



WARRIOR WIRE

DISTRICT NEWS FROM FAIRVIEW PARK CITY SCHOOLS
FALL 2025



IMPORTANT DATES

- **NOVEMBER 20**
Board of Education Regular Meeting
FHS Warrior Room
6:30 PM
- **NOVEMBER 24 & 25**
Parent-Teacher Conferences
No school for students
Parkview EEC Childcare open
- **NOVEMBER 26 - 28**
Thanksgiving Break
No school for students or staff
Parkview EEC Childcare closed
- **DECEMBER 13**
Band & Orchestra Holiday Concert
Students in grades 5-12
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- **DECEMBER 16**
Board of Education Regular Meeting
FHS Warrior Room
6:30 PM

Holiday Choir Concert
Middle school & high school students
7:00 PM
- **DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 2**
Winter Break
No school for students or staff
- **JANUARY 5**
Return from Winter Break
Classes resume

Fairview Park Schools exceed state standards with 4.5 stars

On Sept. 15, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) released its 2024-2025 Ohio State Report Cards. This year's report includes an overall star rating for districts and schools, in addition to ratings in six component areas. We are proud to share that the Fairview Park City School District earned an overall 4.5-star rating, exceeding state standards.

Highlights from our report card include:

Gap Closing - 5 Stars: Significantly exceeds state standards in reducing educational gaps across student groups.

Progress - 4 Stars: Strong evidence that students exceeded growth expectations based on past performance.

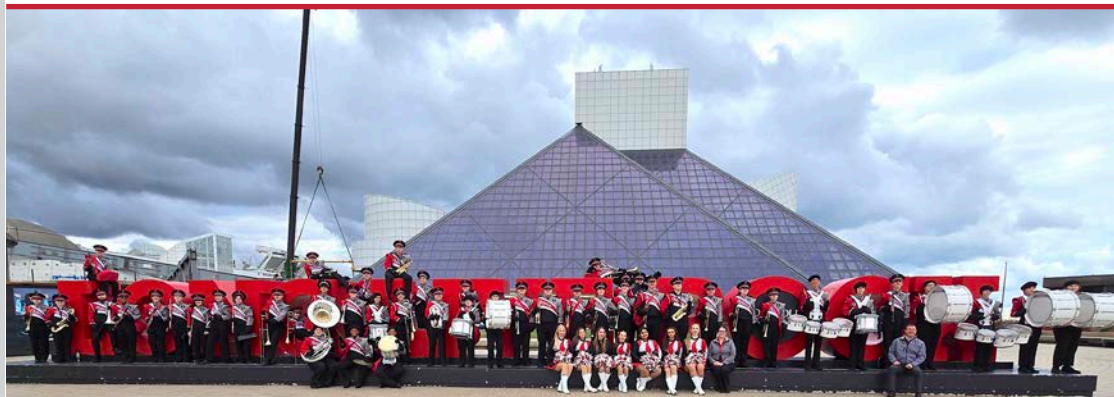
Achievement - 4 Stars: Exceeds state standards on how well students performed on state tests.

Graduation - 4 Stars: Exceeds state standards in graduation rates for students.



Follow Superintendent Keith Ahearn on Instagram @mr.ahearn

See Report Card on page 5



On October 24, the "Pride of Fairview" was invited to visit the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum to perform on the WJW Fox 8 News In the Morning Show. With the football team playing out-of-state, members of the FHS Marching Band and Drill Team also performed later that evening as part of the annual FHS Marching Band Concert.

FOR A FULL LIST OF SCHOOL CALENDAR EVENTS
FAIRVIEWPARKSCHOOLS.ORG/CALENDAR



Middle school student spreads joy through Zoey's Kindness Club

Middle school student Zoey Mahalic holds up 736 bracelets donated to Fairview Hospital in September. Photos courtesy of the Fairview Park Recreation Department.

Lewis F. Mayer Middle School student Zoey Mahalic has turned her love for making bracelets into a mission to spread kindness across her community.

On Sept. 28 at the Fairview Park Gemini Center, Mahalic invited the community to join Zoey's Kindness Club and her mission to spread kindness. Around 75 people answered the call and volunteered their time and talents. In total, 736 handmade bracelets were donated to patients at Fairview Hospital.

"I couldn't believe how many people came," Zoey's Mom, Becca Mahalic said. "Making the donation at the hospital was such a proud moment. Not just for me as a Mom, but for Zoey...We wouldn't be where we are without the support we've received from our friends at the Gemini Center and our wonderful community."

Zoey began making bracelets in third grade, under the encouragement of her teacher, Mrs. Arbogast. Since then, she has handed out thousands of bracelets at public events with her family, raising more than \$900 in donations.

"I just really like spreading kindness, and I want people to be more kind, so I wanted to pass out bracelets, because that's what I like to do," Zoey said. "And I like Taylor Swift, so it kind of ties in there."

Her work spreading kindness has not gone unnoticed in Northeast Ohio. In 2025, NewsDepth recognized her as one of its A+ students. She is also the recipient of the Frannie Millward Award for Young Heroes from Second Mile Outreach and the Good Deed Award from American Legion Post 91 in Berea. In November, she was recognized on WJW Fox 8 News as one of "Cleveland's Own" for her role in doing good for the community.

"People leave me donations, and I donate them to charities," Zoey explained. "I do lots of stuff like Friendship APL, Berea ARF, and stuff that involves animals. But then I also want to donate to the American Cancer Society and Alzheimer's Association."

The next Kindness Club event is scheduled for January 11, 2026, from 12 to 3 PM at the Gemini Center. All materials will be supplied for volunteers. Zoey is still working to confirm who the next recipient of the donation will be.

"She's just like one of those kids you want to send through the copy machine," Mayer Middle School Associate Principal Heather Kaminski said with a smile. "These types of things remind people about the quality of students that we have here. When she's saying thousands of bracelets - that's a lot of determination."



Support Fairview Park students through the PTA Warrior PRIDE fund this holiday season



The Fairview Park PTA Council invites you to join their "Give Back with PRIDE 2025" campaign — an initiative designed to support the diverse needs of students and staff across the Fairview Park City School District.

Through this campaign, the PTA is raising \$1,000 to meet the unfulfilled needs of our students

and teachers, or costs that are important to the school experience but may go overlooked. These supports enable each student and teacher to focus on their well-being, learning, and growth.

When you give to the Warrior PRIDE Fund, you're not just supporting individual needs; you're helping to build a stronger, more connected community.

Thank you for your consideration and for showing your Warrior Pride!

Scan the QR code to the right to make your tax-deductible donation today or visit givebutter.com/WarriorPRIDE2025.



Gilles-Sweet Elementary students begin school year with new playground

September kicked off at Gilles-Sweet Elementary with more than new classes. Students celebrated the year's start by climbing, swinging, and laughing on a brand-new playground.

The idea for a new playground began more than five years ago, when administrators first discussed replacing the school's original playground. That structure was moved from Garnett Elementary, which closed when the new Gilles-Sweet Elementary opened over 20 years ago.

The new playground at Gilles-Sweet features age-appropriate equipment designed to keep students engaged while addressing more modern safety and accessibility standards.

"We did not have a swing designated for a child with accessibility limitations," Gilles-Sweet Principal Matt Krivak noted. "Now, we have that option. Our former castle did not have a ramp to access any portion of it. The new castle has a ramp to allow that access and it gives them the opportunity to engage with other friends during recess."

"The path over to the other side of the playground opens up a completely different area of the playground for students with physical limitations to interact with their peers," Associate Principal Shanna Kovi explained.

Recess and outdoor playtime at school are essential times in child development. According to a 2019 article from the American Academy of Pediatrics, safe and structured playtime promotes "social-emotional, cognitive, language, and self-regulation skills that build executive function and a prosocial brain."

"Also, the playground is really one of our biggest opportunities to work with kids on conflict resolution," Krivak added. "We can talk about what was the unsafe or unexpected choice, and what they could have done differently the next time to make things right."



Construction on the new Gilles-Sweet Elementary playground kicked off as soon as the 2024-2025 school year wrapped up, and by Tuesday, Sept. 2, the wait was over. The first graders proudly took the first spin, climb, and swing on the brand-new equipment during its grand opening celebration.

The new Gilles-Sweet playground is an area for the community, by the community. Although the majority of the cost of construction was paid through the district's permanent improvement fund, community members and businesses contributed money to the project.

Approximately \$8,700 was raised through the annual Gilles-Sweet Derby Dash in 2025, and another \$6,000 was donated by families and community members close to the school.

"A portion of this was funded and spearheaded by [Fairview Park] PTA," Krivak noted. "Fairview Park City School staff, student's families, local businesses - they all had a part to engage and be a part of this process. They will all be memorialized with a plaque or a marker near the playground, and that's a nice feature to have."

At the end of the day, the reviews from the customers at Gilles-Sweet were the most crucial part.

"The new playground is the best," Theo, a fourth grade student stated. "They raised so much money to make students

happy. I love the spinney things. It's like a rollercoaster. The new jungle gym is amazing."

"I love the new playground," Newt, a fourth-grade student said. "The low monkey bars are my favorite thing at the playground. I can finally reach the top of the monkey bars, and it's also good for the little kids. I also love the rubber ground because I don't get mulch in my shoes."

"The new playground makes me feel like we are going into a new, brighter, kinder era," another fourth grade student Amy, said. "It inspired me to include new friends in my games, and it helps me feel brighter going to class. I think the new playground is a step further into making Gilles-Sweet Elementary School a place we all want to be at."



Fairview Homecoming

September 26, 2025

NEWS FROM AROUND THE FAIRVIEW PARK CITY SCHOOLS



FAIRVIEW ATHLETICS EARNS FIVE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

It's been a remarkable fall season for the Warriors, as five teams earned Chagrin Valley Conference Championships.

After finishing the regular season tied for first, the girls tennis team clinched the CVC Valley Division Championship after winning the Valley Division tournament held at Morton Park on Sept. 17.

On Oct. 11, the girls cross country team claimed the CVC Chagrin Division Championship, building on last spring's track and field title in May.

On the pitch, both soccer programs brought home titles. The girls team earned its second consecutive CVC Championship with an 8-0 win over Brooklyn. The team also earned an OHSAA District Championship, their first since 2010, with a 3-1 victory over Orrville on Oct. 25. The boys team clinched a share of the CVC Metro Division crown with a 3-1 come from behind win over Trinity on Sept. 25.

On Oct. 17, the Warriors football team clinched the CVC Metro Division Championship with a 42-6 win over Brooklyn. They are the first team in school history to qualify for the OHSAA state tournament in back-to-back seasons. They also became the first team to win a state playoff game, defeating Fredericktown 51-41 on Oct. 31.

SEE MORE NEWS ON THE NEXT PAGE

MORE NEWS



TREASURER'S OFFICE RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR 23rd CONSECUTIVE YEAR:

The Fairview Park City School District Treasurer's Office was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The honor recognizes the district's annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

"Our team takes great pride in presenting clear, thorough, and reliable financial information to our community," said Treasurer Rob Showalter. "Earning this award for the 23rd time reflects the consistent dedication of our office to upholding the highest standards in financial reporting." You can view all the financial reports at fairviewparkschools.org/treasurer.

FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RECONNECTS WARRIORS, INSPIRES NEW INVOLVEMENT:



The Fairview High School Alumni Association is taking new steps to reconnect graduates and strengthen ties within the Warrior community. Led by alumni from the classes of 2008 and 2009, the group hopes to create more opportunities for FHS graduates to engage, stay connected, and support current students and school programs.

For more information and to sign up, scan the QR code or visit fairviewparkschools.org/alumni. Go, Warriors!



HOLIDAY CONCERTS AND STUDENT PERFORMANCES HIGHLIGHT DECEMBER EVENTS IN FAIRVIEW PARK:



The holiday season is almost here, and we invite you to celebrate with the sounds of the season at the Frank W. Barr Auditorium. On Saturday, Dec. 13, beginning at 12:00 PM, enjoy performances from band and orchestra students at Gilles-Sweet Elementary, Lewis F. Mayer Middle School, and Fairview High School at the annual Band & Orchestra Holiday Concert. Attendees are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to support the Fairview Park Hunger Center.

Then, on Tuesday, Dec. 16, join us for the Holiday Choir Concert at 7:00 PM, featuring a mix of festive favorites from students at Fairview High School & Mayer Middle School. To close out the season, Gilles-Sweet third graders and Parkview students will present their holiday concerts on Dec. 17 and 18. See the full holiday concert schedule at fairviewparkschools.org.

REPORT CARD FROM PAGE 1

Early Literacy - 4 Stars: Exceeds state standards in K-3 literacy.

College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness - 3 Stars: Meets state standards.

These results reflect the dedication of our students, teachers, staff, administrators, and families. We celebrate this progress while continuing to focus on continuous improvement, particularly in preparing all students for their futures beyond Fairview Park.

It is important to remember that the state report card is just one measure of the excellent work that happens in our schools each day. Together, we will continue to ensure that every student is supported, challenged, and inspired.



2024-2025
School Report Card
Overview

OVERALL: ★★★★★

Component Area:	Rating (out of five stars):
Gap Closing	★★★★★
Progress	★★★★★
Achievement	★★★★★
Graduation	★★★★★
Early Literacy	★★★★★
College, Career, Workforce and Military Readiness	★★★★★



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Empowering every student for future success

From the classroom to the community, the Fairview Park City School District empowers students to think critically, learn with passion, and lead with purpose in an environment where each student is known, valued, and inspired to succeed.

With more than 100 courses, including Advanced Placement, College Credit Plus, and Career Technical options, students benefit from a variety of learning paths across Fairview's newly updated school buildings.

From the engaging learning environments at Parkview Early Education Center and Gilles-Sweet Elementary to the Innovation Center, science labs, and fine arts spaces at the middle and high school campus, each student is challenged to think critically, collaborate meaningfully, and develop the skills needed for lifelong success.

Plan your visit at
fairviewparkschools.org/visit
or scan the QR code.



#WarriorPride