

Did You Know?

A rundown of news and events from Fridley Public Schools

SCHOOLS AND DISTRICT NEWS

FRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WINS ART SCHOLARSHIP



Julia Swendsrud, a Junior DP Visual Arts student at Fridley High School, has been named one of seven artists in the state to be awarded a Pre-College Summer Session at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD). Swendsrud won a Gold Key Award in the 2016 Minnesota Scholastic Arts Award Competition for her photograph "Recharge," and a Silver Key Award for her photo "Submerged."

Over 4,300 students submitted applications at this year's Minnesota Scholastic Art Competition. The \$3,300 scholarship covers the full cost of tuition, and room and board for the three-week program.

Congratulations, Julie!

WRESTLING COACH ANDERSON NAMED BEST IN SECTION

Eric Anderson, Fridley High School's wrestling coach, has been selected the Coach of the Year for Section 5AA.

Twelve other teams comprise the Section, including Columbia Heights, Totino Grace and Richfield. The award is voted on by fellow coaches, making the recognition even more significant.

Coach Anderson has been with the high school since 2010 and also teaches EMT/EMR certification and physical education classes.



Eric Anderson (right) receives his Coach of the Year award and recognition.

HAYES 4TH GRADERS REACH OUT GLOBALLY TO HELP PROVIDE SAFE DRINKING WATER

Fourth graders at Hayes are making a world of difference by helping provide clean drinking water for their counterparts at a school in Haiti.

Ecole Mixte Action Fraternelle, a school in Lascahobas, Haiti, will add two drinking/hand washing stations connected to tanks with purified water thanks to the fundraising efforts of Tina Utley's 4th grade class. The cost of the project is \$10,000; Utley's class has already reached its preliminary goal of \$3,000.

"\$10,000 is pretty lofty, so the students decided to start with \$3,000," Utley said. "So far, we've had two main drives. One before winter break raised \$1,800. World Cultures night brought us another couple hundred dollars."

Students in Utley's class began learning about water filtration as part of their International Baccalaureate programme's science curriculum. A visit

to Fridley's water treatment plant was an eye-opener to what clean and safe drinking water entails. Upon looking globally at water, her class learned not all people have access to clean and safe drinking water.

"My students were really affected by that. Through our studies, we started investigating how we could help them," said Utley.

They came across H2O For Life in Mounds View and started looking at schools in need. "My class chose a school in Haiti because Mrs. Claggett, who teaches here, has ties to Haiti and has been going there to help with education for their students and teachers," Utley stated.



Fabrice Bredy is interviewed by students at Hayes Elementary.

Fabrice Bredy, a friend of Mrs. Claggett's from Haiti, visited second and fourth graders at Hayes to talk about challenges growing up in his country and the need for safe drinking water.

"Through this initiative, our students have learned a lot. They start thinking outside their Fridley, Minnesota bubble, and think about how people have it outside here and how lucky we are. They learn to appreciate and take care of what we have. It's been an awesome project," Utley commented.



Students at Ecole Mixte Action Fraternelle in Haiti will benefit from clean drinking water, thanks to the helpful spirit of their counterparts in Tina Utley's 4th grade class at Hayes Elementary School.



To contribute to Hayes Elementary's campaign:

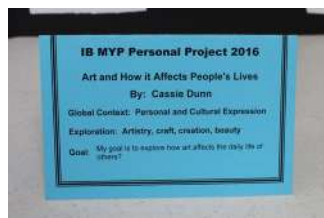
- go to www.h2oforlife.org
- click on "Get Involved"
- then click on "Find your school page"

WORLD CULTURE CELEBRATIONS PROVIDE FUN EDUCATION NIGHTS AT HAYES AND FRIDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOLS



FRIDLEY IB STUDENTS SHOWCASE PERSONAL PROJECTS

Fridley High School 10th graders displayed their International Baccalaureate personal projects on January 20, 2016. The IB Middle Years Program (MYP) Personal Project is a student-centered practical exploration in which students consolidate their learning throughout the programme. This long term project is designed as an independent learning skill that formally assesses students' self-management, research, communication, critical and creative thinking, and collaboration skills. This year included cultural exhibits, car repair martial arts, world issues and renewable resources.



TEACHERS TAPED TO CAFETERIA POSTS FOR FUNDRAISER

Fridley High School Key Club hosted a duct taping contest for Children's Miracle Network (CMN) hospitals, an organization that provides aid to more than 100 Fridley residents every year. The duct tape contest held January 15, 2016 included Fridley High School English teacher Alexa Bailey, and math teacher Dan Nalepka who volunteered to be taped to posts in the high school cafeteria.

Duct tape was sold for a dollar per three feet. For each donated dollar, a balloon logo was signed in the donor's name and pasted to the cafeteria wall. As Key Clubbers began collecting money and distributing tape, students cheered for their favorite candidate.

A total of \$101 was raised for CMN.



FHS JAZZ BAND SWINGS AT FAMOUS DAVE'S

Michael Pearson, Fridley High School band director, brought Jazz Ensembles I and II to Famous Dave's in Uptown Minneapolis for a special performance January 27. The crowd enjoyed over an hour of music by our talented student musicians.



IMPROV GROUP JESTS FOR AN EVENING AT FHS

Laugh 2 Death, the comedy improv team headed by science teacher Andrew Haaheim, put on a free show January 20 at Fridley High School. The audience provided the ideas while the troupe provided the laughs.



NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENT

ALC CELEBRATES STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Students at the Fridley Moore Lake Area Learning Center were recognized February 12 during a Celebration of Excellence. The event honored student achievement in multiple disciplines.

Principal Rob Smith welcomed students, staff and visitors, proclaiming, "We celebrate every day the successes of our students. Today we want to make it more formal, so we bring everyone together."

Students introduced each presenter, including teachers and school board member Donna Prewedo, who acknowledged her niece, Desiree Morse, and spoke of her vested interest in the district as a mother of four students.

"I am so proud of our students and all

their accomplishments, knowing firsthand what a difference the ALC makes. Desiree and I had looked at a couple other opportunities and knew right away that Fridley was the place for her to be," Prewedo said.

In her speech, Humanities teacher Anna Fisher said, "You may think I come to work, grade some papers and then go home to my husband and dogs and forget about school. The truth is I don't just go home and forget about you."

Fisher added "I don't dread waking up and coming to school the next day. I stay up at night thinking about how to reach you, how to teach you and how to help you grow. I replay conversations we had to think about ways to engage with you the next time we talk."



Fridley School Board member Donna Prewedo addresses the students at Area Learning Center's Celebration of Excellence.

Student achievement awards:

Science (presented by Nicole Moussette)

Anthony Zarr
Keara Wilson
David Garcia
Trenyqua Edwards

Power Credit Award for most units earned in Quarter 1

Keara Wilson
Anthony Zarr
Matthew Heald
Dakota Gronert
Tracy Edwards

English (presented by Jenny DeMars)

Mariah Hoffman
Mabel Tenhoff

Humanities (presented by Anna Fisher)

Jason Rodriguez-Gomez
Evelin Canaca Rosado
Dakota Gronert

Math (presented Jennifer Pearson)

Tracy Edwards
Asia Oates
Bailey Applin

3D for Excellence (Desire, determination and discipline)

Dakota Gronert

Attendance

Alayna Greubele
David Garcia

Timberwolves game tickets, awarded for attendance and units in Humanities

Reggie Wilson, Jr.
Courtney Woodison

ALC CELEBRATES STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

"I agonize over your troubles. I pray for you in the mornings and in the evenings that your barriers will break down and struggles will subside and opportunities will come. Because when I go home, in fact, I can't STOP thinking about you," she said.

One student, Mariah Hoffman, shared that it would be her last day at the ALC, as she had accepted a full-time job. "I got the opportunity through ALC to work with the daycare kids down the hallway and that experience helped me get this job. I want to thank the teachers, Mr. Smith and all my friends for giving me this opportunity and being there for me."

Another student, Abdulhameed Purcell, whom Rob Smith predicted would be ALC's first millionaire, gave a presentation on his art project that began last year involving a clothing line. He is hoping to turn his entrepreneurship into work that provides food for others, a roof over his head and a house for his mother. Purcell is currently taking part in a contest with Vans Shoes to design custom shoes, which could win \$50,000 for the school. He encouraged the audience to "be you."

Congratulations to all our students!



Presenter Abdulhameed Purcell



Back row, l to r: David Garcia, Trenyqua Edwards, Mariah Hoffman, Mabel Tenhoff, Courtney Woodison, ALC teacher Anna Fisher, Asia Oates, Keara Wilson, Bailey Applin.

Front row, l to r: Matthew Heald, Dakota Gronert, Alaynna Greubele, and ALC teachers Jenny DeMars, Nicole Moussette and Jennifer Pearson.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL JANUARY 2016 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Fridley High School is proud to announce its January 2016 Students of the Month! Teachers and staff select up to two students for the Students of the Month (SOTM) recognition. Students are selected based on their demonstration of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Learner Profile traits: Inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principles, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, reflective.



Hala
Abbood



Abdulwahid
Abshir



Natalie
Becht



Parth
Bhakta



Savanna
Bordeaux



Raymond
Delp



Brianna
Fodstad



Thomas
Gowah



Bianca
Hall



Elizabeth
Hamilton



Angeannet
Hernandez



Danielle
Hoff



Olivia
Kowal-Nyema



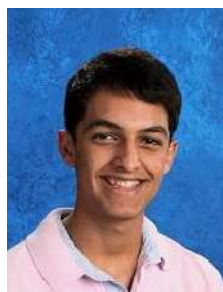
Grace
Knowles



RaeLee
Knutson



Gabriela
Morales



Carlos
Moreira III



Marium
Musse

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL JANUARY 2016 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Sierra
Pacheco



Daniel
Paulson



Maylyn
Quinones



Brooke
Teff



Nyabana
Timothy



Alexander
Thompson



Kristy
Trujillo



Jozefa
Vescio



Justin
Yang

Announcing...

the official



YouTube channel!

Programs include student achievement, news, board meetings, special events, concerts... and MUCH MORE!

[Click here to watch the first Superintendent's Report to the Community.](#)

FEBRUARY 2016 FRIDLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Fridley Public Schools February 2016 Employee of the Month is Stephanie Bloxham, a paraprofessional at Fridley Middle School.

Stephanie constantly gives positive praise to both staff and students. She started "High Five Fridays" at the middle school to help students and staff end the week on a positive note. Stephanie can be seen giving high fives with so much positive energy all day long in the halls on Fridays. She has single-handedly raised the bar of positive adult interaction by being positive, caring and giving to all our students that she comes in contact with.

Stephanie has also been incredibly helpful in designing and editing many posters for the Tiger GRIT program at the middle school. She encourages students to do the best and does an excellent job of communicating and advocating for their needs. She has taken risks and has become a leader in the building.

"We are lucky to have such a positive person whose caring acts spread to both students and staff," said Alisa Blood Knafla, a teacher at Fridley Middle School.