

Over the FENCE

Fraser Educational Foundation Awards Grants to Employees

The Fraser Educational Foundation surprised six staff members with giant checks and flowers.

The Foundation awards grants each year to employees in Fraser for items that go beyond the typical school budget and that can impact the most students.

Additionally, this year the Foundation received a \$100,000 gift from the estate of Delia Martin. Mrs. Martin was a longtime Foundation member, and founder of El Charro Mexican Restaurant. Half of the gift is to be used for the grant program, and the other half will be used for capital improvements in the performing arts department. Two grants were funded this year through the Delia Martin Gift.

Dan Gallina **Fraser High School – \$1,000**

Mock Trial Club: The Mock Trial Club is a structured program run with guidance from the Michigan Center for Civic Education. It aims to provide students



with a simulated court experience after analyzing a complex legal fact pattern. The focal point of this program is a realistic mock trial held at the Macomb County Circuit Court, presided over by esteemed area judges, lawyers, and legal professionals.

Jim Socha **Fraser High School – \$1,000**

McMahon Thrift Store: The purpose of the McMahon Thrift Store is to help students in need have adequate clothing throughout the school year.



This store gives all students an outlet to increase their wardrobe and help with their self-esteem. Mr. Connor McMahon found joy in giving his time and helping his students. The money from the grant will be used for store needs, the wish box, and other specialty items for students.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fraser Families,
As 2024 comes to a close, it is a great opportunity to look back at what we have accomplished this year and look forward to what is to come in 2025.

One continual point of pride in Fraser is our belief in giving to others. This happens throughout the entire year, and it demonstrates the high level of character within our school community.

Last month, our students collected hundreds of canned goods and nonperishable items to support the Clinton Valley Kiwanis, which then donated boxes of food to families in our community. The second-grade students in our district continued the tradition of writing letters to Santa for the Fraser Goodfellows. The letters are printed in the Goodfellows' annual newspaper, which helps fund their No Child Without a Christmas program. Finally, our Fraser Family also generously supported the Fraser Giving Tree, which will provide presents to more than 120 children in our district this holiday season.

These are just a few examples of the leadership and character you will find throughout our schools. When combined with our strong academic foundation, our students continue to display the competencies that define our Portrait of a Graduate: Character, Citizenship, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, and Critical Thinking.

Looking into 2025, I am excited to continue working on our new five-year strategic plan. This plan will build up the amazing things happening in our district

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CURRICULUM CORNER **LITERACY**

Fraser Public Schools had the privilege of welcoming Dr. Julia Lindsey, a renowned literacy expert and researcher, into our district.

With a focus on advancing phonics instruction, Dr. Lindsey brought both expertise and enthusiasm as she collaborated closely with our teachers to enhance our literacy practices.

During her visit, Dr. Lindsey modeled effective instructional strategies, engaging directly with students while demonstrating research-backed techniques for building foundational reading skills. Teachers observed and

participated as Dr. Lindsey showcased ways to make phonics lessons more interactive, efficient, and impactful, tailoring her methods to meet the diverse needs of our young learners.

In addition to working directly in the classroom, Dr. Lindsey facilitated hands-on professional development sessions for our teachers. Together, they explored innovative approaches to phonics instruction, examined data-driven best

practices, and discussed strategies to ensure every child receives the support needed to become a confident reader.

This collaborative effort represents Fraser's ongoing commitment to high-quality literacy instruction. By equipping our staff with the tools and strategies to deliver effective literacy instruction, we are investing in the lifelong success of every student in our school. We extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Lindsey for her invaluable contributions and look forward to continuing to put these strategies into practice!

First Grade SOARs!

First-grade students at Eisenhower have been focusing on making their behaviors SOAR! The students started the year learning about how to be Safe, Own their behaviors, and Accept and Respect others. The students continue to practice these expectations every day. To encourage helpful behavior, they signed promise boards to show their commitment to making positive choices.

Students are also part of a community-based classroom management system in each of the first-grade classrooms. Mrs. Gray's class is working towards earning "Lucky Ducks" while Mrs. Gargasoulas'



class is focusing on earning "Marvelous Monkeys." The classes can collectively earn large "Ducks" or "Monkeys"



when they work together to demonstrate SOAR behaviors, or individuals can earn smaller "Ducks" or "Monkeys" when recognized

for exemplary behaviors. Each day a new student is surprised when they enter the classroom and are chosen to be the "Lucky Duck" or "Marvelous Monkey" for the day. They get the chance to sit at a special seat, take care of the stuffed animal, are line leader and are the topic of the shared writing for the day.

Working together as a team has motivated the students to encourage one another and truly helped to develop a positive atmosphere within the classrooms.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

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and create a roadmap into the future. Our principals and building leaders are gathering feedback from their staff and secondary students that will help refine our focus areas and specific goals. In the new year, we will share this feedback and outline our goals and the strategies necessary to achieve those goals.

As we approach winter break, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for your continued support and partnership. This time of year offers a wonderful opportunity to rest, recharge, and spend quality time with loved ones. I hope you all have a peaceful and joyful holiday season filled with moments of relaxation and happiness.

I wish you and your family a safe and restful winter break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year.

With Fraser Pride,
Dr. Wozniak

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Vicky Zoldos
Fraser High School – \$354.75

Día de Los Muertos School Display:
Students in Ms. Zoldos' classes have expressed an interest in delving deeper



into the meaning of Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) so she plans to set up an ofrenda in the media center to share the culture behind this Latin American holiday. Students will display traditional items that represent earth, wind, water, and fire and will create informational materials for those who visit the ofrenda.

Amy Olenzek
Fraser High School – \$360

Francophone Music on the Harmonica:
Last year, two volunteer musical guests came to Ms. Olenzek's French classroom and taught her students to sing French



and francophone songs and to play them on the harmonica. The grant will be used to offer a more advanced class for students who participated last year, as well as introducing this year's students to music. Each student will receive a

harmonica to use, and the grant will allow two guests to come to FHS to teach the class.

Amelia Ciaramitaro
Disney Elementary – \$1,492.67
(Delia Martin Gift)

Sensory Room: The grant will be used to create a sensory room for students at Disney Elementary School. Having a



sensory space in a school environment is an evidence-based strategy that promotes a positive school culture and supports student's overall health and well-being.

Amanda Gottardo
Richards Middle School – \$2005.70
(Delia Martin Gift)

Shining Star Artist: The grant will be used to purchase several large bulletin boards and glass showcases to display student artwork. At Richards Middle



School, there are limited places to display student work. Having student work on display not only boosts a student's enthusiasm in the classroom but encourages others to take art classes.

Edison Third Graders
Partner with the FHS
Culinary Program



Edison third-grade students were invited to Fraser High School last month to celebrate International Chefs Day, which took place on October 20.

Mr. Kokenyesdi, a CTE teacher at the high school in the Culinary Arts department, wanted to have a small presentation and celebration with the kids and his culinary students.

During the visit, students learned about place settings, discussed the food groups, helped make lunch in the kitchen, and dined on the wonderful meal prepared. There was a chef from the University of Michigan sharing fresh fruit with students. Some students were able to try foods they had never tasted before. Sebastian Gravlín stated, "My favorite part of visiting the high school was making the food because it was fun!" Genevieve Wermers said, "I liked when we got to make the salad in the kitchen and pretend we were in high school."

"Students get excited when they get to visit the high school and see all the possibilities of the classes offered there. It is a great preview for our young Fraser students," said Mrs. Parenteau, a third-grade teacher at Edison.

Be Nice Club Annual Student Symposium

The RMS eighth grade Be Nice Club had the opportunity to join the annual student symposium on November 12 at Ford Field.

Students were joined by other schools from around Michigan who also use the Be Nice program in their schools. The day started with keynote speaker Anthony Grupido and his “Magic of Hope” presentation. He engaged the students by speaking about his own mental health journey, while incorporating his magician skills. The students were very intrigued by his presentation.

Afterwards, the students were divided into smaller groups for breakout sessions. Students networked with one another while engaging in each of the four sessions, including mental health trivia, empowering connections, self-care plan, and learning about a new tech app presented by former Be Nice students and co-founders of Mindful Peer Tech, along with Eric Hipple, former quarterback for the Detroit Lions. The app is designed to fill the gap in mental health knowledge for students, offering accessible tools



like microlearning modules, motivational messages, journaling features, and organizational aids. Throughout the morning, therapy dogs were available and roaming as well. The RMS Be Nice Club members found value in meeting with other students from across Michigan, as well as all the breakout sessions.

For World Kindness Day on November 13, the seventh and eighth grade Be Nice

Club members encouraged students and staff to fill out positive sticky notes about others to spread kindness. Leading up to World Kindness Day, club members were set up during lunch and students were able to fill out a positive sticky note for free about a teacher, friend, parent, or anyone they'd like to send one to. Sticky notes will be distributed to the recipients to share kindness in the castle at RMS.

Kindergarten Future Careers

The kindergarten students at Mark Twain had an exciting time with Fraser High School Future Teachers! The high school students brought engaging materials for Twain's little ones that introduced careers.

The kindergarten students visited stations to explore various career choices. Some of the Future Teachers shared coloring pages depicting people

engaged in specific career activities. They discussed the illustrations with the kindergarten students, finding out what peeked each child's interest.

The students also visited a station where they dressed up as their future career choice. The kindergartners had a wonderful time with the Future Teachers from FHS and look forward to welcoming them back soon!



Army Boot Camp

In November, Emerson Elementary students enjoyed an exciting “Army Bootcamp” day as part of their PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and



Supports) incentive for the month. The event was led by three amazing soldiers: Sergeant First Class James Welch, Master Sergeant Amanda Marthouse, and Staff Sergeant Kourtney Vancalbergh. Students participated in a series of physical activities designed to get them moving, promote teamwork, and encourage following directions – all valuable skills that connect to the Army’s discipline and focus.

The bootcamp also included an interactive Q&A session where students asked the soldiers insightful questions about their careers and



experiences in the military. This hands-on event was a fun and engaging way for students to learn about discipline, physical fitness, and the importance of working together. A big thank you to our visiting service members for making this event such a memorable and meaningful experience for all!

HOSA Leadership Conference

On November 22, thirty-one members of Fraser HOSA and two members of RMS HOSA competed in the HOSA Region 4 Leadership Conference at Dakota High School.



These students have been working hard for the last three months preparing for this event. The competition was tough with over 900 participants competing in 61 events. See the list below for the competition results.

Middle School

- Naomi Wooten** – Gold Medal, Foundations of Medical Terminology
- Jenna Rogers** – Gold Medal, Health Career Exploration

High School

- Nouri Hollins** – Gold Medal, Medical Law & Ethics
- Amelia Dawood** – Top 7, Medical Reading
- Isabella Salem** – Gold Medal, Medical reading
- Sharmeen Syed** – Gold Medal, Medical Spelling
- Camilla Dawood** – Top 7, Sports Medicine
- Elliana Laity and Hailey Beauchamp** – Bronze, CPR and First Aid
- Jeani Lemire, Raymond Pavlov, Grace Grupido, and Lauren Sergent** – Silver Medal, MRC Partnership
- Aneko Nichol** – Gold Medal, Research Poster
- Ashley Jeter and Kennedy Warren** – Gold Medal, Public Service Announcement

Paige Brown, Iman Moses, and Hannah Zunno – Top 7, Public Service Announcement

The Fraser HOSA students will go on to compete in the HOSA State Leadership Conference in Traverse City this April. The RMS HOSA students will compete in the Middle School HOSA State Leadership Conference in March at Detroit Country Day Middle School.

New Gross Motor Area Engages Young Learners

Over the past year, the Dooley Center has undergone exciting changes, particularly in what used to be the library space.



This transformation has brought new opportunities for their youngest students to develop essential gross motor skills through engaging, hands-on activities.

Last spring, a track was installed, giving children a designated space for scooter riding. During the summer, the addition of a rock wall tailored for little learners introduced an adventurous, skill-building element. These enhancements, along with a log cabin and fire truck set up in the heart of the space, make up a new gross motor area designed to inspire growth and exploration.

The log cabin and fire truck bring an imaginative twist to the area, providing

endless opportunities for pretend play. As students take on roles like firefighters or adventurers, they develop social-emotional skills, creativity, problem-solving abilities, and language skills. While climbing, scooting, and building, they're also working together and learning to communicate, collaborate, and imagine – all critical skills for lifelong learning.



grow. The Dooley staff is thrilled to see these improvements in action and look forward to the lasting benefits they will bring to our students.

The Dooley Center's gross motor area is more than a place for physical activity; it's a space where young learners can safely explore, create, and

Salk Second Grade Wax Museum



In second grade, students learn about communities in social studies. Students then demonstrate what they have learned about careers during a wax museum. To prepare for the museum, they had volunteers come into Salk's second-grade classroom and share about their occupations. During the wax museum, students dress up as their occupation, present a visual, and share a written report. Families are invited to visit the wax museum at Salk. It is wonderful watching students share what they learned in a real-world setting.

PLANNING AHEAD

DECEMBER 5
Elementary Half
Day Records

8:35 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 5
ECSE PM ONLY – No ECSE
AM Classes

DECEMBER 6
Elementary Half
Day Records

8:35 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 9
School Board Meeting
Eisenhower Elementary,
7:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 6
ECSE PM ONLY – No ECSE
AM Classes

DECEMBER 11
Elementary Report Cards
Distributed

DECEMBER 16
FHS Jazz & Concert Band
Concert
Fraser Performing Arts
Center, Seating at 6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 17
FHS Varsity & Symphony
Band Concert
Fraser Performing Arts
Center, Seating at 6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 18
FHS Half Day Records
7:30 – 10:46 a.m.

DECEMBER 19
FHS Half Day Records
7:30 – 10:46 a.m.

DECEMBER 19
RMS Half Day Records
8:05 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

DECEMBER 20
FHS Half Day Records
7:30 – 10:46 a.m.

DECEMBER 20
RMS Half Day Records
8:05 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 3
Winter Break

JANUARY 6
School Resumes

JANUARY 13
School Board Meeting
Idea Lab, 7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 15
Restorative Practices for
Parents & Caregivers
RMS Media Center,
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

JANUARY 20
No School All Levels:
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

JANUARY 27
Elementary Band Concert
FHS Gym, 7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 27
School Board Meeting
Idea Lab, 7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 29
Early Release All Levels
Elementary:
8:35 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
RMS: 8:05 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
FHS: 7:30 – 11:44 a.m.

JANUARY 29
Eighth Grade Family Night
Location, Time

JANUARY 31
Activities Auction
Vintage House,
7:00 – 11:30 p.m.

55th Season
**Metropolitan
Detroit Chorale, Inc.**



“Bringing music to life and lives to music”

The Many Moods of Christmas

Suites One and Four and Other Holiday Selections

Metropolitan Detroit Chorale and Orchestra
Saturday, December 14, 2024 • 3:00 p.m.

Fraser Performing Arts Center at Fraser High School

34270 Garfield Rd, Fraser, MI 48026

(Between 15 Mile Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.)

Tickets at [metropolitandetroitchorale.org](https://www.metropolitandetroitchorale.org)

\$25, Children 10 and Under Free

Questions/Help: 586-792-7464 ext. 505

FRASER HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AUCTION 2025

Friday, January 31

7-11:30 pm

Vintage House

31816 Utica Rd.

Fraser, MI

48026



\$40 per person

Ticket includes dinner, drinks, and dancing

must be 21+ to attend

Proceeds benefit Class of 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028

Silent Auction, Live Auction,
Raffle Baskets, and 1960s Costume Contest

Auction payment is due at the end of the night.

Cash or check accepted.

Questions? Contact Megan Schaeff: megan.schaeff@fraserk12.org

Winter Wellness Night

at Fraser High School

Garfield Side thru Auditorium Doors

Friday, February 21st

Elementary Students + Parents 5 pm-6:45 pm

High School/Middle School Students 7 pm- 8:45 pm

Activities :

Cookies and Hot Cocoa

Therapy Dogs

Self Care Activities

Calming Room

Massage Therapy

Face Painting

Exercise -Pound Class

Restorative Practices

Magician

Community Partners attending:

CARE of Southeast Michigan
Family Youth Intervention
All Things Possible Wellness Center
Irene's School of Massage
Flourishing Lives

A Night of FREE Fun!

Sponsored By: Be Nice

