



*Incoming 6th
Grade
Information
Night!*

Welcome!

February 17, 2026



Overview

- Who Is Finn Hill?
- Core Academic Programs & Electives
- Athletics and Activities
- Counseling and Registration
- PTSA
- Next Steps



Office and Administration

Website:
<https://fhms.lwsd.org>

Phone: 425-936-2340

Hours: 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Kristian Dahl– Principal

**Holly Knowles– Associate
Principal**

**Jared Carter – Dean of
Students**

Sandi Hill– Office Manager

Who is Finn Hill?

Comprehensive Middle School

- **638 students**
 - EAS 148 students
- **Full academic programs**
- **Activities**
- **Athletics**
- **Arts**
- **Celebrations**

District Programs

- **Interventions**
- **Transitions**
- **Multilingual Learner**
- **Social Emotional Learning**

Monday/Friday

Period 1	7:50 AM	8:37 AM
Period 2	8:42 AM	9:29 AM
N. Break	9:29 AM	9:34 AM
Falcon Time/ Club	9:39 AM	10:19 AM
Period 3	10:24 AM	11:11 AM
Period 4-L	11:16 AM	12:41 PM
Period 5	12:46 PM	1:33 PM
Period 6	1:38 PM	2:25 PM
Lunch A	11:11 AM	11:41 AM
Lunch B	11:41 AM	12:11 PM
Lunch C	12:11 PM	12:41 PM

Tuesday/Thursday

Period 1	7:50 AM	8:37 AM
Period 2	8:42 AM	9:29 AM
N. Break	9:29 AM	9:34 AM
Flex	9:39 AM	10:19 AM
Period 3	10:24 AM	11:11 AM
Period 4-L	11:16 AM	12:41 PM
Period 5	12:46 PM	1:33 PM
Period 6	1:38 PM	2:25 PM
Lunch A	11:11 AM	11:41 AM
Lunch B	11:41 AM	12:11 PM
Lunch C	12:11 PM	12:41 PM

Wednesday

Period 1	7:50 AM	8:30 AM
Period 2	8:35 AM	9:10 AM
Period 3	9:15 AM	9:50 AM
Period 4-L*	9:55 AM	11:20 AM
Period 5	11:25 AM	12:00 PM
Period 6	12:05 PM	12:40 PM
Lunch A	9:50 AM	10:20 AM
Lunch B	10:20 AM	10:50 AM
Lunch C	10:50 AM	11:20 AM



Finn Hill

Daily Schedule



Academic Programs

Electives, Math, English Language Arts,
Social Studies, Science, Fitness





What does a typical schedule look like?

Period	Class
1	Language Arts
2	Math 6+
3	Social Studies
4	Electives Wheel (1 quarter each) ✓ Leadership ✓ Art ✓ Music ✓ STEM
5	Science
6	Foundations (1 semester) Physical Education (1 semester)

If students decide to take an all-year music class (Band, Orchestra or Choir) they would not have the 6th grade electives wheel.



FOUNDATIONS

FALCON FOUNDATIONS

This semester-long class supports students in building the foundational skills that will help them be successful in middle school and beyond.

The main skills that we will be focusing on are:

- Organization
- Collaboration
- Problem-Solving
- Self-Advocacy
- General Study Skills (like note-taking, preparing for tests, etc.)
- Leadership
- College and Career Ready





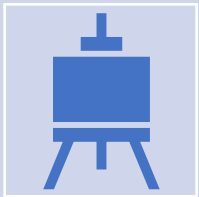
EXPLORE, DISCOVER, AND THRIVE: YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS HERE!

Art, Leadership, Technology & Music

INTRO TO ART



This course is crafted to help your child deepen their understanding and application of the Elements of Art in their own creations.



Throughout the course students will actively participate in diverse art activities. They'll have the chance to explore a wide range of art materials and develop techniques using watercolors, oil pastels, chalk, ink, markers, colored pencils, and clay.



INTRO TO MUSIC

WHY:

This course was created to encourage participation in learning about music.



FACTS about studying music:

- Students who study music perform better in school.
- Learning music strengthens neural connections, enhances memory, language, and literacy skills.
- Improves cognitive functioning, like paying attention, and creativity.



WHAT: This course gives previews to the following:

Elements of Music, Music History, Piano, Ukelele, Guitar, Music History, Music Therapy, Music Psychology, Music in Film, and more!



INTRO TO LEADERSHIP



MS. CHRISTENSEN

In this introductory leadership class, students explore what it means to be a positive leader in their school, community, and everyday life.

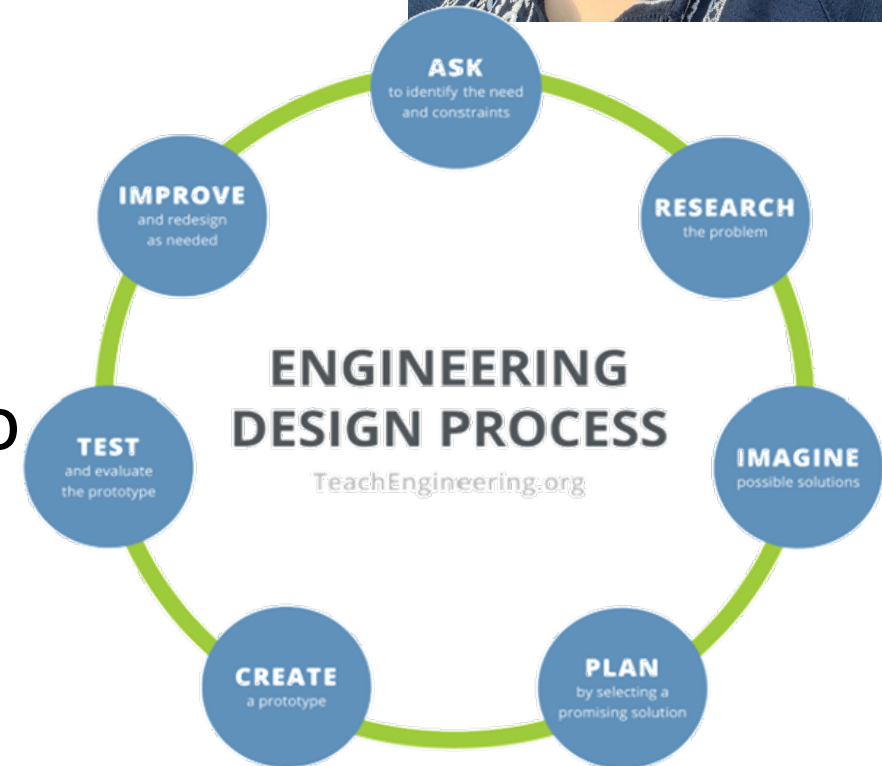
Through team-building activities, hands-on projects, and real-world problem-solving, students practice communication, collaboration, responsibility, and confidence.

Through goal Setting, resolving conflicts, & supporting others, students discover that leadership isn't about having a title—it's about making a difference. This class empowers every student to recognize their strengths and grow as a leader!

INTRO TO STEM

Mrs. Lynch

The introduction to the design process begins with students making paper rockets. They will then learn sketching and measurement techniques, culminating in the construction of basswood truss bridges. If time allows, we will do a series of engineering challenges where students are given a set of supplies and a goal to see what they can come up with!





MUSIC

CHOIR

Year Long!

No Experience Required

Learn:

- How to sing!
- Basic music theory fundamentals, sight-singing, ear training
- Choral and solo technique
- And more!

Perform:

- Various Concerts and performance opportunities throughout the year



ORCHESTRA

Welcomes You

- **What You Will Learn in Orchestra**

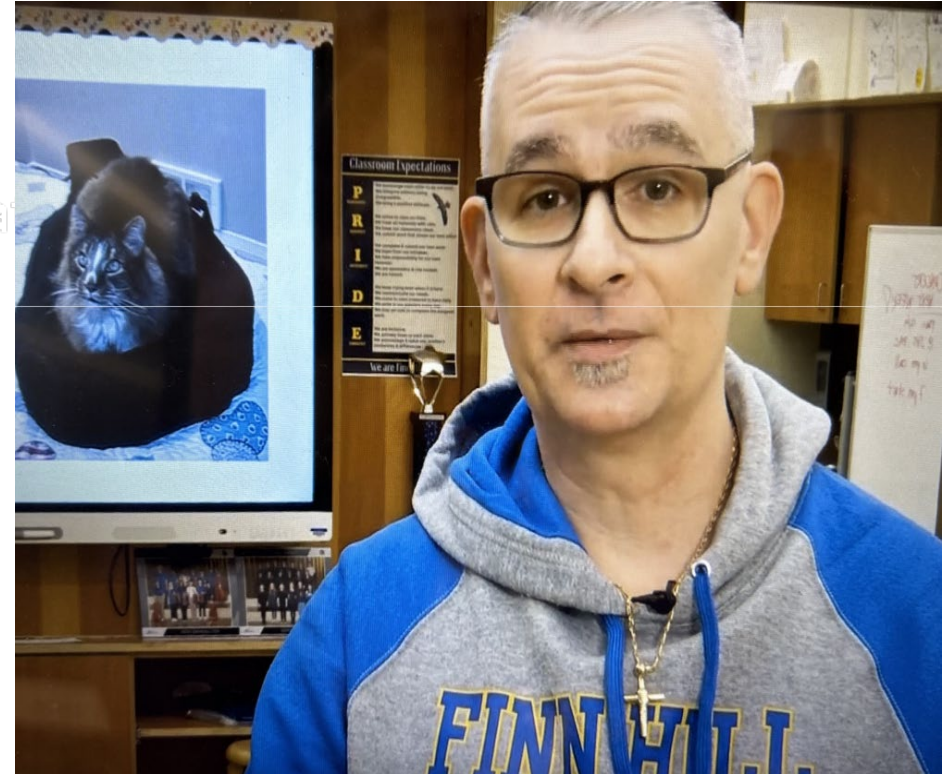
- **Playing Skills:** Students learn how to sit or stand correctly, hold your bow, and make a great sound with your instrument.

- **Reading Music:** Students understand music notes, rhythms, key signatures, and play songs accurately.

- **Musical Expression:** Students learn to use loud and soft sounds, and express emotions and styles in music.

- **Performance & Practice:** Students will prepare music for concerts, gain confidence performing both alone and with others.

- **Performance & Practice:** Students will prepare music for concerts and events, and gain confidence performing both alone and with



FALCON BAND

Band 1 – Beginning Band

No experience required! Learn how to assemble your instrument and make music for the first time. Starting instruments are: Flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone & baritone

Band 2 – Intermediate Band

For students with experience in concert band. We develop musicianship, extend our range and work on more advanced music.

Band 3 – Concert Band

For students who have been in band for multiple years. Our most advanced group that works at a high level to make the best music we can in preparation for high school.



All bands get many performance opportunities including our band festival, concerts and even a trip to Wild Waves for Music in the Parks at the end of the year!

Jazz Band – Only open to experienced students & requires an audition. Enrollment in Band 2 / 3 is required to join jazz band. Talk to Mr. Richards or Ms. Nelson if you want more information

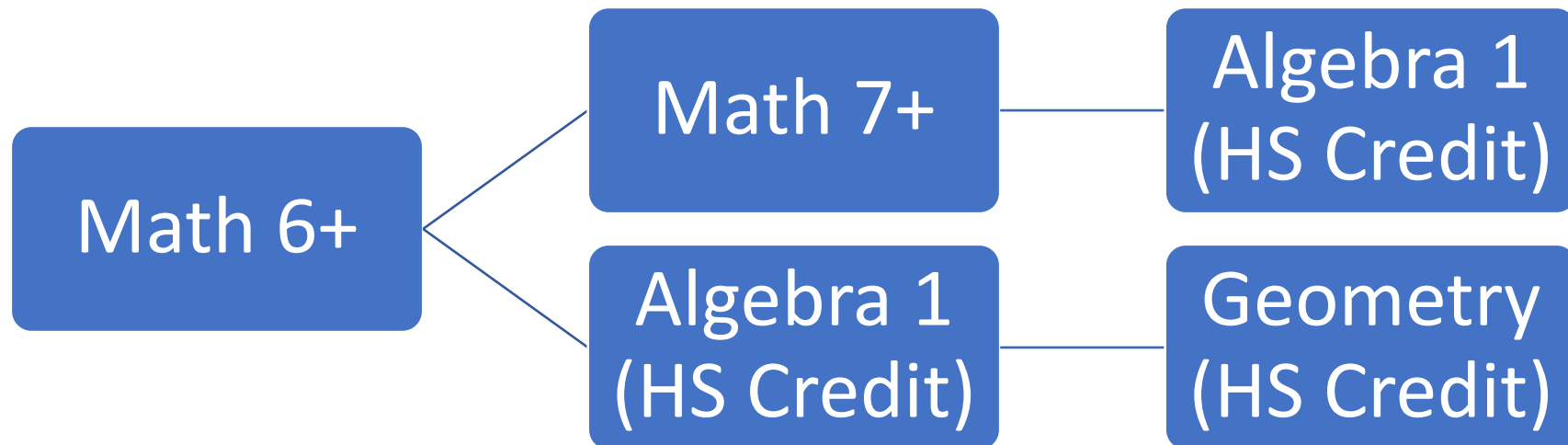


MATHEMATICS

The language of the universe!

Math Overview

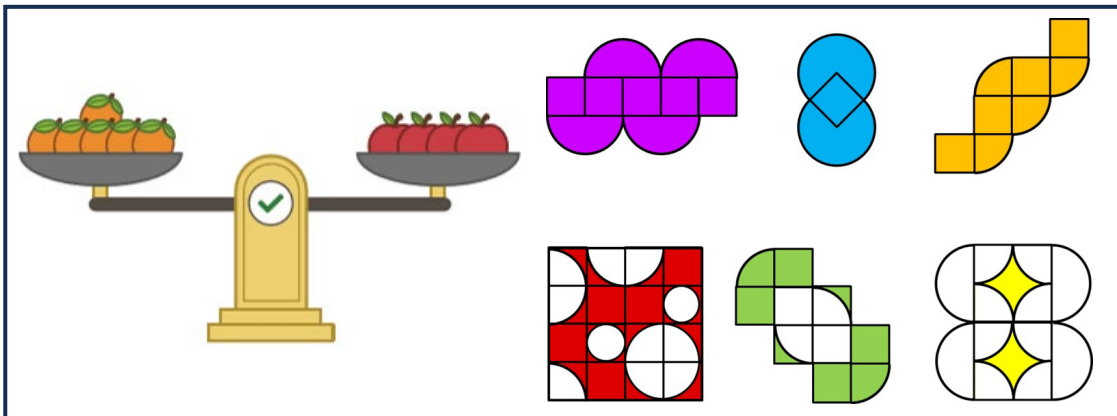
- ✓ Aligned to the Common Core State Standards for Math
- ✓ Collaborative, Rigorous and Engaging Tasks
- ✓ Enrichments, Interventions and Differentiation
- ✓ All Students on an Accelerated Pathway



Typical Math Unit

1. Pre-Assessment and Unit Kick-off
2. Build on Prior Knowledge and Develop Concepts through Inquiry
3. Move from Concept to Procedural Fluency
4. Real-Life Application, Extensions and Differentiation Throughout the Unit
5. Accelerated Math Schedule Requires Homework and Self-Monitoring
6. Assessment: Tests and/or Projects

Illustrative Mathematics-Based Curriculum with Supplements



Collaborative Problem-Solving Class Structures





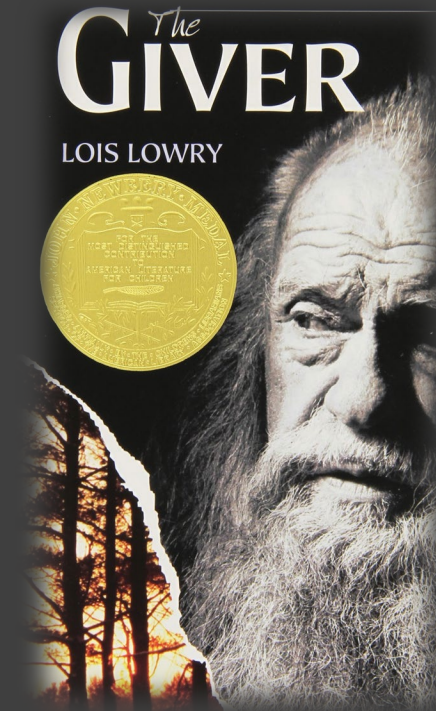
**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
ARTS**

Reading in Amplify Curriculum

Short Stories



Class Novel



Writing in Amplify curriculum

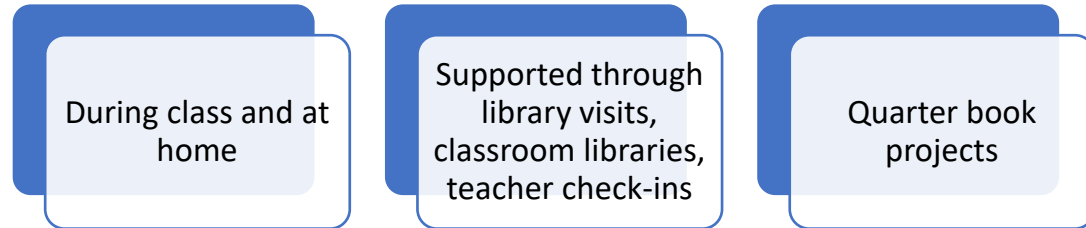
Paragraph prompts every few lessons

2 full essays

Creative writing

Grammar and punctuation practice

Independent Reading



Outside of Class Work

- Only if classwork is not completed in class

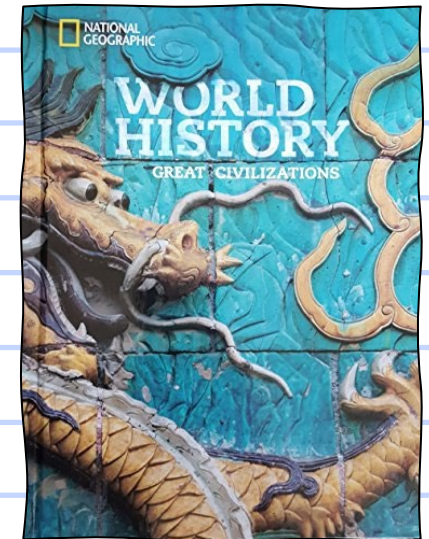


SOCIAL STUDIES

CURRICULUM

In 6th Grade Social Studies, we examine the how the human story and story of civilization began. By exploring the work of archaeologists, anthropologists, and historians, we delve into an ever-evolving understanding of our ancient ancestors.

With a focus on critical thinking skills, throughout the year, we will look for similarities and differences between various civilizations in the ancient world, with a focus on Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece, and Mesoamerica.



*Our
textbook is
produced
by National
Geographic*

Modules

- **Intro to the Ancient World**

- Introduction to the social sciences that inform our learning and informational writing instruction

- **The Development of Human Societies**

- Exploring the transition from the Paleolithic Era (*Hunter-Gatherer Societies*) to the Neolithic Era (*Domestication, Agriculture, & Permanent Settlement*)

- **People and the Land** (geography)

- Exploring why people settled where they did and how early civilizations had to adapt the land to survive

Modules

- **The Traits of Civilization**

- Analyzing how each trait impacted daily life:

- Specialized Workers
 - Technology
 - Arts & Entertainment
 - Record Keeping & Storytelling
 - Complex Institutions (Government & Religion)
 - Cities & Trade

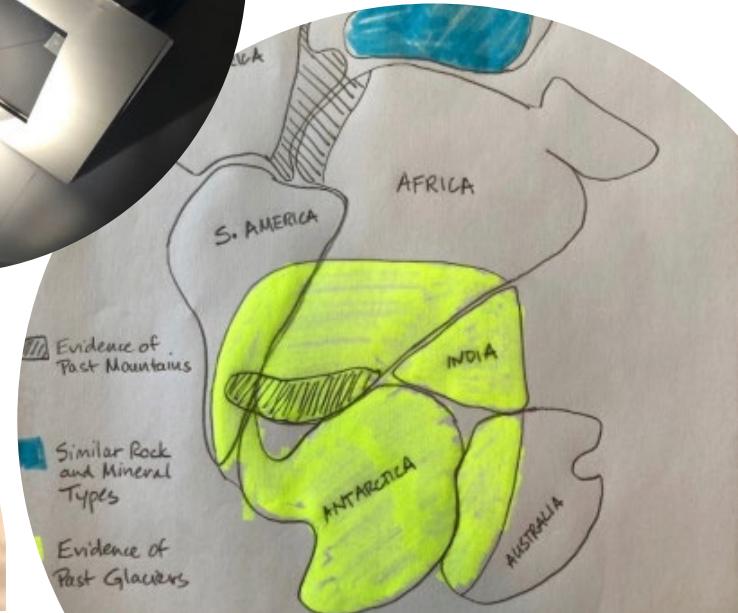
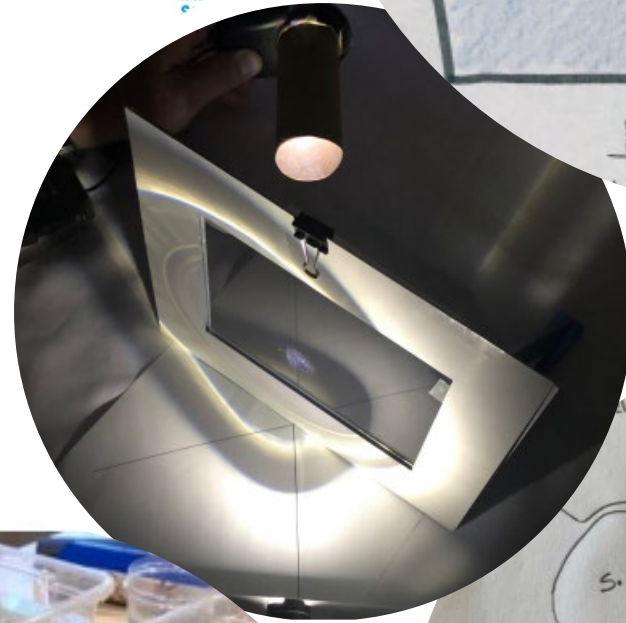
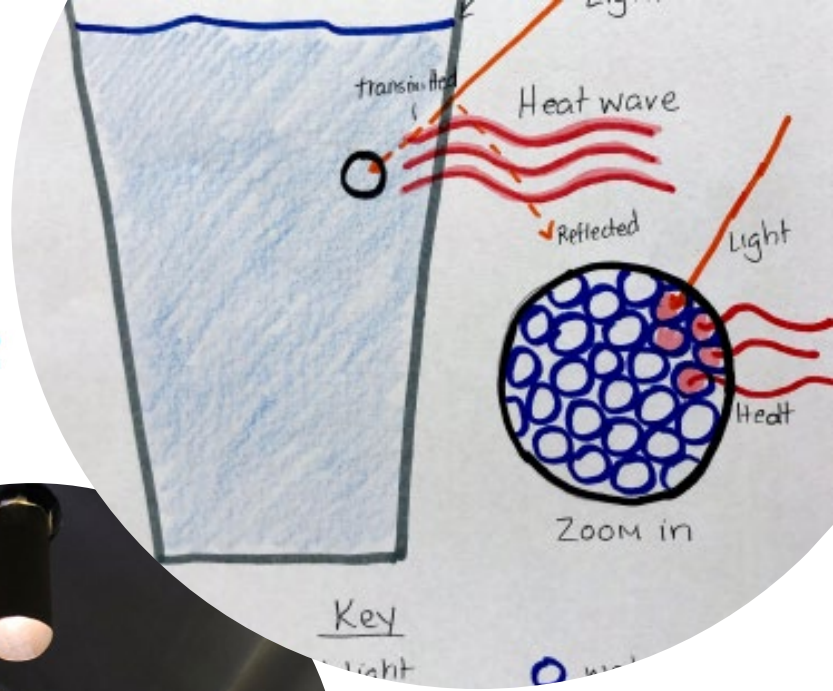
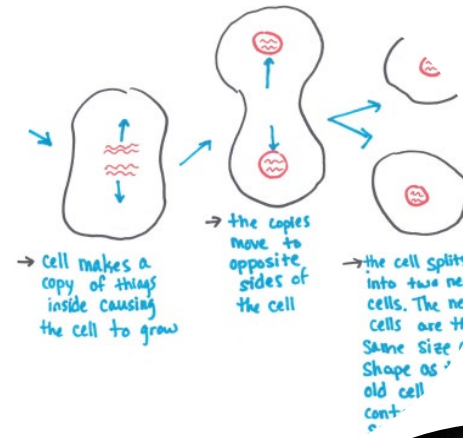
We close out the year with our Fictional Civilization Project.



SCIENCE

OpenSciEd Curriculum – Units focus on explaining real-world, complex phenomenon.

- Students explore Life, Earth & Physical Sciences each year.
 - 6th grade focuses on Light, Thermal Energy, Weather, Plate Tectonics & Cells
- Students develop & use a variety of Science & Engineering Practices
 - Asking questions, planning investigation, collecting data, communicating solutions
- Students learn to make the invisible visible using a wide variety of modeling.
- Hands-on, engaging activities throughout the year.





PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fit for life and feeling good!

Physical Education at FHMS

- **Sports, Fitness, and Wellness:**
 - Football, Badminton, Pickleball, Nitroball.
 - Cardio, bodyweight strength, flexibility, etc.
 - Student choice days – explore their own interests in athletics, movement, and wellness.
- Activities are tailored to **meet students where they're at**, then help them grow from there!
- Success is defined by **challenging yourself and making a positive impact on others**, not by being first or “the best”.
- Students **learn new skills**, learn about their **health and wellness**, **make friends**, **develop leadership**, and of course **have fun!**





ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

Academic Supports

Safety Net

- Stand alone classes in ELA (English) and Math
- Co-Taught in ELA & Math

Flex

- Flexisched every Tuesday and Thursday after 2nd period

Homework Machine

- Every Tuesday and Thursday after school from 2:30-3:30



SCHOOL COUNSELORS

A – K

Camila Larson

L - Q

Mandy Bergan

R – Z

Kirstin Doughty

Registration

- Counselors will give a presentation to your child:
 - Feb 19th – A.G. Bell & Sandburg
 - Feb 20th – Juanita & Thoreau
- Elective requests are due: February 27, 2026

Questions? Please email your child's counselor:



Camila Larson

(Student Last Names A - K)

Monday - Friday

email: clarson@lwsd.org



Mandy Bergan

(Student Last Names L - Q)

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursdays.

email: mbergan@lwsd.org



Kirstin Doughty

(Student Last Names R - Z)

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays

email: kdoughty@lwsd.org

Counseling Services

- Social/Emotional Support
 - Individual Student Support
 - Peer Mediation
 - Community and Counseling Referrals
 - Crisis Intervention
- Academic Support
 - Planning and Success
- Future Planning
 - High School & Beyond
- Student Needs Survey
- Classroom Presentations
- Orientation for New Students
- Registration/Scheduling



ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

Middle Level Seasonal
Sports Program, Clubs

Activities at FHMS



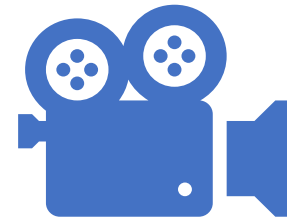
Assemblies

Spirit, MLK
Jr., Veterans
Day



Dances

Fall &
Spring



Movie & Bingo Nights

Winter &
Spring



ASB Officers

7 elected
positions
(7th/8th)

Falcon Pride Ambassadors

F

alcon

P

ride

A

mbassador



- 7th & 8th grade leadership students who works every day to exhibit Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Empathy.
- P.R.I.D.E. Ambassadors help welcome incoming 6th graders at the start of the school year, run activities in their Falcon Times, help at school events, and take on leadership roles during House meetings.
- Applications open in the Spring, accepting 30+ students a year

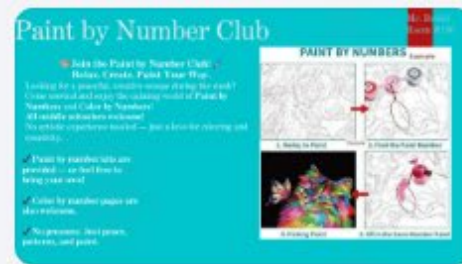
ASB Club	Advisor	Meeting Day of the week (FLEX)	Room number
Drama	Morais, Hanover	Winter (Jan-Feb)	Commons
B.o.t.B (Battle of the Books)	Greenman		Library
TSA (technology student association)	Wishon, Lynch	Thursday After School	192, 193
SOAR (Honor Society)	Bergstrom, Garrels		
GLOW	Wishon, Blankinship		
Yearbook	Wishon	Falcon Time	195
Music (Band/Orchestra/Choir)	Richards		
ASB Board & Ambassadors	Christensen	Daily in Class – ASB Monthly - Ambassadors	620



2



3



4



5



6



9



10



11



12



13



16



17



18

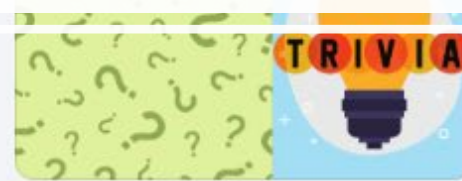
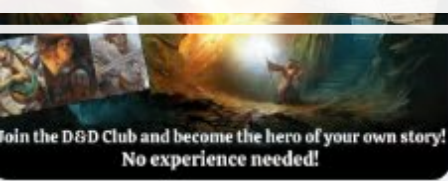


19



20

Friday Clubs! (twice a month on Fridays in Flex)



*A four-week intramural
“Sports Club” is offered
after school in January,
minimum numbers
required.*

Middle Level Seasonal Sports Program

Season 1	Season 2	Season 3	Season 4
Sept – Nov	Nov – Jan	Feb – Mar	Apr - June
Boys & Girls Cross Country	School Choice (intramurals)	Boys &Girls Badminton	Boys and Girls Track and Field
Girls Tennis		Boys & Girls	Boys Tennis
Boys Soccer		Wrestling	Girls Soccer
Boys & Girls Basketball			Girls Volleyball



LIBRARY



Role of the Library

- Support teachers' curriculum & instruction
- Enhance students' learning experience
- Promote reading
- Provide tech assistance
- Safe space for everyone to learn and interact
- Support student research

Library Time



- No formal Library "class"
- Students visit before/after school & lunch
- Students can get pass to visit library during class (for books or laptop help)
- Classes visit library for books talks & research
- Librarian visits classrooms for book talks, research, support & lead lessons

Library Challenges

- Students sign up
- Read books
- Earn prizes (like an ice cream party!)

Examples:

- Score a Touchdown in the Library
- Hit a Homerun in the library
- Blind Date with a Book
- March Madness
- Battle of the Books





Finn Hill Middle School PTSA

*FHMS PTSA supports the
success of every student!*

FHMS PTSA

OUR MISSION

The Finn Hill Middle School PTSA strives to strengthen the learning environment for every student, to be a relevant resource for our families, teachers, staff and administration, and to be a staunch advocate for the education and welfare of every child.

GET IN TOUCH!

- <http://fhmsptsa.org>
- president@fhmsptsa.org



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BOARD

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary

DIRECTORS & CHAIRS

- Membership
- School Services
- Family and Community Engagement (FACE)
- Communications
- Fundraising
- Staff Appreciation
- School Play
- Enrichments
- E-Prep
- Sustainability

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

PTSA in Middle School is different than Elementary! We have volunteer opportunities of all shapes and sizes, and many can be done remotely, on your own schedule. The time commitment can be a lot less, as the students (ASB and Leadership) take on a more active role in planning and executing some events.

Becoming a member does not mean you have to volunteer, but does support our programs!

Don't see what you want to help with, or you're not sure the best fit? Reach out and we can help find the best fit for you and your interests!

GET IN TOUCH!

- <http://fhmsptsa.org>
- president@fhmsptsa.org



Visit our website!

SUPPORTING THE PTSA SUPPORTS THESE PROGRAMS

- Spring Play (teacher stipends)
- Homework Machine (teacher stipends)
- Classroom fund
- Flex Club fund
- Community events such as Bingo Night, Mariner's Game Night opportunity
- International Multicultural Night
- Staff appreciation
- Coordinating Winter Wishes Holiday Drive
- Library support (for books and incentive programs)
- Reflections Art Program
- Guest Speaker
- After-school enrichments**
- Other grants (Projector for comments, cases for PocketTalks, etc.)
- 8th Grade Promotion Celebration
- Field Day

**THANK
YOU**



THANK YOU

- Resources found on the [FHMS website](#)
- FHMS Incoming 6th grade presentation
- June 2nd Incoming 6th grade Finn Hill visit
- Questions
- [Course Catalog](#)
- [Parent Square](#)
- [FHMS PTSA](#)
- Follow us on Social Media
 - [Facebook](#)
 - [Instagram](#)