

Over the FENCE

Four House System

To start the year, RMS has added an additional layer to its PBIS system to foster a positive and inclusive school culture with the implementation of the Ron Clark House System.

This program is designed to promote teamwork, leadership, and a sense of belonging among our Castle Crew Community. To close out this year's First Four activities (first week of school), seminar classes were sorted into one of four houses during a whole-school assembly: ALTRUISMO, REVEUR, AMISTAD, or ISIBINDI. Throughout the year, staff can award points to students or houses based on participation in activities, displaying PBIS values and monthly character traits, as well as promoting collaboration with peers across grade levels.

Here is a brief overview of each house:

- **ALTRUISMO** (House of Givers) – Black: This house values generosity and encourages students to uplift others through acts of kindness and service.
- **AMISTAD** (House of Friendship) – Red: Students in this house are encouraged to demonstrate empathy, care, and support for others.
- **ISIBINDI** (House of Courage) – Green: Inspiring, courageous, and committed. Students in this house encourage others to stay steadfast and true.
- **REVEUR** (House of Dreamers) – Blue: This house is competitive, passionate, and goal oriented. These students have big goals and are determined.



The House System provides a unique opportunity for students to develop a strong sense of community and belonging. It promotes school spirit and friendly competition, helping students build connections throughout the building with house meetings and celebrations. The system encourages teamwork, leadership skills, and the development of core values like respecting others, modeling responsibility, and making safe choices. Additionally, it empowers students to take ownership of their school environment and fosters a culture of positive reinforcement.

We look forward to the positive impact this system will have at RMS, as these four houses become one Castle family.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fraser Families,

October is here, and I am looking forward to the opportunities this month brings to celebrate learning

and collaboration between our staff, students, and families. September ended with our Fraser Family tailgate followed by homecoming a week later. These two events gave us a chance to celebrate our community, our students, and our Fraser traditions.

This month, all schools will host student-led conferences, where students will have an opportunity to share their learning with their families. These conferences provide students a chance to take ownership of their learning and play an active role in their education.

I want to thank each of you for taking the time to participate in our recent strategic plan survey. Your insights and feedback are invaluable as we work together to shape the future of our schools. The information we gathered will be crucial.

Over the coming weeks, our team will analyze the data to help us determine the focus areas for our next strategic plan. Your voices will help guide our decisions and ensure that we are meeting the needs of our students and community.

In the next phase of our strategic planning, we will schedule focus group meetings to discuss the

Continued on page 2 ...

CURRICULUM CORNER

EARLY
EDUCATION*Enrollment in our Young Fives and Great Start Readiness preschool programs continues to grow.*

This upward trend reaffirms the district's commitment to providing valuable learning opportunities for our youngest students.

Young Fives is now offered at five elementary schools, with plans to add a class at the final elementary school in the future. This year, the Great Start Readiness Program [GSRP] expanded to five sections at the Dooley Center.

The data reveals a 12.5% growth in GSRP and a 25% increase in Young Fives enrollment this year, marking a pivotal moment for our district's early education efforts.

Young Fives provides a vital bridge between preschool and kindergarten.

This program focuses on developing foundational skills in a nurturing environment, ensuring that children are prepared for the transition to kindergarten the following year.

"Young Fives was moved out of the Dooley Center and into our elementary schools three years ago," said Kate Mulligan, director of elementary instruction. "Since making that move, we have seen an increase in enrollment every year – growing from three classrooms the first year to five classrooms this year. We screen all incoming students at the time of enrollment to help families determine the best path for their child.

That screening, combined with the convenience of the program located within our elementary schools, is driving the enrollment increase."

The GSRP preschool program offers free, high-quality education to four-year-olds from families who meet certain income requirements. This program is instrumental in closing the achievement gap by providing children with essential skills and a strong start before they enter Young Fives or kindergarten.

The increase in enrollment in both programs signifies a broader trend toward valuing early childhood education. Fraser Public Schools is committed to meeting the diverse needs of our students and families by providing tailored educational experiences that set the stage for long-term success.

Edison Kids Are
Bucket Fillers

Fifth graders at Edison Elementary are Bucket Fillers! After reading the book "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud, students went home and filled someone's bucket. Students learned that there are so many ways to fill a person's bucket. Small actions can be just as important as large ones! Londyn filled her mom's bucket by helping her with laundry, making dinner, and doing the dishes. Jase made sure that he told his grandma goodnight before he went to bed.

For the month of September, students filled their classmates' buckets! Each student colored a bucket that was displayed in the classroom, and each week, they filled another student's



bucket by writing something kind and placing it in that student's bucket. They were very excited to get to do this!

SUPERINTENDENT'S
MESSAGE

... Continued from front page

survey findings and collaboratively begin to create the goals that will guide our district through 2030. We believe that involving our staff, families, and community in these discussions is essential for fostering a strong partnership between home and school.

We encourage you to stay informed about our progress and upcoming meetings. For more details, please visit our dedicated webpage at fraser.k12.mi.us/strategicplan. Your involvement is essential, and we are excited to continue this collaborative process.

With Fraser Pride,
Dr. Wozniak

Buzzing into a New Year with PBIS!

As the school year kicks off, our littlest learners at the Dooley Center are buzzing with excitement!

This year, they kicked things off with a Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) assembly, bringing together the Dooley Bees in their hive.

The friendly Dooley Bee, Bumbles, made a special appearance to teach the



students about the school-wide behavior reward system. During the assembly, Bumbles introduced the three B's: **Bee Safe, Bee in Control,** and **Bee Responsible.** When the students exemplify these behaviors, they earn a bee from a staff member. These bees go into their class jar, and once the entire school fills up their hive, they celebrate with exciting rewards like hallway dance parties and popcorn parties!

In addition to the rewards, they also learned the school-wide callback to get students' attention. The callback is "Bees, are you ready?" When they hear this, students respond by showing the American Sign

Language sign for the letter "B," signaling that they are ready to listen and learn.

Bumbles emphasized the importance of making good choices and how each student plays a vital role in creating a safe and supportive family environment at our school. After the assembly, Bumbles continued the fun by visiting classrooms and personally awarding bees to students who made her feel safe and welcome.

Everyone is thrilled to see the Dooley Bees embracing these positive behaviors as they work together to make this school year a fantastic one. Let's keep buzzing with enthusiasm and support one another as we soar to new heights!

RMS Student Breaks Record

Gavin Soviar, an 8th-grade student, broke the Richard's Middle School Cross Country two-mile record, running 11 minutes 5.4 seconds [11:05.4]; coming in first for the Boys' Varsity two-mile event.

The previous record was held by the current varsity captain, Lance Edghill. In 2021, Lance set the two-mile record at 11:15.

In 7th grade, Gavin broke the 1600-meter record with a running time of 5:09. The previous record for this event of 5:21 was set by Erick Lockhard in 2008.

Congratulations, Gavin!



Kindergarten Bootcamp



Disney kindergarten students kicked off the school year with Kindergarten Bootcamp, where they learned to use pencils, crayons, glue, and scissors. Next, they enjoyed a two-week color word exploration, and it was exciting to see their creativity in action!

Each day focused on a new color, with families encouraged to join in the fun by dressing in the color of the day. Their activities included reading color-themed books, singing fun songs, and creating their own color books. This hands-on approach helps students learn to identify and spell color words while discovering colors in their everyday lives. It's a vibrant and engaging way to blend learning with creativity!



★ ★ ★ Students Are SOARing!



Kindergarten students at Eisenhower are SOARing into the new school year and learning school and classroom rules.

The kindergarteners are excited to fill their “Jar with Stars” as part of their new PBIS incentive.

Each class can earn a large star to add to the jar, and the children can earn their own stars for the jar for SOARing in a positive way. The students are excited to try to fill the class jar and earn a reward. The Star Jar is a wonderful way to reinforce positive behavior and helps students succeed in school.



Early Literacy is Key at Twain

Kindergarten students at Mark Twain have been busy exploring early literacy concepts. The children are engaged in fun activities that introduce literacy in multisensory ways. Students listen to stories, share ideas, and even create books that mimic other entertaining texts they have enjoyed in class.

The students also have been engaged in a phonics program, Heggerty, which already has the children noticing consonants and vowels! The children have done multiple



consonant hunts around the room and have enjoyed other games, such as a rhyme puzzle match. As you can see from the picture, the children are having fun learning their new skills. We can't wait to see how they grow this year!

Exciting Times at the Dooley Center



The Dooley Center is thrilled to announce that the early childhood programs are officially in full swing! As the new school year kicks off, all classes are in session, and our youngest learners are diving into an enriching educational journey. For many of our students, this is their very first experience in a school setting, and the staff is here to make it a positive and transformative start.

At the Dooley Center, everyone understands that beginning school is a significant milestone, especially for children as young as 2.5 years old. Dooley's dedicated team is committed to ensuring that this initial

experience is both welcoming and educational. Dooley begins by introducing the students to the basics of school life, which includes learning how to line up, understanding the expectations within the classroom, and navigating social interactions with peers.

Dooley's approach is designed to build a strong foundation for students' future school careers. It focuses on creating a nurturing environment in which children can learn and grow at their own pace. Dooley's curriculum is thoughtfully crafted to support children's developmental needs, fostering curiosity and a love for learning from the very start.

The goal at the Dooley Center is not just to prepare young learners for the academic challenges ahead but also to help them develop essential social skills and self-confidence. By starting early, children are equipped with the tools they need to thrive throughout their educational journeys.

Everyone is excited to see our students blossom, and we look forward to sharing more of their achievements and progress throughout the year.

2nd Grade Starts Year with a Growth Mindset

As the school year begins, second-grade students at Emerson Elementary have been learning about a growth mindset.

They are working on the power of "yet." When things get hard, they practice telling themselves, "I just don't know how to do it yet."

The students are learning that people are not just born smart; they must work hard to learn. Some great stories that involve



characters using a growth mindset are "The Most Magnificent Thing" and "The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes." The classes went through examples of thoughts they can tell themselves to stay in that growth mindset. Our second graders are definitely ready to take on the next challenge!



Classroom Community

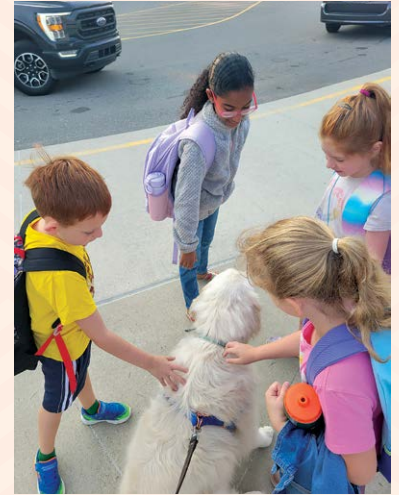
Second-grade students at Edison spent the first few weeks of school building their classroom communities. They have done many activities to help them get to know each other. Activities such as sharing "All About Me Bags," using M&Ms to answer questions about themselves, and working together to assemble puzzles.

A strong sense of community is important to a student's success. Students who feel connected



to their community are more likely to be engaged in learning, participate and thrive in the learning environment, develop social and emotional competencies, and act ethically and altruistically.

Charlie the Dog is Back!



Charlie, the English Creme Golden Retriever, started visiting Salk once a week in 2023. Charlie is a certified therapy dog and part of the Salk Family. Charlie has returned this year, and the students could not wait to see him. Studies have shown that therapy dogs have the ability to increase positive emotions, promote engagement in learning activities and positive attitudes toward learning, and reduce negative behaviors, as well as encouraging prosocial behaviors including acting as a social catalyst to facilitate social interactions with others. Charlie's purpose is to ease students' anxieties and increase positive emotions. Results from student surveys have shown that Charlie has done that.

Charlie is a certified therapy dog after completing his training and testing by the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. He has also earned the title of AKC Canine Good Citizen.

McMahon Thrift Store Opens at FHS

After months of planning, the McMahon Thrift Store, located inside Fraser High School, opened in late September.

About 70 students visited the store on the first day, which is open before and after school Tuesday through Friday.

The store is named in honor of Mr. Connor McMahon, a social studies teacher who unexpectedly passed away in June 2023. It is also located in his former classroom.

Social Studies Department Head Mr. James Socha said Mr. McMahon championed the phrase “It’s for the kids!” and that’s the goal of the store.

“Our district has many students in need and students who like to thrift. Melding those two ideas together will help take away some of the stigma,” Mr. Socha said.

All items in the store are free, and students can take up to three items each day. The store offers clothing and accessories, such as ties, belts, and bags/purses. There is also a special request box for students who have a need that isn’t met in the store.

Currently, students are helping to keep the store stocked and items folded. Mr. Socha said in the future he would love to partner with student organizations at FHS to help with staffing and earning service hours.

Donations are being accepted. Contact Mr. Socha at james.socha@fraserk12.org if you would like to donate.



Current Needs:

- Hoodies
- Shirts (T-shirts or dress shirts)
- Pants (jeans, dress pants)
- Shorts
- Purses and backpacks
- Fraser gear
- Monetary donations to buy special request items

Not Needed:

- Shoes
- Underwear
- Coats (will request as the weather turns)
- Hats
- Anything that has holes, paint, stains, rips, tears, or pet hair

PLANNING AHEAD

OCTOBER 10
RMS Half Day –
Conferences

OCTOBER 15
5th Grade
Recorder Concert
FHS Gym, 6:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 17
FHS Half Day –
Conferences

OCTOBER 19
Fall Craft Show
FHS, 10:00 a.m.

OCTOBER 21
School Board Meeting
Idea Lab, 7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 23
Elementary Evening
Conferences
4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 24
Elementary Half Day
Conferences
1:30 – 3:30 p.m. and
4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 24
ECSE
AM Only

OCTOBER 24
NHS Inductions
Fraser Performing
Arts Center, 7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 31
All Levels Early Release
District Provided
Professional Development
Elementary/ECSE:
8:35 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
RMS: 8:05 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
FHS: 7:30 a.m. – 11:44 a.m.

NOVEMBER 4
School Board Meeting
Idea Lab, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 5
No School All Levels:
Election Day
District Provided
Professional Development

NOVEMBER 7 & 8
Clue the Musical
Fraser Performing
Arts Center, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 9
Clue the Musical
Fraser Performing
Arts Center, 1:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 18
School Board Meeting
Idea Lab, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 18
Salk Vocal Music Concert
Fraser Performing
Arts Center, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 19
Emerson Vocal
Music Concert
Fraser Performing
Arts Center, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 20
Disney Vocal
Music Concert
Fraser Performing
Arts Center, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 21
All Levels Early Release
District Provided
Professional Development
Elementary/ECSE:
8:35 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
RMS: 8:05 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
FHS: 7:30 a.m. – 11:44 a.m.

NOVEMBER 25
Twain Vocal Music Concert
Fraser Performing Arts
Center, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 26
Elementary End of First
Trimester

NOVEMBER 26
Eisenhower Vocal Music
Concert
Fraser Performing Arts
Center, 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 27-29
Thanksgiving Break



FRASER HIGH SCHOOL
Athletic Booster Club's
ANNUAL
CRAFT AND VENDOR
SHOW

Saturday
Oct. 19
2024
10 AM – 4 PM

Fraser High School
34270 GARFIELD RD.
BETWEEN 14 & 15 MILE ROADS

ADMISSION: \$3.00
CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER FREE
(no strollers please)

OVER 150 ARTISTS AND EXHIBITORS!

FRASER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER PRESENTS:



Clue

THE MUSICAL

Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024 – 7 PM
Friday, Nov. 8, 2024 – 7 PM
Saturday, Nov. 9, 2024 – 1 PM

Tickets
www.fraserperformingarts.org

Fraser Performing Arts Center
Fraser High School
34270 Garfield Rd.
Fraser, MI