HIGHLAND FALLS-FORT MONTGOMERY CSD

THE HIGHLANDER

AROUND THE DISTRICT NOVEMBER 13, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/17- FMES Wellness Night

11/18 -JIO ONLY Early Dismissal

11/18 - JIO Parent/Teacher Conferences (afternoon & evening)

11/19 - BOE Meeting at FMES 6:30 PM

11/25-11/27 - Thanksgiving Recess

SPOTLIGHT

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology



Exciting things are happening in Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology! Over the summer, teachers collaborated to strengthen curriculum maps, creating greater consistency across our schools. These maps will soon be available on the district website to give families a closer look at what students are learning at each grade level.

New initiatives are also enhancing instruction, including UFLI Foundations, a research-based K–2 phonics program at Fort Montgomery Elementary, and LinkIt!, an assessment platform that helps teachers monitor student progress, celebrate growth, and identify areas for additional support.

Looking ahead, our district has begun preparing for New York State's NY Inspires initiative and the transition to a Portrait of a Graduate. Through professional learning, curriculum review, and collaboration, teachers and administrators are exploring the knowledge and skills students will need for future success. Together, these efforts reflect our continued commitment to meaningful, engaging, and high-quality learning experiences for every student, every day.

Fort Montgomery Elementary

Halloween excitement filled the air at FMES as students and staff showed off their creative costumes during our annual parade! Smiles, laughter, and school spirit made it a memorable celebration. Thank you to our families for joining in the fun and cheering on our students!









Highland Falls Intermediate

HFIS celebrated its National Junior Honor Society induction Tuesday evening, welcoming new members and their families for a special ceremony and refreshments. Thank you to Mrs. DeLaurentis and Mrs. Taylor for organizing this wonderful event!

The Rotary Club will visit HFIS Thursday morning to distribute dictionaries to third-grade students as part of its annual tradition.

Mr. Femia extends his thanks for the club's continued generosity and support.

Congratulations to HFIS guidance counselors Mrs. Van Zetta and Mrs. Nichols, who have been selected to present at the 2026 NYSSCA Conference! We are proud of their accomplishments and wish them the best.







James I. O'Neill

On Monday, JIO welcomed approximately 20 eighth-grade students from the Garrison School District for an exciting introduction to the programs, opportunities, and community that make JIO special! The redesigned visit featured presentations from members of the administration and faculty, an engaging student panel, a scavenger hunt throughout the building, a hands-on art project, musical performances by JIO student groups, and a luncheon. It was a fun-filled day designed to give our visitors a firsthand look at all that JIO has to offer!







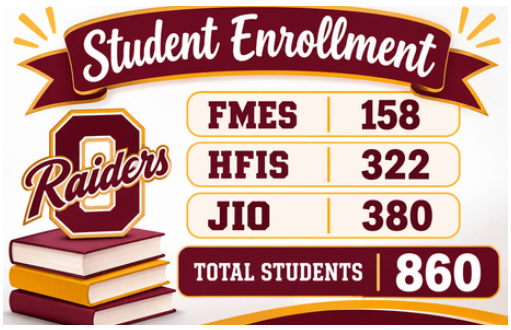
Athletic Updates

Cross Country State Bound!

Congratulations to the James I. O'Neill Girls Cross Country state qualifiers: Sophia Catudal, Veronica Wolf, and Maureen Dacuntoa!

Congratulations also to the Boys Cross Country team, Section IX Champions! Both will compete in the NYSPHSAA State Championships November 13–14 at Queensbury High School. Best of luck, Raiders!





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