

UpDate

Farmington
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Spring
Quarterly News Update
Spring • June 2024



Farmington Public Schools names Sarah Kerns the 2023/2024 Support Person of the Year Award Winner

On March 20, 2024, Farmington Public Schools' (FPS) Superintendent Dr. Christopher Delgado, along with the Human Resources Department, the Farmington Early Childhood Center principal and staff, surprised Sarah Kerns, Office Clerk at the Farmington Early Childhood Center (FECC), with the award for the 2023/2024 Farmington Public Schools' Support Person of the Year.

Sarah has been at FECC for the past seven years where she has dedicated herself to their program, their students, their parents, and her fellow staff members. She is known to parents as a positive support person they know they can reach out to regarding anything. She comes to work every day with a "how can I help our families" attitude.

Sarah goes above and beyond for staff and families without hesitation. During her time at FPS, she has become extremely knowledgeable in all areas of her position, plus so much more. For example, she understands that the enrollment and tuition process can be complicated, but she ensures that more than 300 students are



placed in classes correctly. Additionally, due to another staff member being out on leave, Sarah has taken over lunch orders for the FECC grant program, and supports the bus drivers by having a list of students who are on the bus pre-

continued on page 3

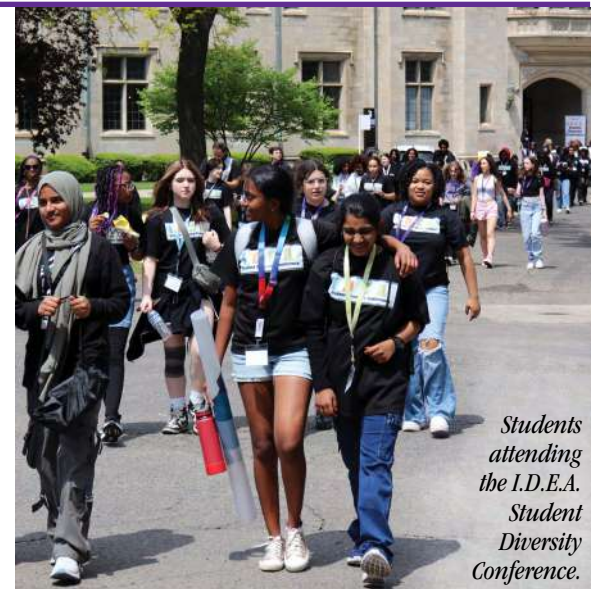
Farmington Public Schools hosted I.D.E.A. Student Diversity Conference

Farmington Public Schools (FPS) hosted its second annual I.D.E.A. Student Diversity Conference.

The I.D.E.A. Student Diversity Conference is hosted by the I.D.E.A. Student Diversity group. I.D.E.A. stands for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Acceptance.

The Conference is a day of learning for students that includes keynote speakers, student performance pieces, breakout sessions, and

continued on page 3



Students attending the I.D.E.A. Student Diversity Conference.



Farmington
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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Farmington Public Schools partners with Care Solace	2
New web sites launching for Farmington Public Schools	2
District issues survey through Cobalt Community Research	3
Awards and Achievements	4
Certificate of Excellence awarded in Financial Reporting	5
Congratulations to 2024 Farmington Public Schools' retirees	6
2024 Employee Retiree Celebration Reception	6
Authentic Learning Showcase	6



Visions Unlimited wins "Community Commitment Award"	6
FPS Athletics launches new social media platforms	6
Torrie Maas selected as new Principal for Hillside Elementary	7
Jeffrey Rehbine named 2024 Judy White-Ora award winner	7
Xello Parent Portal launched	7
"Senior Spotlights" celebrate 2024 graduates	8
New bag policy for USA Hockey graduations	8
Celebrating seniors with Graduate Walk Throughs	8



Board of Education Meeting Dates

2023-24

June 18

2024-25

August 13	December 17	April 22
September 10	January 7	May 6
September 24	January 21	May 20
October 8	February 11	June 3
October 22	February 25	June 17
November 19	March 11	
December 3	April 8	

All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and are held at the Maxfield Education Center located at 32789 W. Ten Mile Rd., Farmington, Michigan.

Board Meetings are cablecast LIVE on TV-10 and streamed on the District's YouTube channel.

School Reminders

• Graduations

FCHS: Thursday, June 6 @ 6 p.m.

NFHS: Sunday, June 9 @ 10 a.m.

FHS: Sunday, June 9 @ 2 p.m.

Visions Unlimited: Monday, June 10 @ 10 a.m.

• Last day of Classes for 2023-24

Tuesday, June 11 – AM only

• First day of K-12 Classes for 2024-25

Monday, August 26 – AM only

• No School Labor Day

Friday, August 30–Monday, September 2

Schools reconvene on Tuesday, September 3

• First day of Early Childhood for 2024-25

Wednesday, September 4



Hello SUMMER!

Farmington Public Schools offers a variety of fun and engaging summer learning opportunities for Farmington students of all ages and interests.

Visit the Summer Website

farmington.k12.mi.us/summer-school to learn more.

Farmington Public Schools'

Central Office is MOVING

for the
new school year
mid-September
2024

**CURRENT
ADDRESS**

32500
Shiawassee
St.

**NEW
ADDRESS**

33000
Freedom
Rd.

The government has made legal provisions to ensure that no person is discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In order to protect these rights and assure compliance, the Farmington Public Schools District has appointed Mr. Christopher O'Brien as Coordinator of Title IX and Section 504 and Mr. Greg Smith as Coordinator of Title VI, the Age Discrimination Act, and Title II. Inquiries concerning the application of, or grievances for, any of these regulations should be addressed to: christopher.obrien@fpsk12.net or gregory.smith@fpsk12.net.



Farmington Public Schools partners with Care Solace to revolutionize mental health care access

Farmington Public Schools (FPS) is taking an innovative step forward by partnering with Care Solace, a social purpose organization focused on removing barriers in accessing mental health care. FPS understands the profound impact of untreated mental health conditions. This collaboration provides District families and staff with access to Care Solace's care coordination services at no cost.

FPS will use Care Solace to support its commitment to ensuring accessible mental health care. This initiative demonstrates the District's dedication to building a resilient community, where everyone has equal opportunities to thrive.

"Farmington Public Schools is dedicated to supporting the health, safety, and welfare of our students, staff, and families," said Lydia Moore, Executive Director of Special Education at FPS. "As such, we are proud to announce our partnership with Care Solace. This partnership will allow our students and families to get connected with the services they need to address mental health or substance abuse concerns."

As a central hub of care, Care Solace streamlines communication and coordination to connect individuals with the right resources and appropriate level of care. Individuals seeking mental health care now have a trusted companion to rely on.

With a team of more than 500 dedicated Care Companions, Care Solace connects Farmington Public Schools families to more than 425,000 licensed mental health and substance use treatment providers. Through a human-centered and technology-supported

approach, these Care Companions navigate the fragmented mental health care system on behalf of individuals, helping them find the perfect fit for their unique needs and insurance requirements. Their multilingual Care Companions are available 24/7/365 ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for the entire community.

"Care Solace is proud to support Farmington Public Schools in prioritizing the well-being of its students, staff, and community," says Chad Castruita, Founder & CEO. "Care Solace exists to calm the chaos that often surrounds mental health crises, providing a supportive and compassionate framework to help individuals regain control of their lives."



in partnership with
care solace

It's okay to ask for help

Care Solace connects students, staff, and their families to care.

At no cost to you, Care Solace will quickly and confidentially find available mental health and substance use providers matched to your needs.

Find the right help at the right time.

24/7/365 Multilingual support

A multilingual team is available 24/7/365 to help you understand options, call providers on your behalf, and schedule an appointment.

Care regardless of insurance

Connect to care with any coverage including Medicaid, Medicare, and sliding scale options for those without insurance.

Easy access to care

Use Care Match, the self-serve website, to find a provider or services on your own.

Please note: Care Solace is not an emergency response service or mental health services provider. In the event of a life threatening emergency, call 9-1-1 or the National Hotline 9-8-8.



Save our number!

Call (888) 515-0595

or go to

caresolace.com/farmingtonps



C/S

Farmington Public Schools refreshes school and District websites

The District is excited to announce that you will see refreshed school and District websites starting early July 2024.

We work hard to provide helpful information for families. If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see on our websites, please contact School/Community Relations at info@fpsk12.net.

We would love to hear from you!



Support Person of the Year continued from page 1

pared for them each day. These are just a few of many examples of how Sarah goes above and beyond to ensure the day goes smoothly.

"Sarah has been my partner for so many things," said Kirsten Cicchella, FECC Supervisor. She attends every night event FECC has and does it with a smile. Whether it is greeting guests as they enter for a PTA meeting, hosting parent trainings, or running around the school during events to make sure everything is running smoothly, you can always find Sarah there."

"So much of what Sarah does are above and beyond what a traditional school secretary does and she takes them on with a positive attitude



Sarah is congratulated by a couple of students.

and is engaged in learning more," said Kirsten. "It's always 'how I can help, what can I do.' She takes pride in all she does being such an integral support to many."

On top of handling all that comes with being an FECC Office Clerk, Sarah often works with the District Nurses. Sarah is a certified CPR/First Aid trainer. She travels to various schools throughout the District with one of the nurses to train staff members on how to keep students safe.

Sarah not only provides exceptional work for FPS, but she also is an excellent community member and even works part time for the City of Farmington Hills, as well. Sarah is the face of teaching babysitting classes for the FPS young adult students. She also works the Daddy/Daughter dance, where students are always excited to see her out in the community.

There were many words used to describe Sarah including smart, intuitive, dependable, caring, enthusiastic, dedicated, and thoughtful. Sarah consistently demonstrates how dependable she is for her fellow staff members, and the FECC families. Her work ethic, and genuine care for her bundling, students, and families, is not something you see every day.

"Seeing day-in and day-out the number of staff and parents that seek Sarah out for knowledge and support, as well as myself, she is a true asset for FPS," said Kirsten Cicchella. She makes FECC and FPS a better place."

I.D.E.A. Student Diversity Conference continued from page 1

lunch from around-the-world. The theme of this year's conference was "Look at Me" with a focus on equipping middle and high school students with tools and knowledge necessary to navigate the world.

"Look at Me" serves as a call to action, urging teachers, parents, stakeholders, and peers to acknowledge and recognize the multifaceted identities, experiences, and perspectives of others. The conference aimed to shine a spotlight on the importance of visibility, representation, and empowerment within diverse communities. It encourages participants to step out of their comfort zones, listen attentively, and embrace the stories and voices that often go unheard. Ultimately, "Look at Me" is about meaningful connections, empathy, and understanding, living and breathing out equity, inclusivity, and justice.

The keynote presenter at this year's conference was Dr. Jay Marks, a widely respected educator, working in education since 1991. Dr. Marks has served as a classroom teacher, education consultant, and most recently, a Diversity

and Equity Consultant with Oakland Schools.

This year's I.D.E.A. Student Diversity Conference breakout sessions were created for students, by students. The breakout sessions were designed for students to address, embrace, celebrate, and collaborate on all things DEI at Farmington Public Schools, its community, and the world. Breakout sessions include Do Not Judge Me, Don't Play In My Face, I Own My Own Identity, To Be "Othered", Are We Standing On Business, Confidence Is Key, Trap Yoga and Mindfulness, You Know I Can Hear You, Right?, and Discussions on Healing Through War.

"We are excited about this student-built, student-led diversity conference," said Gregory Smith, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Farmington Public Schools. "Our students have worked diligently to create a space of positivity, criticality, hope, and courage. A space where voices are amplified, perspectives are valued, and meaningful dialogue and outcomes are at the center."



Students presenting one of the breakout sessions to other students at the conference.

District issues survey through Cobalt Community Research

Farmington Public Schools is working with Cobalt Community Research on a survey of parents and community members to gather information about Farmington Public Schools. The survey was emailed to each family in the district and mailed to a random sample of community residents starting the week of May 6. The surveys will officially close on Friday, June 7.

Those who wish to participate in the survey but did not receive a survey can participate by going to www.CobaltCommunityResearch.org/FPS and then typing in Farmington when it asks for the Study ID Number.

"We genuinely appreciate the perspectives of our parents and community members in regards to what they feel about Farmington Public Schools," stated FPS Superintendent Christopher Delgado.

The District is working with Cobalt to ensure a credible third party provides impartial analysis and protects the confidentiality of those taking the survey. Cobalt is a 501c3 nonprofit research organization. The survey is offered in English, Albanian, Arabic, Hindi, Spanish, Ukrainian, and Urdu.

If you have questions on this survey, or if you need assistance in another language, please contact Farmington Public Schools at 248.489.3349.

Survey

Neighborhood House
an affiliate of the Farmington Area Goodfellows

Fundraising Sunrise Gala

Wednesday, August 7
8-10 a.m.

Longacre House
24705 Farmington Rd. • Farmington Hills

Presenting the Annual
Dick Tupper Community Service Award & Community Sponsor Award

\$35 per person
Additional donations gratefully accepted.

Breakfast Buffet
Coffee, Tea, & Juice

"Helping our neighbors to help themselves"

Awards & Achievements

This is a partial list of awards and achievements of Farmington Public Schools' staff and students.

The Farmington Public Schools (FPS) Farmington United Gymnastics (FUG) team scored their highest score of the season, a 144.3, and earned the Regional Championship.

Leah Hodge (NFHS), led the team by taking 1st place on every event, including the all-around competition. Her all-around score was a 38.4, averaging 9.6 on each event. She just barely missed receiving a perfect score on the balance beam, earning a 9.90.

Sophia Yee (NFHS), won the Division II all-around championship. She placed 1st on the balance beam, 4th on the bars, and 4th on the floor size.

Bella Thibodeau (NFHS), placed 2nd in the all-around competition and 2nd on the uneven bars, placed 5th on beam, and 7th on floor.

Elena Anzivino (NFHS), placed 3rd on the all-around, 1st on floor, 3rd on the balance beam, and 5th on uneven bars.

Isabelle Dechen (NFHS), placed 4th in the all-around, 5th on vault, 6th on floor, and 8th on bars.

Aubrey Woodman (NFHS), was named Regional Champion on uneven bars, and placed 7th in the all-around.

Ayla Hougard (NFHS), placed 3rd on the uneven bars and 8th in the all-around.

The Farmington Public Schools (FPS) Harrison Dance Company auditioned for the Regional High School Dance Festival. They were selected to perform two dances at the festival. The Harrison Dance Company competed against hundreds of other dance programs and dances for this honor.



Sydney Cole (NFHS), choreographed "Speak." This dance was performed by **Brooke Crutcher (NFHS)**, **Cailynn Moore (FHS)**, and **Sophia Vella (FHS)**. The Large group performance included **Alyssia Anders (FHS)**, **Jacqueline Brown (FHS)**, **Sydney Cole (NFHS)**, **Brooke Crutcher (NFHS)**, **Makayla D'Agostino (FHS)**, **Nia Davis (FHS)**, **Adrianna Gerhart (FHS)**, **Nina Harris (FHS)**, **Jasmyn Hudson (NFHS)**, **Camille Jeffries (NFHS)**, **Cailynn Moore (FHS)**, **Camryn Nieves (FHS)**, **Isabella Palma (FHS)**, **Elise A. Scott (NFHS)**, **Shania Scott (NFHS)**, **Sophia Vella (FHS)**, and **Kyla Williams (FHS)**.

Many of the dancers received a scholarship or an early acceptance to many different schools.

Farmington STEAM Academy (FSA)

ASD teacher, **Elizabeth Beer**, was named the Leonard Cercone Teacher of the Year at The Arc of Oakland County Dove Awards.



Farmington Public Schools (FPS) students recently competed in the PTA Reflections contest. This year, 166 entries advanced from the local School Level Reflections contest to the District Level Reflections Contest.

Farmington High School (FHS) and **North Farmington High School (NFHS)** Business Professionals of America (BPA) students recently competed at the BPA State Leadership Conference in Grand Rapids.

FHS Results:

Vijay Nannapuraju, 6th Place Advanced Spreadsheet Applications, National Qualifier

Shreyas Narayanan, 2nd Place Database Applications, National Qualifier

Sanjith Gaddam, 2nd Place Linux Operating System Fundamental, National Qualifier

Akshay Kumar, 6th Place Python Programming, National Qualifier

Aiden Cummins, Shreyas Narayanan, Vijay Nannapuraju, 2nd Place Website Design Team, and National Qualifiers

Vivek Chava, Spandan Labade, Samarth Punjala, Grisham Halapeti, 5th Place Presentation Team

Aashika Mukarigari, Joshita Bureddy, Nityasri Kasula, Nandini Anche, 6th Place Economic Research Team

Akshay Kumar, Mahaksh Jinna, Veer Kohli, Sohan Patelu, 6th Place Financial Analyst Team

Jivraj Alagusundaram, Sajan Pinnamaraju, Sam Ball, 6th Place Video Production Team

NFHS Results

Ayaan Shah, 7th place Financial Math and Analysis

Jack Weingarden, 7th place Meeting Management Concepts

Avani Srinivas, 2nd place Prepared Speech

Insuya Ali, Saanvi Argawal, Riya Ganesan, 6th place Global Marketing Team

Farmington High School (FHS) eSports Club students qualified for the Michigan High School eSports League Spring Semi-Finals in their first year of competing. After one year of competing, four FHS students qualified:

Rayyan Ahmed, Senior IB

Madison Doctor, Junior

Jason Kazensky, Junior

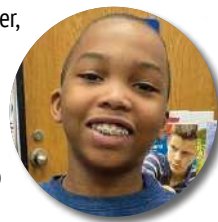
Delano Marinelli, Junior

Farmington High School (FHS) senior, **Viktor Ostapyuk**, was accepted into the Wayne State Med Direct program which comes with a four-year scholarship. Viktor is the first FHS student to have been accepted into this program.



Two **Farmington Public Schools' (FPS)** transportation employees were recognized with the 2024 Oakland County Excellence in Transportation Award. The recognized employees are **Kathleen Smith**, Secretary, and **Nancy Wlasuk**, Bus Driver.

Hillside Elementary School fifth grader, **Khari Clinton**, inspired the entire school to raise more than \$700 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). The school participated in a school-wide blue-out to show support for JDRF.



North Farmington High School (NFHS) and **Farmington High School (FHS)** students received high honors at the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. Their mission is to identify students with exceptional artistic and literary talent and showcase their incredible work for the world to see.

NFHS Art Winners

Maria Marougi, Honorable Mention, Senior Portfolio

Ariel Ser, Honorable Mention, Painting

NFHS Writing Winners

Reid Weaver, Gold Key, Science Fiction and Fantasy, Honorable Mention, Short Story

FHS Art Award Winners

Alison Hoisington, Ceramics & Glass, Honorable Mention and Silver Key; Senior Portfolio (Ceramics), Honorable Mention

Anna Toranchuk, Ceramics and Glass, two Honorable Mentions; Mixed Media, Honorable Mention; Drawing and Illustration, Gold Key; earned a scholarship to a Pre-College program at the College of Creative Studies

Abby Bride, Sculpture, Honorable Mention

Landon Kennedy, Drawing and Illustration, Honorable Mention, three Silver Keys, one Gold Key; Mixed Media, Silver Key; Senior Portfolio (Drawing & Illustration), Gold Key and the distinction of Best in Show

Arya Karki, Senior Portfolio (Painting), Silver Key

Grace Guttovz, Photography, Honorable Mention

Anna Magner, Photography, Honorable Mention

Ash Chapman, a 2023 graduate, was also recognized for winning a National Silver Key for his Portfolio from last year

The **Farmington High School (FHS)** Concert Choir and the Madrigal Choir recently competed at the Michigan School Vocal Music Association (MSVMA) District Choral Festival. Both choirs received a Division 1 rating of "Superior" from all four judges in performance and sight-singing during the Final Determination of Division 1. "Superior" is the highest score that any choir can receive. A special congratulations to **Angel Gippert**, the IB Music Instructor/Director of Choirs at **Farmington High School (FHS)** and **Power Middle School (PMS)**.

Congratulations to the **Farmington Public Schools' Adult ESL** (English as a Second Language) students on their graduation.



Awards & Achievements

This is a partial list of awards and achievements of Farmington Public Schools' staff and students.

Farmington Public Schools (FPS) recently hosted the 31st Annual FPS Awards of Excellence Breakfast. The FPS Awards of Excellence Breakfast aims to recognize and honor outstanding students. Twenty three middle and high school students were honored across the District. Students then selected a staff member who has made a difference in their lives to be celebrated.

2023/2024 FPS Awards of Excellence Winners:

Farmington Online
Erin Williamson, 8th Grade

East Middle School
Nora Ghioto, 8th Grade
Charles Leckenby, 8th Grade
Riley Veitch, 8th Grade

Power Middle School
Vera Bard Kuhl, 8th Grade
Alexandra Garcia, 8th Grade
Lucas Moore, 8th Grade

Warner Middle School
Samridhi Pathak, 8th Grade
Joel Salley, 8th Grade
Karah Thomas, 8th Grade

Farmington STEAM Academy
Sona Cranson, 8th Grade
Anushka Hodaghatta
Yogesh, 8th Grade
Aiden Kobylarz, 8th Grade

2023/2024 Honored Staff:

Lanigan Elementary School
Tonya Corbitt

Farmington Online
John Kucharek

East Middle School
Julie Burton
Jennifer Franklin

Power Middle School
Cheryl Newcomer
Tamika Williams

Warner Middle School
Antoinette Arkenberg
Mike Lantzy

Farmington STEAM Academy
Alexandra Andresmooi
David Beazley

Farmington Central High School

Kyle Humphries, Jr., 12th Grade
Marcus Yono, 12th Grade

Farmington High School
Brandon Dail, 11th Grade
Vincent Pesci, 10th Grade
Sophia Porterfield, 9th Grade
Kennedy Williams, 12th Grade

North Farmington High School

Kyle Bell, 9th Grade
Jonah Cimmino, 10th Grade
Kaylee Pierce, 11th Grade
Jaiden Thomas, 12th Grade

Farmington Central High School

Terri Haas
David Workman

Farmington High School

Cooper Franks
Daniel Gardner
Nina Merget
Carrie Ray
Shana Saddler

North Farmington High School

Wendy Marschick
Brian McNeff
Jeffrey Simpson

Transportation

Dawn Wernette-Leff

Two **Hillside Elementary School** fourth graders, **Madelyn Gianola** and **Selina Jackson**, spent weeks making handmade bracelets during their classroom "Genius Hour." The students sold their bracelets and earned a profit of \$206 to donate to CARES, a local organization that provides services to the local community.



The **Farmington High School (FHS)** HOSA students participated in the HOSA State competition. There were 35 FHS HOSA students in the competition. The FHS students did exceptionally well, with three medalists eligible to represent Michigan at the HOSA International Conference.

HOSA Results

Zainab Ahmed, MI HOSA State Board Officer, 3rd place in Clinical Specialty
Amrita Renduchintala, 3rd place Medical Law & Ethics
Dev Dani, 2nd place Prepared Speaking
Shriram Kura, top 8 Clinical Laboratory Science
Samiha Punjala, top 8 Health Informatics
Anburaj Nethrasri, **Divya Ramisetty**, **Geeta Vemuri**, and **Charmi Yakkanti**, top 8 HOSA Bowl
Shivani Salwi, top 8 Medical Law & Ethics
Rayyan Ahmed, top 8 Medical Math
Tanzeel Ahsan, top 8 Pathophysiology

North Farmington High School (NFHS) Engineering and Architecture students' projects competed in the Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society (MITES) Regional competition. NFHS had 17 first place winners, four second place winners, two third place winners, and two fourth place winners.

Farmington High School (FHS) students recently competed in the DECA State Competition. FHS had a total of 38 students compete in the competition. Of those 38, there were 45 medals awarded to the Falcons and a total of 16 students earned the right to compete at the DECA International Competition.

Christopher DeYonke, MTSS Coordinator and Farmington Education Association (FEA) President, was named the Paul F. Blewett Friend of Education Award Winner by the Michigan Education Association (MEA).



Author Andy Gutman is expanding on his mission to help the next generation of creative writers get published. After a successful collaboration with **Beechview Elementary School (BES)** students last year, Andy is now working with a new group of 15 students. These students are fifth graders who were hand-picked by their teachers. They will be co-authoring an upcoming book.

Farmington Public Schools awarded Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting

Farmington Public Schools (FPS) has received the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year that ended in 2023.

According to the ASBO, this award represents significant achievement and reflects the District's commitment to transparency and high-quality financial reporting. FPS has won this award for the past 27 years.

By participating in the COE program, school districts demonstrate their commitment to financial transparency. Applicants submit their ACFR for review by a team of financial professionals who provide feedback to improve future documents. If the report meets the requirements of the program, it may receive the Certificate of Excellence. A district's participation in the COE program can facilitate bond rating and continuing bond disclosure processes.

"For more than half a century, ASBO International's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting has been the gold standard in promoting and recognizing excellence in financial reporting," according to ASBO International Executive Director Jim Rowan, CAE, SFO. "Communicating the financial and the economic state of a district is so



important when engaging with the school community and building their trust. Districts that receive the COE Award have demonstrated their ability to do that at the highest level."

Eleven **Warner Middle School (WMS)** students are newly published authors. These students competed in a contest hosted by the Young Writers organization titled SOS Sagas: Haunted 2023. Each student submitted a short story for the contest, and their work was chosen to be published in an anthology of short fiction stories. This contest opportunity was presented to 40 students at WMS who demonstrated a mastery of the 7th grade fall writing prompt; 11 won the contest:

Anabella Belken
Michael Coe
Noel Coleman
Danica Daoud
Isaac Kantor
Samanyu Karve

Scarlett Kornacki
James Potter
Amena Senawi
Savannah Somers
Jordyn Tepman



Congratulations
to our Retirees



Natalie Aliseo	SE SXI Paraprofessional	Visions Unlimited	23.5 yrs.
Amy Anderson	4th Grade Teacher	Gill Elementary School	30.5 yrs.
Mark Azeez	Math Teacher	Farmington High School	30 yrs.
David Beazley	Principal	Farmington STEAM Academy	32 yrs.
Kelly Boyd	PE Teacher	Farmington High School	34.5 yrs.
Julie Burton	ELA (AARI) Teacher	East Middle School	31 yrs.
Anne Campbell	Psychologist	Beechview Elementary and Gill Elementary Schools	30 yrs.
Rukhsana Carim	Bilingual Paraprofessional	East Middle School	21 yrs.
Cheryl Dalton	ELA/Social Studies Teacher	Warner Middle School	30.5 yrs.
Lance Davis	SE Paraprofessional ASD	North Farmington High School	32 yrs.
James Demko	History Teacher	North Farmington High School	35 yrs.
Darci Devito	SE Paraprofessional ASD/RR	Hillside Elementary School	22 yrs.
David Drake	Band Teacher	East Middle School	30 yrs.
Karin Edelson	ELA Teacher	Warner Middle School	29.5 yrs.
Daniel Gardner	Social Stud./Econ./History Teacher	Farmington High School	30.5 yrs.
Bernie Gillis	Secretary	Wood Creek Elementary School	21 yrs.
Theresa Gross	Cooking Manager	Farmington High School	29 yrs.
Robert Kauffman	Principal	Hillside Elementary School	32 yrs.
Ramon Kryzhan	Math Teacher	North Farmington High School	24 yrs.
Julie Kuhn	Elementary Instructional Coach	Hillside Elementary School	29 yrs.
Gail Lederer	SE Resource Room Leader	Farmington High School	24 yrs.
James Mehay	Skilled Maintenance	Facilities Management	36 yrs.
Renee Moreau-Decator	3rd Grade Teacher	Gill Elementary School	30.5 yrs.
Krista Newcomb	Japanese Teacher	Warner Middle and North Farmington High Schools	30.5 yrs.
Angie Ritenour	4th Grade Teacher	Farmington STEAM Academy	26 yrs.
Gail Rohde	SE Paraprofessional ASD	Wood Creek Elementary School	21 yrs.
Nancy Roma	Spanish Teacher	Power Middle School, East Middle School	34 yrs.
Phyllis Sheckell	SE SXI Paraprofessional	Farmington High School	17 yrs.
Sui Lin Sih	Math/Science Teacher	East Middle School	30.5 yrs.
Jeffrey Simpson	Math Teacher	North Farmington High School	31.5 yrs.
Dawn Smith	Kindergarten Teacher	Wood Creek Elementary School	36 yrs.
Catherine Staran	Exec. Assistant, Superintendant	Central Office	13 yrs.
Catha Thomas	Music Teacher	Wood Creek Elementary School	32.5 yrs.
Greg Thompson	PE Teacher	Longacre Elementary School	26.5 yrs.
Mary Tsutsumi	SE ASD RR Teacher	Power Middle School	25 yrs.
Patricia Urquhart	Secretary	Special Education Department	20 yrs.
Sandy Vargo	Music (Orchestra) Teacher	Power Middle School	33.5 yrs.
Pamela Waack	Accounts Payable/Bookkeeper	Business Office/Central Office	24 yrs.
Donna Weinzapfel	SE Paraprofessional CI	Visions Unlimited	27 yrs.
Jim (James) White	Media Coordinator	District (MEC)	30 yrs.
David Workman	Grad Alliance, E2020 Teacher	Farmington Central High School	35 yrs.

2024 Employee Retiree
Celebration Reception

Tuesday, June 4
Maxfield Educ. Center • 32789 W. 10 Mile Rd. • Farmington
4:30–6:00 p.m. Reception
6:00–7:30 p.m. Retiree recognition at Board Meeting

Farmington Public Schools
hosted an Authentic
Learning Showcase

Farmington Public Schools (FPS) hosted an Authentic Learning Showcase on May 22. This event showcased how FPS educators are transforming student learning throughout the District. The showcase highlights the importance of “it’s not what students know, it’s about what they can do with what they know.”



Visions Unlimited
honored with “Community
Commitment Award”

This year, the Farmington Area Commission on Aging selected Visions Unlimited to receive the “Community Commitment Award.” Students and staff were honored at a Breakfast on April 11 for their many years helping to support the “Meals on Wheels” program. “The Commission commends Visions Unlimited for their generous dedication and caring and for making our community a better place to live, work, raise our children, and grow older,” stated Marsha Koet, Farmington Area Commission on Aging.



Athletic Department launches new social media platforms



Follow FHS Athletics on Social Media



Follow FPS Athletics on Social Media



Follow NFHS Athletics on Social Media



Welcome & Congratulations

Torrie Maas selected as the new Principal for Hillside Elementary School



Farmington Public Schools is happy to announce that Torrie Maas has been selected to serve as the new principal for Hillside Elementary School. Torrie was selected after a series of extensive interviews from a competitive pool of experienced administrators.

Since July 2022, Torrie has served as the Assistant Principal at East Middle School. Prior to that she was Assistant Principal/Dean for the University Middle and High School Academies and AP Capstone Teacher/Test Coordinator/Department Chair for the University High

School Academy where she served since 2014. She began her career as an English teacher at Southfield-Lathrup High School.

Torrie earned her Bachelor of Arts in English and her Master of Arts in Education from the University of Michigan.

"I am truly honored and overjoyed to be named Principal of Hillside Elementary School. I am eager to collaborate with the Hillside Community and to work with their dynamic team," stated Maas. "Most importantly, I can't wait to meet all of the students and their families. We have many exciting opportunities on the horizon and I can't wait to get started."



xello Parent Portal A Career Readiness Resource



Parent Portal Launched

Xello is an online program that helps students create their very own, unique roadmap for college, career, and future success. Interactive assessments highlight career pathways aligned with your student's skills, interests, and unique personality.

Emailed invites sent every Monday until June 10 • Valid for seven days

Parents, please check your spam as the invite is from noreply@xello.world, not FPS.

**Get Connected to see your student's work in future-readiness.
Supporting readiness takes all of us!**

Jeffrey Rehbine named 2024 Judy White-Ora "Teaching with Heart and Soul" award winner



Superintendent Dr. Christopher Delgado, Director of School/Community Relations & Pupil Accounting Diane Bauman, along with Farmington STEAM Academy (FSA) staff, friends, and family, surprised Jeffrey Rehbine with the Judy White-Ora "Teaching with Heart and Soul" award.

Jeffrey currently works at Farmington STEAM Academy teaching fifth grade. On a daily basis, Jeffrey creates a classroom atmosphere where students feel supported, inspired, and encouraged to reach their full potential. He embraces every day with enthusiasm and dedication to his school, students, and colleagues.

In his 20 plus years as an educator, Jeffrey has demonstrated the impact an educator can have goes beyond teaching academic subjects. Jeffrey ignites a love for learning in his students and creates an environment where they can thrive

on a daily basis. Jeffrey meticulously crafts lesson plans with real-world applications that interests his students on a personal level. With this, he not only fosters academic growth, but creates curiosity, critical thinking, and problem solving skills that set up his students for success inside and outside of the classroom.

One example of Jeffrey's style of teaching is incorporating live animals such as chickens, bunnies, and fish, into the school environment, which offers unique and enriching experiences for students. Responsibility, teamwork, and empathy are important qualities that Jeffrey instills in his students when they care for the animals.

In the classroom, Jeffrey establishes interpersonal connections with each student, and encourages them to create those connections with each other as well. He takes the time to get to know each student by showing genuine interest in their lives and aspirations, which makes each student feel valued. He encourages his students to make each other feel valued as well through collaborative activities, group projects, and team-building exercises. This helps enrich their academic, social, and emotional development.

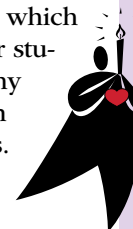
On top of being a well rounded teacher in the classroom, Jeffrey keeps busy and active across FSA and the Farmington Public School's (FPS) District. A few of his many notable attributes include authoring the book "Time To Fly," and creating and managing courtyards at both FSA and Longacre Elementary School.

"Mr. Rehbine's commitment to nurturing a love for learning makes him an exceptional educator whose impact will be felt by his students long after they leave his classroom and very deserving of this honor," said parent nominator Azize Smidi.

The "Teaching with Heart and Soul" Award was created in honor of a former Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Judy White-Ora, who passed away in 2006. Judy believed in investing in other people and relationships. During her years in education, she developed a pledge for teachers. Following her death, members of the Farmington Public Schools' community wanted to make sure the torch that Judy lit was passed onto the new generation of teachers, thus creating the "Teaching with Heart and Soul Award" for teachers that lead their lives by the words of the pledge. The pledge reads as follows:

Today I will:

- ☒ Respect the uniqueness of each child
- ☒ Ignite the joy of learning
- ☒ Listen to their voices
- ☒ Put human connections first
- ☒ Encourage the spirit and let their light shine
- ☒ Create a caring learning community



Save the Date
Friday, November 15



Congratulations

Class of 2024



“Senior Spotlights” celebrate 2024 graduates

Farmington Public Schools (FPS) is continuing its tradition of creating “Senior Spotlights” to highlight our graduating seniors.

Over the last four years, FPS has made strides to make graduation special for seniors amidst a global pandemic, and with that, a new tradition was born. “Senior Spotlights” are a way to honor our graduating seniors on our District social media pages and website while highlighting their accomplishments. Each “Senior Spotlight” includes the senior’s name, which school they are graduating from, a few interesting facts, and what they will be doing after high school along with a photo.

If you are a senior, or your senior is interested in celebrating with us, please fill out the following form: bit.ly/3xzgxo4. FPS posts a few Senior Spotlights from each school on social media daily, in order of submission date.

Attention all guests and students attending a graduation at USA Hockey

USA Hockey Arena has implemented a NO BAG POLICY at their facility. Absolutely no purses, backpacks, totes, clutches, clear bags, or camera bags, no exceptions. Please read the bag policy below. If you have a question, please contact USA Hockey Arena at 734.453.6400.

From USA Hockey: Bag Policy

- All bags (including cross-body bags, clear bags, purses and fanny packs) are prohibited from being brought into USA Hockey Arena. Medical exceptions will be addressed on a case-by-case basis while entering the arena.
- Guests carrying a prohibited bag will NOT be permitted inside the arena. Guests will need to return their bags to their vehicles before entering USA Hockey Arena.

Approved Bags & Items Include:

- Medical Bags
- Childcare and/or Diaper Bags
- ADA-specific bags
- Cell Phones and Pagers
- Blankets

Bag Inspection Process

Upon arrival at USA Hockey Arena, all fans will undergo a security check before entering the rink. If you have an acceptable bag, it will be subject to a thorough inspection from security at USA Hockey Arena. Please refer to the acceptable bags above. Any other bags and backpacks are NOT permitted inside the rink.

2024 Graduation Ceremonies

Farmington Central High School

Thursday, June 6 • 6 p.m. • Farmington High School

North Farmington High School

Sunday, June 9 • 10 a.m. • USA Hockey Arena

Farmington High School

Sunday, June 9 • 2 p.m. • USA Hockey Arena

Visions Unlimited

Monday, June 10 • 10 a.m. • The Hawk

Thursday, June 6

Hillside: 2:00 p.m. • Forest: 2:15 p.m.

Gill and Wood Creek: 2:30 p.m.

Friday, June 7

Farmington STEAM Academy and Lanigan: 2:00 p.m.

Kenbrook and Longacre: 2:15 p.m.

Beechview: 2:30 p.m.



Farmington Public Schools celebrates seniors with Graduate Walk Throughs of their elementary school

Farmington Public Schools (FPS) class of 2024 will celebrate their graduation with a Graduate Walk Through of the elementary school they attended. The Graduate Walk Throughs allow students to walk the halls of their elementary school one last time with their friends, family, and elementary school staff and students cheering them on.

Graduates will wear their cap and gown and walk the halls, parade style, with the elementary school children lined up to cheer them on. This event serves as a great time to show elementary school students what can be achieved with hard work and dedication.

Students are asked to meet in the main office prior to the walk throughs.



UpDate is a newsletter for Farmington Public Schools' residents. It is published four times during the school year by the School/Community Relations Department. Comments and suggestions are welcome. Please visit www.farmington.k12.mi.us or call 248.489.3349.

Superintendent
Christopher J. Delgado, Ph.D.

Board of Education
Cheryl Blau, President
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Terri Weems, Treasurer
Mable Fox, Trustee
Angie Smith, Trustee
Donald Walker, Jr., Trustee

Editors
Diane Bauman
Director, School/Community Relations and Pupil Accounting
diane.bauman@fpsk12.net
Julie Langdon
Communications Specialist
julie.langdon@fpsk12.net

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