



focus

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inside ▶

- 2017-2018 AP Scholars, Page 3
- Judy Bouley Award Winners, Page 5
- Ben Emdin Award Winners, Page 14
- Winter Athletic Awards, Page 15
- Summer Enrichment Classes, Page 20

Restorative Practices Shifts to Academics

By Morgan Jarema, School News Network

When student Ian Schoonveld was passed the furry red beanbag lobster that signified it was his turn to talk, the Ada Elementary fourth-grader had an honest question for his classmates.

“I think we already read enough,” Ian said earnestly. “I mean, I just don’t get why.”

It wasn’t that Ian doesn’t like to read. Just minutes later, he would make a beeline for a picture book about velociraptors, about which he admitted he is very curious.

And those in the talking circle in teacher Stacy Redmond’s class had plenty of reasons why reading makes all kinds of sense right through school and beyond.

“OK, let’s say you had a really weird zoo test, like, on manatees. You would have to read nonfiction books to get some facts,” offered student, Kristin Hotaling.

“I learned from a nonfiction book that Hershey created the first (American-made) mass-produced chocolate bar,” said classmate, Julian Fernandez. “When you read something like that, even more information comes into your brain.”

Added student, Julia Merhi: “Sometimes you just want to learn about something you never thought of before.”

And finally, from Redmond: “Let’s take

math. Math is nonfiction. We know math doesn’t go away. It helps you all through your life: in high school, in your job, to balance your checkbook. You never stop doing math.”

Can You Explain?

More and more school districts are using restorative practices as a proactive way to handle behavioral issues. At Ada Elementary School, teachers have started to use them — and a practice called “accountable talk” — when teaching content.

This is typically done with students sitting

in a circle to discuss a topic. A “talking piece” is passed so only the student who holds it has permission to speak. Accountable talking prompts such as “Tell me more about” and “I respectfully disagree because” help students focus on what they want to share and develop conversational skills.

There also is the circle-within-a-circle format, or fishbowl, arranged so students on the perimeter can observe and make notes on those in the inner circle as they have a discussion or work to solve a problem.

(continued on page 2)



Julia Merhi, left, and Kennedy Doubler share what they know about reading nonfiction.

Coming soon ... the graduation edition featuring our 4.0 students and spring sports accolades.

Restorative Practices

(continued from the front page)

"It's been, I would say, a game-changer," Principal Kimberly Van Antwerp said. "It has been amazing. When they go back to work independently, they have thought it through so much better."

Redmond said, "There has been more engagement for sure, even for the most quiet, reserved kids. When you circle them up, it is community building, teaching them how to communicate with one another and to be good citizens. I saw a difference on day one."

As a 19-year teaching veteran, Redmond said she has had many professional development opportunities. "Restorative practices training has been, by far, the most influential," she said. "It changed the way I teach and changed the way my students communicate with each other."

Learning from Each Other

During a math lesson, teacher Bridget Bennett was visibly giddy as she sat on the

outer circle of a fishbowl, while four of her students in the inner circle worked to figure out how to fit a million dollars in \$1 bills into a box.

"Holy moly, there was a lot of learning going on in there!" she remarked to the class.

Later, Bennett would marvel at how restorative circles have transformed her classroom, both physically and "especially with the relationships between all of my students."

"Students are more understanding of one another and have learned how to better communicate their thoughts and feelings," she said. "Circles are also a great way to check in on content that we are learning about. When all students have a voice, specifically about the content, they are able to learn from one another, ask questions, and even push their thinking beyond what I am teaching."

Students agree. "They really give us a feel for collaborating with each other," said student Gibson Wierenga.

Added another student, Josina Nugent: "Circles allow us to talk about something and not be embarrassed."



With input from her fourth-graders, teacher Stacy Redmond summarizes what the class knows about nonfiction.

FHPS has Professional Communities That Learn ... Even During the Summer

In Forest Hills Public Schools, we know that teacher teams across our district are committed to the learning of all students. Moreover, it is in the power of teams of adults collaborating and learning together that we are moving toward a guaranteed and viable curriculum for all students in FHPS.

Collaborative teams can go by many names — learning networks, learning teams, and familiarly, professional learning communi-

ties (PLCs). Yet, when we change the order of the words from "a professional learning community" to "a professional community that learns," we expressly acknowledge the importance of a continuous cycle of improvement where caring adults are learning together to impact student learning.

Indeed, the collaboration around an inquiry cycle empowers teacher teams to dive into small bursts of learning as they try out new instructional strategies and investigate the results of their efforts to influence student learning. This summer, a large group of Northern Hills Middle School, Northern High School, and Central High School teachers are participating in an intensive project-based learning experience with the Buck Institute for Education, thanks to the support of the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation. At the elementary level, our kindergarten through sixth-grade level teams will be exploring the Teachers College Units of Study for Teaching Reading, in order to deepen their understanding of the instructional architecture of the reading workshop. In addition, our teaching staff

also attend learning opportunities during the summer provided by the Kent Intermediate School District and other educational organizations such as Grand Valley State University and the Van Andel Institute. These are just a few examples of summer learning focus areas for teachers across our district.



As teacher teams learn together, so do principals. Pictured here, principals meet at the Fine Arts Center to discuss school improvement and professional learning plans for the 2018-19 school year.

Cover Photo

Summer: A Great Time to Continue Reading

Did you know that when kids continue to read over the summer, it has a positive impact on school achievement? In fact, studies show that reading for just two hours each week makes a huge difference! In the photo, Knapp Forest Elementary School students, from left, Emerson Chiodini, Lafayette Beers, and Colton Brinks explore some books to read.

In an effort to beat the summer slide, Forest Hills Public Schools is emailing to families weekly tips and ideas to support readers over the summer months. Additionally, summer reading tips are posted on our website, www.fhps.net.

Forest Hills Public Schools Honors 2017-18 AP Scholars

For the 2017-2018 school year, Forest Hills Public Schools had five students named National Advanced Placement Scholars — the highest award given by The College Board. The Advanced Placement Scholar Awards, sponsored by The College Board, recognizes high school students who have demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. Students who complete

the rigorous Advanced Placement courses offered in our high schools are eligible to take the nation's standardized AP tests held at the beginning of summer. Students who demonstrate college-level achievement through AP courses and exams are recognized with several levels of AP Scholar Awards. In addition to receiving a certificate, this achievement is acknowledged on

any AP grade report that is sent to colleges in the fall. Sometimes, a sufficiently high AP test score allows the student to bypass an introductory course requirement in college and begin studies at a more advanced level.

The following list represents this year's list of FHPS students.

National AP Scholars

Granted to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

AP Scholars with Distinction

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

AP Scholars with Honor

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

AP Scholars

Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

FHC National AP Scholars

Scott Hadley Irene Yi
Ziyi Wang

FHC AP Scholars with Distinction

Jason Ross James Xu
Arshon Saadati Kellie Zhou
Kevin Wang

FHC AP Scholars with Honor

Grant Bardelli Elijah Logan
Ashley DeStefano Evelyn Pae
Francesca Duong Aidan Rynbrandt
Selena Feng Anna Schwartz
Jessica Henry Isabel Varghese
McKenzie Kauss Anthony Viola
Colleen Kramer Alexis Yang

FHC AP Scholars

Hannah Anderson Clara Mosentine
Brooke Buchanan Nolan Ott
Matis Butlevics Isabelle Popp
Talia Chen Allison Radke
Dorris Dagama Sarah Raisch
Benjamin Finkelstein Rachael Shier
Elijah Gurley Andrew Travis
Munseok Jeong Chloe Wendlandt
Katherine Lown Destiny Wu
Maxwell Mairn

FHE AP Scholars with Distinction

Dawson Armbruster Andrew Lu
Nabighah Azim Teja Ravi
Benjamin Centner Joseph Van Boxtel
Avneet Deol Bennett Vansolkema
Olivia Engvall Adithya Venkatesh
Praneet Gundepudi Karthik Vuyyuru
Vaishnavi Krishnan Alexia Zolenski

FHE AP Scholars with Honor

Benjamin Egby Luke Wassink
Sarah Gerard

FHE AP Scholars

Lindsey Allard Dana Pierangeli
Janetha Giroto Suki Rajan
Aidan Judge Samuel Rechner
Micah Longjohn Jacob Robbins
Morgan Mikula Harsh Sinha
Jessica Mossner Adam Stoner
Connor Muma Rachel Thomas
Madeline Nguyen Megan Valcq
Tina Nguyen Mark Wassink
Thomas Pavey Thomas Westrick

FHN National AP Scholars

Ethan Cripe Bonnell Maxwell Lu

FHN AP Scholars with Distinction

Brett Bauman Harsimran Sandhu
Kathleen Fallon Ella Streng
Hursh Motwani Changhun Yang

FHN AP Scholars with Honor

Emily Ashby Megan Lilly
Olivia Bradley Liam Maloney
Katherine Chung Paul Manderfeld
Alexander Clark Gabriela Mas
Rachel Cornell Grace Purdue
Mitchell Doyle Jacob Robles
Erik Gorter Luke Schellenberg
Kilian Guensche Ivan VanderKolk
Aisling Hillman Ethan VanValkenburg
Bennett Lawson

FHN AP Scholars

Elena Afendoulis Kristin Nikolajuk
Raza Ali Conner O'Kane
Lukas Baker Anandi O'Neal
Kinnera Banda Samantha Paradiso
Alexis Brown Hampton Pettinger
George Chu Zoe Reep
Abigail Dieffenbach Madeline Shank
Madeline Goodrich Noah Spungen
Kyle Hanlon Hayden Strobel
Shane Hykin Camil Suci
Matthew Katz Scott Tran
Madeline Kremer Alexandria Virginski
Jordan Lippert Tanya Visser
Alaina Masternak Sophia Warren
William Mathias Christopher
Madeline Mettler Whitford Jr
Rajeev Nag Shreyas Yagalla

Three Students Receive Perfect Score on ACT

Caitlin Benitez, Grace Clinger, and Daniel Richardson, juniors at Central High School, achieved a perfect score of 36 on their ACT exam. Only 0.136 percent of students achieve a perfect score. According to their website, act.org, the ACT is a standardized test used for college admission in the United States and tests skills and proficiency in English, math, reading, science, and writing (optional). In 2017, over 2.03 million high school students took the exam. Many colleges and universities require scores from the ACT or SAT tests as part of the admissions process.



Caitlin Benitez



Grace Clinger



Daniel Richardson

Board of Education Approves Reduction in Tax Rate

At a special meeting on June 19, 2018, the FHPS board of education approved a reduction of .70 mills in the tax rate to meet its required bond payments. This is due to the strength in the taxable value of the Forest Hills Public Schools community. The bonds are used for projects such as safety and security, technology, and life-cycle replacement of roofs, parking lots, boilers, and buses. FHPS continues to retire bonds as soon as possible, demonstrating good stewardship and fiscal responsibility. The district holds an Aa2 rating with Moody's Investors Service, with strong financial management being a contributing factor and was awarded the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Association of School Business Officials International.

If you would like to know more about how your tax dollars are used in Forest Hills, the district has put together some videos explaining topics such as how FHPS receives and spends money and more. Visit our website, www.fhps.net/finance to learn about school financing.

Scientific Investigations Featured at Third Annual FHC Student Scholar Day

"Science is a verb, and all year long these young scientists have been working hard at 'doing science,'" said Kristy Butler Forest Hills Central High School teacher of honors biology, biology, and scientific research. According to Butler, a common way for scientists to share their research is through poster presentations. These take place in an open house setting where researchers can answer questions from interested participants. The role of the participant is to walk through the venue and stop to talk with the researchers, asking questions about their investigation and to push the scientist to look at their work through a different lens. The scientists then are able to go back to their labs and continue their work with a new idea or approach from the conversations with other people.

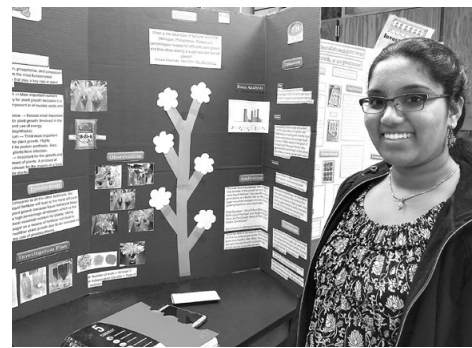
Hundreds of research displays were presented and showcased during their Third Annual Scholar Day. From research on mouthwash and bacteria, nicotine, seed germination, energy drinks and their effect on daphnia, E. coli, photosynthesis, lactobacillus acidophilus, and more, student-directed research was displayed.

Students worked hard all year long on developing scientific reasoning skills and they put them into practice with their own individual research projects. All students picked an area of interest and worked hard to investigate their own research question by themselves or with a partner. They performed their experiments and analyzed their data to form their explanations. They also wrote a "journal worthy" paper, and finished their work by creating a scientific research poster.

Classes participating in the Scholar Day included honors biology, biology, AP biology, and advanced geology. Students in the scientific research class, a program where



Lauren Andrews, left, explains to a classmate how pH and nutrient concentration affect alcoholic fermentation with *S. cerevisiae*.



Maraali Chermala, AP biology student, explains research, conducted with Talia Chen, on the ideal type of fertilizer for plants and the effect of sugar on plant growth.

students who are passionate about science, had an opportunity to conduct scientific research at a college level and worked with researchers and mentor scientists from Michigan State University and Van Andel Institute, among other institutions.

Here is just a sample of over 100 research projects that were on display:

- How the Difference in Lotion Types Affects the Ability for a Cucumber to Withhold Moisture
- The Effects of Mouthwash on Lactobacillus Bacteria
- The Effect of Various Agars on the Growth of Escherichia Coli and Micrococcus Roseus Bacteria
- Breeding Enterobacter Cloacae to Resist Antibiotics
- The Effect of Drugs on Duckweed Growth
- The Effect of pH Levels on Yeast Respiration
- The Effect of Various Sports Drinks on the Heart Rate of Daphnia Magna
- The Effects of Essential Oils on Pseudomonas Fluorescens
- The Difference of Germination Rates Between Organic and Inorganic Sweet Corn
- The Effects of Different Fertilizers on the Rate of Photosynthesis
- Music and Fish
- The Effect of Osmosis in Different Solutions of Gatorade
- Bacterial Growth in Different Types of Coke
- The Effects of Caffeine, Nicotine, and Alcohol on the Heart Rate of Daphnia

Jill Capozzoli and Tim Hollern Named 2018 Recipients of the Judy Bouley Perseverance in Action Award

The Judy Bouley Perseverance in Action Award was created in 2016 by the staff at Central Woodlands 5/6 School to honor their school counselor, Judy Bouley. The award is presented annually to a Forest Hills Public Schools employee, who, in the performance of their job, demonstrates positive personal and professional attributes, which have been shown by Judy, such as resiliency and perseverance. During the 2015-16 school year, Judy faced personal and professional challenges on her road to physical and emotional recovery following a near-fatal automobile accident. Yet through it all, Judy's strength, determination, and passion for her job and her students helped her rise above obstacles.

Both recipients of this year's award, Jill Capozzoli and Tim Hollern, are ongoing cancer warriors and survivors.



Jill Capozzoli (left) with Judy Bouley

Jill Capozzoli has been a special education teacher in our district for 10 years, and is certified to teach cognitively and emotionally impaired students. She has given her time and talents throughout the years

to students at Collins Elementary School, Central Middle School and currently works at Forest Hills Northern High School. She is the only full-time teacher in the high school program taking the lead in educating 20 special needs students this year. She does this by continually assessing their needs and finding appropriate opportunities for them to succeed in her classroom, the general education environment, and programs beyond the school building. While battling cancer, for the third time in 15 years, she faces treatment with courage while still giving students a smiling face and quality education each day.

Capozzoli faces each day with grace and helps others realize that moments of difficulty and triumph are just chapters, and do not define one's entire story.

"Jill's warm smile, positive attitude and outlook propel others forward as they en-

sure trials of their own," said Jon Gregory, Forest Hills Northern High School principal. "While facing an emotionally and physically daunting, and exhausting battle, she does so quietly, and humbly, but with spunk and fierce determination, and in turn, she inspires her colleagues, students, and families to persevere."



Tim Hollern with Judy Bouley

High School. While at Eastern, he also devoted his time to coaching football, hockey, track, basketball, and baseball. In 2011, his title changed one more time to assistant principal as his educational responsibilities expanded.

However, 2011 also brought challenges for Hollern. Medical tests, a colonoscopy and CT scan later indicated the unthinkable — colon cancer.

Throughout the aggressive treatments, Hollern continued working as assistant principal, focusing on his commitment to education, the students, and his family. Some days were better than others, but with his wife and children by his side, and the support from his colleagues, he was determined to attend school. It has always been Hollern's goal to maintain normalcy and appreciate the simple things. Throughout his journey, he has exuded a positive outlook.

"Your selflessness, and yes, your sense of humor, inspire friends, colleagues, and loved ones," said Dan Behm, superintendent. "You also are a champion as you continue to work with Spectrum Health to bring an awareness to others about colorectal cancer and screening.

"Tim is among the strongest people I know," Behm continued. "With faith, confidence, hope, and assurance, anything is possible. He truly continues to be a role model of how to live our lives."

Tim Hollern began his career at Forest Hills Northern High School in 2000 as a social studies teacher and also an assistant football coach. In 2007, Hollern became the assistant principal and athletic director at Forest Hills Eastern

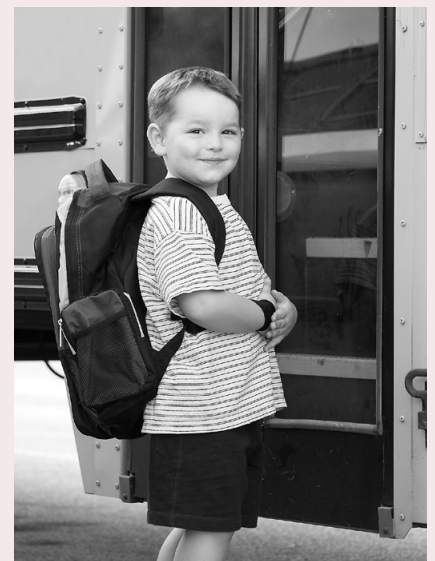
Important Enrollment Information for the 2018-19 School Year

If you are a new family to our school district and/or have an incoming kindergartner, please enroll during the summer. This helps our buildings plan for class sizes, class offerings, and programs.

The first step to enrollment is to visit our website, www.fhps.net. On our enrollment page, you will find a pre-enrollment form for new in-district kindergarten through sixth-grade students. Also on the enrollment page of our website lists all of the required documents and forms needed for enrollment.

During the summer months, completed paperwork and documentation for kindergarten through sixth-grade students should be returned to the Forest Hills Public Schools Administration Building, 6590 Cascade Rd. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. To enroll a middle or high school student, completed paperwork and documentation should be returned to the corresponding high school of your attendance area. Our high school registrars handle both middle school and high school enrollment during the summer months.

For enrollment questions, please call the administration office, 616-493-8800. The first day of school for students is Monday, Aug. 27, 2018.



Around Forest Hills Public Schools in Pictures

Ada Students Become Lawmakers for a Day, Debate Bills

FHE Middle School Helps Ada Parks

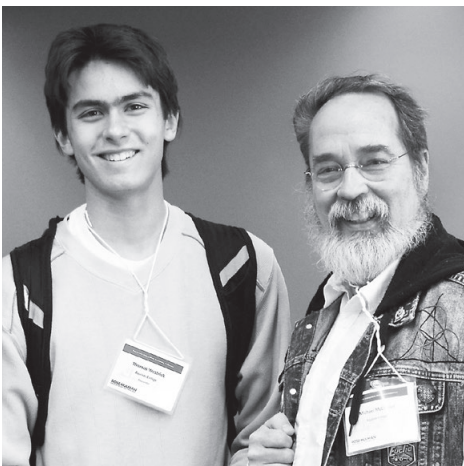


Eastern Middle School seventh-graders took part in a stewardship day at Roselle Park. During the fall and spring, Mark Fitzpatrick, director of parks and recreation for Ada Township, and his staff, work with the Eastern Middle School students to maintain a native garden on their school's campus. To return the favor, students volunteer their time helping improve the grounds at Roselle Park, spreading mulch, pulling weeds and invasive species like garlic mustard, taking water samples, and much more.



Students in Ada Elementary's fourth-grade classes took part in the annual government day event, started by now-retired teachers Meg Deegan and Linda Manica. Government day is an experience-based approach to learning about basic government skills, specifically how a bill becomes a law. The entire day is completed through role play. First, a governor and lieutenant governor are elected by their classmates, who cast their ballots in booths similar to how their parents vote. The school library is transformed into the chamber at the state Capitol, where students serve as senators and members of the House of Representatives. After meeting in their respective committees, they argue versions of real bills such as mandating daily physical education in grades kindergarten through 12, imposing a 2 percent fuel tax, and requiring public school students to wear uniforms. To read more about government day, visit schoolnewsnetwork.org.

FHE Student Presents Research at Undergraduate Mathematics Conference



Thomas Westrick, a junior at Forest Hills Eastern High School, gave a 20-minute presentation on his research on Euclidean measurements for hyperbolic constructions at the Rose-Hulman Undergraduate Mathematics Conference attended by mathematicians, professors, and math majors. (Pictured are Westrick and his professor from Aquinas College, Michael McDaniel, Ph.D.)

Northern Trails 5/6 School Hosts International Fair



International Fair is an every-other-year endeavor for Northern Trails 5/6 School celebrating the traditions every family brings to the school's culture. At Northern Trails, the fair is an optional event for the students, and the students can research their own heritage, a nation of their choice, or explore African American history. This year, 80 students participated in the event along with many family members. At Northern Trails, over 44 languages other than English are spoken in students' homes.

FHE's New Wayfinder Navigators Class



The year-long pilot class offered to freshmen at Eastern High combines honors biology or biology with health and physical education requirements into a two-hour block. The 30 students learned about wilderness training, problem-solving and environmental awareness, DNA, and how genes play a role in nutrition for survival. The class utilizes the Project Wayfinder toolkit taught at Stanford University's d.school.

Ninja Warrior Course Comes to Thornapple



At the conclusion of the school year, students at Thornapple Elementary School were treated with a Ninja Warrior Course as a reward for the positive school behavior throughout the year. It was a reward for their PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) system. PBIS is a framework for assisting school personnel in adopting and implementing evidence-based behavioral interventions to enhance academic and social behavior outcomes for all students. The Ninja Warrior Course was partially funded by the school's PTO.

Central Woodlands Sixth-Graders Build Water Purifiers to Send to Africa, India



Sixth-grade students at Central Woodlands 5/6 School built 50 chlorine producing units which were given to Safe Water International Ministries and delivered to villages in Africa and India. The units use food grade table salt, and with electrochemistry, the unit converts the table salt into food grade chlorine. To have clean, safe drinking water, villages can add 10 drops of chlorine per liter, wait 30 minutes, and water is ready and safe to drink. This CPU build was part of a cross-curriculum project and is something Central Woodlands has been doing for a couple of years.

Robotics Team Places Second at Worlds



It was an amazing run for our COMETS Robotics team this year. The COMETS were first runners up in the FIRST Robotics World Championship, a tournament that featured 400 teams from over 40 countries. The COMETS team is comprised of high school students from Central, Eastern, and Northern high schools. The COMETS is an acronym for Creating Outstanding Minds Embracing Technology and Science. Here is a recap of their season. The team won all three of the district competitions that they went to. At these district competitions, they also took home the Industrial Design Award, Gracious Professionalism Award, and Chairman's Award. The Chairman's Award measures the community impact of a team and is considered the most prestigious award that can be given at a competition. The team went on to the state championship and won their division. Then they went to the world championship, where they also won their division and placed second in the entire championship.

Knapp Forest Students Learn Computer Coding, Host Gemini Night



For several years, fifth-grade students under the teaching team of Tim Greenlee, Matt Meyer, Emiko Conroy, and Heather Martin, have learned the basics of computer coding. With the use of Spheros and iPads, the students work in teams to learn how to successfully program computer commands that tell their Spheros to complete certain obstacles. Students learn through trial and error how to program their device, and use skills such as problem-solving, decision making, communication, and teamwork alongside mathematical and science concepts. Then in sixth grade, students host Project Gemini where students teach adults and other elementary peers the art and science of computer coding, Google sites, slides, gmail, and much more.

FHN Hosts STEM Showcase Night



Forest Hills Northern High School students in the STEM Academy (science, technology, engineering, and math), hosted a showcase event where the students displayed a variety of the work that the students produced through the STEM program throughout the year. Some projects on display included freshmen's aquaponics systems, the juniors' award-winning underwater remote operated vehicles, a functioning 3-D printed prosthetic hand, an arcade game and cabinet, and a 3-D printed track vehicle.

Around Forest Hills Public Schools in Pictures continues on the next page.

Around Forest Hills Public Schools in Pictures

(continued from page 7)

Meadow Brook Featured in Book by Special Olympics



In a newly released edition of "Playbook Resources," by Special Olympics, Meadow Brook Elementary School is highlighted as a leading elementary school and a Unified Champion School. This resource gives tips and suggestions to make a school socially inclusive and features initiatives such as LINKS, their Youth Activation Committee and activities, service learning projects, bocce ball tournaments and more. For a copy of the resource book, go online to: www.resources.specialolympics.org/unified-champion-schools-resources, and turn to pages 23-24 to learn more about Meadow Brook's programs.

Sixth-Graders at Orchard View Head to Camp for Team-Building Experiences



Sixth grade is a special year for all of our students in Forest Hills Public Schools. Not only is it the year that ends their elementary school days, but it also means sixth-grade camp! While Goodwillie Environmental students go on a camping trip, other buildings coordinate a retreat for the students at a camp in West Michigan for several nights. Pictured here, students from Orchard View Elementary School culminated their school year with an experience at Camp Henry. While at camp, students participated in team-building activities and leadership opportunities in a positive, supportive, and fun environment.

NHMS Students Team Up with the Zoo to Educate Visitors about Endangered Species



Students from Northern Hills Middle School partnered with John Ball Zoo to help create an awareness about endangered species. The students designed clay sculptures of endangered species and displayed their final products during a day at the zoo. They also conducted research about their endangered animal and wrote a factual one-page flier noting where their endangered species can be found, their habitat, why the animal is endangered, and what people can do to be part of the solution.

FHE Students Help United Way By Creating Videos



Forest Hills Eastern High School TV broadcast students created videos for Heart of West Michigan United Way to use for marketing purposes. The students' task was to explain to the public what Heart of West Michigan United Way does, capture their mission and impact areas, and include a compelling call to action. FHE's class piloted a contest for the local United Way during the first semester. Based on the positive experience and feedback, United Way has decided to continue this contest and broaden its scope for participants throughout Kent County for the 2018-19 school year. The winning 2018 video was created by Ashton Hight, Austin Sietsema, and William Korest. A shot from their video is shown above. The second-place video was created by Aidan Jacks and David Dalton. To view the videos, go online to www.hwmw.org/students/.

CMS Principals Duct-Taped to Wall for a Good Cause



Honoring their word, Central Middle School principal, Charlie Vonk, and assistant principal, Jeff Simon, found themselves in a sticky situation. These administrators allowed their students to duct tape them to a wall after the students surpassed a fundraising goal for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The students raised over \$1,700.

Collins Elementary School Hosts First Asian Cultural Heritage Celebration



Collins Elementary School students were treated with a half day of learning all about Asian culture and heritage during their first Annual Asian Cultural Heritage Celebration. All kindergarten through fourth-grade students visited six different learning intensives which included authentic Korean Tae Kwon Do, Bollywood dancers, ukulele performances, Taiko drumming, tinkling and Pacific Island dancers, and music from the Sisters of Saint Paul on Vietnamese musical instruments.

Hawks Spruce Up Campus Grounds



FHE Hawks take pride in their school! Eastern Middle School and Eastern High School students participated in a school pride spring cleanup day. The students spread mulch, pulled invasive species like spotted knapweed, weeded, picked up trash, planted plants, and more. Staff and parents joined too.



Collins Elementary Students Experienced Google Expeditions



Dinosaurs and more came to life when students at Collins Elementary School utilized and experienced Google Expeditions. According to the edu.google.com website, Google Expeditions is a virtual-reality teaching tool. With this system, students and teachers can explore the world without leaving the classroom. Just think ... students can swim with sharks, visit outer space, explore museums and works of art, and much more.



Fiesta Latina a Hit at Ada Vista Elementary



Ada Vista Elementary School hosted its second Annual Fiesta Latina, which celebrated the Latin culture at Ada Vista. The event featured a Spanish book fair, Spanish market, displays from families' native countries, and catering by local restaurants.

CW Students Conduct Shoe Drive as Part of Empathy Project



Central Woodlands 5/6 students collected over 600 pairs of shoes during an empathy-building, school-wide project they titled, "Walk in Someone Else's Shoes," and donated them to Soles4Souls. They also created and sold clay pendants with their own shoes' soles on them with proceeds going to charity.

Summer Reading Rangers at Pine Ridge



Young readers are having fun this summer at Pine Ridge Elementary School. Before school ended, the staff communicated upcoming book reading endeavors during the summer months. Pictured here, Pine Ridge Elementary School principal, Tamasha James, welcomes students to a bookmobile and hands out refreshing popsicles. They also have scheduled Pine Ridge days at the Cascade Library and have an author visit in August.

Around Forest Hills Public Schools in Pictures continues on the next page.

Around FHPS in Pictures

(continued from page 9)

Michigan Wins OM Banner Competition Thanks to FHPS Team



The combined Northern Trails 5/6 School and Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School Odyssey of the Mind team created a banner on behalf of all Michigan OM teams. It was a winner in the float and banner contest at the OM World Finals in Iowa.

FHC Inspires: 16 Students Performed TED Talks to Share Experiences, Thoughts, Wisdom

FHC Inspires

Sixteen Honors English 10 students took part in Forest Hills Central's inaugural FHC Inspires night. The talks were on anything the students were passionate about. According to teacher Ken George, "I feel like it could be one of the coolest and most inspiring nights," George said. "With the regular TED Talks, students go up there and pour their hearts out about something they believe in and something they are passionate about. Sometimes I watch the speakers, sometimes I turn and watch the audience ... it's amazing. Teenagers have a lot to say, and I don't think they get a voice very often, so when my kids were given this voice ... oh my gosh, what they poured out was incredible. I would look at the audience, and they were so enthralled. I think we could start to change the world a little bit (by) a couple of people." To read more about FHC Inspires, visit "The Central Trend" online, www.thecentraltrend.com.

OM Teams Take on World Finals; Central Middle School Wins Third

An Odyssey of the Mind team representing Central Middle School took third place overall at the 2018 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals in Ames, Iowa. The team included Lauren Brace, Tara Brace, Jackson Savin, Katelyn Stevenson, Maya Rogne, Trevor VanSkiver, and Jake Bieniewicz. The team was coached by Mike and Ren Brace.

The team solved problem three called "Classics ... Mockumentary! Seriously?" For this problem, teams chose a story from a list of classic literature. From the story, the team had to show two characters interacting as described in the book, and then the team had to create an alternate version of events where the characters disagreed on what really happened. Then, a new team-created witness character resolves this disagreement. The eight-minute performance was told in a documentary style with live-action, interviews, and voice-overs, with bonus points for creativity and humor.

The Central Middle School students chose "The Hobbit" for their story and chose the characters Bilbo and Smaug. In the book, Bilbo heroically recovers the Arkenstone jewel for the dwarves. However, as CMS' mockumentary episode of "Classical Mysteries Uncovered" rolls, viewers find Smaug's version of the story is that he really loves singing, and just wanted Bilbo to join his band. The witness character was a mummy who also was in the band, but got so jealous when Bilbo was offered a spot, that the mummy was the one who really took the Arkenstone, not Bilbo.



Central Middle School takes home the third place trophy from Odyssey of the Mind World Finals in Iowa.

FHPS had five additional teams advance to the World Finals. They are listed below.

Problem 2, Div. 2:

Goodwillie 5/6 Environmental School

Students: Samuel Rabideau, Alexa Fauson, Ford Fauson, Jack Anderson, Delaney Rogne, Madison Evans, and Zariah Knuff. Coaches: Miria Rabideau and Kristen Fauson.

Problem 2, Div. 3: Central High School

Students: Mia Rabideau, Catherine Carlen, Ella Fauson, Benjamin Paplawsky, Jack Ward, and Addison Whitten. Coaches: Miria Rabideau and Gail Carlen.

Problem 3, Div. 1: Northern Trails 5/6 School

Students: Ella Redwine, Evelyn Befus, Anika Raese, Grace Dykema, Elena Petros, Adilyn Petros, and Alexander Sanders. Coaches: Erika Crane and Elizabeth Raese.

Problem 4, Div. 1: Ada Elementary School

Students: Sierra Williams, Keyan Roelfzema, Katherine Scanlon, Shanza Sheik, Allyson Zawacki, and Ty VanSkiver. Coaches: Myra Williams and Natalie Roelfzema.

Problem 5, Div. 2: Central Middle School

Students: Samuel Brown, Julia Brown, Jack Bidwell, Ella Satterthwaite, Abigail Satterthwaite, Benjamin Taylor, and Jayden Savin. Coaches: Carol Brown and Megan Bidwell.

FHPS would like to thank the many organizations and individuals who supported and donated to FHPS OM teams this year. These community partnerships help students and their teams obtain supplies and much more.



Students from the winning Central Middle School Odyssey of the Mind team pose with the "Hobbit" characters they created.

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Two FHPS Odyssey of the Mind Teams Take First Place at Eurofest

Odyssey of the Mind is the world's oldest international creativity and problem-solving competition. Eurofest is the top European Odyssey of the Mind tournament and takes place each April in a different country, drawing top finishers from Europe and Asia, along with teams from other continents. Teams compete first in the traditional Odyssey of the Mind components (long-term, style, and spontaneous). Each team is then paired with two teams from different countries; the combined groups all solve a mixed team problem and present their solutions on the final day of the tournament.

This year, two Forest Hills Public Schools teams proudly represented the district at the competition in Berlin, Germany, along with 93 teams from 14 other countries and four continents. Our FHPS students interacted with teams from Belarus, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Moldova, Poland, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, as well as other U.S. teams from Florida and California. Both Forest Hills teams took first place in their problems in the traditional Odyssey portion

of the competition. Coincidentally, both were paired with teams from Poland and Germany and presented wonderful mixed team solutions. Congratulations to the following FHPS students and their coaches.

Central Middle School – Problem 3 Classics ... Mockumentary! Seriously?, Division 2

Students, seventh-graders from Central Middle School: Lauren Brace, Tara Brace, Maya Rogne, Katelyn Stevenson, and Trevor VanSkiver; and sixth-grade student from Central Woodlands 5/6 School, Jackson Savin. Jake Bieniewicz, a seventh-grade student, assisted the team with the script, props, and costumes prior to Eurofest.

Coaches: Mike and Ren Brace

Central Middle School – Problem 5 A Stellar Hangout, Division 2

Students, eighth-graders from Central Middle School: Samuel Brown, Julia Brown, Jack Bidwell, Benjamin Taylor, and Jayden Savin. Ella Satterthwaite and Abigail Satterthwaite assisted the team with the script, props, and costumes prior to Eurofest.

Coaches: Carol Brown and Megan Bidwell



The Bidwell/Brown team poses with students from Germany and Poland to make their mixed OM team.



Students and coaches from the Brace/Brace team work with students from Germany and Poland to complete a mixed team event.

FHC Grad Takes Top Prize in Gerald R. Ford Essay Challenge

Adapted from an article by School News Network



Congratulations to FHPS students who were honored at this year's Gerald R. Ford essay contest. Pictured from left, Tina Nguyen, Aneeqa Hasan, and Suki Rajan.

This year, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation annual essay challenge invited high school students to submit an essay focused on courage — a quality many say Ford exhibited when he succeeded Richard Nixon as president and granted him a pardon.

For her first prize-winning essay, worth a \$1,000 award, Aneeqa Hasan, a recent graduate from Forest Hills Central needed to look no further than her own family from Bangladesh.

"I found that courage can be easily identified in those around me, such as my family and friends," Hasan said.

The main focus of her essay was on the language struggle in Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan.

Bengalis, including Hasan's family, were not allowed by the Pakistani government to speak their native language, sparking the Bengali Language Movement. Eventually, the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971 won the country's independence.

"Bengalis are courageous because we fought for what we truly believed in and what we thought was right," Hasan said. "I'm hoping to spread this message so that more people will be aware of the pride we hold in our language."

Her essay was one of more than 900 submitted by students, the event's most submissions ever.

Additional Forest Hills Public Schools students receiving honors for their essay included Tina Nguyen and Suki Rajan, both from Forest Hills Eastern High School.

FHPS Language Immersion Program Featured in Book by Former Employee

Forest Hills Public Schools language immersion programs and staff are featured in a new book called, "The Language Immersion Life," by author Millie Park Mellgren. Mellgren worked as a Spanish teacher at Central Middle School and Central Woodlands 5/6 School, and later was an assistant principal and principal of Central Middle School. She was the first principal at Ada Vista Elementary School. Stories included in the book are based on experiences in the language immersion curriculum and program. The book was written to answer numerous questions families may have about language immersion. It provides an in-depth look and support for families considering language immersion programs.

FHPS has two language immersion programs beginning in kindergarten — Spanish and Mandarin Chinese. Beginning at Ada Vista Elementary the model is early-total Spanish immersion. At Meadow Brook Elementary, the model is a 50/50 immersion in Mandarin Chinese. For more information about the language immersion programs, please visit our website, www.fhps.net.

Personal Finance Class Looks Closely at Personal Values

By Morgan Jarema, School News Network

Pedro Garcia said his parents have taught him that money itself is neutral; it's how you get it and what you spend it on that matters.

"I was raised in a culture of respect, hard work and honesty," said the Northern High School junior. A native of Mexico, Garcia said he grew up washing cars, selling fruit and doing magic tricks to earn money to buy video games. And now that he's saving for college, he expects to work hard to pay for that.

"I see money as opportunity," he said. "I do understand how people can see it as a bad thing, but I see it as a neutral element; you can turn it into anything you want. It really depends on your personal values."

Senior Nadia Groce admits she's "very impulsive with the money I spend, like on eating out instead of making food at home." She sees money as female, a sort of ghost-like spirit that hovers over everything.

"I see it as a little manipulative, but quiet about it," Groce said.

Nearly 100 students in business teacher Brian Johnson's personal finance class — mostly seniors — took an in-depth look at money this past semester. As part of their exploration, they examined how they viewed money.

The goal, Johnson said, was to bring a literary component to the course, which previously was taught solely using a financial education workbook by talk radio's Dave Ramsey.

During the first semester, the book "The Money Savvy Student" by Adam Carroll was added. For this semester, Johnson was awarded a grant from the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation to purchase copies of "Loaded: Money, Psychology, and How to Get Ahead without Leaving Your Values" by behavioral economist Sarah Newcomb.

Johnson has been teaching personal finance for about a decade. He admitted that adding the literary and artistic components to the class "was way out of my comfort zone."

"I always used to focus on the math and financial concepts," he said. "After reading through the kids' papers, it's very clear that there is an emotional aspect to how we relate with money."

Many of the students "really opened up in their narratives and shared very personal stories ... too personal to display publicly," Johnson said. "It is clear that they are already battling with knowing that saving is a good thing while wanting to spend freely, even if that spending is beyond their limits."

Students Earn Honors in GVSU Statistics Poster Competition

Congratulations to these Forest Hills Public Schools students for earning top honors in this year's statistics poster competition hosted by Grand Valley State University.

Grades K-3

National Qualifier: Max Langdon, Anna Klungle, and Lucy Vos, Knapp Forest Elementary School, "What is Your Favorite Arctic Animal?"

Third Place: William Slater, Maya Siemens, and Samuel Winks, Knapp Forest Elementary School, "Favorite Animal Class."

Honorable Mention: Carter Noyes, Jackson Roman, and Alex Pevvy, Knapp Forest Ele-

mentary School, "How Many People Joined the US Armed Forces in WWII?"; Brooke Mayer, Zennia Nembhard, and Lilah Zaskowski, Knapp Forest Elementary, "What Is Your Favorite 2018 Kidz Bop Song?"; Gabriella Howell, Abigail Coe, and Liv Carlgren, Knapp Forest Elementary School, "Best Way to Help Endangered Animals."

Grades 4-6

Third Place: Aaron Schellenberg, Northern Trails 5/6 School, "Who Has Healthier Snacks?"

Honorable Mention: Andrew Joelson, Tyler Shin, and Simon Rothstein, Northern Trails 5/6 School, "Pollution."

Grades 10-12

First Place: Dorris Dagama, Forest Hills Central High School, "Is This Year's Flu Season Deadlier Than Last Year's?"

Third Place: Suchir Gupta and Andrew Travis, Forest Hills Central High School, "The Effect of the Second Amendment on Gun Control."

According to the GVSU website, a statistics poster tells the story of a data set. Numbers and graphs are used to give voice to the truth behind the data. Whether the summary is a bar chart, histogram, or table of

(continued on page 15)

DECA Students Qualify for Nationals in Atlanta

Adapted from a story by Nisha Rajakrishna, "The Central Trend"

On the road to Detroit, marketing teacher Kristin O'Brien and her dozens of DECA students excitedly traveled to take part in the DECA state competition. Surrounded by nearly 4,000 students that were equally dedicated to business studies, the school's true passion for the subject shone through when student after student was called up to the stage to advance to the next round.

Students could choose two routes to compete in DECA: projects or role-plays. Role-play candidates had to first compete at districts to advance and were given a short amount of time to prepare and present an idea, involving spontaneous thinking and creativity. Project students bypassed districts and went straight to states. These projects spanned from five to 30 pages long and involved meeting up with a local company and professionally discussing and analyzing market plans. "(DECA is about) building confidence, being able to take your ideas and confidently communicate them to a judge, applying what you've learned in a classroom setting, and showing the judge how much you know and how in tune you are with (the world)," O'Brien said.

"I think I can speak for Jayme (Buchanan)

from FHE and Kristin (O'Brien) from FHC when I say that we are so proud of all of our students," said Brian Johnson, Forest Hills Northern High School DECA coach. "All of the students represented Forest Hills Public Schools in an extremely positive manner. The students conducted themselves as young professionals, networked with other students and adults from across the state, and had a ton of fun."

Congratulations to the following students on their accomplishments.

DECA FHC State Champions

Retail Merchandising – Sarah Obermeyer

Sports and Entertainment Marketing – William Kuiper

Sports and Entertainment Marketing – Jace Thornton and Elijah Gurley

Entrepreneurship Start-Up Business Plan – Tristan Kerr, Maxwell Mairn, and Jordan Wintrich

Innovation Business Plan – Benjamin Finkelstein, Irene Yi, and Arshon Saadati

Additional FHC Recognition: High Test

Score – Economics: Arshon Sadaati. High Test Score – Sports & Entertainment Marketing: Emily Obermeyer. State Finalists (Runner-Up) – Creative Marketing Plan: Andrea Wang and Lilly Wang.

DECA FHN State Champions

Financial Literacy Promotion Plan – Sophia Warren and Samantha Paradiso

Additional FHN Recognition: Hursh Motwani won a medal in the Math Exam. Raza Ali received a medal in the Sports and Entertainment Promotion Plan Comprehensive Exam. Hursh Motwani, Harsimran Sandhu, and Ekam Motwani were State Finalists in the Independent Business Plan Written Event.

DECA FHE State Finalist

Food Marketing Series – Jessica Armstrong

To read the complete story about FHC's DECA team, go online with "The Central Trend," thecentraltrend.com.

Students Advance to National History Day Finals at the University of Maryland

Seven students from Forest Hills Eastern middle and high schools were national finalists and represented their school and the state of Michigan at this year's National History Day finals at the University of Maryland. The following is a list of the students and their projects:

- **Tyler Batt and Nicholas Huffman:** Junior Division Group Exhibit: "Harlem Hellfighters: Through Hell and Back."
- **Zachary Elmouchi and Anika Deshpande:** Junior Division Group Documentary: "Hamilton and Jefferson: Establishing the Political Dynamic of America."
- **Andrew Karafa:** Junior Division Individual Documentary: "Temporary Truces: How America's Handling of the Barbary Bullies Molded the U.S. Navy," Recipient of a Special Award: Best Entry in Naval or Maritime History.



National History Day finalists from FHPS and teacher, Jim Cross, visit with Representative Bill Huizenga at the Capitol building in Washington D.C.

- **Kyle Korte and Claire Parish:** Senior Division Group Website: "Arthur Vandenberg: Putting America First through Conflict and Compromise," Recipient of a Special Award: Best Entry in Michigan History, and NHD's Global Peace Prize.

The students were coached by teachers Jim Cross and Adam McVicker.

Forest Hills Students Win with Writing

Several organizations sponsored writing competitions this spring. Here are just a few entered and won by FHPS students.

The Lake Michigan Credit Union's Lloyd Hutt Essay Scholarship Contest expanded this year. Seniors from all over Michigan and Florida entered their writing about what success looks like to them. Out of over 1,300 applicants, 15 students won \$2,000 each, with three of the winners from Forest Hills Public Schools. They include Andrew Lehman from Eastern High School, Nelleke DeWaard from Northern High School, and Paul Manderfeld also from Northern High School.

Additionally, Kristin Nikolajuk, from Northern High School was awarded second place in the 2018 Dyers-Ives Poetry Competition and was recognized at the Festival of the Arts. Her poem "They Say" was recognized by the national judge for its "gripping irony."

2018 Ben Emdin Guiding Principles in Action Award Recipients Honored at Board Meeting

The Ben Emdin Guiding Principles in Action Award is presented each year at the June board of education meeting to those in the Forest Hills Public Schools and community who have started a project of long-term benefit, and/or have consistently demonstrated the district's guiding principles over many years of service. This year's recipients are Dr. Paul O'Grady, the FHPS transition center and student services team, and Robert Vandenberg Sr.

Dr. Paul O'Grady



Dr. Paul O'Grady receives his award.

Dr. Paul O'Grady embraces the district's guiding principles in his charitable and philanthropic endeavors and in his personal and professional life. This individual's vision for his community, his schools, and the families he serves combined with his business acumen, talents, and gracious heart affect Forest Hills families in many ways. He strives to positively impact a greater number of youth.

Through his involvement with Community Services, he quickly saw an opportunity where he could affect a larger number of students ... through an event called Run for the Hills. This year, 2018, was his 11th year supporting both fall and spring Run for the Hills events for students in first through sixth grades. Thanks to Dr. O'Grady's support of Run for the Hills, students practice after school with trained coaches to help build a love for physical fitness, running, and a sense of belonging to a greater team. Students prepare for either a cross-country run in the fall or a track meet in the spring. No child is excluded, and every child who participates is a winner. Since his involvement with Run for the Hills in 2007, he has had a positive impact on over 7,700 students who have participated.

There are many more programs Dr. O'Grady has supported and continues to support in our schools that touch even more lives and in more ways than we can define here. His pride in our school district's mission, his humility, and service to others are tribute to our schools' guiding principles. O'Grady's philanthropic spirit not only inspires others with hope, but motivates others to give as much to the lives of others as they would give to their own.



FHPS Transition Center and Student Services Team

While previous Emdin Award recipients have been a teacher, or a student, this is the first time we honored a large team of FHPS professionals who not only personify our district's guiding principles but whose actions speak louder than words. The team works for the FHPS transition center and student services. The goal of the center is to help young adult learners prepare for greater independence in their life, in the community, workplace, and home after school services are complete.

This team of professionals rallied around an FHPS adult student when his only support system — his father — died unexpectedly. The student, who has no immediate family to turn to, since his mother died when he was much younger, could only think of one person to call for help, his teacher at the transition center. His teacher and school staff helped him call 911 and were there when the student met with first responders and regulatory personnel.



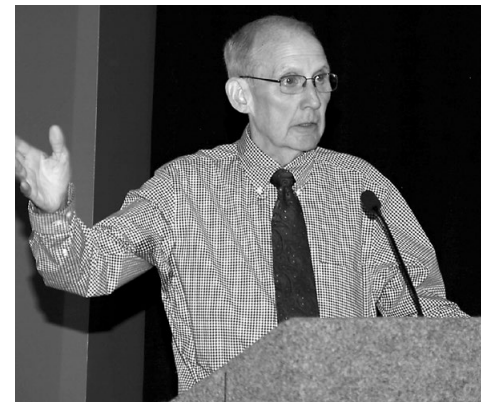
The transition center and student services team receives its Ben Emdin Guiding Principles in Action Award.

The Forest Hills transition center staff were beside him all day as he processed what was happening and how his life was changing. The student had limited options available to him when the school day ended. He was not able to return to his home. As his own guardian, he was able to make some decisions and staff members offered up their own homes as a place to stay. In the months following, the team helped with meals, community outings, appointments, and helped him navigate Social Security.

While the goal for this student is to be in his own housing sometime this summer and begin a new learning opportunity with Project Search, one thing will never change. He will always have the transition center staff as his own support system and as his own family. The FHPS team helped him realize that he has something inside himself that is greater than any obstacle he may face.



Robert Vandenberg Sr.



Robert Vandenberg Sr. thanks the board for his award.

The third recipient of the 2018 Ben Emdin Guiding Principles in Action Award is Robert Vandenberg Sr. He was hired by the Forest Hills Public School District in 1970 as a science and biology teacher at what is now known as Forest Hills Central High School. In 1972, Forest Hills opened a new high school, Forest Hills Northern, and Robert Vandenberg Sr. was invited to go to Northern to help open the new school. While there, he was crucial in developing a culture that reflected the district's guiding principles. He earned the respect of everyone who

(continued on page 16)

Forest Hills Winter Sports Athletic Awards

FHC

Boys' Basketball

Conference Champs

Ryan Dunn (AC)
Tyler George (AC)
James Scholler (AC)
Andrew Tebeau (ACHM)
Mitchell Wilkinson (ACHM)

Girls' Basketball

Claire Baguley (AC)
Madalyn Winter (AC)
Emma Yoder (ACHM)

Competitive Cheer

Jordan Boltres (ACHM)
Grace Conn (AC)
Maija Dickens (AC)
Elizabeth Hoving (ACHM)
Remy Tittel (AC)

Gymnastics

Hannah Walters (ACHM)

Ice Hockey

Cole Beaufait (ACHM)
Charles Brewer (AC)
Jacob Demeter (AC)
Mason Kistler (AC)
Carl Mielock (AC)

Boys' Skiing

Benjamin Finkelstein (AC)

Girls' Skiing

Conference Champs
Regional Team Champs
Abigail McAlindon (AC)

Girls' Skiing (continued)

Courtney McAlindon (AC, RC Slalom, RC Giant Slalom, SC Giant Slalom)
Kayley Reynolds (AC)

Boys' Swim/Dive

Conference Champs
Christopher Heir (AC)
Matthew Wilson (AC)

Wrestling

Keegan Moore (5th Place State Finals, 189)
Isaac Torrey (3rd Place State Finals, 171)

Bowling

Alexis Ghareeb (ACHM)

FHE

Boys' Basketball

Nicholas Hakken (ACHM)
Solomon White (AC, ASHM)

Girls' Basketball

Jenna Breuker (ACHM)
Ryan Harvey (AC, Grand Rapids Press AAHM)

Competitive Cheer

Conference Champs
Lauren Burkhardt (AC)
Marguerite Cramer (AC)
Mina Cramer (AC)
Lydia Ewing (ACHM)
Zoey Goehring (AC)
Olivia Idema (AC)
Ashley Jetzer (ACHM)

Competitive Cheer (continued)

Paige Kelso (ACHM)
Gabrielle Sleeman (AC)
Ashley VerPlank (AC)

Gymnastics

Taylor Potter (AC, AR, AAS)

Ice Hockey

Brenden Bogema (ACHM)
Joshua Boverhof (AC, AA 1st Team, AS 1st Team, AAS)
Ian Famulak (AC, AA 1st Team, AS 1st Team, AAS)
Nathaniel Nickelson (AC, AA 1st Team, AS 2nd Team, AAS)

Boys' Skiing

Conference Champs Varsity
Conference Champs JV
William Armbruster (AC, AAHM)
Conrad Kuz (AC, AA, AS 2nd Team)

Girls' Skiing

Academic All-State Team
Jenna Grzelak (AC, AR Team, AAHM, AS 2nd Team)
Olivia Maynard (AC)
Alexia Zolenski (ACHM)

Boys' Swim/Dive

Conference Champs
Girls' Swim/Dive (correction from fall 2017)

Gracie Sleeman (AC, CC, RC, AA, AR, SQ, AS)

Wrestling

Grant Centner (AC)
Gabriel Hassan (SQ)
Gavin Smith (AC)

Girls' Bowling

Brianna Boomers (AC)
Hannah Roest (ACHM)

FHN

Boys' Basketball

MHSAA District Champs
William Hawkins (AC)
Andrew Moore (ACHM)
Trenton Summerfield (AC, AA 1st Team, "Detroit Free Press" HM, BCAM ASHM, BCAM AAS)

Girls' Basketball

Team Academic All-State
Honorable Mention
Alysia Chick (MHSAA 1st Team Award)
Bethany Chick (AC, ASHM, AA 2nd Team, "Detroit Free Press" ASHM, BCAM ASHM)
Sadie Knee (ACHM)
Madison Stevenson (ACHM)

Competitive Cheer

Aliyah Anderson (ACHM)
Tavin Fiser (ACHM)
Ava Gilbert (AC)
Gabrielle Hensley (AC)
Sarah Siskonen (AC)
Jordan Thiede (AC)

Gymnastics

Hannah Biesbrock (AC, AR, AS, AAS)

Gymnastics (continued)

Samantha Blair (AR, AS, AAS)
Lydia Bouma (ACHM, AR, AAS)

Ice Hockey

Conference Champs
Regional Champs
State Semi-finalists
Academic All-State Team

Keelan Baker (Hobey Baker Award)
Joel Brandinger (AC, ASHM, AAS)
Gabriel Gunneson (ACHM)

Boys' Skiing

Conference Champs
7th in State Finals
Zachary Meyers (AC, AAHM)
Kevin Rowland (AC, AR, AAHM, ASHM)
Kevin Roy (ACHM, AR)

Girls' Skiing

Academic All-State Team
Grace Meijer (ACHM)

Boys' Swim/Dive

Conference Champs
Academic All-American Team—Bronze Level
Daniel Bloedow (AC, SQ, AA)
Jonathan Bloedow (AC, SQ, AS, AA)
Seth Fagen (AC, SQ, AS, AA)
Henry Schutte (AC, SQ, AS, SC, AA)

Girls' Bowling

Anna Dood (ACHM)
Lauren McLaughlin (ACHM, SQ)
Landon Rath (ACHM, SQ)

Please Note: Spring 2018 sports awards will be listed in the next issue coming soon.

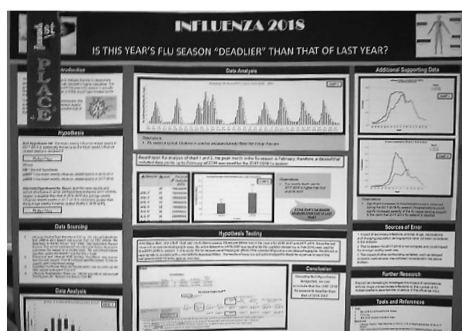
Key:

- AC = All-Conference
- ACHM = All-Conference Honorable Mention
- CC = Conference Champion
- AR = All-Region
- RC = Regional Champion
- AA = All-Area
- AAHM = All-Area Honorable Mention
- AS = All-State
- ASHM = All-State Honorable Mention
- AAS = Academic All-State
- SQ = State Qualifier
- SC = State Champion

GVSU Statistics Poster Competition

(continued from page 12)

numerical summaries, the focus should always be on the meaning behind the data. In a well-done statistics poster, the reader is able to discover the story behind the data by following the logical progression of the poster. The emphasis is on the visual display of results through well-placed graphs.



Dorris Dagama's poster on her influenza findings took second place in the American Statistical Association's National Data Visualization Poster Competition. Dagama and her poster will be featured in the August issue of "Amstat News" and on the ASA website.

FH SOMI Basketball Team Wins State Championship



Congratulations to the Forest Hills Public Schools State Championship Special Olympics Girls' Basketball Team! The team went through the season undefeated for the first time in their four-year history.

Ben Emdin Awards

(continued from page 14)

came through Northern's doors and was a mentor, coach, teacher, and advisor to all.

In 2004 when Eastern was established, the district asked certain teachers to be involved in the creation of the new school, and Robert Vandenberg Sr. was at the top of the list. Before the doors opened, Vandenberg Sr. was once again instrumental in establishing the culture at Forest Hills Eastern High School that reflected the district's guiding principles and would help move the district forward as a model educational institution. At Eastern, students immediately sensed his passion for teaching and his compassion toward others. In 2010, Vandenberg Sr. retired from Forest Hills Public Schools after 40 years of teaching, 28 years coaching basketball, and countless hours of after-

school tutoring, counseling, and advising. This year's Forest Hills Eastern High School Faculty Awards were presented by Vandenberg Sr. because of the amazing legacy he established as a faculty member at all three Forest Hills High Schools, for always portraying the district's guiding principles, and for representing what it truly means to be a teacher.

The Ben Emdin Guiding Principles in Action Award was introduced in 2002 as the highest award of recognition by the district. The award is named for Ben Emdin who served the Forest Hills Public School District for almost 40 years. Congratulations to these outstanding community members and recipients of this year's award.

Central Woodlands Students Help Design New Otter Exhibit at the John Ball Zoo

By Morgan Jarema, School News Network

If you're going to design an otter habitat and otters will not or cannot comment, your next best bet might be to go to sixth-graders.

That is what John Ball Zoo did. Nearly 200 Central Woodlands 5/6 students worked in teams to research and develop plans for what they saw as an ideal renovated otter exhibit at the Northwest Grand Rapids zoo.

What they came up with was 39 team-created exhibits with features that ranged from underground, underwater viewing areas; to wheelchair-accessible visitor observation towers; to a clear tube slide for the playful mammals to show off their skills and still be able to see and be seen in their surroundings.

The pilot project, which grew out of a three-year partnership teacher Patty Tolly had had with the zoo, got a boost via a \$600 grant from the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation that made it possible for students to attend the inaugural design process class at the zoo. A \$1,000 destination innovation grant gave teachers the time to meet with zoo officials and plan the project.

Students began in November by visiting exhibits at the zoo — particularly the otter exhibit — then returned to school and researched the needs of otters, zookeepers

and visitors. Next, groups of three or four students made scale drawings and, from those, 3-D models of their proposed habitats, as well as supporting research papers and design calculations such as ideal land-to-water ratios.

All told, the project involved seven Central Woodlands teachers: Tolly, Stephanie Cionca, Darin Lillie, Diane Peneycad, Christel Homrich, Deb Elsholz and Tim Jaspers. Make that eight, and make it multi-grade: Diane Hartig's clay and sculpture class at Northern Hills Middle School made clay otters to scale for the 3-D models.

"This has not been your ordinary class-work," Tolly said. "It took a lot of coordination to keep this on students' minds for as long as we did. It truly turned out better than I could have imagined."

Judging Day

On May 22, a dozen groups selected by their classmates as finalists presented their projects in front of a panel of eight judges that included school staff, district Superintendent Dan Behm and two officials from the zoo.

(continued on page 17)

Northern High School Students Named Winners of Great Choices Film Festival Awards

Several students from Forest Hills Northern High School were honored at the end of May for their entries in this year's Meijer Great Choices Film Festival, a statewide film competition open to all Michigan students. These students' videos are among the top 60 chosen from more than 300 public service announcements that were submitted. The partners of the Meijer Great Choices Film Festival honored these students' accomplishments and inspiration to K-12 youth across the state with a cash prize at a special awards ceremony in June, at The Van Singel Fine Arts Center in Byron Center. All of the top PSAs were shown at the awards event and students received Meijer gift cards ranging from \$75 to \$1,500.

Congratulations to the following Forest Hills Northern High School students and their videos in the following categories:

- Paige Metcalf, 7-12 Celebrating Diversity
- Olivia Gargett, K-6 Celebrating Diversity
- Hayden Strobel, K-6 Building Character
- Ashley Sayers, K-6 Healthy Living
- Adam Gill, K-6 Building Character

Class Reunions

Forest Hills Central High School Class of 1978

40th Class Reunion

Saturday, July 28, 6:30 p.m.
Blythefield Country Club

For more information, visit their Facebook page, or email FHCcentral78@gmail.com.

Forest Hills Public Schools Class of 1968

50th Class Reunion

Saturday, Sept. 15, 6:30 p.m.
Frederik Meijer Gardens

For more information, call Sara Kersting Buttrick, 616-340-1648, or Gary Crum, 616-460-3651.

CW Students Design New Otter Exhibit

(continued from page 16)

Group No. 3: Natalie Hedger, Faith Hubbard, Hannah Levering, and Hayden Myers, included “otter spotters,” which Hannah said would allow visitors telescope-like views.

Group No. 7: Jiya Patel, Saniya Mishra, Ashley Schenck, and Ellory Zietz, included a live prey feeding tube that would shoot food from the zookeepers’ room directly into the water, a la the kind that pneumatically whisks away your paycheck at the bank drive-through.

Group No. 11: Hayden Bolter, Alexander Korff, Bennet Nieuwkoop, and Ashtyn Scarlato, led with the theme music from “Mission: Impossible.”

“The chances are pretty good of them seeing elements of their designs in the finished exhibit,” said Rhiannon Mulligan, education program manager at the zoo, who was one of the judges. “Beyond that, this has just been a great opportunity for them to model what we do, to think about things the way we think about them.”

Mulligan said the zoo will host professional development for teachers this summer who are interested in learning how to integrate the zoo into classroom projects.

“The idea is that each year we’ll give them a different, real-world problem for students to work on,” she said.

The top exhibits also were presented by students May 23 during the Groundswell Student Showcase at Celebration! Cinema North, and to zoo visitors on May 31. Tolley also received a grant from Groundswell to pay for busing and supplies.



Students in group 11 presented their idea for a new otter exhibit. Team members in group 11 included Ashtyn Scarlato, Alexander Korff, Bennet Nieuwkoop, and Hayden Bolter.



Student Jacob Harleton presents part of his group's otter plan.

Three High School Students Among Top in GR Economic Club Essay Contest

Two Forest Hills Eastern High School juniors, Elle Bennett and Olivia Miller, were named second- and fourth-place winners of the Grand Rapids Economic Club Essay Contest. Ethan Cripe Bonnell, a junior from Forest Hills Northern High School also received top honors. These students’ essays were among the top 13 of over 300 essays from area students on the topic, “Corporate Social Responsibility: The Impact on Workplace Recruitment, Retention and Communities.” Bennett, Miller, and Cripe Bonnell were recognized at the Grand Rapids Economic Club’s luncheon where they had the opportunity to hear speaker Dr. John Izzo, author of “The Purpose Revolution” speak about corporate social responsibility.

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

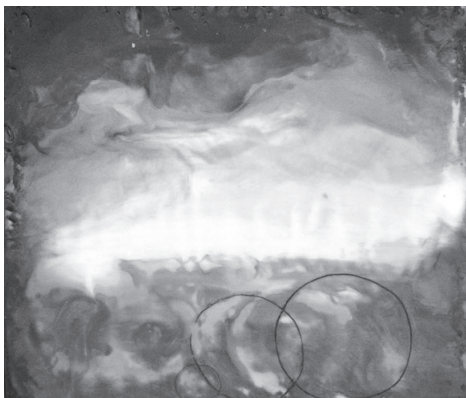
Art Exhibits at the Center

Kate Meyer

Encaustic Paintings/Mixed Media

Now - July 27, 2018

Artists’ Reception: July 12, 6-7 p.m.
Forest Hills Fine Arts Center Lobby



Beibei and Leilei Chen

Paintings and Ceramics

August 3-24, 2018

Artists’ Reception: August 9, 6-7 p.m.
Forest Hills Fine Arts Center Lobby



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First Day of School

Monday,
August 27, 2018

Look for the back-to-school edition of the “Focus” newsletter coming to your mailbox in August.



A 15TH ANNIVERSARY
Spectacular

FOREST HILLS FINE ARTS CENTER 2018 -19 SEASON



Colin & Brad Scared Scriptless

September 16, 2018, 7:30 pm
\$52, \$44, \$42, \$34



War the Original Afro Cuban
Jazz Rock Blues Band

October 16, 2018, 7:30 pm
\$58, \$55, \$50, \$46



Currents by Mayumana

March 17, 2019, 7:30 pm
\$50, \$46, \$40, \$34



GLASS SLIPPERS
ARE SO BACK.

RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S
CINDERELLA

Local Presenting Sponsor **ZHANG FINANCIAL**
A First-Hand Wealth Management Group

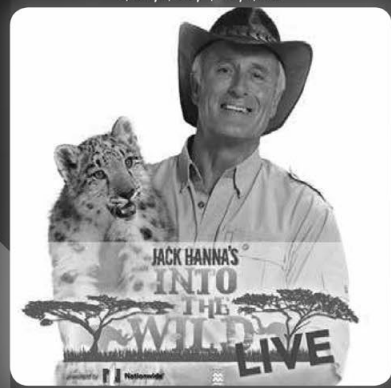
Rodgers + Hammerstein's
Cinderella

March 25, 2019, 7:30 pm
\$64, \$58, \$48, \$42



Rock of Ages

April 22, 2019, 7:30 pm
\$64, \$58, \$50, \$46



Jack Hanna's Into the Wild Live

May 3, 2019, 7:30 pm
\$46, \$42, \$36, \$32

Season tickets on sale Monday, July 30 Single tickets on sale Monday, August 13
Season tickets and single tickets can be purchased in person at the FAC Box Office or by phone. Single tickets can also be purchased online.

FAC Box Office hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm • fhfineartscenter.com
600 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids MI 49546 • fhfineartscenter@fhfs.net • 616.493.8966

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FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

*Providing funding for all areas of academic excellence in Forest Hills Public Schools
For more information and to donate, call 616-493-8954, or visit www.fhpsf.org.*

Thank You, FHPSF Supporters!

The Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation would like to extend a huge and heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation during the 2017-2018 school year. The Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation was able to distribute over \$330,000 through grants which directly impact teachers and students across the district. Community support makes this possible. This support has a tremendous effect on kindergarten- through 12th-grade classrooms. Funds allow for innovative, creative programs that inspire students to new levels of success.

There are many ways to support academic excellence in Forest Hills through the Foundation:

- Attend one of the many fundraising events.
- Make a year-end gift through our Annual Appeal Campaign.
- Designate your United Way gift to the FHPS Foundation.
- Shop on Amazon.com, search AmazonSmile, then choose the FHPS Foundation as your charity recipient.
- Consider a planned gift to the FHPS Foundation.
- Inquire if your employer offers a “matching gift” program.

Looking Ahead to Next School Year, Mark Your Calendars

The Foundation has great things planned for the 2018-2019 school year and looks forward to working with the community to advance academic excellence for all Forest Hills students. Our goal is to raise funds to distribute to teachers for programs across the district. Our special events for the next school year are:

2018 Gala

November 7, 2018, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

- Chairperson: Maggie Lancaster
- Sponsorships Available

2019 State of the District Luncheon

May 9, 2019, Watermark Country Club

- Table Hosts Needed

2019 Charlie Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament

June 12, 2019, Thornapple Pointe Golf Club

- Sponsorships Available

To receive updates on Foundation programs and events, please subscribe to our newsletter at fhpsf.org.



Golfers at the annual Charlie Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament have the opportunity to play a hole with Superintendent Behm (center).



Gala emcee, Judge Sara J. Smolenski, takes a moment out of the evening to introduce the three school mascots from Forest Hills high schools.

FHPS Foundation

Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation
600 Forest Hill Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2322

website: www.fhpsf.org

Jana Siminski
Director
616-493-8954
jsiminski@fhpsf.net

Stephanie Taylor
Foundation Coordinator
616-493-8500
staylor@fhpsf.net



Forest Hills Public Schools

6590 Cascade Road SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Phone: 616-493-8800

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Forest Hills Community Services Offers Great Enrichment Classes in July and August

Youth Classes and Sports

This year's Summer Academy is full of interesting enrichment and sports classes for kids who want to add to their summer fun. These include classes that start later in July and early August such as KCAD's Drawing Lions, Tigers and Bears; KCAD's Painting Plus; KCAD's Picasso's Animals in Clay; Bricks 4 Kidz: Pocket Pokemon Brick Monsters Camp; Mind Boggle's Kitchen Chemistry for Mini Mind Bugglers; and Mind Boggle's Super Power Science. Our newest class-providing partner, Sciensational Workshops for Kids, is offering their Electronics Lab starting at the end of July. For sports, check out the Basics Basketball Skills and Scrimmage Training Camp and the Midwest Soccer Clinic for Girls and Boys.

Classes for Adults

Forest Hills Community Services is offering a wonderful variety of classes starting in July and August for adult learners. We have classes in computers and technology, photography, and fitness to tempt you. Check out our website for details.



Senior Citizen Corner The Learning Café

The following Learning Cafe will be held at Forest Hills Community Services, 660 Forest Hill Avenue SE. Lunch is at noon; program at 12:45 p.m. Cost: \$8 per person for lunch and program (\$9 for non-residents); \$2 for program only (\$3 for non-residents). Please register at 493-8950 or online on our website, enjoylearning.com, by the Friday prior to the event. For a full list of all Learning Café programs, held the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, please call our office at 493-8950 and ask to be added to the "Encore Programs Guide" mailing list.

Traveling Michigan's Picturesque Places

Tuesday, August 28

Lunch at Noon, Program at 12:45 p.m.

**Forest Hills Community Services,
Community Room**

Learn about the many Michigan destinations that offer natural beauty and historical interest and are accessible regardless of mobility level. This photo travelogue is presented by Sam Coralic of Cardinal Senior Concierge.

Quick, Secure Registration

It's easy to register for Community Services classes and Learning Cafés:

- Visit our website, enjoylearning.com.
- Call us at 616-493-8950.

Severe Weather/Closings

If Forest Hills Public Schools is closed due to severe weather, the Forest Hills Community and Aquatic Center also will be closed and all classes will be canceled. Check the district website, www.fhps.net, for more information.

2017-2018 Board of Education Members

Mary Vonck, President

Martha Atwater, Vice President

Suzanne Callahan, Secretary

Walter F. Perschbacher III, Treasurer

Michael Seekell, Trustee

Nicole Meloche-Gregory, Trustee

Vik Srinivasan, Trustee

Daniel Behm, Superintendent

Publication Information

The Forest Hills Public Schools' "Focus" newsletter is published bimonthly during the school year by the FHPS board of education. It is mailed to all residents of the Forest Hills Public Schools district, and additional copies are sent to every district school for distribution to staff, new residents, and visitors. FHPS is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination of all its programs in relation to race, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability and genetic information.

Questions and/or comments about this publication should be emailed to the editor at ebrink@fhps.net, or call 616-493-8800.

Summer News Notes

- The Community and Aquatic Center building and swimming pool will be closed for summer cleaning and maintenance starting July 21 through August 5, 2018. Calls and class registrations will continue to be handled during regular office hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Community Services' fall class catalog will arrive in mailboxes the week of August 13.