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From the SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Superintendent Dr. Felisha Gould ~ Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools





SMF CITY SCHOOLS EARNS 4.5-STAR RATING

I am happy to share that Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools earned an overall rating of 4.5 stars on the newly released 2025-2026 Ohio School Report Card, improving from our 4-star rating last year. A 4.5-star rating means our district exceeds state standards, and we are very proud to celebrate this milestone with our students, staff, families and community.

This increase is the result of the incredible work happening in our classrooms every day. Our students continue to push themselves to new heights, and our teachers and staff bring the dedication, support, and energy that help them succeed. The Ohio School Report Card looks at several areas of district performance, including achievement, progress, gap closing, graduation, early literacy, and preparation for college, careers, the workforce and military service.

As we celebrate this achievement, we will also continue to use the report card information to identify opportunities for growth and make informed decisions that support every student. I am grateful for the hard work of our students and staff and for the continued partnership of our families and community. Together, we will keep moving our district forward.

STATE OF THE SCHOOLS

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, I shared an update on Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools during our State of the Schools breakfast and celebrated the accomplishments of our students and staff. Thank you to the Stow-Munroe Falls Chamber of Commerce for hosting this annual event.

I invite you to read our *2026 State of the Schools: A Report to Our Community* for a closer look at student achievement, district priorities, and how we serve our students. Read the report here.



Reminders!

- The **Board of Education** will hold a Regular Meeting at the high school on Monday, Sept. 21 at 6 p.m.
- Mark your calendars for **Homecoming Weekend**! On Friday, Oct. 2, the Homecoming Parade will step off at 5 p.m., followed by a festival outside the Field House and the Varsity Football game at 7 p.m. The Homecoming Dance will take place Saturday, Oct. 3.
- The SMF Chamber of Commerce will host **Straight from the Source** with a focus on our schools on Wednesday, Oct. 7 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Guise Park Lodge in Munroe Falls.



NATIONAL FATHERS WALK YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY AT OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Last week, several of our elementary schools celebrated National Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day. It was wonderful to see so many fathers, father figures, caregivers, role models, and other VIPs showing up for our students. Their involvement, encouragement, and presence make a meaningful difference in helping children feel supported and ready to succeed.

Thank you to everyone who joined us, and to the many community partners who helped make the celebrations special!



2027 NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALIST

I am very proud to congratulate SMFHS senior Andrew Faluhelyi on being named a Semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Andrew is among fewer than 1% of U.S. high school seniors to earn this distinction.

YOUTH NIGHT AT FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Bulldog Stadium was filled with school spirit Friday evening as we welcomed our youth teams and families for Youth Night. They received a special introduction and had the opportunity to experience the excitement of a varsity football game alongside our high school athletes, marching band, and cheerleaders.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND TEACHER GRANTS

The Stow Schools Foundation's annual Homecoming Scholarship and Teacher Grant Giveaway is back! Students and teachers can enter for a chance to be selected by submitting their name online. Entries will be accepted through Sept. 28. Visit stowschoolsfoundation.org to apply now!



STAFF NEWS

JIM "BASKETBALL" JONES AT INDIAN TRAIL

Indian Trail students welcomed inspirational speaker Jim "Basketball" Jones for a high-energy assembly filled with incredible skills, plenty of laughs, and some important lessons along the way.

Jim encouraged our students to believe in themselves, keep trying when things get difficult, and make positive choices.



LEADERSHIP LESSONS LEARNED & WISDOM SHARED

Last week, I had the opportunity to join Dr. Andrea Celico, Superintendent of Cuyahoga Falls City Schools, for a presentation to the Women's Leadership Network focused on "Leadership Lessons Learned & Wisdom Shared." Together, we reflected on the realities of leadership, including building trust, understanding organizational history, navigating changing circumstances, and making difficult decisions with courage and clarity.

One of the messages we shared is that leadership is rarely a straight line. The challenges and unexpected turns along the way often provide our greatest opportunities to learn and grow. As leaders, we must understand the context, build trust, respect governance, and make decisions not only for today, but with the next five years in mind. Click here to view the full presentation.



ONLINE LEADERSHIP & LICENSURE OPPORTUNITIES

Educators interested in advancing their careers can explore online state licensure and endorsement programs offered through the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators (OAESA) in partnership with Concordia University Chicago.

Programs include principal and superintendent licensure, teacher leader endorsements, and master's and doctoral options, with weekly online information sessions available for those interested in learning more.

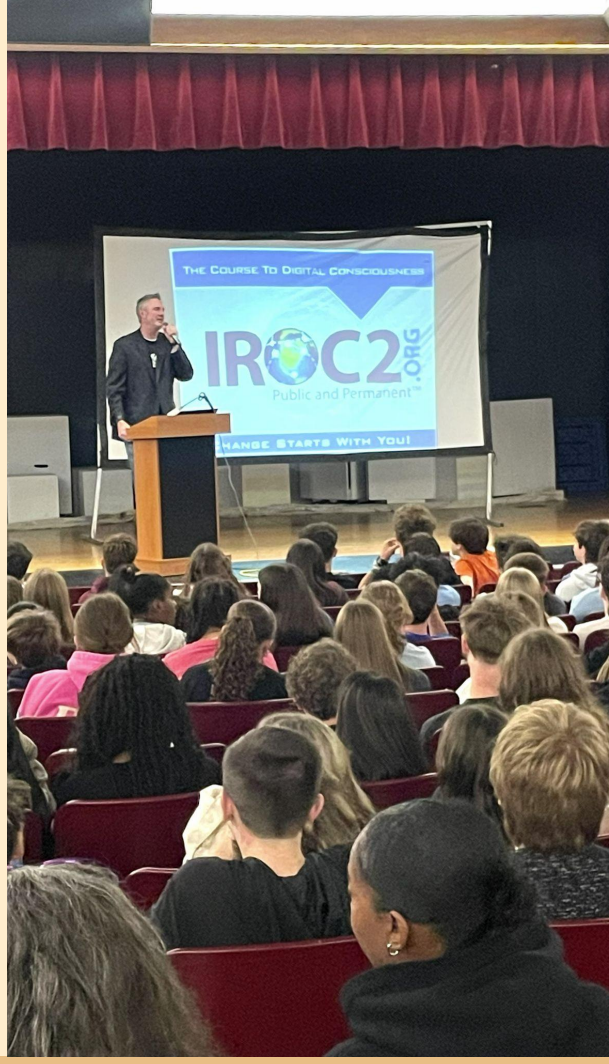
Eligible leadership program students may also receive an Ohio Leadership Pipeline Scholarship, providing discounted tuition for master's and doctoral programs.

View the flyer here.

oaesa

STUDENTS LEARN WHY DIGITAL CHOICES MATTER

Students at Lakeview Intermediate and Kimpton Middle School recently participated in an engaging Digital Consciousness presentation with Richard Guerry of IROC2. Students explored how their online choices can affect relationships, reputations and future opportunities through discussions about cyber cruelty, gaming, privacy, digital footprints, empathy, and the growing role of artificial intelligence.



FISHCREEK INTRODUCES PAWS COIN VENDING MACHINE

Fishcreek Elementary is giving students a fun new way to celebrate positive choices through its PBIS program. Staff members can now award PAWS Coins when they see students demonstrating the school's expected behaviors, helping reinforce those expectations in a positive and intentional way.

Students will be able to redeem their PAWS Coins at Fishcreek's new vending machine beginning Oct. 1. Students can choose to spend their coins or save them toward larger rewards, including books and other items. The new program is designed to keep PAWS expectations visible, consistent, and rewarding for students throughout the school year.



What's ahead!

Monday, Sept. 21:

- Report Card Celebration from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- Wall of Fame Celebration at SHMFS Library at 2:45 p.m.
- Board of Education meeting at SMFHS at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 22:

- Riverview Summer Reading Program Reward at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 23:

- Echo Hills Kindergarten Breakfast at 8:20 a.m.

Thursday, Sept. 24:

- Highland hosts the Kona Ice Truck from 2 to 2:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 25:

- Varsity Football vs. Highland at home at 7 p.m.