

August/September 2023

Volume 29, Issue 1 [www.fhps.net](http://www.fhps.net)

## Welcome from the Interim Superintendent



Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel

Dear Forest Hills Public Schools Families and Community Members,

I am honored and excited to return to the profession of education as interim superintendent of Forest Hills Public Schools for the upcoming

school year. I retired as the superintendent of East Grand Rapids Public Schools in 2018 after serving 12 years in that role. I have worked in various educational capacities over the past 35 years in public education and have enjoyed and learned from all of these experiences. I anticipate that this year in FHPS will be filled with many exciting learning opportunities that will keep me engaged and challenged.

With the 2023-2024 school year upon us, I hope you had a restful summer, and enjoyed time with family and friends. The beginning of the school year has always been my favorite time of year. The energy that comes with new beginnings is contagious, and I trust that we never lose sight of how exciting the beginning of the school year is for students, families, school staff, and our entire community! Forest Hills Public Schools is an outstanding school district with extraordinary employees, engaged parents, and excellent schools. The district's

motto, "Cultivating Possibility," has been the guiding light, and I will continue to champion this declaration with all of our stakeholders.

One of my immediate goals is to assist the district staff and the board of education through this year of transition as the board works through the comprehensive process of selecting a permanent superintendent. This will be a year of learning and patience for everyone as we work together to continue the excellent work of our teachers, support staff, and administrators in providing the best educational and instructional programs that all of our students deserve.

In closing, I am excited about what the 2023-2024 school year holds for our students and staff, and hope that you are as well. We are fortunate that FHPS has a legacy of being a strong and supportive school community, and I look forward to that continued collaboration as we all work together to ensure our schools are the best that they can be. As I start this year, I challenge each of us to do all that we can to make it an incredible learning year for our students. I am confident that our students and staff will accomplish great things in 2023-2024, and I look forward to celebrating their accomplishments throughout the school year.

Sincerely, Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel

## District News

### FHPS Board of Education Welcomes You to Another Exceptional Year of Learning

The Forest Hills Board of Education works collaboratively with the superintendent in crafting strategies to execute the district's mission and vision. The board is an elected body that meets monthly to conduct board business. Duties of the board include:

- Adopt district bylaws and policy;
- Employ and evaluate a superintendent; and
- Adopt and oversee a budget.

The board does not manage day-to-day operations. The board works with the superintendent to ensure district policies, procedures, and programs are continually assessed against the shared vision for the district.

### Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

#### Mission

In partnership with our community, Forest Hills Public Schools will provide all learners with opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to build meaningful and productive lives.

*(continued on page 2)*

## On the Inside ...

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# FHPS Board of Education

(continued from page 1)

## Vision

All learners achieving individual potential.

## Guiding Principles

We believe Forest Hills Public Schools is a learning organization, built upon integrity, and to this end we are committed to the following guiding principles:

- Caring
- Collaboration
- Open Communication
- Diversity and Inclusiveness
- High Expectations
- Learning
- Respect
- Trust

## Board of Education Meetings

The Forest Hills Public Schools Board of Education meets each month at 7 p.m. Board meeting notices, agendas, minutes, and board policies, as well as committee meeting schedules are available online, [www.fhps.net](http://www.fhps.net).

### Date, Time

Aug. 21, 2023, 7 p.m.	Feb. 12, 2024, 7 p.m.
Sept. 18, 2023, 7 p.m.	Mar. 18, 2024, 7 p.m.
Oct. 16, 2023, 7 p.m.	April 15, 2024, 7 p.m.
Nov. 20, 2023, 7 p.m.	May 20, 2024, 7 p.m.
Dec. 18, 2023, 7 p.m.	June 10, 2024, 7 p.m.
Jan. 15, 2024, 7 p.m.	



Kristen Fauson  
President



Kristen Covelle  
Vice President



Maggie Terryn  
Secretary



CJ Michaud  
Treasurer



Holly DeBoer  
Trustee



Malorie Ninemeier  
Trustee



Mary Vonck  
Trustee

Visit the FHPS  
website @  
**fhps.net**

## Superintendent Search Timeline

The Forest Hills Public Schools Board of Education is in the process of hiring a new school superintendent. This process follows the announcement of retirement made in late March by former superintendent, Dan Behm, who served the district for 17 years. Since the spring, the board has hired Michigan Leadership Institute to aid in the search process, and hired Dr. Sara Shubel to serve as interim superintendent. Working with MLI, the board of education has established the following timeline.

### Search Timeline

June 6, 2023	Board Unanimously Selects Michigan Leadership Institute as its Search Firm to Aid in the Process of Hiring a New Superintendent
July 12	Board Finalizes Search Timeline and Superintendent Search Process with MLI
November 3	District Identifies Focus Group Members (Group members will consist of a cross-representation of district and community stakeholders)
November 15	Invitations Sent to Focus Group Members
Nov. 20 – Dec. 8	Input Gathered via Website Survey <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the unique skills, qualifications, and characteristics desired of the new superintendent?</li> <li>2. What are the challenges facing Forest Hills Public Schools in the next three to five years?</li> <li>3. What are the Points of Pride for Forest Hills Public Schools?</li> </ol>
December 4-8	Focus Group Meetings for Input to Develop Superintendent Profile (Two Days: To Be Determined)
December 15	Position Posting to Various Sites
February 2, 2024	Position Posting Closes
February 13	Presentation of Potential Candidates for Board of Education Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of Candidates for First Round Interviews</li> <li>• Preparation for Interviews</li> <li>• Finalize Questions for First Round</li> </ul>
March 4, 5, 6	First Round Interviews (Time to be Determined)
March 18, 19	Final Interviews (Dates and Times to be Determined)
TBD	Special Board Meeting to Hire New Superintendent
July 1	New Superintendent Begins Duties

Vote by November 7 ►

## FHPS Bond Proposal on November Ballot

The Forest Hills Public Schools Board of Education is asking its voters to consider a bond proposal on the November ballot. The bond proposal would provide \$340 million to fund capital improvements phased in through 2031. If voters approve the proposal, there is expected to be no tax rate increase over the current rate.

The projects included with this bond are continuing our work renovating the learning environments at our schools and replacing technology, buses, roofs, mechanical systems, and parking lots at the end of their useful life. The proposal also includes updating and expanding our athletic facilities such as adding an auxiliary turf field at Eastern and Northern high schools, expanding the number of tennis courts at all three high schools, adding turf to the baseball/softball fields at all three high schools, adding accessible playground equipment at our elementary schools, and building a new aquatic center.

On the next page, there is an additional look at the 2023 bond proposal.



**FOREST HILLS**  
**PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
— Cultivating Possibility —

**NO TAX RATE  
INCREASE**  
expected over the current rate

## BOND PROPOSAL

Vote by November 7, 2023

Forest Hills Public Schools voters will consider a bond proposal on the November 7 election ballot. If approved, there is expected to be **NO TAX RATE INCREASE** from the current rate for FHPS property owners, and it would provide \$340 million to fund capital improvements throughout the district.



### MODERNIZE LEARNING SPACES

to prepare students  
for the future

- Continue to create flexible and dynamic learning environments
  - Flexible furniture
  - Integrated technology
- Provide project-based learning environments to support collaborative learning
- Add accessible playground equipment



### IMPROVE ATHLETICS, FINE ARTS & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

to enhance experiences

- Construct a new aquatic center to replace the aging community pool
- Expand athletic facilities to increase access and playability
- Update the Fine Arts Center
- Update the Community Center



### UPDATE INFRASTRUCTURE

to address aging systems  
and inefficiencies

- Fund continual improvements to safety and security infrastructure within our district because school safety solutions are evolving
- Replace aging buses to keep the fleet modern and safe
- Replace systems at the end of their useful life cycle
  - Upgrade critical mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems
  - Replace roofing, parking lots and sidewalks
- Update technology infrastructure

### VOTING INFORMATION

**Polls Open:** Tuesday, November 7,  
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Poll Locations:** If you are unsure of  
your polling place, contact your local city/  
township office.

**Absentee Voting:** Absentee ballots are  
available as early as September 23.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Visit:** [www.fhps.net](http://www.fhps.net)

**Call:** (616) 493-8800

**E-Mail:** [contact@fhps.net](mailto:contact@fhps.net)

Paid for by Forest Hills Public Schools  
6590 Cascade Rd. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Please vote by  
**NOVEMBER 7**





# Schools' Start and End Times for the 2023-2024 School Year

It is important that our students are on time to start their school day. Please make note of your school's start and end times for this year. The following times are for full days of instruction. Please visit our website for release times on half days or reach out to your student's school. In addition, please contact your school to determine what time the school doors open in the morning for students. Some doors may not open until 15 minutes prior to the start of school.

## Start and End Times

**Ada Elementary School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.  
(FHPS Preschool 9-11:30 a.m. M-F)

**Ada Vista Elementary School:**  
8:10 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

**Collins Elementary School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Knapp Forest Elementary School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.  
(FHPS Preschool 9-11:30 a.m. M-F)

**Meadow Brook Elementary School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Orchard View Elementary School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Pine Ridge Elementary School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Thornapple Elementary School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Central Woodlands 5/6 School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Northern Trails 5/6 School:**  
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School:**  
8:10 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

**Central Middle School:**  
7:50 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

**Eastern Middle School (grades 6-8):**  
7:45 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

**Northern Hills Middle School:**  
7:50 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

**Central High School:**  
7:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

**Eastern High School:**  
7:40 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.

**Northern High School:**  
7:45 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

**Transition Center:** 7:35 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

**ECSE Program:**  
AM: 8:55 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
PM: 12:40 p.m. - 3:35 p.m.

## Helping Solve Issues During the School Year

If a problem develops or a caregiver senses a child is having difficulty with an assignment or with a teacher, adults are encouraged to talk to the teacher immediately to bring about increased understanding and a quick resolution. Issues that are not satisfactorily resolved with a teacher may be addressed with your child's counselor or one of the building principals. Please follow the "chain of communication" to bring about a satisfactory resolution:

1. Classroom Teacher
2. Counselor
3. Assistant Principal
4. Principal
5. Director (i.e. athletic director, transportation director, food service director,

- technology director)
6. Assistant Superintendent (i.e. assistant superintendent for instruction, assistant superintendent of human resources, assistant superintendent of finance and operations)
7. Interim Superintendent
8. Board of Education



## School Attendance Is Important

Every minute in school counts! Being on time every day and staying until the last bell rings is paramount to your child's success. Parents and families can help their child succeed in school by building the habit of positive attendance early. School success goes hand-in-hand with good attendance. Forest Hills Public Schools is committed to providing a quality education to promote student success. In order to accomplish this, students should be in school for the entire school day. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher, guidance counselor, or principal when you have questions about attendance.

## Student Cell Phone Use Prohibited During the Instructional Day

Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices during school hours. Cell phones or other electronic devices must be stored away during school hours if a student chooses to bring them to school. Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and other electronic devices. The district is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage of any cell phone or other electronic device.

School administrators and teachers may confiscate a student's cell phone or other electronic device if the student's use or possession of a cell phone or electronic device violates board policy, the student code of conduct, or any applicable building or classroom rule. The building principal or designee may require a meeting with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation before returning the cell phone or electronic device.

If you have questions pertaining to cell phone use, please contact your child's principal.

# FHPS Phone Numbers, Principals, Building Contacts

**Administration Building** ..... 493-8800  
6590 Cascade Road SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Interim Superintendent:  
Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel

## Elementary Schools

**Ada Elementary** ..... 493-8940  
**Attendance Line:** ..... 493-8943  
731 Ada Drive SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Principal: Melanie Hoeksema

**Ada Vista Elementary** ..... 493-8970  
**Attendance Line:** ..... 493-8976  
7192 Bradfield Street SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Principal: Allison Woodside de Carrillo

**Collins Elementary** ..... 493-8900  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8906  
4368 Heather Lane SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Principal: Mitchell Balingit

**Knapp Forest Elementary** ..... 493-8980  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8986  
4243 Knapp Valley Drive NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
Principal: Lisa Roedel

**Meadow Brook Elementary** ..... 493-8740  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8748  
1450 Forest Hill Avenue SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Principal: Dawn Heerema

**Orchard View Elementary** ..... 493-8930  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8936  
2770 Leffingwell Avenue NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
Principal: Christina Mendoza

**Pine Ridge Elementary** ..... 493-8910  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8916  
3250 Redford Avenue SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Principal: Nathan Peltz

**Thornapple Elementary** ..... 493-8920  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8926  
6932 Bridgewater Drive SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Principal: Heather Fix

## 5/6 Schools

**Central Woodlands 5/6** ..... 493-8790  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8798  
400 Alta Dale Avenue SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Principal: Amy Burton-Major

## 5/6 Schools (continued)

**Goodwillie Environmental 5/6** ..... 493-8633  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8633  
8400 Two Mile Road NE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Principal: Jason Yelding

**Northern Trails 5/6** ..... 493-8990  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8993  
3777 Leonard Street NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
Principal: Dr. Susan Gutierrez

## Middle Schools

**Central Middle School** ..... 493-8750  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8762  
5810 Ada Drive SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Principal: Jonathan Haga  
Assistant Principal: Jeff Simon

**Eastern Middle School** ..... 493-8850  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8856  
2200 Pettis Avenue NE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Principal: Kristine Yelding  
Assistant Principal: Kris Hop

**Northern Hills Middle School** ..... 493-8650  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8666  
3775 Leonard Street NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
Principal: Dr. David Simpson  
Assistant Principal: Raeanne Hart

## High Schools

**Central High School** ..... 493-8700  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8712  
5901 Hall Street SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Principal: Steve Passinault  
Assistant Principals: John DeStefano  
and Kristy Loughin-Vance

**Eastern High School** ..... 493-8830  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8836  
2200 Pettis Avenue NE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Principal: Amy Pallo  
Assistant Principals: Dan McElheny  
and Jason Yelding

**Northern High School** ..... 493-8600  
**Attendance line:** ..... 493-8610  
3801 Leonard Street NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
Principal: Amena Moiz  
Assistant Principals: Steve Harvey and  
Aaron Romoslawski

## Additional Numbers

**Student Services/**  
**Special Education Offices** ..... 493-8660  
3787 Leonard Street NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
Director: Jann VanAirsdale

**Transition Center** ..... 493-8660  
3787 Leonard Street NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

**Operations** ..... 493-8780  
150 Alta Dale Avenue SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Director: Steve King

**Transportation** ..... 493-8785  
6001 Hall Street SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Director: Darryl Hofstra

**Food Service** ..... 493-8774  
160 Alta Dale Avenue SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Director: Sarah Hawkins

**Community Services** ..... 493-8950  
Community, Aquatic, and Senior Center  
660 Forest Hill Avenue SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

**Fine Arts Center** ..... 493-8965  
600 Forest Hill Avenue SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

**Child Care** ..... 493-8787  
150 Alta Dale Avenue SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
Director: Jennifer Campbell

**FHPS Foundation** ..... 493-8500  
600 Forest Hill Avenue SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Director: Emma Roedel



Ada Elementary School  
Pine Ridge Elementary School  
Thornapple Elementary School  
Central Woodlands 5/6 School  
Central Middle School  
Central High School

Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School



Knapp Forest Elementary School  
Orchard View Elementary School  
Eastern Middle School  
Eastern High School

Transitions Center



Ada Vista Elementary School  
Collins Elementary School  
Meadow Brook Elementary School  
Northern Trails 5/6 School  
Northern Hills Middle School  
Northern High School

August '23						
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June '24						
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30						

## FIRST SEMESTER

August 21-December 22, 2023

December 20-22: ½ day/exams

August 21: First Day of School

## SECOND SEMESTER

January 8-June 5, 2024

June 3-5: ½ day/exams

June 5: Last Day of School

## Commencement Ceremonies

May 13, 2024: Central High School, Calvin University

May 14, 2024: Eastern High School, Calvin University

May 15, 2024: Northern High School, Calvin University

## No School for Students

-August 25: No School

-September 1-4: Labor Day Weekend

-October 20-23: Fall Break

(Staff Professional Development on Oct. 20)

-November 22-24: Thanksgiving Break

-December 25-January 5: Winter Break

-January 15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

(Staff Professional Development)

-February 16-19: Mid-Winter Break

-March 28-April 5: Spring Break

-May 10: No School

(Staff Professional Development)

-May 27: Memorial Day

## Half Day of School in the a.m.

-December 20-22: ½ day for students/exams

-June 3-5: ½ day for students/exams



# FHPS Food Service Information and FAQs

## New This Year!

### Free Breakfast, Lunch Daily for All Students

For the 2023-2024 school year, we are joining the Michigan School Meals Program. Students in all FHPS school buildings may receive one free breakfast meal and one free lunch meal each day. That's right — all schools will provide breakfast AND lunch free of charge for all students! Breakfast is available when school doors open for students each morning until the start of the school day. See your school's website for these times.



## Frequently Asked Questions

**1. What comes in a breakfast meal? (Breakfast is offered on all student school days, beginning August 21, 2023).**

• **K-4, K-5 and 5-6 Elementary Schools:** Before going to class in the morning, your child can stop by the cafeteria to pick up a breakfast "grab 'n' go" bag containing healthy whole grains and a variety of fresh or dried fruit. White or chocolate milk and a second option of fresh, dried, frozen, or canned fruit will be available for your child to add to his/her meal at no cost.

#### Specifically for K-4 and K-5:

– Students who ride the bus will receive student ID barcode labels to place on their bus card. The bus card will be placed in a plastic card holder which will be attached to the student's backpack. Students who want breakfast should come to the cafeteria after exiting the bus. These cards will be available after the start of school.

– Students who do not ride the bus will receive a student ID barcode card provided by the food service department. This card

will be placed in a plastic card holder and will be attached to the student's backpack. Students who want breakfast should come to the cafeteria when they arrive at school.

– **NOTE:** It is important to remind your child to keep his/her backpack with them if they go to the cafeteria for breakfast.

Each student who gets breakfast from the cafeteria will have the card that is attached to their backpack scanned by a food service employee. This process is for meal claiming purposes only and will not charge your child's account for breakfast.

• **High Schools, Middle Schools, and 5/6 Schools:** Students should take their student ID badge with them to the cafeteria to help expedite the lines.

• **Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School:** Students should pre-order breakfast a week at a time. Breakfast pickup is at a designated location in school.

**2. What comes in a lunch meal? (Lunch is offered on all student full school days, beginning August 21, 2023).**

• **K-4 and K-5 Elementary Schools:** Your child will have a choice of three main entrees every day, including a hot vegetarian option. Each lunch comes with a choice of white or chocolate milk, and a variety of fresh and prepared fruits and vegetables.

• **5/6 Schools, Middle Schools and High Schools:** In these grade levels, your child will

have more choices for meals. The Grill and 2Mato stations include homemade pizza by the slice, and a variety of hot sandwiches such as fresh grilled burgers and chicken sandwiches. The Deli station features fresh baked sub sandwiches, and the On-the-Go station includes fresh prepared items, such as smoothies, salads, and yogurt parfaits. The Create station includes a variety of home-style meals, pasta dishes, and global cuisine. Our Sono line (available at all high schools and Eastern Middle School) serves made-to-order tacos, nachos, and burrito bowls. All meals include a choice of a variety of fresh and prepared fruits and vegetables, and a choice of milk.

**3. Can my child bring lunch from home and still get milk? Are snack items available?**

Milk is available for purchase without a meal for \$0.65, regardless of meal benefits. Milk is free of charge if taken with a school meal. At the 5/6 and secondary levels, your child will have the option to purchase à la carte items such as bottled drinks, packaged snacks, and homemade cookies, and each purchase will be charged to your child's account. All snacks meet the USDA requirement for Smart Snacks in schools.

**4. How do I deposit funds so my child can purchase extra items?**

The Meal Magic Family Portal, <https://foresthills.familyportal.cloud/>, is your one-stop site

*(continued on the next page)*



**Breakfast and Lunch Is Offered Beginning the First Day of School, Monday, August 21, 2023.**

# FHPS Food Service Information and FAQs

(continued from page 7)

for managing your child's meal account. Once you've created your personal account, you will be able to:

- Apply for free and reduced price meal benefits;
- View your child's detailed purchase history;
- View current account balance;
- Make an online deposit;
- Transfer funds between your children;
- Set up automatic low balance email reminders; and
- Access and change parental controls, such as a daily spending limit.

The best way to get started is by going to <https://foresthills.familyportal.cloud/> where you can log in to your current account, or create a new account. Click on "How-To Videos" or "Instructions" for help.

If your child has funds remaining at the end of the school year, these funds will transfer with your child to the next grade level for as long as your child remains in the FHPS district.

**★Although breakfast and lunch are free for all students this school year, you are still encouraged to apply for free or reduced price meals. This information is critical in determining the amount of money that our school receives from a variety of state and federal supplemental programs, including, but not limited to: instructional supports, non-instructional services, professional learning for staff, parent and community engagement supplies and activities, and technology. Your family may also receive benefits outside of school such as reduced fees for activities, discounted internet service, and more.**

Please go to this link for more information about food assistance in Michigan: [www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/food](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/food).

## 5. How do I know if my family qualifies for free or reduced price meals? Where do I go to complete the information?

You are encouraged to apply today and any time your family's income or household size changes. To complete an application online, please use the Meal Magic Family Portal, <https://foresthills.familyportal.cloud/>, and click on "Apply for Benefits."

(continued in the next column)



## 6. How do I know what's on the menu each day for my child?

Daily and monthly menus are published on Nutrislice. Visit [www.fhps.nutrislice.com](http://www.fhps.nutrislice.com) to see daily menu descriptions and photographs, filter common food allergens, translate the menu into another language, view carb counts and calories, and much more. The Nutrislice app is available on the Apple App Store and Google Play.

## 7. My child has a food allergy and/or requires a special diet. How is that provided?

All of our food service team members receive allergy training through the National FARE-check Allergy training program. Our district chef creates menus that accommodate your child's dietary needs, and these items are

prepared and served safely. If your child has a special dietary need due to a disability or medical issue, please complete the Medical Statement to Request Special Meals and/or Accommodations (available at <https://www.fhps.net/departments/food-service/>). This form must be completed and signed by your child's healthcare provider, and delivered to the food service office via interoffice or regular mail. A new form must be submitted for any changes in your child's dietary needs, and when requested, by the food service office. If you have questions, please call the food service office at 616-493-8774.

**For more information, please visit the food service website at <https://www.fhps.net/departments/food-service/>.**

## How to Deposit Funds in the Meal Magic Family Portal for Extra Food Purchases

While breakfasts and lunches are free for all students, should your student want an additional milk or à la cart item, they must purchase these items using their pre-paid food service account.

Forest Hills Public Schools utilizes Meal Magic Family Portal for electronic payment of school meals. Family Portal handles all payments from one easy-to-use, fully self-service interface. You can access the Meal Magic Family Portal by visiting the following web address: <https://foresthills.familyportal.cloud>.

To deposit funds into your child's account using a credit or debit card, please set up an account on the Meal Magic Family Portal, or pay by check/cash in your school's office or at the FHPS food service office (160 Alta Dale Dr. SE Ada, MI 49301). Make sure any cash or check funds are clearly marked with your child's name and state that the deposit is for "Food Service."

If you have questions or concerns relating to meal account deposits, please contact the food service office, (616) 493-8774.



# FHPS Transportation Information

## Download the App, My Ride K-12 (Traversa Ride 360) to Track Your Child's School Bus Location on Its Route



Look for This App!

### Dear Parents/Guardians,

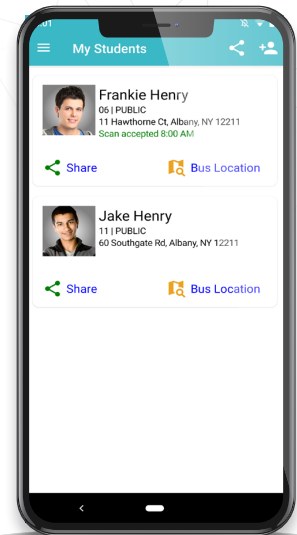
FHPS is introducing My Ride K-12 (Traversa Ride 360), a parent communication app, to our transportation operations. My Ride K-12 (Traversa Ride 360) is a one-of-a-kind mobile app integrated with our student transportation software that allows both you and your student to access estimated times of arrival or departure for your bus. This helps ensure that you and your student are on time for pick-ups and drop-offs while making the bus route more efficient.

### Updates Are Just a Few Clicks Away

My Ride K-12 (Traversa Ride 360) is designed so you can access your student's bus schedules efficiently. GPS technology on the bus works with the district's software to automatically calculate the timing of a bus route to give you the most accurate ETAs with real-time updates. No more calls to your school are needed for updates. Information can now be accessed at the touch of a button. Your students may also access the app if they have a mobile device and you have given them access. Sign up for push notifications to be automatically notified about changes in your student's bus arrival, and to prevent you from having to frequently check the My Ride K-12 (Traversa Ride 360) app for ETAs.

### Getting Started with My Ride K-12 (Traversa Ride 360)

My Ride K-12 (Traversa Ride 360) is now available for you to download on your Apple or Android mobile device. Simply search the app store for "My Ride K-12" to download and register yourself on the app. Please ensure that you change your password upon initially logging in, as this will help ensure secure login and user management moving forward.



App Available for Apple  
and Android Devices

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call FHPS transportation, (616) 493-8785.

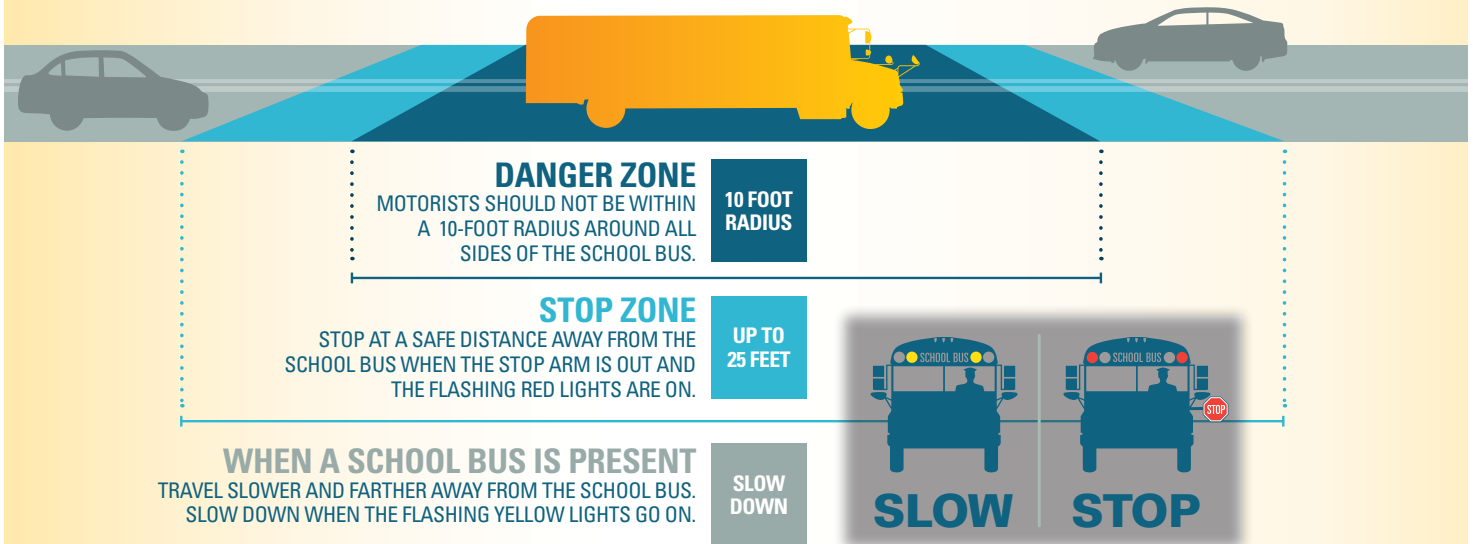


**LEARN THE  
FACTS**  
**PLAY IT SAFE**  
schoolbusfacts.com

# *fact:* **MOTORISTS WHO ARE CARELESS AROUND THE SCHOOL BUS PUT CHILDREN IN DANGER**

## **DANGER ZONE SAFE DRIVING PROCEDURES**

NATIONAL CONGRESS ON SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION



**PASSING VEHICLES CAUSE**  
AN ESTIMATED TWO-THIRDS  
OF SCHOOL BUS LOADING AND  
UNLOADING FATALITIES.

MORE SCHOOL-AGE  
PEDESTRIANS ARE KILLED FROM  
**7 - 8 A.M. AND 3 - 4 P.M.**  
THAN ANY OTHER TIMES OF DAY.



Motorists risk children's lives when they fail to stop for the school bus as it loads and unloads its passengers. Yet it's estimated that over 10 million drivers illegally pass school buses every year. To keep children safe, start by learning the laws in Michigan. It's illegal to pass a school bus within the roadway as it drops off or picks up passengers—regardless of the direction of approach. Remember that there is no "safe" way to illegally pass the school bus, so be cautious when sharing the road with it. Finally, let others know that putting kids' lives at risk is not OK. Report aggressive drivers and spread the word by sharing material found at [schoolbusfacts.com](http://schoolbusfacts.com). Take a pledge to brake for the school bus.



# FHPS Transportation Information (continued)

## Driving a Student to School? Car Line Etiquette Reminders



### Use Our School Buses

Families are encouraged to use school buses as the main form of transportation to and from school. According to the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration:

- School buses are designed to be safer than passenger vehicles in avoiding crashes and preventing injury.
- School buses are the safest mode of transportation for getting children back and forth to school.
- School buses keep an annual estimated 17.3 million cars off roads surrounding schools each morning.

### Driving Your Kids to/from School

If families decide to provide their own transportation for their child to and from school, please remember that the pick-up and drop-off areas can be very congested with traffic. Please make every effort to be on time to ensure a good start or end to the school day for your child. Each school has a designated drop off and pick up area separate from where school buses park. Please make sure you know where this is at your child's school. Here are some additional reminders.




- Safety first! When picking up or dropping off, children must enter and exit vehicles on the curb side only.
- Children are not permitted to walk in front of or behind your car. Be ready for your child to enter or exit to help keep this process safe.
- Drivers should not get out of their vehicle, not to "quickly grab" your child, wave to

your child, or say "Hi" to a friend in line.

- When the car in front of you moves, please pull forward. Don't cut in line. There is a line and a process. Please wait patiently in the line and know that we all share the same goal of dropping off or picking up children in a safe manner.
- Put away electronic devices and cell phones; pay attention.
- Don't double park. Keep the line moving.
- Be a good steward of the Earth. If you arrive too early, consider turning off your vehicle while waiting.
- Be patient. Politeness goes a long way in the car line. Honking at others or displaying any other form of road rage is unacceptable, and remember, even the little ones notice this behavior. Set a good example.
- Should you have specific questions pertaining to traffic flow and child safety during drop off and pick up, please contact the school office.



## School Buses Are Like Traffic Signals

When overhead lights are flashing yellow:	When overhead lights are flashing red:	When hazard warning lights are flashing:
		
<b>Prepare to Stop</b>	<b>Stop!</b>	<b>Proceed with Caution</b>



# Communication Tools

As another school year begins, it is important that our schools and school district remain in contact with our families. While nothing is better than face-to-face communication, there are times we need to rely on technology to communicate. We want to make sure you remain informed during the year and receive up-to-date information. The following outlines the communication methods used throughout the district. Please review this information to make sure you have taken the necessary steps to receive the information.

## District Website and Online School Information

The district website, [www.fhps.net](http://www.fhps.net), is a portal to all school pages where you will find important upcoming activities and events, reminders, announcements, and school news. The website is a public place of information for students, parents/guardians, staff, families, community members, and the public at-large. It also contains information pertaining to the district as a whole. Please bookmark [www.fhps.net](http://www.fhps.net) on your mobile and electronic devices.

## SchoolMessenger

SchoolMessenger is used to communicate a variety of information. This push notification system is an automated messaging service. The district uses this system to inform families of school delays or closures, when there is an emergency at a school, and information from the superintendent. SchoolMessenger is also used by each of our schools to communicate, primarily through email, nonemergency information, school reminders, and activity updates. SchoolMessenger allows families to set preferences on how messages are received, such as an email, text and/or phone call. You can manage your preferences through the Parent Portal of PowerSchool. To “opt in” to text messages you must text “YES” to 67587 from your mobile device. There is also a SchoolMessenger app available to download. The app provides families with a powerful way to stay engaged with their school and the district. The app is available for both Android and Apple devices. Please note, this communication tool is the primary method for schools to communicate information to families. Parents should always contact their child’s school to update their

phone number and email contact information if or when a change occurs.

## PowerSchool

Parents and guardians can access PowerSchool, our student information system, through the Parent Portal. It is important that you access PowerSchool because all district forms for enrollment are accessed through this system. In addition to enrollment forms, for our kindergarten through sixth-grade families, you are able to view contact information, important school information, and student attendance. For our seventh- through 12th-grade families, you may also view student’s grade history, teacher comments, and more. Parent Portal is also used to update your SchoolMessenger preferences as mentioned above, or you can install the SchoolMessenger app. Please be sure to update your child’s school with any changes to your contact information. This includes telephone numbers as well as email addresses.

## Social Media

The district posts news and updates on social media channels such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and LinkedIn. Please follow us on social media.

## Canvas

The district uses a learning management system called Canvas. Canvas integrates all learning and assignments into one online place. It allows teachers to post grades, assignments, and information online and allows parents/guardians of students to also see assignments and progress. Each student will be given a Canvas account. Once students receive their accounts, then the parent/guardian may also set up an account to see the student’s account. Information about Canvas and Canvas accounts will come directly from the student’s teacher. Log in to Canvas from our Canvas discovery page on our website.



# Call in Absences

For the safety and welfare of all students, we require that a parent or guardian call the school office on any day a child is absent. Procedures for reporting student absences are the same at all Forest Hills schools. If your child is absent from school, please call the school’s attendance line to explain the reason for the absence. Calls to report student absences should be made as soon as possible during the late evening or early morning hours, preferably before 9:30 a.m. Attendance lines are available 24-hours-a-day. If your child will be absent from school for any reason other than illness, please call the school office to make arrangements in advance. If your child is absent from school and you do not call to explain the absence, the school will call you.



## School Resource Officers



Deputy  
Ben Dunneback



Deputy  
Kresten Green



Deputy  
Jim Svoboda

The district has three school resource officers through the Kent County Sheriff’s Department. These officers routinely visit our schools, interact with staff, students, and families, and help maintain a culture of open communication and safety while building positive relationships with students. Deputy Ben Dunneback services the Northern side of the district. Deputy Kresten Green services the Eastern side of the district. Deputy Jim Svoboda services the Central side of the district. All three deputies have experience working with school-aged children and are excited about continued opportunities to impact young lives through educational programming and much more.

# Students' Health Needs During School

If your child has a medical condition such as diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, acute allergies (food, insect bites, animals), or a physical disability, and/or requires treatments or procedures during school hours, please inform a school staff member. An Emergency Action Plan and a Medication Consent Form are needed for those students with potential complications such as allergies, asthma, seizure disorder, or diabetes. Both of these forms must be signed by both the physician and the parent/guardian. See your school secretary for the required forms or visit our website for additional information.

## Dispensing Medicine at School

For any student, if medicine is to be dispensed at school, the student's health care provider and parent/guardian must complete a medication authorization form before any medication is administered by school personnel, or when permitted, self-administered by the student. The only medicines that can be carried and self-administered by students in grades K-6 are metered-dose inhalers and emergency injectable medications, if authorized in writing, by both the student's health care provider and parent/guardian. For high school students, prescription medication may be carried and self-administered if authorized by school administration, the student's health care provider and parent/guardian. Any medicines, either prescription or over-the-counter, must be in their

original container. For elementary grades, medicines must be brought to the school by a parent/guardian, not by the student. Copy of the medication authorization forms are available online. If you have additional questions, please contact your child's school.

## What Happens When My Child Gets Sick?

When your child is ill, please don't send them to school. Please use common sense and keep your child home when they are running a fever of 100 degrees or more, have diarrhea, are vomiting, have a sore throat, have a continuous "barking" or deep chest cough, etc. Please call the school's attendance line and report that your child will be absent due to an illness. When calling the school's attendance line, please tell us the name of the student, what grade the student is in, who the student's teacher is, and please briefly tell us the symptoms. Before returning a student to school, they should be fever-free for at least 24 hours without medication.

If your child comes to school sick or becomes ill at school, we will call you and ask that you pick up your child immediately. If we cannot reach you, we will call your emergency contact person to pick up your child. Please make sure that your contact information is always up to date. If there is an extreme emergency regarding your child, 911 will be called.



## Student Insurance Available

Forest Hills Public Schools provides student medical insurance coverage for any student injured at school or during a school-related activity, including athletics. This coverage is secondary to any student or family medical insurance. In effect, the district's medical insurance will cover medical costs for school-related injuries that are not covered by the family's medical insurance as long as the injury falls within the range of coverage. If a family wishes to improve upon the district's plan, additional options are available for individual purchase. All necessary information will be made available to students at the beginning of school. Any family wishing to subscribe should complete the form and return it to their school. To obtain the insurance form, please call your child's school.

## Construction Updates

In November of 2018, the Forest Hills Public Schools community approved a bond proposal to provide \$130 million to fund capital improvements phased in over eight years. The Forest Hills Public Schools 2018 bond proposal was developed to INVEST in the district's infrastructure by upgrading aging systems to save operational costs, SECURE our schools by upgrading safety measures, and INSPIRE our students by providing modern learning environments.

Major renovations and improvements have taken place thanks to voters approving this bond in 2018. Some of the major projects included renovations at the following buildings:

- Northern High School (partial)
- Eastern Middle/High School (partial)
- Orchard View Elementary School
- Collins Elementary School
- Thornapple Elementary School
- Central Middle School (in progress)

- Ada Vista Elementary School (in progress)
- Pine Ridge Elementary School (in progress)

The 2018 bond impacted students in the Central, Eastern, and Northern sides of the district. To learn more and see how learning spaces have been transformed, please visit our construction blog [www.fhpsbondupdates.com/blog](http://www.fhpsbondupdates.com/blog).

*(continued on next page)*



## Come Join the FHPS Team

Looking for an excellent employment opportunity at Forest Hills Public Schools? Consider joining our team as a bus driver, custodian, maintenance person, food service worker, paraprofessional, playground/recess paraprofessional, and many more. FHPS currently has several positions open and we do offer employment year-round. We also offer part-time positions to fit your schedule and offer flexibility. Come make a difference in a child's education. For more information, please call 616-493-8805 or go online to [fhps.tedk12.com/hire/](http://fhps.tedk12.com/hire/).



## Procedures for Severe Weather and School Closings

The superintendent's office continuously monitors the weather and weather conditions. When school is closed, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations. There will also be an automated message sent to families via SchoolMessenger using telephone, email, and text. Closings and delays will also be posted on social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, and will be posted on the district website.

When school is closed due to winter weather conditions, all after-school activities for the day will be canceled unless indicated otherwise by the superintendent. In the event of early dismissal, notice will be immediately provided via SchoolMessenger, the district's website, and local media stations. When school is closed, all programs run through Community Services, and our aquatic center are closed.

### Tornado Watch/Warning

When the National Weather Service issues a tornado watch or a thunderstorm warning while school is in session, students remain in school. Outdoor activities, such as recess are moved inside the building when possible, and staff continue to monitor the weather. After-school activities and/or athletic activities could be postponed. When the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning for any region encompassed by the geographical area of the Forest Hills Public



Schools, the district will issue the tornado warning announcement. People will be moved to designated shelter areas and all routine operations will be suspended until the warning has expired (this may include delay of the starting and ending of the school day).

We urge parents/guardians to refrain from coming to school to pick up their child during a tornado warning. The process of checking a child out of school diverts the attention of staff when their presence is needed to perform other important tasks during a warning.

Finally, children take their emotional cues from the caring adults in their lives. Please discuss with your family what should be done during periods of threatening weather. Severe weather watches and warnings are a common aspect of living in Michigan, and children are able to learn to calmly and deliberately respond to tornado watches and warnings.

If you have any questions regarding the district's procedures during a tornado watch or warning, feel free to contact your child's principal.

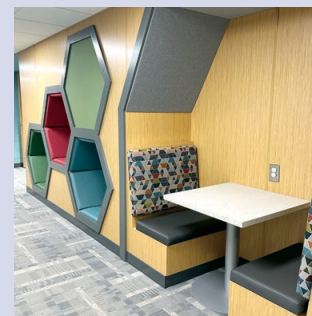
## Construction Updates (continued from previous page)



Collins Elementary School, Multipurpose Room



Thornapple Elementary School, Hallway



Collins Elementary School, Common Work/Study Areas



# Parent Portal of PowerSchool: Log In and Complete Your Child's Enrollment Forms

Have you logged into Power School? This year, ALL parents/guardians are required to create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account. Why? Every year, at the start of school, families are required to fill out a stack of forms for each child in their family attending an FHPS school. Now, rather than paper, families will enroll and register students (without the need to duplicate information across multiple forms) via the PowerSchool Parent Portal mobile app or online with a link on our website.

This new online enrollment system with PowerSchool is easy to use, can be accessed any time, will translate forms into various languages, provides greater efficiencies, cleaner data, and much more.

Here is what families must do:

## Currently Have a PowerSchool Parent Portal Account

If you have a student who attended an FHPS school last year, chances are you have an account. If you have forgotten your username or password, these can be recovered by going to [ps.fhps.net/public](http://ps.fhps.net/public) and click on "Forgot Username or Password?" in blue text.

If you have an additional student or a new student attending school do the following:

1. Log into the FHPS PowerSchool system,

via the link [ps.fhps.net/public](http://ps.fhps.net/public), or the app.

2. Select "Account Preferences" in the left column.
3. Click the "Students" tab at the top of the page below "Account Preferences – Profile."
4. Click the blue "Add" button on the right side of your screen to add and link additional students to your PowerSchool account.
5. When finished, click "Sign Out" in the upper right hand corner.

## New to Forest Hills Public Schools

1. If you are new to Forest Hills Public Schools, login credentials are specific to each student and you must obtain the Access ID and password.
2. You may obtain login information and assistance by contacting your student's school and they will help you with the login process.

To learn more on how to download the PowerSchool mobile app, visit our web page: [www.fhps.net/departments/technology/parentportal](http://www.fhps.net/departments/technology/parentportal), and scroll down the page to the PowerSchool mobile app information. If you have any questions about PowerSchool access or need technical support, please email [parentportal@fhps.net](mailto:parentportal@fhps.net).

# Required Legal Notices

Public school districts are required to send to the parents/guardians of our students a vast array of annual notices. These notices are the products of various laws, rules, orders, and rulings of the state and federal government. Unabbreviated policies are located on the district website, at [www.fhps.net](http://www.fhps.net). Should you have questions about any of the legal notices listed below or anything you read online with these notices, please do not hesitate to contact the administration office at 616-493-8800, and we will be happy to assist you.

1. Anti-Bullying Policy
2. Civil Rights Compliance Officer (Equal Education Opportunity)
3. The McKinney-Vento Assistance Act
4. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
5. Section 504 of The Americans with Disabilities Rehabilitation Act
6. Student Directory Information
7. Federal Law Requires Release to Military and Institutions of Higher Education Recruiters
8. School Visitors
9. Handicapped Access
10. Title I Program Information
11. Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy (Board Policy 5401)
12. Personal Curriculum
13. Drug Prevention
14. Permanent Expulsion Policy
15. Dangerous Weapons, False Alarms, and Bomb Threats
16. Search and Seizure
17. Locker Searchers
18. Use of Detection Dogs
19. Video Surveillance Cameras in Schools and on School Sites
20. Notice of Nondiscrimination Policy
21. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
22. Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)
23. Notification of Asbestos Plan
24. Pesticide Application



# WHAT'S NEW

## at the FHPS Foundation



The Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation was founded with one mission: to support every learner and educator within the Forest Hills Public School District. Now 40 years later, that legacy lives on in our belief that education is the key to unlocking limitless possibilities. We strive to ensure that each learner has the resources, tools, and opportunities they need to thrive academically, personally, and professionally. Through our initiatives, programs, and fundraising efforts, we provide nearly \$200,000 in grants annually that empower educators to innovate in their teaching methods and inspire students to pursue their passions.



## Inspire. Engage. Invest.

The Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation raises funds to help support our kids, our teachers, our schools. We invest in student success! There are many needs identified by teachers and staff that cannot be covered by school budgets. With donations and community assistance, the Foundation supports these needs and other educational initiatives that are vital in equipping students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to build meaningful and productive lives.



The primary purpose of the Forest Hills Public Schools Foundation is to provide funds for educational activities and initiatives that enhance and enrich the educational experience for our students. Grants help teachers and staff purchase items, goods, and/or materials that are needed but typically are not covered in a school's budget.

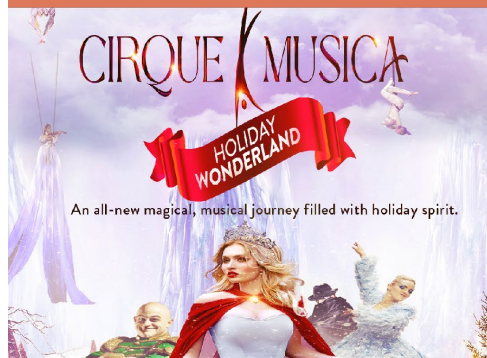
**Invest in our children's futures. Donate today! Visit [fhpsf.org](https://fhpsf.org) or call 616.493.8500 for more information.**



## *The Arts. The Place. The Community.*

THE 2023 - 2024 PROFESSIONAL SERIES

SUNDAY  
11/26/23  
CIRQUE MUSICA  
*Holiday Spectacular*



SATURDAY  
3/2/24  
CIRQUE MECHANICS  
*Zephyr: A Whirlwind of Circus*



SUNDAY  
4/21/24  
SPAMILTON  
*A Musical Comedy Spoof*



TICKETS ON SALE WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9TH 2023

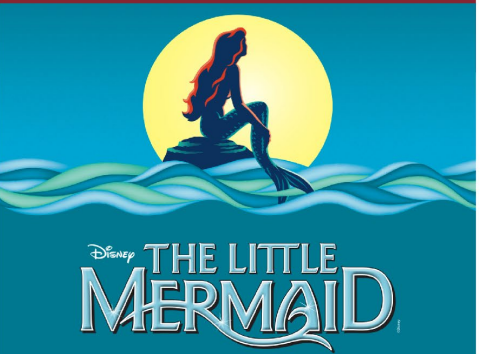
## *The Students. The Musicals. The Community.*

HIGH SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS

FOREST HILLS NORTHERN  
11/16/23-  
11/18/23



FOREST HILLS EASTERN  
2/8/24-  
2/10/24



FOREST HILLS CENTRAL  
3/21/24-  
3/23/24



TICKETS GO ON SALE ONE MONTH PRIOR TO OPENING DATE



## See What's New for Fall 2023!



Look for Our Quarterly Class Catalog in Your Mailbox!

Register for Enrichment Classes Online at  
[enjoylearning.com](http://enjoylearning.com) or Call Us at 616-493-8950.



Community Services  
Forest Hills Public Schools

### 21 New Classes for Adults

- Freestyle Faces (art)
- Yoga Nidra
- Ayurveda: An Introduction
- Rhythm Ballroom Dance
- Smooth Ballroom Dance
- Motown & Philly! (cooking)
- Baguette 101
- German Comfort Food!
- Stars and Rosettes Cake Decorating
- Halloween Cookie Platter
- Fall Harvest Cake
- Let's Talk Turkey
- Thanksgiving Cookie Platter
- Christmas Ornament Cookies
- Baking with Cheese!
- Toast with the Most: Bruschetta!
- Bridge Clinic (cards)
- Joy of Guitar
- Mindfulness Meditation
- Longevity Principles
- Discover Scuba Diving
- ... and many more returning favorites, too!

### 12 New Classes for Youth

- Fun with Drones
- Cook with Your Kids: Kicked-up Grilled Cheese!
- Cook with Your Kids: Holiday Cookies!
- Halloween Cooking Class: Loving the Larvae
- Frightfully Fun Cupcake Decorating
- Fall Harvest Cake Decorating
- Young Strummers Group Guitar Class
- Ramblers Group Guitar Class
- The Joy of Guitar
- Volleyball Skills for Boys
- Blowfish Swim Class
- Betta Fish Swim Class
- ... and many more returning favorites, too!

# FHPS PRIDE Resonates in Our Schools with PBIS

The start of a new school year is one full of promise and new beginnings: new friends, new teachers, new possibilities. For Forest Hills Public Schools, it also marks the kick-off of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. This is a district-wide initiative that creates safe, welcoming, and positive learning environments for all students, kindergarten through 12th grade. PBIS helps schools build a culture where students are taught, supported, and recognized for their positive behavior.

Why is the district implementing PBIS?

- Our Spring 2023 Perception Survey showed that there are students in our district who do not yet have a sense of belonging at school. PBIS improves students' sense of belonging.
- We heard from families, students, and staff that behavioral responses were not always consistent. PBIS establishes consistent responses to behaviors.
- Children sometimes communicate needs through disruptive behaviors and we want to equip students to grow in how to communicate their needs in a positive manner.
- Children and adults benefit from a consistent and clear response to behavior across the school district.
- We can unify our district through consistent and clear language that we use to describe expected behavior.
- Positive behavior plays an important role in improving student and teacher outcomes.
- PBIS aligns with the FHPS Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles.



We have hundreds of highly skilled and dedicated educators who are well-versed in creating educational environments where students can thrive. We seek to better connect and align these practices throughout all facets of students' experiences in FHPS, from the classrooms, on school buses, at extracurricular programs, events, in the lunchroom, hallways, recess, and more.

PBIS has been used in schools across the United States and beyond for 25 years. The research continues to show its effectiveness in supporting increased student achievement. PBIS is a framework for creating safe, positive, nurturing schools where every student can feel valued, connected to the school community, and supported by caring adults.

With the help and feedback of over 4,000 staff, students, and families, Forest Hills Public Schools selected the word "PRIDE" to help students understand our district-wide behavior expectations. PRIDE stands for: Persistent, Respectful, Inclusive, Dependable, EVERY DAY!

Whether you are a Ranger, Husky, or Hawk, we are all one Forest Hills and our pride

will resonate this year and years to come throughout our schools and spaces. Families will hear more on how schools implement this system and will learn more from students and staff throughout the coming year.

If you have specific questions pertaining to PBIS at your school, please contact the building principal.



## FHPS PRIDE

**Persistent Respectful Inclusive Dependable Every Day!**





6590 Cascade Road  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-493-8800

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Permit No. 237

## Visiting Our Schools

We welcome and encourage family members to visit their children's school. Please check with your child's teacher for the best time to visit. When you arrive, you will have to press the "buzzer" in the school vestibule with a security camera to gain entrance. Then, be sure to sign in with the school secretary and secure a visitor's pass from the school office. For security reasons, we do not permit unauthorized visitors.

## Volunteering in Our Schools

Volunteers are an important part of our school community. We have a proud tradition of providing a wide variety of high-quality activities for students and families. Since many of our activities would not be possible without the involvement of family volunteers, we encourage family members to learn about the many opportunities to get involved in their schools.

In our ongoing effort to keep our schools safe, we require volunteer parents and community members to apply for criminal background checks provided by the Michigan State Police through their Internet Criminal History Access Tool, or ICHAT. All individuals volunteering in our schools must complete a form to have a background check and any response will be kept confidential. You must complete a new volunteer consent form each year. Forms are available online on your student's school web page. If you have questions, please ask your student's school secretary.

## Watch for Our Class of 2023 Graduation Edition of Focus!

Wishing our recent graduates well with their future plans. Coming soon in your mailbox.

## FHPS Football: Community Festivities

### Central High School's Community Tailgate Friday, Sept. 22, at 4 p.m.

Come join the Rangers for their annual community tailgate party. Activities begin at 4 p.m., featuring food, games, cheerleaders, poms, the marching band, face painting, and much more. The event will take place on the fields between Central High School and Central Middle School. The night's football game will feature the Rangers taking on Byron Center High School at 7 p.m.

### Eastern High School's Hawk Rally Friday, Sept. 8, at 4:30 p.m.

The Eastern High School Athletic Boosters will host the annual Hawk Rally with family fun, food, games, music, activities for the children, and entertainment. The event will be held on the lawn outside the Hawk Stadium. The all-school athlete parade will begin at 6:45 p.m. Cheer on the Eastern Hawks as they go for a victory against Ottawa Hills High School at 7 p.m.

### Northern High School's Husky Fest Friday, Sept. 22, at 3 p.m.

Parents of the Forest Hills Northern senior class will host homecoming and Husky Fest in the commons at the high school. The carnival will include face painting, games, and activities for the entire family. After the carnival, follow the marching band into the stadium (spectators must purchase tickets at the entrance gates) where the Huskies will take on Grand Rapids Christian High School at 7 p.m.



Come out and support our Husky, Ranger, and Hawk athletic teams this year. Kids, be on the lookout for your school's mascot at sporting events and show your school spirit.

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