

Over the Fence

Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition month and Fraser Public Schools is recognizing the seven members of the Fraser Board of Education for their unwavering commitment to the staff and students of our district. The Board members dedicate countless hours to their role of providing vision and leadership to the District. It is obvious that the seven members take pride in the responsibility of serving on the Board. Our Fraser Board members come from diverse backgrounds and experiences, but

working together, they make decisions in the best interests of Fraser students.

Students at every building in the District made cards, videos, banners and posters to show their appreciation to the Board. These items were presented at the January 11 Board meeting and are currently on display outside the Idea Lab at Richards Middle School.

On behalf of Fraser Public Schools, we thank each Board member for their commitment to Fraser's students and staff.

SALK ELEMENTARY'S
APPRECIATION VIDEO

[CLICK HERE!](#)

EMERSON ELEMENTARY'S
APPRECIATION VIDEO

[CLICK HERE!](#)



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fraser Families:

January is the month school districts across the state of Michigan celebrate the members of our Board of Education. I often hear our school board members joke about how serving on the Board only requires someone to commit to two meetings a month,

which are the regularly scheduled board meetings. However, in reality, our Board dedicates countless hours to serve our students, staff and community. Going above and beyond has become the norm for our school board. Each member has made a personal commitment to attend as many school events, local political gatherings, and countywide education events in order to remain connected to all aspects of serving on our school board.

In Fraser, we are fortunate to have a great mix of veteran and newly appointed/elected members serving on our Board of Education. For instance, our current board president, Gerry Gauthier, has served on our board for more than 22 years, while

our newest board trustee, Dan Stawinski, began his tenure in November. Like any great team, our Board blends the benefits of having veteran members with the fresh perspective and ideas of new members contributing to an already successful team.

I hope you will join me in thanking the members of our Board of Education as we celebrate their service this month. We are truly blessed to have such a tremendous group of leaders guiding our school district.

With Fraser Pride,
Dr. Richards

CURRICULUM CORNER

FRASER HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS — THE PSAT/NMSQT RESULTS ARE IN!

This past October, juniors at Fraser High School completed the PSAT/NMSQT assessment. Students can log on to view their results and prepare a personalized test prep plan for the SAT by [clicking here](#).

at FHS. “We will continue to work together as a team with the Fraser High School teachers adding specific activities to the classroom. Students can also log in to see their results and receive targeted intervention support.”

- Start on their scholarship and college financial aid plan
- Take a personality test to find majors and careers fit for them
- Get feedback on their readiness for AP courses

“As our students move into the new statewide testing, the SAT test preparation is critically important,” said Dr. Michael Lonze, principal

ONCE LOGGED IN, STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- See all their scores and if they are on track for college readiness
- View detailed explanations of skills required to be college-ready
- Send their scores to **Khan Academy®** for personalized practice recommendations
- Search for colleges that fit their needs
- Access their PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index score used for participation in programs conducted by **National Merit Scholarship Corporation**

The SAT will be offered for free to all 11th-grade students on April 12, 2016. Students in grades 8, 9 and 10 will also be testing using the SAT Suite of Assessments.

The College Board has created a website full of resources to understand the SAT Suite of Assessments, which can be found [here](#).

If you have any additional questions on the SAT Suite of Assessments, please contact FHS Principal Dr. Michael Lonze.

Ike Launches Watch D.O.G.S. Program for Dads

Eisenhower Elementary is excited to launch a new program, Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students).

Watch D.O.G.S. is an educational initiative of the National Center for Fathering that promotes father involvement in schools. This program focuses on safety and education by using the positive influence of fathers and father figures to be present and provide a positive and active role model for students at the school. Fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers and uncles are asked to spend at least one day at their student's school volunteering.

During the day, Watch D.O.G.S. may assist in the classroom; greet students in the hallway; volunteer during P.E., Art or in the Media Center; or eat lunch and play with students outside, which promotes teamwork and connecting with kids. Watch D.O.G.S. helps to engage men, inspire children, reduce bullying, and enhance the educational environment of the school.

To learn more about this program or to volunteer, [click here!](#)



K-2 1:1 iPads have Immediate Impact on Students

The 1:1 iPads have only been deployed in K-2 classrooms for a month, but already teachers and students are seeing a difference.

Salk 2nd-grade teacher Melissa Commons said going 1:1 has saved time and helped individualize learning for each student. “I have seen student engagement and enthusiasm increase,” said Commons. Before, “all of the iPads had the same apps on them and, since students had to share them, there was also a lot of extra transition time needed with students having to log in and log out to get it ready for the next student.”

Kindergarten, first and second grades previously shared nine iPads among each grade at each building. Cathy Amicucci, K-8 Test Coordinator, oversaw the 1:1 deployment. She said teachers now have the ability to customize the apps available on each iPad. “They can manage their own; they can put whatever apps they want on them,” Amicucci said. “They can set them specifically to what is going on in their classrooms.”

“With 1:1, I’ve been able to differentiate instruction by putting apps on individual iPads that meet the needs and interests of that particular student,” Commons said.

Robin Jenkins, a kindergarten teacher at Emerson, agreed that having 1:1 iPads in her classroom saves time and increases engagement. “I notice that my students are more engaged in what we are doing with the iPads present. Therefore, I try to use them as much as possible,” Jenkins said. “We can extend learning our math skills or reading strategies by using the iPads as learning opportunities come up, with the flexibility to use the iPads at any time.”



High School and Preschool Students Work Together

Fraser High School Family and Consumer Science (FCS) students learning about child development coordinated with the Dooley Center for a one-of-a-kind experience. The students, many of whom are looking into careers related to working with children, went to the Dooley Center to observe a classroom and work directly with the preschoolers. The Dooley students were shy at first, but warmed right up to the high school students. They created one-on-one holiday projects, planned holiday activities in the gym, and read a book with a group of children. The preschoolers were really engaged with the FCS students and loved the extra individual attention.



The field trip was a summative assessment for the FCS students for their unit on toddlers. Students were able to take the knowledge they learned in the unit and see what it looks like in the real world. After the visit, students reflected on their experience.

"I liked being able to go into an actual classroom setting," wrote one student. "We were able to put the skills we learned in class to use and see that they actually worked."

FHS Students Visit Holocaust Memorial

Thirty German 3 and 4 students from FHS recently visited the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills. The students had a guided tour of the facility and also heard from a 91-year-old Holocaust survivor. The center strives to remember those who perished and survived the Holocaust, and to set forth the lessons of the Holocaust as a model for teaching ethical conduct and responsible decision-making.



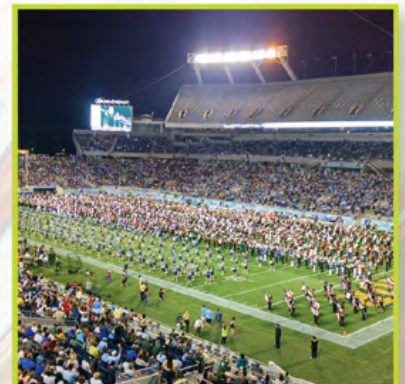
New Basketball Hoops at Emerson

Emerson students received a wonderful gift for the Holiday Season — NEW BASKETBALL HOOPS! This amazing addition to the playground was provided through a joint effort of the Emerson PTO and the departing 6th-grade class of 2014–2015.



FHS Marching Band Performs at Bowl Game

Nearly 100 student members of the Fraser High School marching band recently traveled to Orlando, Florida, to participate in the Russell Athletic Bowl halftime show. They joined 2,500 other high school student musicians on the field. While in Orlando, the band marched in the Macy's Holiday Parade at Universal Studios.





Salk Students Earn PBIS Rewards

As part of their Positive Behavior Program, Salk students have been very busy practicing their FISH behavior and were rewarded with extra gym time on January 5. Grade levels spent the day visiting the gym and going through the different activities. Monthly rewards are also available to students who have displayed the four FISH characteristics: "Be There," "Choose Your Attitude," "Make Someone's Day" and "Play." Other rewards have included electronics day, extra recess and a movie day at FHS.



Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

Nine Emerson 6th-grade students participated in the Fraser VFW essay competition, "The Patriot's Pen." Although none were chosen in that competition, each student's essay provided a valuable message about freedom in America.

Three students received building-level prizes:

- 1st Place – Nyla Muskovin**
- 2nd Place – Sydney Motto**
- 3rd Place – Heather McMenamin**

Mrs. Beavnier and Mr. Argiri were also recognized for their contributions to this meaningful competition from Ms. Linda Mentink.

RMS MEDIA CENTER: REDESIGNED!

If you haven't visited the Richards Middle School Media Center lately, stop in to check out the flexible, innovative and student-centered learning space.

The recording studio, equipped with a tripod and iPad mount, is an ideal space for students to film videos for classroom projects. Sound quality is vital when capturing video, and the recording studio provides a quiet place for students to produce high-quality products. With one of the walls painted green, it's also a perfect place to film green screen videos and utilize the Green Screen app.

The Media Center also has seven new collaboration stations. These areas allow students working on group projects space to collaborate without having to huddle around one iPad screen. Each area has a monitor and Apple TV, so students can project their iPads to the monitor. These collaboration stations help to embrace 21st Century Skills and put the 4 C's — Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Creativity — into practice. The alternative seating at these stations — yoga ball chairs and "minion" stools — are especially popular.



Not only has the furniture and equipment in

the Media Center changed, but also the culture is changing. Students want to be in the media center, and both staff and students are utilizing the space more than ever. With the addition of a Maker Space in the near future, students will be given the opportunity to participate in hands-on activities such as critical thinking and puzzle games, as well as technology-rich activities such as coding, robotics and stop-motion animation.



Edison Yearbook Cover Contest

Edison's Yearbook Cover contest narrowed the entries down to five finalists: Megan Hodge, Mia Sape, Katelyn Brimm, Isabella Marniku and Katelyn Frazier.

One lucky finalist will have her design put on the front of Edison's 2016 yearbook. The other four designs will be placed on the back. Congratulations to all the talented finalists!

Student Sings National Anthem at Hockey Game



Congratulations to Richards Middle School choir student Brooke Arnold who was chosen to perform the national anthem at the Metro Jets hockey game at the Fraser Hockey Rink! Brooke has also sang the anthem at RMS basketball games.

She is a well-rounded musician. In addition to singing soprano in the RMS choirs and RMS show choir, she plays alto saxophone in the RMS band/jazz band, has been in numerous Fraser musical productions, and has received excellent ratings on her solo repertoire at MSBOA district solo and ensemble on her alto saxophone and at MSVMA district solo and ensemble for her singing.



Hour of Code at RMS

Students throughout Fraser Public Schools completed an Hour of Code activity during Computer Science Education Week in December. The international movement is designed to introduce students of all ages to coding and computer science. Working alone and in pairs, hundreds of students at Richards Middle School spent an hour in the Media Center learning code through familiar games, such as Minecraft.

Twain Hosts Several Holiday Events

Mark Twain Elementary didn't slow down heading into the holiday break. It hosted a book fair, with proceeds from the sale benefiting the school's Media Center. The Twain Parent Club also hosted a Christmas movie night, which included *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, ornament making, a visit from Santa and voting on the schoolwide door decoration contest. The winners were Mrs. Paradowski's music door and Mrs. Albrecht's 4th-grade classroom.



Remembering Our Furry Friends

During the holiday season, food drives for local pantries may be common. But, this year, the Latchkey students at Emerson wanted to remember our furry friends. They organized a pet food drive for the Detroit Dog Rescue. The center is Detroit's only no-kill rescue and is dedicated to finding homes for the animals they rescued from a variety of circumstances. The students collected food, treats and toys for the shelter. A special thank-you to Mrs. Tammy and Miss Lauren for coordinating this event!



9th Annual

EMPTY BOWLS

To Benefit MCREST

Join us to support the hungry in our community

January 28, 2016
5:30-7:30 pm
Fraser High School Cafeteria

\$10 per person, or \$25 per family

Includes a student made ceramic bowl, with a meager meal of soup, bread and water.

Special Performance by the Fraser Youth Choir

Sponsored by Fraser Public Schools K-12 Art Department

www.fraserk12art.weebly.com/empty-bowls

Edison Supports the Community

The Edison Student Council hosted several events during the month of December to benefit the community. Students brought in more than 1,000 items for their annual canned food drive. They also celebrated the holiday season with their mitten donation tree, which brought in nearly 200 items. The food and winter items helped families in the Fraser community, as well as the HOPE Center on Groesbeck.



Disney Principal Dresses for Success



Mr. Sutherland kept his word! He came to school dressed as a turkey!

As a special incentive for Disney's annual Walk-a-thon, Mr. Sutherland promised students he would dress in an embarrassing costume if they met this year's goal. The students met the challenge and



Twain Winter Concert

Grades 4–6 at Twain, under the direction of Lisa Paradowski, performed their annual holiday concert this past December. The students spent 10 weeks learning and memorizing music that represented genres and styles from diverse cultures, including singing *In Dulci Jubilo* in German Latin. The students learned to sing with expression using appropriate dynamics, phrasing, breath control and interpretation of the music.

"I feel that it is very important for young people to be exposed to great music literature and the winter programs are an ideal environment for that exposure," says Paradowski.



HOSA Holiday Spirit



HOSA members at FHS were busy this holiday season with several events helping across the community. First, they created dozens of holiday cards for hospitalized children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Next, they hosted not one, but two blanket drives during December. Gently used blankets, towels and washcloths were collected at FHS and in the community. Two carloads were donated to Second Hand Rose and Turning Point in Mount Clemens, and another load found its way to Family of God, a ministry in Detroit that helps the homeless.

The other blanket drive consisted of gathering fabric and creating no-sew fleece blankets for hospitalized children at Children's Hospital of Michigan. For three days, room 1212 at FHS was transformed into a colorful blanket creation station as members created 30 warm and cuddly blankets. These were delivered just before Christmas. Jason Peach from Bedside Healers also donated a Bedside Healer stuffed animal with each blanket.

Ugly Sweaters Benefit Children's Hospital

The staff at the Dooley Center held an Ugly Sweater contest before break. For a \$5 donation, staff members could wear their ugliest Christmas sweaters. The proceeds were donated to Children's Hospital. Tammy Moss, a Flex Preschool Aide, took home top honors for the ugliest sweater. Way to go Dooley for making a fun event meaningful!





Swinging Holiday

Emerson Elementary had a “Swinging Holiday” at their annual winter concert. The program featured solo singers, instrumentalists, choreography and speaking parts. There are many talented students at Emerson and it really showed in their concert. The students did a great job!



Salk Students Share The Warmth

Salk Elementary students and parents once again stepped up to make sure everyone stays warm during the cold winter season. The Salk Student Council asked students and parents to send in gloves, mittens, hats and scarves. These items will be given to students in need to use this winter.

All of the items brought in were placed on a tree by the office. Many parents commented during conferences on how nice the tree looked and they promised to send in more items.

The Salk Student Council would like to thank all of the students and parents for their wonderful support this year!

Holiday Shopping at Edison

When you are an elementary student and can't drive, how do you find that special gift for your parents and loved ones? The Edison PTO took care of this problem by generously sponsoring a holiday shopping day for Edison students. The students were able to select gifts for family and friends. A special thank-you goes out to the Edison PTO for making the holidays merry and bright!



Little Artists Create the North Pole

This year, the Latchkey Little Artists at Edison Elementary made a very ambitious craft — their very own North Pole. Each Little Artist spent a great deal of time making this unique item that is a great gift to give to someone in their family or keep themselves. Even better, Santa had no trouble finding the North Pole!



STAY CONNECTED



Become a fan of Fraser Public Schools on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with the latest news and updates.



Don't forget to check out the District's website for a calendar of events at:

www.Fraser.k12.mi.us

AFSCME Food Drive

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) members from every building organized a holiday food drive for 50 local families. Each family received enough food to make meals for a couple weeks, including an eight-pound ham and fresh fruits and vegetables. AFSCME members brought in food, donated money and worked with local businesses to compile three boxes of food for each family. Members and their families volunteered on a weekend to sort and box the food.



Girl Scouts Help Needy Families

Seventeen Disney Elementary Daisy, Brownie and Junior girl scouts worked with the Sterling Heights Kiwanis Club to pack up more than 250 boxes of food for needy families. The Disney students and their families donated thousands of canned goods, mittens, gloves, scarves and hats during the month of December.



THE FRASER EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

The Fraser Educational Foundation is a nonprofit, tax-deductible organization. The objective of the foundation is to provide funding that will enhance teacher creativity, student enrichment and community involvement through activities that go beyond the scope of normally funded school budgets and responsibilities.

The foundation supports Fraser schools with donations from teachers, individuals and local businesses. During the last 25 years, the Fraser Educational Foundation has averaged \$12,000 in grants annually.

The grant program supports funding for all levels (DK–12). Some examples of recent projects the foundation has supported include grants for the purchase of books, supplemental education programs, online access to special interactive technology websites, virtual simulation software, and much more.

Visit www.fraser.k12.mi.us for more information or call 586.439.7004 to become a friend of the Foundation!

Dine at El Charro to Support the Fraser Educational Foundation

Present this flyer at Fraser's **El Charro** to have 20% of your bill donated to the Fraser Educational Foundation!

Monday, January 25, 2016 – Thursday, January 28, 2016

Valid from 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. for dine-in and carry-out orders

El Charro Mexican Restaurant
16720 East 14 Mile Road, Fraser | 586.294.3520