

# UpDate

*Farmington*  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**Back to School**  
Quarterly News Update  
August 2023



## Farmington Public Schools eliminates Pay to Participate Fees starting with the 2023-24 school year

It is with great enthusiasm that Farmington Public Schools (FPS) announces the elimination of Pay to Participate fees for families within Farmington Public Schools. This move will save families up to the cap of \$700 per year.

"We see this as one more step to eliminate barriers for students to be able to participate in the athletic program during their time in Farmington Public Schools," stated Superintendent Christopher Delgado. "We know that when students are connected to their schools through extracurricular activities, they perform better academically."



"We thank all of our families who have contributed to the athletic program over the years through the Pay to Participate program as it helped the district through some tough economic times," added Delgado.

"Participation in school athletic programs teaches life-long skills of collaboration, persistence, hard work, and commitment. As an athletic department, we are thrilled that the ability to pay the participation fee will no longer present a barrier for students who may otherwise be willing to participate and take a risk," stated Thomas Shelton, FPS Director of Athletics and School Safety.

"I sincerely believe that this will allow more students to fully participate in our athletic programs, ultimately benefiting them as individuals as well as our FPS community," added Shelton. "We are proud to be among only a few in the County who will not require Pay to Participate fees."

## District launches refreshed Vision and Mission Statements

Starting in October 2022, Farmington Public Schools (FPS) began gathering input from stakeholders on refreshing the District's Mission and Vision. FPS believes that a strong vision, shared across diverse stakeholder groups can have a lasting impact on the influence through changes in leadership at both the District and the local level. FPS began this work when designing the FPS Profile of a Lifelong Learner and wants to continue that within the vision of the District.

The Farmington Profile of a Lifelong Learner represents a promise to the community. The District now wants to gather feedback to ensure that the Mission and Vision of Farmington Public Schools is in alignment and supports the FPS Profile.

The District is happy to launch its refreshed Mission and Vision statements and thanks all who contributed to the process.

### VISION

Together with our **diverse** community, Farmington Public Schools is committed to provide each and every learner **equitable experiences** to explore and develop their **passions and interests** in order to prepare for their **future**.

### MISSION

We are all **safe** in this environment as we **Investigate, Grow, Express, Reflect, and Innovate**.

*Farmington*  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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[www.pinterest.com/fpsk12](https://www.pinterest.com/fpsk12)



<https://twitter.com/fpsinformation>

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**Board of Education Meeting Dates****2023-24**

August 15	December 19	April 23
September 12	January 9	May 7
September 26	January 23	May 21
October 10	February 6	June 4
October 24	March 5	June 18
November 21	March 19	
December 5	April 9	

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**

**Classes Start Monday, August 28**  
for grades 1–12 (AM only)

**No School Labor Day**

Friday, September 1–Monday, September 4  
Schools reconvene on Tuesday, September 5

**K-12 Half Day on October 27**

Friday • October 27, 2023  
K-12 students attend AM only

**School Open Houses**

**East, Power, STEAM, and Warner  
Middle Schools**

Thursday • September 7, 2023  
6:00–8:00 p.m.

**Farmington Central High School**

Wednesday • September 13, 2023  
6:00–7:30 p.m.

**Farmington High School**

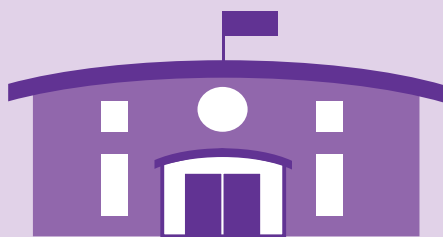
Wednesday • September 13, 2023  
5:30–7:30 p.m.

**North Farmington High School**

Wednesday • September 13, 2023  
6:00–8:00 p.m.

**Visions Curriculum Night**

Tuesday • September 19, 2023  
5:00–7:00 p.m.



Farmington Public Schools shall not discriminate against any person based on race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sexual orientation, gender, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status in any of its programs, services, activities or employment. Inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Director, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, 32500 Shiawassee, Farmington, MI 48336.

**Farmington Public Schools' Board of Education selects officers for the 2023-2024 school year**

On Tuesday, June 20, the Farmington Public Schools' Board of Education elected the following officer positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

President – Cheryl Blau

Vice-President – Claudia Heinrich

Secretary – Zach Rich

Treasurer – Terri Weems

Mable Fox, Angie Smith, and Donald Walker will serve as Board Trustees.

Information about the Board of Education can be found at [www.farmington.k12.mi.us/board-of-education](http://www.farmington.k12.mi.us/board-of-education).



*Cheryl Blau, President*



*Claudia Heinrich, Vice President*



*Zach Rich, Secretary*



*Terri Weems, Treasurer*



*Mable Fox, Trustee*



*Angie Smith, Trustee*



*Donald Walker, Trustee*

**Jennifer Kaminski selected as the 2022-23 Oakland County Business Administrator of the Year**

Jennifer Kaminski, assistant superintendent of business services for Farmington Public Schools, has been named the 2022-23 Oakland County School Business Administrator of the Year. The Oakland County School Business Officials (OCSBO) announced this at their Friday, May 19 meeting at Oakland Schools.

Annually, since 1998, the Oakland County School Business Officials have awarded the Business Administrator of the Year Award to a local education leader demonstrating outstanding accomplishments, dedicated years of service, and commitment to excellence in furthering the field of school business management.

"I had the pleasure of working with Ms. Kaminski while she served as the OCSBO president during the 2009-10 school year. She has displayed all the qualities of an effective leader and does not hesitate to help others when they need assistance," said Jason Zirnis OCSBO president. "I was honored to be the individual presenting this award to a genuinely great recipient."

"Jennifer's commitment to Farmington Public Schools is deeper than a job," said Farmington Public Schools' Superintendent Dr. Christopher Delgado. "She grew up here, lives with her husband and five dachshund dogs, and raised her daughter here. Jennifer Kaminski is a hometown talent who continues to serve with integrity and commitment to students."

Kaminski has served Farmington Public Schools since 2002 when she was hired as the supervisor of

finance. Since then, she has been promoted to director, chief financial officer, and currently serves as assistant superintendent of business services.

Some of her major accomplishments while serving Farmington Public Schools include:

- Modernizing Farmington's budgeting process to better meet building administrators' needs. For years, FPS has allocated building budgets solely on a per-pupil basis. Recognizing that most of our buildings have lost enrollment recently, Jennifer has worked to maintain building budgets rather than reduce them.
- Developed conversations with principals around budgeting specifically to building needs, resulting in funds being allocated for staff professional development or office equipment replacement, while continuing to satisfy the instructional needs of FPS students.
- Spearheaded an effort to provide an authentic learning experience for high school students in CTE, Algebra 2, and AP Economics classes to participate in a live viewing of Farmington Public Schools second series bond sale.

This viewing was preceded by a class lesson

explaining what a bond is, and how bonds are sold, and provided an opportunity for students to interact with industry professionals.

Kaminski is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of the University of Michigan, earning her Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting. She also passed her Certified Public Accountant exam on her first sitting.



*Superintendent Chris Delgado joins Jennifer Kaminski as she receives her award from OCSBO President Jason Zirnis.*



## Gill Elementary School receives \$5,000 donation from new Burlington store

Burlington Stores, a major national off-price discount retailer offering everyday low prices on customers' favorite brands for the entire family and home, has donated \$5,000 through its partnership with the national non-profit organization, AdoptAClassroom.org, to Gill Elementary School within the Farmington Public Schools. These funds are to purchase school supplies. This donation was part of their celebration of its new store now open in Novi at 43480 West Oaks Drive, Novi, Michigan 48377.

A representative from AdoptAClassroom.org reached out to the District and school administrators and helped to secure the donation for Gill Elementary School, which will support their classrooms with new supplies.

According to Principal Chris Suliman, "the teachers will use the funds to purchase a number of new classroom items such as books, pencils, paper, and other school supplies to help our students learn."

"The Gill staff and I are beyond grateful for Burlington Coat Factory's generosity and commitment to supporting education," said Chris Suliman. "Community partnerships, such as this, allow teachers to enhance their classrooms and enrich the learning experiences of their students."

Burlington is committed to supporting local students with the classroom supplies they need to help shape their futures through its partnership with AdoptAClassroom.org. Each time Burlington opens a new store, they celebrate by adopting and funding schools in their new store community.

### About Burlington Stores, Inc.

Burlington Stores, Inc., headquartered in New Jersey, is a nationally recognized off-price retailer with Fiscal 2022 net sales of \$8.7 billion. The Company is a Fortune 500 company and its common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "BURL." The Company operated 927 stores as of the end of Fiscal Year 2022, in 46 states and Puerto Rico, principally under the name Burlington Stores. The Company's stores offer an extensive selection of in-season, fashion-focused merchandise at up to 60% off other retailers' prices, including women's ready-to-wear apparel, menswear, youth apparel, baby, beauty, footwear, accessories, home, toys, gifts, and coats.

### About AdoptAClassroom.org

AdoptAClassroom.org believes every child deserves the tools and materials they need to learn and succeed in school. The national, tech-based nonprofit connects donors and sponsors with PreK-12 teachers and schools to help equip more

classrooms and students with school supplies. Since 1998, AdoptAClassroom.org has raised \$65 million and supported more than 6.3 million students across the U.S. The 501(c)(3) holds the highest 4-star rating from Charity Navigator and the highest transparency rating offered by GuideStar.

For more information, or to make a donation, please visit [www.adoptaclassroom.org](http://www.adoptaclassroom.org).



Gill Principal Chris Suliman accepts the \$5,000 donation along with Gilly, the school's mascot, and some Gill parents and staff members.

## Teresa Barrick selected as Neighborhood House's 2023 Dick Tupper Community Service Award Winner



Farmington/Farmington Hills Neighborhood House, with support from the Farmington Area Goodfellows, is pleased to announce that Teresa Barrick has been selected as the 2023 recipient of the Dick Tupper Community Service Award. The award was presented to Teresa at the 9th Annual Neighborhood

Fundraising Gala on Wednesday, August 16.

Dick Tupper was a dedicated community servant who inspired others to give of their time to better the lives of people in need. He gave countless hours of his time to numerous organizations in our area, particularly the Farmington Area Goodfellows. He had the vision to create Neighborhood House as a year-round resource for Farmington/Farmington Hills families in need. After more than 30 years, his vision is still in operation.

Teresa Barrick exemplifies the spirit and commitment that Dick Tupper brought to our community. Teresa worked for Farmington Public Schools for 27 years before retiring in 2022. From 2014 to 2023 she served as the clerk in the Homeless Department helping families in need.

Since her retirement she has volunteered to support Operation Common Good which was established in 2004 by students in the district to ensure that ALL students in our schools receive the experiences that their classmates get to participate in and that they deserve. The students and families helped by OCG are working with limited resources or dealing with poverty and/or homelessness. In addition to the burden of poverty, these students are dealing with the added challenge of having classmates from much more affluent households.

In 2018, Teresa was selected as the Farmington Public Schools' Support Person of the Year and then went on to be selected as the Oakland County Support Person of the Year.

"We are honored to present this award to Teresa," stated Barbara Tupper Dresden, President of Neighborhood House. "She truly demonstrates a passion to serving those in our community."

"We look forward to our continued partnership with Operation Common Good," she added.



Teresa Barrick

## School Safety Update

In FPS, the safety and well-being of our staff and students are paramount. We are proud of the steps that we have taken in infrastructure and training to keep everyone safe, and are committed to continual planning, in partnership with law enforcement officials, to enhance safety and security in our buildings.

This summer, we have worked with vendors to install a patterned window film in all of our buildings. In our classrooms, this film is designed to mitigate the danger of a potential intruder by preventing individuals from seeing in, while allowing teachers to see out. Additionally, we are installing a patented bullet resistant window film in strategic locations identified by law enforcement at all of our schools and buildings. All school hallways are currently going through a process of color and letter coding so that our local first responders can become more familiar with our buildings, and so they are able to more effectively and efficiently respond to a potential issue. All of these infrastructure improvements have come about through our close collaboration with local law enforcement.

In the meantime, we would like to share some reminders for our families and our students as we prepare for the coming school year:

- All visitors to any school building must sign in and secure a visitor badge.
- OK2SAY is a program managed by the Michigan State Police, allowing anyone in our community to anonymously report tips related to school safety. Students can call 8-555-OK2SAY (855-555-2729); Text 652729 (OK2SAY); Email [ok2say@mi.gov](mailto:ok2say@mi.gov).
- Please remind students of the importance of keeping buildings secure by not propping open exterior doors, and never opening a door to allow someone else access to the building.





## Designated Employee for Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator

The government has made legal provisions to insure that no person is discriminated against on the basis of race, color, natural 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.

Inquiries concerning the application of, or grievances for, any of these regulations should be addressed to:

Mr. Christopher O'Brien  
Farmington Public School District  
Maxfield Education Center  
32789 West Ten Mile Road  
Farmington, MI 48336  
248.489.3596  
christopher.obrien@fpsk12.net

Any person who feels that the rights of an individual have been violated under the provisions of Section 504 or Title IX relationship may contact Mr. O'Brien.



## Designated Employee for Age Discrimination Act and Title II

The government has made legal provisions to insure that no person is discriminated against on the basis of race, color, natural origin, sex, age or disability. In order to protect these rights and assure compliance, the Farmington Public Schools District has appointed 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:

Mr. Gregory Smith  
Farmington Public School District  
Central Office  
32500 Shiawassee Road  
Farmington, MI 48336  
248.489.3309  
gregory.smith@fpsk12.net

Any person who feels that the rights of an individual have been violated in relation to the provision of equal opportunity in any educational programs, activities, or services or in employment may contact Mr. Smith.



## YMCA's Elementary Before/Aftercare program

The Farmington Family YMCA offers before and after care with locations at the District's elementary schools.

Please visit our website [ymcadetroit.org](http://ymcadetroit.org) via ACTIVE.net, our association network to complete enrollment.

All registration is online. If you are unable to enroll online, please contact Kam Uebbing for further information (contact information is below).

Once enrolled, participants will receive a welcome email to our new data collection network, ePACT. We are excited for this new opportunity, and can't wait for our participants to get great use out of it as it is a very user-friendly network to collect and process data collection for our programs.

**Programming will start on Monday, August 28, 2023.** Please note that half day registration is separate from PM registration. Families in need of care for the half day will need to be pre-registered at least for days in advance.

### Rates are as follows:

AM:	\$10 per morning
PM:	\$17 per afternoon
AM & PM	
in the same day:	\$21
Half Day	
(separate registration):	\$35 per half day

Please be aware that all of our program sites are required to stay in compliance with the state of Michigan licensing regulations at a ratio of 1:18 in order to keep both our students and staff safe at all times.

### Step by Step Instructions

- Step 1:** Use this website to start the registration process: [ymcadetroit.org](http://ymcadetroit.org)
- Step 2:** In the top right corner please click on sign in.
- Step 3:** Sign into your account or join.
- Step 4:** Click on activities located in the blue bar at the top of the screen.
- Step 5:** Click on Afterschool in the drop down.
- Step 6:** Scroll down to find your school.
- Step 7:** Enroll

You will then receive an email within 24 hours from ePact. This is our student information collection process. You will use ePact to complete your student's personal information, emergency contacts, and authorized pick ups. If you completed this last school year, you will be asked to reconfirm your student's information for this school year prior to them attending care.

We no longer accept any DocuSign/paper documents.

Please reach out with questions at any time and thank you for your patience and continued support!

**Kam Uebbing**, Program Director  
[kam.uebbing@ymcadetroit.org](mailto:kam.uebbing@ymcadetroit.org), 313-756-8251

**Yelena Lesnek**, Program Manager  
[yelena.lesnek@ymcadetroit.org](mailto:yelena.lesnek@ymcadetroit.org), 313-756-8252

**Andrew Collins**, Program Manager  
[andrew.collins@ymcadetroit.org](mailto:andrew.collins@ymcadetroit.org), 313-756-8253

## After School Youth Program for middle schoolers

### The After School Program is coming back

Join the After School Youth Program designed for FPS middle school students in grades 6-8. This Program offers free tutoring and homework help.

The After School Program is held in the Hawk Community Center located at 29555 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.

The program is available from when school gets out until 5:30 PM. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to pick up their student. A late fee of \$10 will be charged for every 15 minutes late.

**Bus transportation will be provided from FPS school sites to the Hawk Community Center.**

### What's New?

New to the program this year is a game and social room. Additionally, the Hawk staff is working hard to always add new clubs and activities for middle schoolers such as swimming times, archery, Rubik's Cube Club, and more!

### Tutoring - Club Z

The After School Program provides professional tutoring through their partnership with Club Z. These services are on-site during the program hours to assist students who need help with homework or preparing for tests.

### Hawk Half Days

Half days will be held at the Hawk Community Center. Participants must be program members. Half-days include a pool and pizza party. Youth members will be bused from their school to the center. Early registration is at a discounted price of \$10 and includes two slices of pizza, pop, and pool party activities. Fee increases to \$20 if registering one week or less prior to the event.

### Register now for the 2023/24 School Year

**Dates:** 8/28/23-6/10/24\*  
Monday-Friday  
3:00-5:30 p.m.

**Fee:** \$60

**Location:** Hawk Community Center  
29555 W. Twelve Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336

\*The program will **not** run on the following dates:  
9/1, 9/4, 10/27, 11/7, 11/22-11/24, 12/15-1/5, 1/12, 1/15,  
1/19, 2/19-2/23, 3/25-3/29, 5/27.



For more information about the After School Program, call 248.699.6705.

## Free Meals for 2023-24

The State of Michigan's budget includes FREE meals for all Michigan public school students in the grades Pre-K through 12 for the 2023 - 2024 school year. Students are entitled to one free breakfast and one free lunch per school day, free of charge. Students MUST take a fruit or vegetable with their breakfast and/or lunch entree for the meal to qualify as a complete meal and be FREE. Additional entrees will be charged \$2.35-\$3.35.

The first day of breakfast will be on Monday, August 28, 2023. Lunch will begin on Tuesday, August 29, 2023. Menus will be posted on the District's website under the Nutrition Services link and on each school's web page.

### Free/Reduced Price Meal Applications

Although families won't have to pay for meals, families are still encouraged to complete a free/reduced meal application to help the district secure additional funding for the district's educational programs. Families who also complete the Sharing programs page, may qualify for additional benefits such as test fees waived, summer EBT benefits, community outreach programs, etc.

Families may complete their Free/Reduced-price meal application at <https://farmington.familyportal.cloud> or submit a hard copy. Hard copies may be printed from the District's website or copies may be picked up at each school's main office. Parents will be notified by email or mail whether or not the child qualifies. Please allow 10 working days to receive a confirmation letter.

### Ala Carte Purchases

Secondary schools will begin selling a la carte purchases on September 5, 2023. Elementary schools will not sell ala carte purchases or 2nd entrees until further notice.

### Online Payments for Ala Carte Purchases

Parents/guardians can make payments online for ala carte purchases using credit or debit cards or by e-checks at <https://farmington.familyportal.cloud>. Online payments are preferred, but checks are also accepted. Please make checks payable to Farmington Public Schools with your child's name and their ID number in the memo section of the check. There is a \$20 fee for returned (NSF) checks or returned e-checks for any reason. Be very careful entering your account numbers.

### Charging

Students are not allowed to charge ala carte purchases. Students must have funds in their meal account to make ala carte purchases.

### Meal Account History

Parents may also view meal purchases at <https://farmington.familyportal.cloud>. Low balance notifications will be emailed once a student's account falls below \$5.00. Students with a negative balance will be notified via email and a phone call.

### Allergies

A Request for Special Dietary Needs Form must be completed to make dietary substitutions for medical conditions and must be signed by a doctor. The form can be found and printed from the Nutrition Services web page under the food allergy tab. Please allow two weeks for review and implementation.

### Nutrition Services Bad Debt Policy

Bad debt incurred through the inability to collect lunch payment from students is not an allowable cost chargeable to Nutrition Services. Any related collection cost, including legal cost, arising from such bad debt after they have been determined to be uncollectible are also unallowable. Bad debt is uncollectible/delinquent debt that has been determined to be uncollectible by the end of the school year in which the debt was incurred. If the uncollectible/delinquent debt cannot be recovered by the Nutrition Services Department in the year when the debt was incurred, then this is classified as bad debt. Once classified as bad debt, the General Fund, or other local funds, will reimburse the Nutrition Services Fund for the total amount of the bad debt. Once the uncollectible/delinquent debt charges are converted to bad debt, records relating to those charges will be maintained in accordance with the record retention requirements in 7 CFR 210.9(b) (17) and 7 CFR 210.15(b). The Business Office shall pursue collection efforts pertaining to the bad debts subsequent to the close of each fiscal year.

### Questions

Please call the Nutrition Services Department at 248-489-3717, between the hours of 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

### USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or email: [Program.Intake@usda.gov](mailto:Program.Intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Farmington Area Council

# PTA<sup>®</sup>

*everychild.onevoice.<sup>®</sup>*

## 2023-2024

### Meetings

September 18, 2023  
November 13, 2023  
February 5, 2024  
April 29, 2024

Meetings at 7 p.m.

Maxfield Education Center (MEC)  
32789 W. 10 Mile Rd.

### PTA Council Officers

President – Tiffany Morris Street

Vice President for Enrichments – Nancy Jennings

Vice President for Advocacy – Amanda Thielen

Vice President for Community Engagement –  
Kelli Carpenter-Crawford

Secretary – Brandye Cobb

Treasurer – Santoria Shepherd

Business Partnerships Committee Chair –  
Erica Adams-Williams

Health and Wellness Committee Chair – Open

Immediate Past President – Beth Hulett

## 2024 Graduations • Save the Dates!

**Farmington Central High School • Thursday, June 6, 2024 • 6 p.m.**  
Farmington High School Auditorium

**North Farmington High School • Sunday, June 9, 2024 • 10 a.m.**  
USA Hockey Arena • 14900 Beck Road, Plymouth

**Farmington High School • Sunday, June 9, 2024 • 2 p.m.**  
USA Hockey Arena • 14900 Beck Road, Plymouth







**Classes start  
Monday, August 28  
for grades 1-12  
(AM only)**

**Early Childhood  
classes begin Wednesday,  
September 6**

**Kindergarten classes  
staggered starts  
begin August 29**

## 2023-2024 School Hours

Elementary Schools – Grades K-5	Full Day	Half Day
Beechview, Forest, Gill, Hillside, Kenbrook, Lanigan, Longacre Wood Creek.....	8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.....	8:30–11:45 a.m.
Middle Schools – Grades 6-8	Full Day	Half Day
East, Power, Warner.....	7:45 a.m.–2:35 p.m.....	7:45–10:55 a.m.
STEAM Academy – Grades K-7	Full Day	Half Day
Farmington STEAM Academy.....	8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.....	8:00–11:15 a.m.
High Schools – Grades 9-12	Full Day	Half Day
Farmington, North Farmington .....	7:45 a.m.–2:40 p.m.....	7:45–11:00 a.m.
Farmington Central.....	7:55 a.m.–2:50 p.m.....	7:55–11:10 a.m.
Special Education	Full Day	Half Day
Visions Unlimited.....	9:00 a.m.–3:20 p.m.....	9:00 a.m.–12:20 p.m.
Early Childhood Center	Hours vary depending on program	

## Homeless Assistance McKinney Vento Act

Homeless children have the right to attend their school of origin (school of last attendance when the family became homeless), if feasible, or enroll in the district where the family is currently residing. There can be no barriers to enrollment. Homeless children have the same rights to education and participation in school programs as resident students. In determining eligibility for athletics, the District follows the MHSAA (Michigan High School Athletic Association)

rules in all situations. MHSAA has applications for Homeless Youth and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth to waive waiting periods for transfer students to play on high school sports teams.

**If you have questions about the District's homeless resources, please contact the District's Homeless Coordinator, Hatty Ligon, 248.426.2620.**

## Stay connected to Farmington Public Schools

We know how busy it is to keep up with all that is going on in our schools and across the District, so we provide many avenues for you to stay connected! Please consider following us on all of our social media platforms to receive up-to-the-minute information.

### Follow FPS on Social Media

Use the hashtag #FPSSuccess to help us spread the good word about our wonderful staff, students, schools, and programs!

- [www.facebook.com/FarmingtonPublicSchools](https://www.facebook.com/FarmingtonPublicSchools)
- [twitter.com/fpsinformation](https://twitter.com/fpsinformation)
- [instagram.com/farmingtonpublicschools](https://www.instagram.com/farmingtonpublicschools)
- [pinterest.com/fpsk12](https://www.pinterest.com/fpsk12)

### LinkedIn

Want to stay up-to-date with Farmington Public Schools? Follow us on LinkedIn to stay connected to our latest news and job openings throughout the District. Find our LinkedIn here: [www.linkedin.com/company/farmingtonpublicschools](https://www.linkedin.com/company/farmingtonpublicschools)

### Blackboard Mass Notifications

We now use Blackboard Mass Notifications for our messaging system. If you are a parent, you are already in the system, if you are a community member that would like to receive messages from a school(s) you can sign up using Blackboard Community Messenger by following this link: [www.farmington.k12.mi.us/community-messenger](https://www.farmington.k12.mi.us/community-messenger).

### Peachjar for school, District, and Community Fliers

Peachjar is used for the distribution of school and community flyers. This “green” initiative saves our community partners and schools tons of paper and reduces copy costs by thousands of dollars. In addition, posting flyers with Peachjar removes a significant administrative burden from teachers, office staff, and volunteers.

### Mobile App

The FPS Mobile App provides information about the school district streamlined into one location. It provides access to important FPS notifications (such as school closings), calendars (District and individual schools), staff directory, news feed, athletics, MISTAR Parent Portal and much more! To download the app on OSx, enter the app store via your Apple mobile device, type “Farmington Public Schools, MI” into the store search bar. Touch “Get” to download the app. For Android and Chrome OS, download the app through Google Play Store.

### Are you on Twitter? Follow the FPS Superintendent

Follow Superintendent Dr. Chris Delgado on Twitter as he attends many events and activities that take place across the District. He can be found at [twitter.com/FPSSupt](https://twitter.com/FPSSupt) and his handle is @FPSSupt.

### Personal Property Liability

Farmington Public School District and its staff are NOT liable for damage to or loss of personal property of students. It is suggested that items brought to school by your child and deemed by you to have substantial value be insured separately on your homeowner's policy.

### Returned Check Policy

If restitution is not made on a check returned by the bank for any reason, the District will no longer accept checks from that individual. If two returned checks are received from the same individual, the District will no longer accept checks from that individual even if restitution has been made. The District's returned check fee is \$20.00.

### Student Medical Insurance

We wish to emphasize that Farmington Public Schools does NOT provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school. Since children are particularly susceptible to injuries, we encourage you to review your present health and accident insurance program to determine if your coverage is adequate.

If you do not feel your insurance is adequate because of a deductible or co-insurance clause or if you do not have insurance, we encourage you to review the voluntary student insurance program offered by Student Assurance Services. This plan will provide benefits for medical expenses incurred because of an accident. An explanation of the cost and benefits is explained on their website ([www.sas-mn.com](http://www.sas-mn.com)). The program is administered by Student Assurance Services, Inc. of Stillwater, Minnesota. Student Assurance Services can be reached at (800) 328-2739. The enrollment form and claim form are also available on their website.

## Student Count Day is October 4

“Count Days” are critical to our school district because our funding is directly connected to the number of students who are in school on the two count days in Michigan. This year, count days are set for **Wednesday, October 4, 2023** and **Wednesday, February 14, 2024**.

Please make every effort to have your child in school on these days. If possible, please make doctor or dentist appointments another day. Thank you for your assistance in making our “Count Days” a success.



## Athletic Program Procedures

Farmington Public Schools is proud of our strong athletic programs, and recognizes the value of both athletic participation and student involvement in events. Students are encouraged to actively participate in events, whether as participants or spectators, while demonstrating school pride and good sportsmanship.

### Event Procedures

- NO backpacks or large bags are allowed entry. Smaller bags are subject to search by school personnel.
- Outside food or beverages are not permitted. Sealed water bottles are acceptable.
- There is no re-entry for any reason, once a patron leaves the facilities.
- Ticket sales stop, and gates close for entry, at the beginning of the fourth quarter.
- Event staff reserves the right to eject spectators for any reason. Examples of behavior that could lead to ejection include:
  - Unsportsmanlike conduct
  - Disrespectful or disorderly conduct toward coaches, officials, or teams
  - Unwillingness to follow staff directives



### Fees

The Board of Education has adopted a plan for the 2023/2024 school year to completely fund the athletic programs in grades six through twelve, thus eliminating the previous "Pay To Participate" fee. Several high school sports have separate booster fees to cover supplemental expenses, such as tournament participation, facilities fees, and other items.

It is the strong desire of the District that ability to pay fees should not be a barrier to participation for any student athlete. Requests for assistance should be directed to the building principal, or district athletic director Tom Shelton.

### Transportation

Based on coach/program requests, the District will make every effort to secure transportation to "Away" athletic contests. Sometimes, however, the timing of events and the availability of district buses and charter companies make this difficult, if not impossible. In some situations, families may be asked to provide transportation or car-pool when transportation cannot be arranged.

Questions about athletics can be directed to Tom Shelton, District Athletic Director, at [thomas.shelton@fpsk12.net](mailto:thomas.shelton@fpsk12.net)

### Ticket Prices (Admission)

- Admission for all athletic events will be \$5 for adults and \$4 for students and seniors.
- District and state tournament admission fees are set by the state, and are not covered by district athletic passes.
- Athletic Event Passes
  - Both family passes and student passes are available through the North Farmington and Farmington High School main offices. Passes can also be purchased on the district website through eFunds, or at the gates for events.
  - With the elimination of Pay To Participate fees, student athletes are no longer exempt from admission fees. Student athletes are encouraged to purchase either a student pass or a family pass.
  - Family passes are non-transferable, and are available to families living in the same household.
  - As detailed below, passes cover the entire school year, and go down in price later in the year:
    - Family Pass: \$100 if purchased in fall, \$75 if purchased in winter, \$40 if purchased in spring
    - Student Pass: \$50 if purchased in fall, \$40 if purchased in winter, \$25 if purchased in spring

## School Bus Stops

As a reminder, if your child is eligible for bus transportation, **MiStar will have the information posted with the bus route location and times on Friday, August 25, 2023.**

- Elementary bus stops will be condensed this year and we will be eliminating multiple stops within the subdivisions for efficiency purposes. Bus stops will be centrally located within a subdivision for all general education students.
- Middle school and high school bus stops remain outside the subdivisions
- All students are transported to and from their designated bus stop only.

### Daycare

- Due to our buses being at capacity for the 2023-2024 school year, we can not transport to and from daycare centers.

### Teen Centers

- Transportation for after school teen centers for sixth through eighth grade will be provided by the HAWK.

### Bus Stop Relocation Request

- The following, but not limited to, does NOT warrant a change: lack of sidewalks within the subdivision, weather conditions, family situations, i.e. daycare, bus stop is not visible from home, traffic enforcement, darkness, and the bus travels past your house.
- For those requesting a change to a student's pick-up or drop-off location, please go to the Farmington Public Schools' website, click on the transportation tab,



and fill out a Bus Stop Relocation Form and send it to the Transportation department at [fpstransdept@fpsk12.net](mailto:fpstransdept@fpsk12.net).

- Approval or denial of your request will be made by phone or mail within 10 business days.
- **No relocation requests will be accepted over the telephone.** All requests must be submitted between September 11, 2023 and September 29, 2023 to the Transportation Department.

### Why are students asked to be at the bus stop early?

**An important bus transportation procedure asks students to be at their designated bus stops 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus. This will ensure that your student won't miss the bus. Being in a car is NOT considered being at the bus stop.**

The District understands that there may be inclement weather on some mornings and that

winter mornings can be very cold. Parents should furnish their child with an umbrella and warm clothes so they can safely wait at his or her bus stop.

In addition, a student who arrives at the bus stop after the bus door has closed cannot be allowed to board the bus. Michigan law Public Act 187 requires a school bus driver to activate the warning lights of the bus at least 200 feet before the bus stop. This is not possible once the doors have been closed.

If a student misses the bus, they will need to be driven to school. They are not permitted to go to another bus stop. It is very dangerous for parents to pull up behind the bus in the driver's blind spot causing students to run from behind the bus at the last minute with a bus driver not being able to see them and not expecting them.

Parents waiting at or near the bus stop to ensure student safety at the stop are very much welcomed and appreciated. But, parents are asked to please put their child's safety ahead of comfort and have them waiting at the stop, ready to board when the bus arrives. For any questions, please contact the Transportation Department at 248.489.3700.

All buses have been equipped with cameras. Please remind your students to follow the bus rules and the directions of the driver. We want all students to have a safe environment to and from school. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action including suspension or loss of riding privileges.





# Awards & Achievements

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

**North Farmington High School (NFHS)** students competed at the Michigan Industrial Technology Educational Society (MITES) Regional competition.

AD 2- Interior Design Board Freshman/Sophomore Division  
**Lillian Hodges**, 1st place

AD 2- Interior Design Board Junior/Senior Division  
**Abrar Al-Sager**, 1st place  
**Katelyn Green**, 2nd place  
**Megan Pohl**, 3rd place  
**Sydney Williams**, 4th place  
**Kate Jackson**, 5th place  
**Sebastian Morgan**, 6th place

AD 3 - Architectural Presentation Drawings (Manual)  
**Madison Pounall**, 1st place

AD 4 - Architectural Model  
**Sydney Williams**, 4th place  
**Madison Pounall**, 6th place

AD 5 - Open Framing Architectural Model  
**Madison Pounall**, 1st place

AD 11 - CAD Render Interior Presentation  
**Sebastian Morgan**, 3rd place  
**Sydney Williams**, 4th place

AD 13 CAD Render Exterior Presentation  
**Sebastian Morgan**, 1st place

AN 4- Structural Animation Walk-Thru  
**Sebastian Morgan**, 1st place

AM 2 - CAD 3D Printed Prototype Assembly  
**Angel Garcia De La Cruz**, 3rd place  
**Galen Mui**, 4th place  
**Zachary Trouve**, 5th place  
**Ashna Ganesan**, 7th place  
**Franklin Izzo**, 8th place

AM 3 - CAD 3D Printed Toy/Puzzle  
**Zachary Trouve**, 1st place  
**Angel Garcia De La Cruz**, 2nd place  
**Ashna Ganesan**, 3rd place  
**Galen Mui**, 4th place  
**Evan Smyk**, 5th place

AT 1 - Biotechnology Handicapped Device  
**Galen Mui**, 1st place  
**Ashna Ganesan**, 2nd place  
**Haley Schultz**, 3rd place

AT 3- Invention/New Product Development  
**Angel Garcia De La Cruz**, 1st place  
**Dylan Llonillo**, 2nd place  
**Zachary Trouve**, 3rd place  
**Paul Elenich**, 4th place  
**Franklin Izzo**, 5th place  
**Evan Smyk**, 6th place

PL 6 - Plastic Model  
**Evan Smyk**, 1st place  
**Haley Schultz**, 2nd place  
**Madison Pounall**, 3rd place

WO 7- Wooden Models  
**Angel Garcia De La Cruz**, 1st place  
**Ashna Ganesan**, 2nd place  
**Zachary Trouve**, 3rd place

**North Farmington High School (NFHS)** student, **Ari Roth**, was named a National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winner. National Merit \$2500 Scholarship winners are the finalists in each state judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

**Farmington Public Schools' (FPS)** students from across the District participated in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra (MSBOA) District IV Middle School Honors Band.

Farmington Public Schools' MSBOA District Participants:

**Farmington STEAM Academy:**  
**Alana Daniels**  
**Leila DeMarco**  
**Tessa Gee**  
**Sloane Harvin**  
**Amber Hieb**  
**Nicole Makhay**  
**Oliver Strickfaden**  
**Claire Wilpula**

**Power Middle School:**  
**Sabaha Ahmad**  
**Cody Echols**  
**Alex Karki**  
**Erica Lynch**

**Warner Middle School:**  
**Charlie Guralnick**  
**Charlie Jakubiak**  
**Abby Switzer**  
**Josh Wagner**  
**Gavin Wilde**  
**Ekitu Burde**

**Jillian Sautter**  
**Garrett Shea**  
**Austin Winters**  
**Jeremy Ziadeh**

**North Farmington High School (NFHS)** student, **Nathan Rakolta**, is attending an Ivy League college starting this Fall. Nathan will be attending Columbia University in New York. During his time at Columbia University, Nathan plans to study film and theater.



**Farmington High School (FHS)** students competed at the HOSA-Future Health Professionals State Leadership Conference. There were 35 out of 40 eligible FHS students that participated at the conference. Of those students, 20 placed in the top eight with one placing in the top three.

FHS HOSA State Leadership Conference Results:

**Ashley Katushabe**, 2nd place, Researched Persuasive Writing & Speaking and will advance to the international level competition, earning a Bronze Medal

**Iswaryya Manda** received bronze level recognition in the Barbara James Service Award event for providing more than 100 hours of volunteer service at Corewell Health Farmington Hills over the past year.

**Rayyan Ahmed**, 4th place, Medical Math

**Sai Hasini Bhogi, Nethrasri Anburaj, Divya Ramisetty & Charmi Yakkanti**, 5th Place, HOSA Bowl

**Grisham Halapeti, Avnee Jain & Sumayya Yazdani**, 5th Place, Public Service Announcement

**Iswaryya Manda, Clinical Specialty**, 5th Place and Bronze level recognition for Barbara James Service Award

**Anirudh Bommaneveni, Vivek Chava, Surya Pugazhendhi,**

**Samarth Punjala**, 5th Place, Medical Innovation

**Sanjith Gaddam**, 7th Place, Pharmacology

**Shivani Salwi**, 7th Place, Medical Law & Ethics

**Heavyn Craft**, 8th Place, Prepared Speaking

**Saanvi Khare, Samiha Punjala & Yeshawini Ravula**, 8th Place, Mental Health Promotion

## Farmington STEAM Academy (FSA) fifth graders participated in the Michigan Invention Convention.

Farmington STEAM Academy Participants and Inventions:

**Aliasghar Bharmal**, ALT Airless Tire  
**Serafina Blum**, Ding Ding Danger  
**Dominic Danko**, Holiday Holder  
**Alyssa Davis**, Super Soaker Sprinkler  
**Connor Marble**, Tape and Go  
**Jainav Shah**, TCS 3000  
**Maxwell Wojick**, The H2GO Bottle  
**Ayanna Wright**, Umbrello-Shield-9000  
**Yashika Yaramala**, 20-20-20 TIMER

**Dominic Danko** won second place overall for his invention the Holiday Holder. He also won the Designing and Building Award. The third award he won was the Testing and Refining Award.

**Jainav Shah** won the Energy Award which includes a cash prize and medal for his Invention the TCS 3000.

**Alyssa Davis** won the Agriculture and Food Award which includes a cash prize and medal, for her invention the Super Soaker Sprinkler.





# Awards & Achievements

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

**North Farmington High School (NFHS), Aidan Hawkins**, won first place in the state of Michigan for Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair, at the SkillsUSA Competition.



Farmington Public Schools (FPS) Career and Technical Education (CTE) students earned 64 Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) entry-level certifications. Students from both **Farmington High School (FHS)** and **North Farmington High School (NFHS)** earned these certifications.

## Farmington High School:

**Cameron Coccimiglio:** Automatic Transmission and Transaxle, Automobile Service Technology, Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Engine Performance, Engine Repair, Heating and Air Conditioning, Maintenance and Light Repair, Manual DriveTrain and Axles, and Suspension and Steering

**Connor Coccimiglio:** Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Engine Performance, Engine Repair, Maintenance and Light Repair, Manual DriveTrain and Axles, and Suspension and Steering

**Ian Eberle:** Maintenance and Light Repair and Suspension and Steering

**Brandon Fuller:** Automatic Transmission and Transaxle, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Engine Performance, Engine Repair, Heating and Air Conditioning, Maintenance and Light Repair, Manual DriveTrain and Axles, and Suspension and Steering

**Zachary Johnston:** Brakes, Engine Repair, Maintenance and Light Repair, and Suspension and Steering

**Nicholas Juliano:** Brakes, Maintenance and Light Repair, and Suspension and Steering

**Jeffrey Kennedy:** Suspension and Steering

**Jack Kolakowski:** Maintenance and Light Repair

**Anna Morganti:** Engine Repair, and Maintenance and Light Repair

**Yousuf Salie:** Brakes and Maintenance and Light Repair

**Alex Skinner:** Automatic Transmission and Transaxle, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Heating and Air Conditioning, and Maintenance and Light Repair

**Keith Steinard:** Engine Repair, and Suspension and Steering

## North Farmington High School:

**Camrin Carrico:** Maintenance and Light Repair

**Brendan Erickson:** Maintenance and Light Repair

**Aidan Hawkins:** Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Maintenance and Light Repair

**Joseph Hermann:** Heating and Air Conditioning

**Gavin Imhoff:** Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Engine Performance

**Reilly McArdle:** Maintenance and Light Repair

**Gavin Sibley:** Electrical/Electronic Systems, Engine Performance, Engine Repair, Heating and Air Conditioning, Suspension and Steering

**Artero Wilson:** Electrical/Electronic Systems

**Ayrek Wyndendorf:** Electrical/Electronic Systems

**Mateusz Zarzycki:** Maintenance and Light Repair

**Suraj Sharma, North Farmington High School (NFHS) class of 2023**, earned his Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians.



## North Farmington High School student, Avery Hill, crowned as Miss Michigan Teen USA

**Avery Hill**, North Farmington High School (NFHS), was crowned 2023 Miss Michigan Teen USA at the annual Miss Michigan and Miss Michigan Teen state-wide pageant.

"I love pageants. When I first entered the pageant the experience was the light at the end of my dark tunnel," said Avery Hill. "The pageant gave me the opportunity to be independent and break out of my shell. It was an amazing experience and something that I would love to continue to do because it taught me a lot of amazing things."

A big part of pageantry are the platforms in which the contestants champion. Avery focuses on adoption and Tourette Syndrome.

"I am passionate about adoption because I am adopted and growing up and learning about my story has made



me realize that being adopted is nothing to be ashamed of but something to embrace," said Avery. "I am passionate about raising awareness about Tourette Syndrome for the same reason but also because it has a lot of misconceptions about what the Syndrome is. I got diagnosed when I was 14 and it was something that I had to come to terms with and something that I am proud of and don't want to hide."

During preparations for Miss Michigan Teen USA, Avery focused on her mental health and her faith to keep her grounded. By winning Miss Michigan Teen USA, she has been given a bigger platform that she is excited about. Avery is already preparing to compete in the Miss Teen USA pageant. She is looking forward to sharing her platforms on an even greater level while educating those around her.

Farmington Public School (FPS) students recently competed at the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) 46th Annual Future Health Professionals International Leadership Conference.

One student from **Farmington High School (FHS)**, one student from **North Farmington High School (NFHS)**, and eight middle schoolers from across the District were national qualifiers.

**Shamon Gajraj, NFHS**, 1st Place, Medical Reading. Shamon was also selected to serve a leadership term on the 2023-24 Michigan State Officer Board.

**Dev Dani, Farmington STEAM Academy**, 5th Place, Prepared Speaking

**Riya Chava, Farmington STEAM Academy**, top 10 finalist, Foundations of Medical Terminology

**Aurel Chatterjee, Farmington STEAM Academy**, top 10 finalist, Foundations of Nutrition

The following students gave their best effort in their competitive events:

**Ashley Katushabe, FHS**, Researched Persuasive Writing & Speaking

**Aanya & Eva Mehta, Farmington STEAM Academy**, Health Career Display

**Nisha Immadisetty, Farmington STEAM Academy**, Foundations of Nutrition

**Reehav Shah, Farmington STEAM Academy**, Life Threatening Emergencies

**Navyaa Murugan, Farmington STEAM Academy**, Foundations of Medical Reading



**Farmington High School (FHS) students, Cameron Coccimiglio and Alex Skinner**, have earned all 10 Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) entry-level certifications. Both of these students have excelled in the FHS Career and Technical Education (CTE) automotive program.



**Patti Reeves, a Farmington Public Schools' (FPS) bus driver**, has earned the Mark of Excellence Award from the Oakland County Transportation Supervisors of Michigan. In order to be nominated, a person must be nominated by their peers, and possess several qualities and actions such as outstanding performance, reliability, punctuality, positive relationships, communication skills, and more.



**Farmington High School (FHS) student, Ashton Chapman**, is the first student from the school to receive national recognition in the Scholastics Art and Writing Awards. More than 100,000 students submitted more than 300,000 works of art and writing to the 2023 Scholastics Awards.





# Welcome & Congratulations

## Onisia Martin selected as the new Special Education Supervisor for Farmington Public Schools



Onisia Martin, who served as the Mental Health Program Coordinator for Farmington Public Schools, was selected as one of two Special Education Supervisors for the District. Onisia replaces Shellie Cole who retired.

Onisia has served as the Mental Health

Program Coordinator since August 2022. Prior to this role, she served as a school social worker in the District since 2015.

Onisia earned her Bachelor of Arts, Social Work/African American Studies from the University of Oklahoma, her Masters in Social Work from the University of Michigan, and her Administration Certification from Grand Valley State University.

"I am so excited to have Ms. Onisia Martin join our special education administrative team. Her knowledge and expertise in special education and how to support students with disabilities is evident in every interaction," stated Lydia Moore,

Farmington Public Schools' Executive Director of Special Education. "Her background as a school social worker and mental health program coordinator will be of great benefit to the students, families, staff, and administrative team."

"It has been an absolute pleasure learning from, and collaborating with, the students, staff, and community of Farmington Public Schools over the past eight years," stated Martin. "I am looking forward to continuing these collaborations as the next special education supervisor in order to ensure that all students receive access to a quality education."

## FPS students participate in University of Michigan Summer Youth Dialogue

The University of Michigan Summer Youth Dialogue program is a transformative initiative designed to foster meaningful dialogues on race and ethnicity among high school-age youth from the neighborhoods and suburbs of the nation's most segregated metropolitan area.

The program's primary objective is to bridge the gap between communities by encouraging young people to communicate and collaborate across the historically entrenched boundaries that divide them. With a strong commitment to inclusivity and diversity, the program aims to create racially and ethnically diverse cohorts or affinity groups that reflect the overall metropolitan population. By bringing together youth from various backgrounds, the Summer Youth Dialogue program seeks to empower participants with the tools and understanding needed to address the complexities of race and ethnicity, promoting a more connected and united future for the region.

Farmington Public Schools had the opportunity to send two affinity groups to take part in the program.

"Our students came to know and live through Farmington Public Schools' Profile of a Learner while traveling throughout the metropolitan area and living on UofM's campus throughout the program," stated Gregory Smith, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Farmington Public Schools. "Students took part in engaging dialogues, collaborative presentations, and aided in the development of actualized strategies that support increased empathy, resilience, and awareness relative to racial and ethnic differences. We are very proud of their commitment to growth this summer and look forward to all they will do to advance the teaching and learning experience in Farmington Public Schools."



## 2023 Tag Days

Friday, October 13 and  
Saturday, October 14

This fall, the Farmington High School Music Patrons, together with the North Farmington High School Boosters are returning to their "Tag Days" fundraising event to benefit the students of both music programs. Each year FHS and NFHS take turns hosting this robust fundraiser.

The music students, dressed in either Concert Black or their respective Band Uniforms, will be located near the entrances of participating merchants to solicit donations. As a "Thank You" to the donors, the students will provide concert tickets (Tags) which grant them free admission to a predetermined performance to a Band or Orchestra concert.

**2023-24 Hosting School:**  
North Farmington High School at NFHS

**Tag Days of Operation:**  
Friday, October 13 • 4–9 p.m.  
Saturday, October 14 • 8 a.m.–8 p.m.



## WE ARE HIRING!

### Noon Supervisors & Noon Aides

- ✓ Average 12-15 hours/week
- ✓ Noon Supervisors earn \$14.75/hour
- ✓ Noon Aides earn \$13.75/hour
- ✓ Five (5) days/week - Follow the school year calendar
- ✓ Employees of Farmington Public Schools (NOT EduStaff)
- ✓ Applications will be accepted on-line or in person at each school's main offices.

[farmington.k12.mi.us/employment](https://farmington.k12.mi.us/employment)



We need your smile,  
positive attitude,  
and love for children!

*Farmington*  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## Farmington Public Schools' eighth grade science classrooms partner with Bosch Engineers

Farmington Public Schools' (FPS) students recently partnered with Bosch engineers in our eighth grade classrooms. Power Middle School, Farmington STEAM Academy, and East Middle School science teachers had students build and test fuel cars.

During this project, Bosch engineers partnered with the teachers to deliver the lessons and help students with the entire engineering process. Each school had engineers in their classrooms five times to help the students.

The students worked in groups to create vehicles with fuel cell motors. The goal was to get their cars to drive a specific length. During this partnership, the students were fully engaged in the engineering process as they were testing and then making changes to their fuel cell motors. They would do this by taking notes based on repeated tests. Students would collect data and make changes based on that data. The Bosch engineers were working side by side with the students to help them meet their goals of making the car go a certain distance. Students were getting an understanding of how a fuel cell worked by using water to help power the motor.

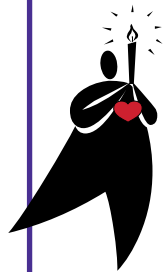


"The kids loved working with the engineers and learning about fuel cells," said Michele Laramie, eighth grade science teacher at Power Middle School. "I really enjoyed how the engineers allowed the kids to troubleshoot the car build and how to work the fuel cell."

"The kids loved doing the hands-on work building the fuel cells and listening to what tasks the engineers did at their jobs," said Sharon Crupi, teacher at East Middle School. "The engineers were very patient with the students. Many students were surprised at the number of different types of engineering and designs that went into certain products. They were able to see that a team working together collaboratively produced a well-constructed product."



## Farmington High School art teacher, Kimmi Dukes, named 2023 Judy White-Ora "Teaching with Heart and Soul" award winner



On Tuesday, May 23, 2023, Director of School/Community Relations & Pupil Accounting Diane Bauman, along with Farmington High School staff, and friends and family, surprised Kimmi Dukes at Farmington High School with the Judy White-Ora "Teaching with Heart and Soul" award.

Kimmi Dukes has been with Farmington Public Schools (FPS) for 23 years. She worked at Harrison High School (HHS) for 19 years before moving to Farmington High School (FHS) for the last four. Many of her years were spent as the Department Head/Instructional Lead for the Art Departments.

Kimmi had many nominators ranging from colleagues to former and current students. Kimmi was nominated for the Judy-White Ora "Teaching with Heart and Soul" award for her caring nature and dedication to making connections with each of her students.

"All teachers provide their time and expertise to their students but Kimmi provides so much more," said nominator Kevin Miesner. "She gives students a space to explore who they are and who they want to be."

Kimmi strives to make all students feel safe and seen. "Mrs. Dukes is always interested in the different identities and stories we represent in our art and encourages us to explore them," said student nominator Layla B.

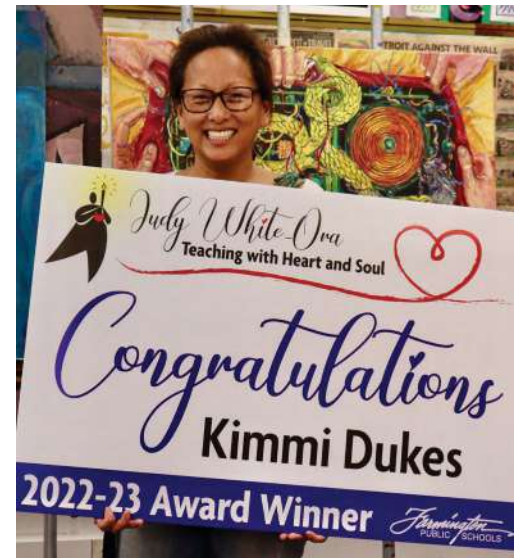
Kimmi is sure to make connections with each student in many ways, as every student expresses their art differently.

"Mrs. Dukes is a phenomenal teacher," said student nominator Natasha D. "Previously, I had a pretty strong aversion to taking art classes in school because I thought they would restrict my creativity. However, taking IB Visual Art with Mrs. Dukes has done the exact opposite of that. Mrs. Dukes is sure to form a strong connection with each student and helps us communicate our ideas, experiences, and identities through our art work."

One of Kimmi's best attributes is her ability to encourage each student and let their lights shine.

"Mrs. Dukes has always embraced the things that make each student unique, such as race, gender, or other identities that are important to them," said student nominator Ash C. "She pushes students to do art of the things that inspire them personally, but also pushes them to try new things."

To outline Kimmi in words would never fully encapsulate her dedication to students. She is



supportive, encouraging, and is constantly pushing students in the right direction.

Over the course of her time at FPS, Kimmi won the Educator Award from the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, was an Art of the Matter Panelist in the Farmington Area Arts Commission, was named the FPS High School Teacher of the Year in 2012, and was named the HHS Impact Teacher of the Year in 2008 and 2014. During her time, she has also overseen many clubs including, the National Art Honors Society Ceramics Club, Asian American Club, was a class advisor, S.A.C Super awesome Hacky Sack Club, and the "Looking Glass" which is a literary magazine.

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



## Local senior adults are invited to Farmington Public Schools' Annual Senior Adult Breakfast on Thursday, October 26, 2023

Our local senior adults, friends, and neighbors are invited to come together and celebrate Farmington Public Schools at the District's Annual Senior Adult Breakfast on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at the Costick Center. The event will begin at 9 a.m.



The Breakfast brings together hundreds of local senior adults, aged 60 and up, who will have the opportunity to speak with District representatives about current educational practices happening within the schools. This event also provides our adult seniors with a chance to meet and visit with Farmington Public Schools' Superintendent Dr. Christopher Delgado. Guests will get the chance to mingle with students from each school while looking at school projects on display. Attendees will also get to see all the recent awards, achievements, and updates that are happening throughout the District.

Additionally, the Senior Adult Breakfast is where the District will announce the 2023/2024 Senior Adult Extraordinaire award winner.

This award is designed to recognize, promote, and encourage the volunteer efforts of senior citizens within Farmington Public Schools. The honored senior adult (aged 60 and above) must volunteer in the District and contribute to the overall education process.

Reservations for this event are required and will be limited to the first 300 people. The Senior Adult Breakfast will be held at the Costick Center located at 28600 Eleven Mile Road in Farmington Hills. To make a reservation, please contact the District's School/Community Relations Department at 248.489.3349.



Roxanne Fitzpatrick was honored as the 2022 award winner.



*A Toast to Education*  
to benefit the students of Farmington Public Schools

*Friday, November 3*

**VIP Reception: 6–7 p.m.  
7–9:30 p.m.**

**General Admission  
Event Tickets: \$50**

**VIP Event Tickets: \$100**

**Raffle/Event Ticket Packages  
starting at \$75**

Must be 21 years of age to attend.

**Wine Tasting  
Live Music  
Raffles**

**The Meridian**  
26750 Haggerty Road • Farmington Hills

The Farmington/Farmington Hills Education Foundation (FFHEF) invests in the success of the students of Farmington Public Schools through innovative programming, grants, and scholarships.

We work collaboratively with Farmington Public Schools and community and school organizations to provide and support educational opportunities for our students.

Proceeds from A Toast to Education will fund our 2023/2024 Innovation Grants.

**EDUCATION**  
Foundation

**ffhedfoundation.org**

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](http://www.farmington.k12.mi.us) or call 248.489.3349.

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