his age, carried him to his second consecutive PIAA Class 3A individual golf championship title, the first back-to-back title in program history. Carson's name can now be mentioned along with Arnold Palmer, who was one of only two others to win two consecutive PIAA titles.

The competition at the state championship not only tested Carson's technical skills, but also his composure and focus under incredible pressure.

"It was, by far, the closest it's ever been for me," says Carson of the stiff competition, which concluded with the top three players separated by only one stroke. "Going down to the wire, I just focused on one shot at a time. I don't usually keep up with the scoring, but I knew it was going to be close, so I had to check."

Carson Kittsley with head boys golf coach Joe Farrell after winning the WPIAL Class 3A individual championship.

Earlier in the season, Carson, a junior, won his first WPIAL individual golf gold medal, setting him on a path to states. While a WPIAL title had eluded him, this year he finally captured the prize he had been working toward for years, doing so in historic fashion. Over two days, Carson shot a 136 (-8), the lowest score since the WPIAL changed the format to 36 holes in 2022. Carson, a Penn State recruit, finished six strokes better than the runner-up.

The only other Foxes boys golfer to win a state title was Frank Fuhrer III in 1976. Mr. Fuhrer and Carson have had many conversations since the elder golfer first noticed Carson's talent early on. Carson says, "I've spent a lot of time with him, and he told me to just keep on doing what I'm doing."

It's not just been the big events where Carson has proven his legitimacy as an elite player. He's crushed numerous school records throughout regular-season matches. This year, he shot an average of 33.7 for nine holes, breaking the school record he set as a sophomore during the 2024 season. A nine-hole course typically has a par of 36.

His status as the No. 1 boys golfer in the state for two consecutive years made him a certainty when the inaugural Team Pennsylvania squad of 12 players was selected. Centered on a point-based system, the squad was formed to nurture young, elite players, as golf is the only U.S. Olympic sport without a player development program.

During the summer, Carson was selected as a standard-bearer for the 2025 U.S. Open at Oakmont. That opportunity gave him rare insights into pro golfers' techniques and how they handle pressure.

Fox Chapel Area High School boys golf coach Joe Farrell says Carson's mindset is, "How far can I go? He's reached the point where even a par round isn't good enough for him."

Carson's offseason is already set: five days a week in the gym to get faster and stronger, and he'll continue to work on his swing. With his senior year still ahead of him, Carson is well on his way to becoming Fox Chapel Area's greatest golfer. But he's far from finished.

"I want to improve 1% every single day," Carson says. "Most of all, I want to win a third state title."

FOXES KICKER HARRAN ZUREIKAT NO. 1 IN NATION, HEADED TO GEORGIA

When the University of Georgia flew in one of its top recruits – Foxes kicker Harran Zureikat – to its game against rival Alabama this fall, it marked one of the senior's biggest thrills of his life. It may also be one of the last times in a while that he watches a football game instead of being out on the turf.

"To think that I'll be on the field instead of the stands in less than a year is unreal," says Harran, the No. 1 kicker in the country for the past three years, who accepted a full scholarship to play for the Bulldogs.

Locally, Harran has set standards that won't soon be matched. This season, he drilled a 57-yard field goal that broke the WPIAL record and was within striking distance of the state's top mark. During the summer at the elite Kohl's Kicking Camp, he booted a 65-yard field goal, longer than the Pennsylvania high school record of 64 yards.

Breaking the WPIAL record "was the best moment of my career so far," Harran says. "I'd be lying if I said I didn't have some butterflies, but they were more about excitement. Now, looking back, it just drives me to be even better."

Harran's achievements have had far-reaching impressions. In addition to leading the nation as a kicker, he is also fourth in the nation as a punter. This season at Fox Chapel Area, he recorded a 98% touchback rate, consistently punting for 75 to 80 yards. He was also selected as an Under Armour first-team All-American. Prior to his junior year, MaxPreps named him to their preseason junior All-America team. He credits his offseason efforts as the impetus for his national exposure.

"I like the fact that (elite competition) national ID camps make me better, while also allowing me to see how I compare to others," Harran says. "That's the most helpful thing."

Harran's foray into football came by coincidence since his focus had always been on soccer.

"I was at Carnegie Mellon University, and we were just throwing around a football," Harran recalls. "We decided to start kicking, and that's when I found out I could kick 40 yards. I didn't think anything of it at the time, but then in eighth grade, I started for the middle school football team."

He continued balancing both sports through ninth grade, but as a sophomore, he turned his full attention to football. Still, he didn't want to just kick; he wanted to be a kicker who could set records, stand out as a special teams player, and become a game-changer. Even now, it's the sheer thrill of competing that drives him.

What sets Harran apart is his drive for perfection, attention to detail, and steadiness.

Foxes head coach David Leasure calls him a generational talent.

"Harran is not just one of a kind for Fox Chapel Area," he says. "He is one of a kind, period. When you are considered the best in the country at something, it pretty much separates you from everyone else. There is talent, and then there is talent that works hard. When you have the kind of talent that he has, and then you work tirelessly to perfect your craft, what happens is you become the best at what you do."

Harran recognizes that his is a rare position, and he plans to prove himself at Georgia, knowing that to do so, he must rely on his discipline and attention to detail.

Harran's message to individuals who have high goals is simple but powerful: "Find something you love, and work as hard as you can at it. My high school experience was great. I had so many wins and lessons that made me who I am today. I stay in contact with everyone from my old school (Shady Side Academy), while also making sure to keep up with the friends I made here."

Harran's younger brother, junior Sharif Zureikat, is an all-WPIAL defender on the Foxes' WPIAL champion boys soccer team. Harran also has a brother in fourth grade who says he wants to be a kicker.

In the meantime, in Harran's mind, one thing is certain: He isn't done chasing or setting records.

"Whatever the highest achievement is, that's what I want to get," Harran says.

NOTICES TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN WHO RESIDE IN THE FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, SERVICES FOR GIFTED STUDENTS, AND SERVICES FOR PROTECTED HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

Child Find

In compliance with state and federal law, notice is hereby given by the Fox Chapel Area School District that it conducts ongoing identification activities as a part of its school program for the purpose of identifying students who may be in need of special education and related services. Child Find refers to activities undertaken by public education agencies to identify, locate, and evaluate children residing in the state, including children attending private schools, who are suspected of having disabilities, regardless of the severity of their disability, and determine the child's need for special education and related services. The purpose is to locate these children so that a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) can be made available. Identification activities are performed to find a child who is suspected as having a disability that would interfere with their learning unless special education programs and services are made available. These activities are sometimes called screening activities. The activities include: review of group data, hearing and vision screening, assessment of a student's academic functioning, observation of the student displaying difficulty in behavior, and determining the student's response to attempted remediation. Input from parents/guardians is also an information source of identification. If your child is identified by the district as possibly in need of such services, you will be notified of applicable procedures. Individualized services and programs are available for children who are determined to need specially designed instruction due to the following conditions: autism/pervasive development disorder, blindness or visual impairment, deafness or hearing impairment, deaf blindness, orthopedic impairment, developmental delay, multiple disabilities, traumatic brain injury, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, specific learning disability, and/or speech or language impairment. We offer a continuum of services for students with disabilities that begins with full inclusion in the child's home school and class, to separate programs within other schools in which peers without disabilities would not participate.

If you believe that your school-age child may be in need of special education services and related programs, or your child (ages 3 to school age) may be in need of early intervention, screening and evaluation processes designed to assess the need of the child and their eligibility are available to you at no cost, upon written request. You may request screening and evaluation at any time, regardless of whether your child is enrolled in the district's public school program. Requests for school-age evaluations and screenings are to be made in writing to: Special Education and Pupil Services Department, Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Requests for children ages 3 to school age should be made in writing to: AIU Preschool Early Intervention Program, Allegheny Intermediate Unit, 475 East Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120.

Potential Signs of Developmental Delays and Other Risk Factors that Could Indicate a Need for Special Education Services

Some indications that your child may be a child with a disability who is in need of special education are:

- Exhibition of an emotional disturbance over a long period of time that affects your child's ability to learn;
- Consistent problems in getting along with others;
- Difficulty communicating;
- Lack of interest or ability in age-appropriate activities;
- Resistance to change;
- Difficulty seeing or hearing that interferes with the ability to communicate;
- Health problems that affect educational performance, including attention problems;
- Difficulty performing tasks that require reading, writing, or mathematics; and
- When, a child who is at least 3 years of age but before they have started school as a beginner, scores on a developmental assessment device, on an assessment instrument which yields a score in months, which score indicates that the child is delayed by 25% of the child's chronological age in one or more developmental areas, or if the child is delayed in one or more of the developmental areas, as documented by test performance of 1.5 standard deviations below the mean on standardized tests.

22 Pa. Code Chapter 14

The Fox Chapel Area School District provides a free appropriate public education to eligible students. To qualify as an eligible student, the child must be of school age, in need of specially-designed instruction, and meet eligibility criteria for one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities, as set forth in Pennsylvania state regulations:

- Autism
- Deafness
- Visual impairment, including blindness
- Emotional disturbance
- Hearing impairment
- Intellectual disability
- Multiple disabilities

- Orthopedic impairment
- Other health impairment
- Specific learning disability
- Speech or language impairment
- Traumatic brain injury

The district engages in identification procedures to ensure that eligible students receive an appropriate educational program consisting of special education and related services, individualized to meet student needs. At no cost to the parents/guardians, these services are provided in compliance with state and federal laws, and are reasonably calculated to yield meaningful educational benefits and student progress.

To identify students who may be eligible for special education, various screening activities are conducted on an ongoing basis. These screening activities include: review of group-based data (cumulative records, enrollment records, health records, report cards, ability, and achievement test scores); hearing, vision, physical, and speech/language screening; and review by a Child Study Team, Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Team, or Elementary Student Assistance Program (ESAP) Team. When screening results suggest that the student may be eligible for special education services, the district seeks parent/guardian consent to conduct a multidisciplinary evaluation.

Parents/guardians who suspect that their child is eligible for special education services may request a multidisciplinary evaluation at any time through a written request to the director of special education and pupil services.

Services designed to meet the needs of eligible students include the annual development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP), biannual or triannual multidisciplinary re-evaluation, and a full continuum of services, which include itinerant, supplemental, or full-time levels of support. The extent of special education services and the location for the delivery of such services are determined by the IEP team and are based on the student's identified needs and abilities, chronological age, and the level of intensity of the specified intervention. The district also provides related services required for the student to benefit from the special education program.

Parents/guardians may obtain additional information regarding special education services and programs and parental due process rights by contacting the director of special education and pupil services at (412) 967-2435, or at Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

Section 504 – Chapter 15

In compliance with state and federal law, the school district will provide to each protected handicapped student, without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services, or accommodations that are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities. A protected handicapped student must be school age with a physical or mental disability that substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program. You may request screening and evaluation for Chapter 15 services at any time, regardless of whether your child is enrolled in the district's public school program. Requests for evaluation and screening are to be made in writing to: Special Education and Pupil Services Department, Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

Gifted Education – Chapter 16

In compliance with state law, services designed to meet the unique needs of gifted students are provided. Students are identified individually based on state law and district policy, and those students who possess superior intelligence scores or meet multiple criteria indicating gifted ability may receive services. If you believe that your school-age child may be eligible for gifted services, screening and evaluation processes designed to assess their eligibility are available to you at no cost, upon written request. You may request screening and evaluation at any time, regardless of whether your child is enrolled in the district's public school program. Requests for evaluation and screening are to be made in writing to: Special Education and Pupil Services Department, Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

Confidentiality

All information gathered about your child is subject to the confidentiality provisions contained in federal and state law. The district has policies and procedures in effect governing the collection, maintenance, destruction, and disclosure to third parties of this information. For information about this, as well as the rights of confidentiality and access to educational records, please send a letter to: Special Education and Pupil Services Department, Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA (20 U.S.C. §1232g; 34 CFR Part 99), is a federal law that is administered by the Student Privacy Policy Office (SPPO) in the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA protects "education records," which are generally defined as records that are directly related to a student and maintained by an educational agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution. FERPA applies to all schools that receive funding under any program administered by the Department of Education.

FERPA provides certain rights for parents/guardians regarding their children's education records. When a student reaches 18 years of age or attends an institution of postsecondary education at any age, the student becomes an "eligible student," and all rights under FERPA transfer from the parent/guardian to the student.

- Under FERPA, a school or State Educational Agency (SEA) must provide an eligible student with an opportunity to inspect and review their education records within a reasonable period of time, but not more than 45 calendar days following the receipt of a request.
- FERPA's access provisions apply to education records maintained by educational agencies or institutions, including documents such as academic transcripts. While eligible students have a right to inspect and review their education records, including academic transcripts maintained by their schools, eligible students do not necessarily have a right to obtain a copy of such records under FERPA.
- Under FERPA, an eligible student has the right to seek amendment or correction of their education records that the eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their rights of privacy. However, while a school is not required to amend an education record in accordance with an eligible student's request, a school is required to consider the request for amendment, to inform the student of its decision, and, if the request is denied, to advise the student of their right to a hearing on the matter. If, as a result of the hearing, a school decides not to amend the education records, then the eligible student has the right to insert a statement in the record commenting on the contested information or stating why they disagree with the decision, or both. That statement must remain with the contested part of the education record for as long as the record is maintained and be included whenever the contested part is disclosed.
- Under FERPA, a school generally may not disclose Personally Identifiable Information (PII) from an eligible student's education records to a third party unless the eligible student has provided prior written consent. There are several exceptions to FERPA's general consent requirement, some of which are described below.
    - School officials, including faculty and staff, with a legitimate educational interest. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill their professional responsibility;
    - Other schools to which a student seeks or intends to enroll;
    - Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
    - Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
    - Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
    - Accrediting organizations;
    - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
    - Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
    - State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific state law.

FERPA also permits a school to disclose information from an eligible student's education records, without consent, when such information has been appropriately designated as "directory information," and the eligible student has not opted out of the disclosure of such designated information. The FERPA regulations define "directory information" as information in a student's education record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Directory information may include information such as the student's name, address, telephone number, email address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, grade level, enrollment status (e.g., undergraduate or graduate, full-time or part-time), dates of attendance (i.e., the period of time during which the student attends or attended the school), participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, and the most recent school attended. Schools must notify parents/guardians and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, district website, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

If you do not want directory information about your child released, please notify the Fox Chapel Area School District deputy superintendent, in writing, at the beginning of each school year at 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

Complaints of Alleged Violations of FERPA

Eligible students who believe that their FERPA rights may have been violated may file a complaint with SPPO at *https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint*. SPPO will review the complaint to ensure that the complaint:

- Is filed, in writing, by an eligible student who maintains FERPA rights over the education records that are the subject of the complaint;
- Is submitted to SPPO within 180 days of the date of the alleged violation or of the date that the eligible student knew or reasonably should have known of the alleged violation; and
- Contains specific allegations of fact giving reasonable cause to believe that a violation of FERPA has occurred.

SPPO will then make a case-by-case determination of the best mechanism for resolving the complaint. Sometimes the action will be an investigation, while for other complaints, consistent with the statute and applicable regulations, other appropriate actions will be taken, such as acting as an intermediary or providing resolution assistance. More information regarding the complaint process is available at *https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint*.

FUTURE READY PA INDEX

The Future Ready PA Index is a collection of school progress measures related to school and

student success. The index includes a range of assessment, on-track, and readiness indicators to more accurately report student learning, growth, and success in the classroom and beyond. For more information and to view the Future Ready PA Index and all Pennsylvania school results, visit *http://futurereadypa.org*.

ARMED FORCES/MILITARY RECRUITERS/MILITARY SCHOOLS

Both federal public law 107-110, section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and state laws require that school districts provide military recruiters access to secondary school students. The Every Student Succeeds Act, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002, and Pennsylvania Act 10 (The Armed Forces Recruiting Act) reflect these requirements. They collectively require school districts to provide military recruiters the same access to secondary school students as they provide to postsecondary institutions or to prospective employers. This would include the student's name, address, and telephone number. However, the law also allows parents/guardians and/or students the right to opt-out from this by requesting that the district not release information to armed forces, military recruiters, and/or military schools. The school counseling department offers a "Military Release of Information Opt-Out Form." The completion and return of the form serves as a parent's/guardian's and/or student's request to withhold private information. Parent/guardian permission is required for those students younger than 18 years of age. Students 18 and older may sign for themselves. For further information, parents/guardians and/or students should contact the Fox Chapel Area High School counseling office at (412) 967-2438 prior to the beginning of each school year.

ASBESTOS REINSPECTIONS

In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, the EPA requires the district to perform reinspections of asbestos materials every three years. In July 2023, accredited asbestos inspectors performed these reinspections and a certified asbestos management planner reviewed the results. The results of the reinspections are on file in the school district administration office as part of the asbestos management plan. The management plan is available for viewing by the public during regular school hours (Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.).

MEDIA NOTIFICATION

Our schools are public buildings, and our students, educational programs, school events, and community-oriented activities are sometimes made the subject of recording by video, audio, photography, livestreaming, and the like for use as instructional and informational tools. In addition, our students' work is sometimes published in print and/or electronic media. The district will allow students to be recorded, interviewed, livestreamed, and/or photographed and students' work to be published for legitimate public purposes. Additionally, our students and their work may be featured on social media.

Throughout the school year, students may be recorded, interviewed, livestreamed, and/or photographed by representatives from newspapers, television stations, and radio stations, as well as district communications office personnel and/or their designees, and these items may be publicly displayed. Students and their work and photographs may also appear in print media and/or electronically in places such as public websites, social media, and through broadcasts.

If parents/guardians object to such publication, a written objection must be filed. The district will not deliberately publish a child if a written objection has been filed. The district will also make a reasonable effort to avoid publication by any third party. It is understood that the district has no control of the news media or others outside of the school organization. Student participation in school activities, especially athletics and other competitive events and extracurricular activities, increases the likelihood of publication of stories and images of those students. Additionally, please note that the written objection does not preclude a child's voice from being livestreamed for instructional purposes.

Written objections must be filed at the beginning of each school year addressed to the Coordinator of Communications, Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238, or via email at bonnie_berzonski@fcasd.edu. If a written objection has been filed in the past, a new letter of objection still must be filed each year. If parents/guardians do not file a written objection, their silence will serve as implied consent.

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTORY

District Administration
611 Field Club Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
412/963-9600
www.fcasd.edu
Superintendent: Mary Catherine Reljac, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent: David McCommons, Ed.D.
Director of Finance: Ryan Manzer

District Resource Staff
Executive Director of Elementary Education and Instruction: Ashley Constantine, Ed.D.
Executive Director of Secondary Education and Instruction: Matthew Patterson, Ph.D.
Director of Special Education and Pupil Services: Timothy Mahoney, Ed.D.
Executive Director of Instructional and Innovative Leadership: Megan Collett, Ed.D.
Director of Literacy: Dana Simile, Ed.D.
Director of Student Achievement and Instructional Verification: Stephen Edwards, Ed.D.
Director of Ancillary Services: Daniel Breitkreutz
Chief of School Police/School Safety and Security Coordinator: Joseph Kozarian
Director of Athletics: Michael O'Brien
Coordinator of Communications: Bonnie Berzonski
Community Engagement Specialist: Jill Leonard

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOLS

Fairview Elementary School
738 Dorseyville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
412/963-9315
Principal: Susan Kreit

Hartwood Elementary School
3730 Saxonburg Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
412/767-5396
Principal:
Rachel Fischbaugh, Ed.D.

Kerr Elementary School
341 Kittanning Pike
Pittsburgh, PA 15215
412/781-4105
Principal: Katelyn Toth

O'Hara Elementary School
115 Cabin Lane
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
412/963-0333
Principal: Kristy Batis, Ed.D.
Program Principal: Kevin Smetak

Dorseyville Middle School
3732 Saxonburg Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
412/767-5343
Principal: Jonathan Nauhaus
Program Principal:
Laura Miller, Ed.D.

Fox Chapel Area High School
611 Field Club Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
412/967-2430
Lead Principal:
Michael Hower, Ed.D.
Program Principal (A-L):
Michelle Young, Ph.D.
Program Principal (M-Z):
Nicole Smith, Ed.D.

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Front row, left to right: Adam G. Goode (2029 – Region III); Eric G. Hamilton, Treasurer (2027 – Region I); Marybeth Dadd, President (2027 – Region III); Ronald P. Frank, Vice President (2027 – Region II); and Vanessa K. Lynch, Assistant Secretary (2027 – Region II). Back row, left to right: Paul Giuffre, Solicitor; Ariel Zych (2029 – Region II); Katie Findley (2027 – Region I); Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac, Superintendent; Dr. David P. McCommons, Deputy Superintendent; Amy B. Cooper (2029 – Region I); Dr. Jessica Haselkorn (2029 – Region III); and Kathleen Anuszek, Board Secretary.

Region I covers all of Sharpsburg Borough and Wards 2, 3, and 4 of O'Hara Township; Region II overs Districts 2, 4, and 5 of Fox Chapel Borough and all of Indiana Township; and Region III covers all of Aspinwall Borough, Blawnox Borough, Wards 1 and 5 of O'Hara Township, and Districts 1 and 3 of Fox Chapel Borough.

School board meetings are typically scheduled for the first and second Mondays of each month at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend. For more information and meeting locations, visit *www.fcasd.edu*.

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The Fox Chapel Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and/or any other basis prohibited by law, and prohibits discrimination, including harassment, in any employment practice, education program, or activity that it operates. Individuals may report concerns or questions to the Title IX coordinator and/or the Section 504 and Americans with Disabilities (ADA) coordinator. The notice of nondiscrimination is available at *www.fcasd.edu*.

Title IX:	David P. McCommons, Ed.D. (412/967-2456)
Section 504 and ADA:	Timothy A. Mahoney, Ed.D. (412/967-2435)
Address:	Fox Chapel Area School District 611 Field Club Road Pittsburgh, PA 15238