Fennville FORWARD

Summer 2026



Congratulations Class of 2026!

Administration

DISTRICT
Albert Lombard, Superintendent
5 Memorial Drive
269-722-3350

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Cindy Hillary, Principal
8 Memorial Drive
K-2: 269-722-3900
3-5: 269-722-3850

MIDDLE SCHOOL
Chris Grob, Principal
1 Memorial Drive
269-722-3550

HIGH SCHOOL
Rick Frens, Principal
4 Memorial Drive
269-722-3450

ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL
Tara Coffindaffer, Success Coach
5 Memorial Drive
269-722-3580

TEACHING AND LEARNING
Jessica Gierucki, Director
5 Memorial Drive
269-722-3347

SPECIALIZED INSTRUCTION
Allison Best, Supervisor
5 Memorial Drive
269-722-3348

ATHLETICS & COMMUNITY REC
Tony Stennett, Director
4 Memorial Drive
269-722-3331

OPERATIONS
Dan Rastall, Director
5 Memorial Drive
269-722-3368

FOOD SERVICE
Chef Zeke Potter, Director
5 Memorial Drive
269-722-3363

TRANSPORTATION
Brenda Boyd, Director
3 Memorial Drive
269-722-3826



Dear Fennville Community,

You **CAN** get there from here!

At the conclusion of this school year, I am once again reminded that anything is possible for our Fennville graduates. This spring, I had the chance to be a part of so many celebrations honoring our students. In early May, our annual Honors Night showcased the tremendous generosity and legacy of current and past Fennville school and community members, who made over $400,000 in financial awards possible for our graduates. I also got to experience vital milestones for students entering Kindergarten, leaving 5th Grade, and transitioning into High School at our 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony. All these moments are important opportunities for us to celebrate and acknowledge our wonderful students and educators!

This year's graduation ceremony was extra special to me personally. My own daughter graduated from Fennville this year, and I could not be prouder of the education she received and, most importantly, the impact that the Fennville community has had on her. This year's commencement speakers said it best in their speeches regarding the role this community has already played in shaping their futures.

Graduate Anahi Sanchez reminded us of the importance of the relationships we have in this great school community:

"Let us remember where we came from, the lessons we learned and the people that stood beside us. These are the things that will anchor us whenever life feels uncertain."

Graduate Hannah Lombard talked about feeling empowered as a graduate of Fennville:

"Yes, we are a small school, in a small town but that doesn't define who we are. Over the years there has been proof that graduating from Fennville can take you far into this life, and it's just the start of our journey."

In this issue of the Fennville Forward, we celebrate the Fennville High School and Fennville Alternative Class of 2026, as well as our Early College graduates. Page 5 features the extensive list of scholarship recipients and awards for the Class of 2026. Also included are the Honor Roll and "Earn Your Wings" students from Semester 1. Rounding out the Forward, we celebrate our Students of the Month, Alumni, Outstanding People for Education, retirements, and new staff members. What a remarkable spring it has been at Fennville!

We continue to move Fennville Forward in so many ways while recognizing and honoring the foundations of our past!

It's a great day to be a Blackhawk!

Sincerely,

Albert Lombard

Fennville Public Schools Board of Education

President: Manuel Sanchez
Vice President: Ross Thiele
Secretary: Angie Pena-Smith
Treasurer: Juliet Michele
Trustee: Paul Hapke
Trustee: Natalie Bosby
Trustee: Jayson Hicks

Meeting Schedule
3rd Monday of each month at 7:00pm
Central Office Board Room

fennville.org/district/board-of-education

The public is invited to attend all Board of Education meetings. All regular meetings are held in the Central Office Board Room located at 5 Memorial Drive, Fennville.
All Special Meetings and Work Sessions will be scheduled as necessary. Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to participate in these meetings.

Cultivating educational excellence with a global perspective in a community atmosphere.



Illuminate Inclusion Week was all about celebrating our differences, accepting individuals with disabilities, and shining a light on kindness, empathy, and belonging! Through theme days and hands-on activities, students learned what it means to include everyone!

Elementary School

Our Kindergarten and Kickstart Kindergarten students were so excited to celebrate Arbor Day with their very own saplings to plant in their yards! Thank you to the Saugatuck Douglas Garden Club for the the wonderful donations!



Middle School

Sixth grade Salmon Release Day at the New Richmond Park is a spring tradition. Each student got to send one of the 133 salmon parr raised in the science classroom on their way down the river, where some will survive to adulthood and swim the Great Lakes until they return to spawn in the Kalamazoo River! They experienced STEAM stations, fishing, and the tradition of "turning the bridge."







Students in Mr. Batchelor's 7th grade Human Body class have been connecting classroom learning to real-world experiences through a series of guest speakers. Among others, speakers have included Mr. French, a paraprofessional at the Middle School, who shared his background as a wilderness first responder and taught practical first aid skills, while Zack from Life EMS (pictured), our own Nurse Emily, and Dr. Sharp from Sharp Family Dentistry spoke about careers in emergency services, nursing, and dentistry. These experiences helped students see how their knowledge of the human body applies in real-life situations. Thank you to Mr. Batchelor and all of our guest speakers for making learning meaningful and engaging!

High School

Mrs. Burrows-Stone's 9th grade English class recently wrapped up a fun and creative project with the help of Hope College student teacher Lauren Henderson. After reading novels in their book clubs, students turned their stories into children's book adaptations and shared them with 1st and 2nd graders. It was a great opportunity for the freshmen to bring their books to life, practice storytelling, and connect with younger students through reading.







Congratulations to FHS 10th graders Teagen Logsdon, Isidra Espino Olvera, Kaylee McCarty, Alexandra Arredondo, Cesar Hernandez, and Tanner Bloom on their acceptance into the Early College Allegan County (ECAC) program! Through this opportunity, they will begin working toward their Associate Degree through Lake Michigan College while still in high school.

FHS Class of 2026

Lily Achterhof, Reese Anaya, Elizabeth Arellano, Roman Arispe, Dereck Arredondo, Jesus Avendano, Sarai Avilez, Christian Balder, Jaqueline Benitez, Joanna Benitez, Alexander Brown, Rachel Callejas, Aliyana Cavazos, Atiyah Chambers, Ethan Coffindaffer, Lily-Anna Collins, Amiah Davis, David Deleon Rosas, Duchess Dial, Isis Diaz, Marisol Diaz Mena, Jorge Espino, O'Ryan Espino, Ulysses Estrada, Jose Fernandez, Alexander Ferrari, Kaydance Fiske, Miguel French, Tiffany Fuentes, Chase Funckes, Brooklynn Gardea, Rylee Geister, Samantha Giles, Ashton Halcomb, Michael Herrera, Abigail Herrick, Ryleigh Hoffman, Abraca Hopson, Yasid Izquierdo, Gavin Kempker, Hannah Lombard, Zyon Martinez, Cruz Medrano, Isabella Michele, Kaniya Mitchell, Brooklyn Nead, Ryan Nelson, Isaiah Norwood, Zachary Onken, Rebecca Parente, Isaiah Peoples, Elena Reyes, Juan Rosas, Ethan Rosencrans, Jaciel Ruiz, Angel Sale, Alexander Salinas Mena, Jesus Salinas Quiroz, Jose Salinas Quiroz, Anahi Sanchez, Hugo Sanchez, Marissa Sanchez, Gabriel Sauceda, Noah Sauceda, Koen Scholten, Ely Schut, Mikey Serrato Aguilar, Izaiah Sharp, Damien Smith, Jayden Sneller, Trinity Solis, Isaiah Souders-Beltran, Makaihla Steanburg, Serena Tait, Carter Thompson, Dash Todd, Adamari Torres, Yohana Torres-Martinez, Luis Vasquez, Angel Villalobos, Michael Villanueva, Makala Wilson

Class Motto "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." - Walt Disney

Class Color Purple

Class Flower Hibiscus

Class Song "Landslide" - Fleetwood Mac





FAHS Class of 2026

Diploma

Tatiana Burchett, Jared Delgado, Francisco Garcia-Arredondo, Mya Hicks, Judisleidy Lemus Huipe, Kaydence Lindley, Abigail Mikol, Elizabeth Neely, Amnaya Osborn, Brenda Ruiz-Perales, Alana Verdusco, Autumn Zugel

GED

Kaylie Johnson, Alexica King, Kierstin King, Hugh Lowing, Jacob McLemore, Khloe Mileskiewicz, Ayden Mitts



Early College Allegan County Class of 2026

Ava Ellis, Tiffany McElroy, Alexandra Solis-Sarat

2026 Scholarship Recipients & Awards

Community Scholarships

Fennville Pullman Lakeshore Rotary: Reese Anaya
VFW Post 7911: Samantha Giles, Marissa Sanchez
Chuck Symons Memorial: Ethan Coffindaffer
Masonic Dutcher Lodge #193: Rylee Geister, Hannah Lombard
Hustle & Harmony: Hannah Lombard
Gun Lake Casino Resort: Hannah Lombard
Class of 2008 Service: Kaydance Fiske, Rebecca Parente
Rio Bravo Ranch Almanza Family: Reese Anaya, O'Ryan Espino
Myrtle & Ethelyn Paine Memorial: Rylee Geister

Allegan County Community Foundation Scholarships

Saugatuck-Douglas Garden Club: Alexandra Solis-Sarat
Trevor & Marie Nichols: Reese Anaya
Helen F. Kitchen Memorial: Makaihla Steanburg
Frederick "Laddie" Mesyar: Jaciel Ruiz
James & Grace Walz: Reese Anaya, Alexandra Solis-Sarat
McIlwaine Family Skilled Trades: Lily Achterhof

Fennville Educational Foundation Scholarships

Hutchins-Sayen: Carter Thompson
Pete & Trevah Hartsuiker: Ava Ellis
Woodby Family: Joanna Benitez, Ulysses Estrada
Robert & Luetta Crane Memorial: Amiah Davis, Marisol Diaz Mena
American Legion: O'Ryan Espino
West MI Blue Star Chamber of Commerce: Rebecca Parente
Ralph McMahon Family Memorial: Adamari Torres
Bill & Rose Dalton Memorial: Anahi Sanchez
Donald & Mary Ann Moeller: Ulysses Estrada
Donald H. & Thelma Dickinson: Yohanna Torres-Martinez
Leon & Josephine (Wade) Shepard: Lily Achterhof, Marisol Diaz Mena, Alexander Ferrari, Samantha Giles, Michael Herrera, Zachary Onken, Jaciel Ruiz, Marissa Sanchez
Wolfgang Wade: Yasid Izquierdo, Cruz Medrano
Mary H. Wark: Jaqueline Benitez, Rylee Geister
Janice & Edward Hutchinson: Aliyana Cavazos, Hannah Lombard

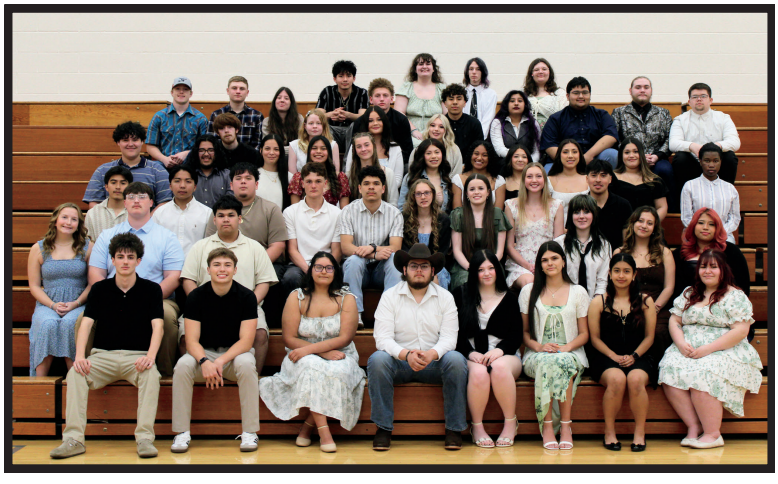
$444,717 in Local Scholarships!

Awards & Recognition

Wesley Leonard Athletic Award: Lily Achterhof, Zachary Onken
William A. Sexton Varsity Club Award: Lily Achterhof
SAC Scholar Athletes: Lily Achterhof, Marisol Diaz Mena, Samantha Giles
MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award: Marisol Diaz Mena
MIAAA Academic Achievement: Lily Achterhof, Gavin Kempker
Quiz Bowl Recognition: Roman Arispe, Joanna Benitez, Aliyana Cavazos, Ulysses Estrada, Alexander Ferrari, Abraca Hopson, Dash Todd
Robotics Recognition: Chase Funckes, Zyon Martinez
Trap Team Recognition: Zyon Martinez, Ryan Nelson, Ethan Rosencrans, Koen Scholten, Jayden Sneller
Eagle Scout Recognition: Ethan Rosencrans
DAR Good Citizenship Award: Hannah Lombard
Outstanding Fine Art Award: Aliyana Cavazos, Abigail Herrick
Outstanding Vocalists: Jaqueline Benitez, Joanna Benitez, Ulysses Estrada, Serena Tait
John Phillip Sousa Band Award: Christian Balder
Gilmore Band Award: Ulysses Estrada
Directors Band Award: Chase Funckes
National Marching Band Award: Hannah Lombard
Sempre Fidelis Musical Excellence Award: Abraca Hopson
Versiti Blood Drive Recognition: Joanna Benitez, Aliyana Cavazos, Miguel French, Rylee Geister, Michael Herrera, Hannah Lombard, Brooklyn Nead, Gabriel Sauceda, Makaihla Steanburg, Carter Thompson, Adamari Torres
Student Council: Joanna Benitez, Aliyana Cavazos, Hannah Lombard, Brooklyn Nead
Allegan Tech Center Awards: Duchess Dial, Michael Herrera, Zyon Martinez, Gabriel Sauceda, Jayden Sneller
National Technical Honor Society: Roman Arispe, Sarai Avilez, Rebecca Parente, Anahi Sanchez
Seal of Biliteracy: Jesus Avendano, Joanna Benitez, Isis Diaz, Marisol Diaz Mena, Francisco Garcia-Arredondo, Yasid Izquierdo, Cruz Medrano, Rebecca Parente, Jaciel Ruiz, Jesus Salinas Quiroz, Jose Salinas Quiroz, Anahi Sanchez, Hugo Sanchez, Adamari Torres
TRIO Upward Bound: Jaqueline Benitez, Joanna Benitez, Aliyana Cavazos, Ulysses Estrada, Michael Herrera, Yasid Izquierdo
Early College Allegan County Recognition: Marisol Diaz Mena, Hannah Lombard, Zachary Onken, Isabella Michele, Marissa Sanchez
National Honor Society: Lily Achterhof, Aliyana Cavazos, Marisol Diaz Mena, Ulysses Estrada, Rylee Geister, Samantha Giles, Yasid Izquierdo, Hannah Lombard, Cruz Medrano, Isabella Michele, Rebecca Parente, Jaciel Ruiz, Anahi Sanchez, Marissa Sanchez
National Art Honor Society: Jaqueline Benitez, Joanna Benitez, Aliyana Cavazos, Abigail Herrick, Yasid Izquierdo, Isabella Michele, Brooklyn Nead, Luis Vasquez

Academic Honors

SAT Achievement Award (1200 or higher): Alexander Ferrari, Abraca Hopson, Isabella Michele
Silver Cord (3.00-3.49 GPA): Roman Arispe, Ulysses Estrada, Chase Funckes, Rylee Geister, Michael Herrera, Gavin Kempker, Hannah Lombard, Zachary Onken, Jaciel Ruiz, Jesus Salinas Quiroz, Serena Tait, Makala Wilson
Gold Cord & Honors Achievement (3.50-4.00+ GPA): Lily Achterhof, Jaqueline Benitez, Aliyana Cavazos, Marisol Diaz Mena, Alexander Ferrari, Samantha Giles, Abraca Hopson, Yasid Izquierdo, Cruz Medrano, Isabella Michele, Rebecca Parente, Anahi Sanchez, Marissa Sanchez, Yohanna Torres-Martinez
SAC Principals Award: Aliyana Cavazos, Abraca Hopson, Cruz Medrano



Highest ACHIEVERS

Fennville High School First Semester 2025-26

Blackhawk Scholar Honor Roll 4.00+ GPA

Seniors: Abraca Hopson, Yasid Izquierdo, Cruz Medrano, Anahi Sanchez **Juniors:** Kelci Bushee, Mercedes Camberos, Jocelynn Davoren, Candy Gonzalez Galindo, Camila Hernandez, Ethan Jenne, Emma Neighbours, Madison Olund, Paloma Reyes, Isabelle Sliter, Gabbreilla VanStaalduinen, Ryleigh Wilson **Sophomores:** Carter Buikema, Teagen Logsdon **Freshmen:** Jax Alvesteffer, Tania Castillo Contreras, Christopher Davie, Cadince Jenne, Elina Kramer, Wren Mathers, Stella Michele, Macy Samp, Emma Sliter

Distinguished Honor Roll 3.50 - 3.99 GPA

Seniors: Lily Achterhof, Roman Arispe, Jaqueline Benitez, Alexander Brown, Aliyana Cavazos, Ethan Coffindaffer, Lily-Anna Collins, Alexander Ferrari, Brooklynn Gardea, Rylee Geister, Ryleigh Hoffman, Gavin Kempker, Rebecca Parente, Jesus Salinas Quiroz, Luis Vasquez, Makala Wilson **Juniors:** Andy Balke, Atticus Boeve, Anyah Braddock, Juan Coronado Rodriguez, Carmen Garcia, Ava Geister, Alexa Guzman, Adriana Hicks, Ceeley Howard, MacKenzie McIlwain, Cristina Sanchez-Hernandez, Dina Santos-Porres, Veda Seward **Sophomores:** Alexandra Arredondo, Roberto Garcia, Amiyah Johnson, Kaylee McCarty, Gisselle Perales-Garcia, Melissa Salamanca, Marynn Winne, Alyssa Wyman **Freshmen:** Jonathan Bobadilla, Kaiden Edmondson, Avaleigh Egan, Sofia Gray, Ella Heavilin, Kaylani Hernandez, Giovanni Herrera, Lilyanna Horn, Monserrath Huerta, Sena Kamekona, Samuel Kramer, MiaBella Martinez, Kasandra Miedema, Kaylee Neighbours, Catalina Ortiz Hernandez, Valerie Rasmussen, Zoey Renberg, Jessie Roa Lazaro, Emely Solis Franco, Kevin Thompson

Honor Roll 3.00 - 3.49 GPA

Seniors: Reese Anaya, Elizabeth Arellano, Dereck Arredondo, Sarai Avilez, Joanna Benitez, Marisol Diaz Mena, O'Ryan Espino, Kaydance Fiske, Tiffany Fuentes, Chase Funckes, Samantha Giles, Michael Herrera, Hannah Lombard, Isabella Michele, Kaniya Mitchell, Brooklyn Nead, Isaiah Norwood, Jose Salinas Quiroz, Marissa Sanchez, Jayden Sneller, Trinity Solis, Carter Thompson, Adamari Torres, Yohana Torres-Martinez **Juniors:** Jesus Arellano, Josue Bahena Diaz, Analia DeLeon Ochoa, Emelia Esquivel, Yamileth Fernandez-Roman, Calvin Giles, Jacqueline Hernandez, Andy Hernandez-Martinez, Jayden Lopez, Calley Maccune, Connor Nead, Marlee Nead, Jose Osorio, Angel Palomares, Alexander Pappenheimer, Maritza Rosas, Jesus Solis-Sarat, Kylee Thompson **Sophomores:** Kaylee Banda, Elizabeth Beckett, Layla Coffey, Aylee Coffindaffer, Diego Rodriguez Coronado, Isabella DeLucas Perales, Cruz Espino, Isidra Espino-Olvera, Maria Fernandez, Alyssa Hammer, Cesar Hernandez, Cosmo Hopson, Seamus Lynch, Kayleigh Maccune, Candela Ruiz Martinez, Danielle Silva Rodriguez, Zachary Sneller, Hudson Winne **Freshmen:** Payten Burks, Mateo Carter, Olvera Espino, Santi Garcia, Olivia Gonzales, Leslie Hernandez, Hayden Johnson, Joseph Kury, Jacob Lambrix, Lucas Lombard, Alley Murphy, Brendan Pascoe, Yadiella Ramos, Haylee Reed, David Solis-Salazar, Caleb Tucker, Nidia Villalobos

Earned Their Wings 3.00+ GPA & No Major Behavorial Referalls

Seniors: Lily Achterhof, Reese Anaya, Elizabeth Arellano, Roman Arispe, Dereck Arredondo, Sarai Avilez, Jaqueline Benitez, Joanna Benitez, Alexander Brown, Aliyana Cavazos, Ethan Coffindaffer, Lily-Anna Collins, Marisol Diaz Mena, O'Ryan Espino, Alexander Ferrari, Kaydance Fiske, Chase Funckes, Brooklynn Gardea, Rylee Geister, Samantha Giles, Michael Herrera, Ryleigh Hoffman, Abraca Hopson, Yasid Izquierdo, Gavin Kempker, Hannah Lombard, Cruz Medrano, Isabella Michele, Kaniya Mitchell, Brooklyn Nead, Isaiah Norwood, Rebecca Parente, Jesus Salinas Quiroz, Jose Salinas Quiroz, Anahi Sanchez, Marissa Sanchez, Jayden Sneller, Adamari Torres, Yohana Torres-Martinez, Luis Vasquez, Makala Wilson **Juniors:** Jesus Arellano, Josue Bahena Diaz, Andy Balke, Atticus Boeve, Anyah Braddock, Kelci Bushee, Mercedes Camberos, Juan Coronado Rodriguez, Jocelynn Davoren, Analia DeLeon Ochoa, Emelia Esquivel, Yamileth Fernandez-Roman, Carmen Garcia, Ava Geister, Calvin Giles, Candy Gonzalez Galindo , Alexa Guzman, Camila Hernandez, Jacqueline Hernandez, Andy Hernandez-Martinez, Ceeley Howard, Ethan Jenne, Jayden Lopez, Calley Maccune, MacKenzie McIlwain, Marlee Nead, Emma Neighbours, Madison Olund, Jose Osorio, Angel Palomares, Paloma Reyes, Cristina Sanchez-Hernandez, Dina Santos-Porres, Veda Seward, Isabelle Sliter, Jesus Solis-Sarat, Kylee Thompson, Gabbreilla VanStaalduinen, Ryleigh Wilson **Sophomores:** Alexandra Arredondo, Kaylee Banda, Elizabeth Beckett, Carter Buikema, Aylee Coffindaffer, Diego Coronado Rodriguez, Isabella DeLucas Pereles, Jonathan Espino Cruz, Isidra Espino-Olvera, Maria Fernandez, Roberto Garcia, Alyssa Hammer, Cesar Hernandez, Cosmo Hopson, Amiyah Johnson, Teagen Logsdon, Seamus Lynch, Kayleigh Maccune, Gisselle Perales-Garcia, Candela Ruiz Martinez, Melissa Salamanca, Danielle Silva Rodriguez, Zachary Sneller, Marynn Winne, Hudson Winne, Alyssa Wyman **Freshmen:** Jax Alvesteffer, Jonathan Bobadilla, Payten Burks, Mateo Carter, Tania Castillo Contreras, Christopher Davie, Avaleigh Egan, Itati Espino-Olvera, Santi Garcia, Olivia Gonzales, Sofia Gray, Ella Heavilin, Kaylani Hernandez, Leslie Hernandez, Lilyanna Horn, Monserrath Huerta, Cadince Jenne, Hayden Johnson, Sena Kamekona, Elina Kramer, Samuel Kramer, Joseph Kury, Jacob Lambrix, Lucas Lombard, MiaBella Martinez, Wren Mathers, Stella Michele, Kasandra Miedema, Alley Murphy, Kaylee Neighbours, Catalina Ortiz-Hernandez, Brendan Pascoe, Yadiella Ramos, Haylee Reed, Zoey Renberg, Jessie Roa Lazaro, Macy Samp, Emma Sliter, Emely Solis Franco, David Solis-Salazar, Kevin Thompson, Nidia Villalobos

2026 Outstanding People for Education - Fennville Award Winners



We are excited to celebrate **Wendell Hughes** (Varsity Football Coach and Bus Driver), **Kelly Howes** (FES Literacy Coach), and **Jeff Lance** (FHS Spanish Teacher), as our 2026 recipients of the Outstanding People for Education Award! Please join us in congratulating these outstanding individuals on this well-deserved recognition. Presented by the Allegan County School Board Association, this award honors those who go above and beyond to make a real difference in education across Allegan County. Wendell is a dedicated mentor and leader who has built a culture of trust, care, and strong character, shaping lives far beyond the football field. Kelly has made a lasting impact through her dedication to students and belief in the power of literacy, working tirelessly to support meaningful learning for all. Jeff creates a warm, welcoming classroom where students feel supported and confident, making Spanish approachable and enjoyable.

Visit fennville.org/academics/op4e to view our past award winners.



FHS Teacher to Present at National Conference

Katie Burrows-Stone, FHS English teacher & National Board Certified teacher, has been selected to present at the 2026 National Council of Teachers of English Conference in Philadelphia. She was accepted to lead and participate in three sessions, the maximum allowed, in this highly competitive, peer-reviewed process. This is an incredible accomplishment and a testament to Katie's dedication to innovative teaching and student-centered learning. Congratulations, Katie!

Students OF THE MONTH

February

Maite Flores



Landis Weimer



Cruz Madrano



March

Mason Andrews



Giovanni Lemus - Arriola

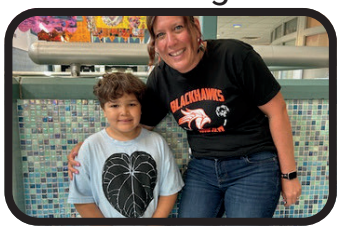


Abrica Hopson



April

Holden Hughes



Kevin Roa Lazaro

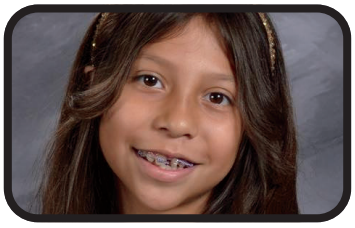


Ulysses Estrada



May

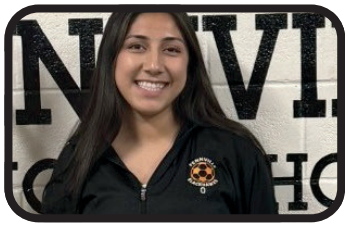
Jhereline Flores



Kai Lesperance



Anahi Sanchez



Read all about them at fennville.org/academics/students-of-the-month

Happy Retirement!







This year, we extend a heartfelt thank you and congratulations to five incredible members of the Fennville Public Schools family on their retirement. Together, **Frank Andrews**, Elementary School Teacher (31 years), **Cherie Schmidt**, Elementary School Teacher (31 years), **Jodi Scovill**, Alternative High School Success Coach (24 years), **Valerie Wohlwend**, Director of Food Service (18 years), and **Krista Raffenaud,** Elementary School Literacy Intervention Teacher (41 years), have dedicated a combined 145 years of service to supporting students and shaping countless lives. We are grateful for the impact they've made on our school community and wish them all the best in their well-earned retirement!

Alumni News!



It was a special evening celebrating generations of Blackhawk alumni during the annual Alumni Celebration! Congratulations to the **Class of 2001** on receiving their 25-year silver diplomas, the **Class of 1976** on their 50-year golden anniversary diplomas, and the **Class of 1951** on an incredible 75 years, represented by Mary Lou Sisson (Bale)! Thank you to all who returned to celebrate the lasting traditions, memories, and connections that make our school community so special.

Next May we will celebrate the classes of 2002, 1977, and 1952.
Don't miss out on the fun, update your contact information at **fennville.org/district/alumni**





Local Roots
LASTING LEGACY

WELCOME NEW STAFF!



Cindy Hillary - Elementary School Principal

Please join us in welcoming Cindy Hillary as the new Principal of Fennville Elementary School! Cindy brings more than a decade of educational leadership experience, serving as an elementary principal, preschool director, literacy coach, and English Learner coordinator. Most recently, she led academic programs and student support services at Vestaburg Community Schools, where she focused on improving student achievement, strengthening intervention systems, and building strong relationships with families and the community. Cindy holds a Master of Education in Reading with a Reading Specialist Endorsement from Grand Valley State University and has extensive experience supporting literacy growth, early childhood education, and student success. We are thrilled to have Cindy join the Blackhawk family, bringing leadership, passion, and experience to FES.



Chef Zeke Potter - Director of Food Service

Introducing Chef Zeke Potter as Fennville Public Schools' new Director of Food Service. Chef Zeke brings more than a decade of experience in culinary arts, food service management, and product development. Most recently, he worked as a Product Developer at Request Foods, where he led the development of innovative food products from concept to launch while collaborating with teams across manufacturing, quality control, and compliance. His career has included leadership roles in higher education dining services, pastry and bakery production, and large-scale food operations, giving him a well-rounded understanding of both food quality and program management. A graduate of the Culinary Institute of Michigan with associate degrees in Culinary Arts and Baking & Pastry Arts, Chef Zeke is passionate about creating nutritious, high-quality meals and positive dining experiences. We are excited to have him bring fresh ideas into our Food Service Department.



Brenda Boyd - Director of Transportation

We are thrilled to welcome Brenda Boyd to Fennville Public Schools as our new Director of Transportation! Brenda brings more than 25 years of transportation experience in Michigan schools, including leadership roles with Holland Public Schools, Manistee Area Public Schools, Dean Transportation, Tri County Area Schools, Pioneer Resources, and Hamilton Community Schools. Throughout her career, she has overseen transportation operations, staff training, budgeting, state reporting, safety compliance, and fleet management while ensuring students are transported safely and efficiently each day. Brenda is highly knowledgeable in state and federal transportation regulations and is committed to building positive relationships with drivers, school staff, families, and the community. We are grateful for the leadership and experience Brenda brings to our transportation department.



Toby Hutchins - K-12 Career Readiness Specialist

We are excited to announce that Toby Hutchins, a 2011 alumni, will be joining us as our K–12 Career Readiness Specialist. Toby brings extensive experience in higher education, student support, and college and career programming. Most recently, through his work with TRIO Upward Bound at Hope College, he coordinated college and career tours, supported FAFSA and college application completion, and helped students prepare for postsecondary success. He holds a master's degree in Higher Education from UofM and has a strong background in building partnerships, supporting first-generation students, and guiding students through academic and career planning. Many in the community already know Toby through his work as our JV Girls Volleyball Coach and Varsity Boys Volleyball Coach, along with his time spent serving on the Board of Education. We are happy to have him joining our team full time and look forward to the positive impact he will continue to make on our students.



Chayse Harthun - High School Counselor

Join us in welcoming Chayse Harthun as the newest member of our High School Counseling team. Chayse recently completed her Master of Education in School Counseling from Grand Valley State University and brings valuable experience working with students in a variety of educational settings. Through her counseling internship at Grand River Preparatory High School, she supported students with academic planning, college and career readiness, scholarships, FAFSA completion, and social-emotional growth. Chayse has also served as an Academic Interventionist and Special Education Paraprofessional in Allegan Public Schools, helping students reach their full potential both academically and personally. Chayse also spent 4 years as the Allegan Middle School Cheer Coach. We look forward to seeing the positive impact she will make on our students and school community.



Justin Lake - High School Horticulture Teacher

We would like to introduce Justin Lake as our new High School Horticulture Teacher. A Michigan native, Justin is returning home after more than 20 years in Washington, where he built an impressive career in outdoor and experiential education. He spent 13 years with the Quilcene School District, most recently serving as Garden Coordinator, creating standards-based garden lessons and helping students connect classroom learning to real-world experiences. He has also led youth outdoor camps and wilderness programs, teaching students valuable skills in ecology, conservation, leadership, and teamwork. Recognized as Educator of the Year in 2024, Justin brings extensive experience in farming, gardening, landscaping, and horticulture. He earned his CTE teaching certification through Olympic College and is eager to bring his expertise, enthusiasm, and real-world approach to learning to Fennville students. We are excited to welcome Justin as he reintroduces Agricultural Science to FHS.

BLACKHAWK ATHLETICS

State Qualifiers!



Isabelle Sliter

3200m 2nd place 12:00.10
1600m 3rd place 5:27.67

Julian Weimer

Regional Champion
Long Jump
20' 5.5"

The future is bright for Blackhawk Track and Field, with 11 Middle School records broken this season!

Boys

70m - 8.9 - Victor Espino
4x200m Relay - 1:47.41
Joseph Banda
Brayden Harris
Victor Espino
Nelson Salazar
4x800m Relay - 10:13.49
Brandon Fernandez
Jessen Ellis
Eddie Lagunes
Joseph Banda

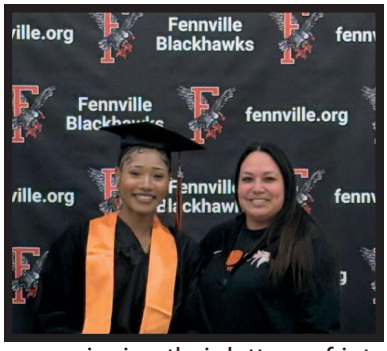
Girls

100m - 13.9 - Caroline Waters
55m Hurdles - 10.1 - Maleah Weimer
200m Hurdles - 33.8 - Maleah Weimer
4x100m Relay - 57.51 Maleah Weimer, Ta'Lya Evans, Naomi Tucker, Caroline Waters
4x400m Relay - 5:04 - Kaylee Tucker, Charlotte Lesperance, Eris Boeve, Bella Samp
4x800m Relay - 11:40.83 - Bella Samp, Charlotte Lesperance, Kaylee Tucker, Eris Boeve
Shot Put - 27' 7.5" - Camila Collins
High Jump - 4' 5" - Bella Samp

Local Roots

LASTING LEGACY







Congratulations to our student-athletes on signing their letters of intent to continue both their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level! **Carter Thompson** will continue playing football at Kalamazoo College, **Atiyah Chambers** will continue her volleyball career at Glen Oaks Community College, and **Luis Vasquez** will continue running cross country at Aquinas College. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, dedication, and accomplishments, and we look forward to seeing all they achieve at the next level.

Boys Volleyball Conference Champions!

In its first year as an official Michigan High School Athletic Association sport, the Varsity Boys Volleyball team secured the **City Coast Conference Title**! Their hard work, teamwork, and dedication paid off as they finished conference play undefeated, ending their season 21-7-3 and ranked #7 in Divison 2. Congratulations to the players and Coach Hutchins on an incredible season!



Spring Student-Athletes of the Week!

Middle School Soccer: Ariela DeLucas
High School Soccer: Leslie Hernandez, Kaylani Hernandez, Isis Diaz, Isabella DeLucas
Middle School Track: Nelson Salazar, Caroline Waters
High School Track: Gabe Gonzalez, Macy Samp, Julian Weimer, Isabelle Sliter
Middle School Boys Volleyball: Paul Souders-Beltran, Armando Cardona
High School Boys Volleyball: Gabe Sauceda, Oswaldo Lopez
Middle School Softball: Zoie Peoples, Julia Diepenhorst
High School Softball: Claudia Rasmussen, Veda Seward, Amiyah Johnson
Middle School Baseball: Charles Diepenhorst, Aidan Cook
High School Baseball: Sam Kramer, Ely Schut, Anthony Mullins, Seamus Lynch

Read all about them at fennville.org/athletics/student-athletes-of-the-week

Register Now for 2026-27 Sports!

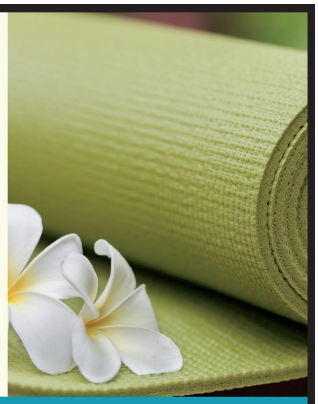
Cross Country 6th - 12th Grade
Volleyball 7th - 12th Grade
Football 7th - 12th Grade
Soccer 7th - 12th Grade
Cheer 6th - 12th Grade
Wrestling 6th - 12th Grade
Basketball 7th - 12th Grade
Baseball 7th - 12th Grade
Softball 7th - 12th Grade
Track 6th - 12th Grade

fennville-mi.finalforms.com

Fennville Community Recreation

EVENING YOGA WIND DOWN

With Robyn Parks



Hatha Vinyasa Flow

All levels welcome!

Wednesdays at 6pm

June 3
June 10
July 8
July 15
July 22

$7
PER DATE
OR REGISTER FOR ALL BY 6/1 FOR $30
16yrs+

rec.fennville.org
@fennvillecommunityrecreation

Space is limited, register today!
Registration closes the Monday before each date

Fennville Athletic Center
515 N. Maple St

Fennville Community Recreation

Latin Rythms Zumba

High-energy, inclusive, engaging classes for all fitness levels!

Bilingual Instruction

Fennville Athletic Center
515 N. Maple St.

Drop In per Class
$5

Mondays
July 6 - August 31
*no class July 20

7pm - 8pm



With Iris!

rec.fennville.org

Fennville Community Recreation

RUN WALK CLUB

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
8:30am
3:30pm
7:30pm

Pick your times, meet up and get your steps in together!

Club is self run - choose your own routes, distance and pace. Head outside or use the indoor track. Download the free Nike Run Club or Strava App to track your progress!

FREE TO JOIN!

ALL AGES & ABILITIES WELCOME
UNDER 7TH GRADE MUST BE SUPERVISED

MEET IN THE LOBBY OF THE FENNVILLE ATHLETIC CENTER

GOOD VIBES GOOD PACES

REC.FENNVILLE.ORG @FENNVILLECOMMUNITYRECREATION

Register Now for Fall Youth Rec Sports!

Soccer U6 - 6th Grade
Flag Football K - 4th Grade
Football 5th - 6th Grade
Cheer 3rd - 5th Grade
Volleyball 3rd - 6th Grade

rec.fennville.org
Scholarships Available!

Don't miss out on new programming!

rec.fennville.org

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
@fennvillecommunityrecreation

COMMUNITY RECREATION

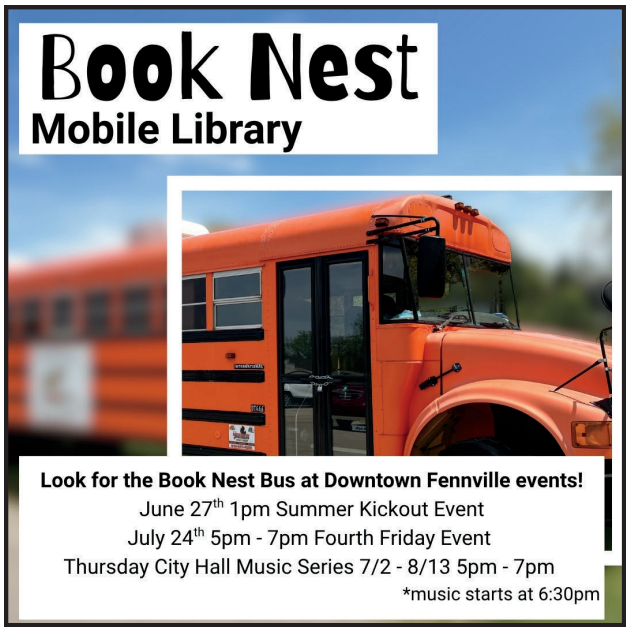


Fennville Public Schools
5 Memorial Dr.
Fennville, MI 49408

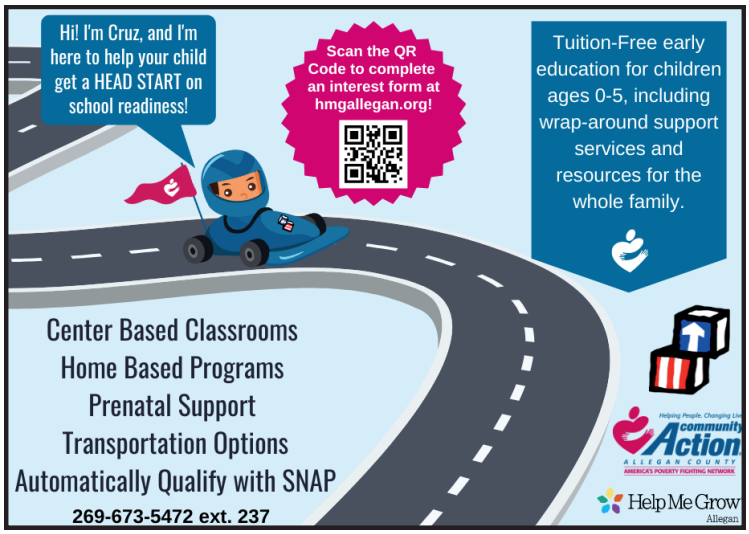
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First Day of School is August 19th!

fennville.org
@fennvillepublicschools
@fennvillepublicschools

Puede ver la versión en español en fennville.org

Central Office Summer Hours
M - F 7:30am - 3:30pm
269-722-3350