



Faribault Public Schools
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Faribault Public Schools Newsletter



On behalf of Faribault Public Schools, I want to thank the community for their support in renewing the operating referendum from 2013, for another ten years. With the renewal, we will be able to keep some of our programming that otherwise would have been cut. On the other hand, because questions two and three did not turn out as we had hoped, we will now need to take a hard look at our budget to figure out where over \$1 million in reductions will come from. We will continue to think of ways we can empower every student to achieve at high levels.

- Beginning with our youngest learners in our Early Childhood Family Education program that offers classes for infants, toddlers, and young preschoolers to attend with a loving adult for support in the early stages of development, to our preschool classes that nurture children in a safe, fun, and culturally responsive environment.
- At our elementary schools this year we have implemented “WIN” (What I Need) Time. WIN Time helps individualize learning, providing dedicated support on targeted areas for thirty minutes a day, everyday. During this time, students will receive academic support and enrichment based on their individual needs.
- We have also expanded our Gateway programs and electives at Faribault Middle School. This expansion allows for more career exploration opportunities for our sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students before the Career Pathways program

at the high school. Our middle school students also take lab courses in science, industrial technology, computer technology, visual arts, ecology, and family and consumer sciences, on top of the core curriculum.

- We continue to expand our Career Pathways at Faribault High School. Implemented in 2020, the Pathways of Excellence model gives students the ability to explore postsecondary and career options based not only on their interests, but on the opportunities within our community.

At Faribault Public Schools, we are committed to helping every student achieve their full potential. We empower students to become lifelong learners and dedicated community members by offering alternative learning opportunities and dedication to every student’s development. Our passion and dedication to the growth of every single student, parent, and community member is why families choose the Faribault Public School District.

Sincerely,

Jamie Bente,
Superintendent of Faribault Public Schools



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Teaching Life Skills Through The Falcon Cafe

Faribault Public Schools' students are learning valuable skills through makeshift coffee shops at both the middle school and high school that provide students with the opportunity to work on their oral communications skills, practice their workplace social skills, time management, and apply their math skills. Students take orders from staff members and deliver coffee and other treats every Friday.

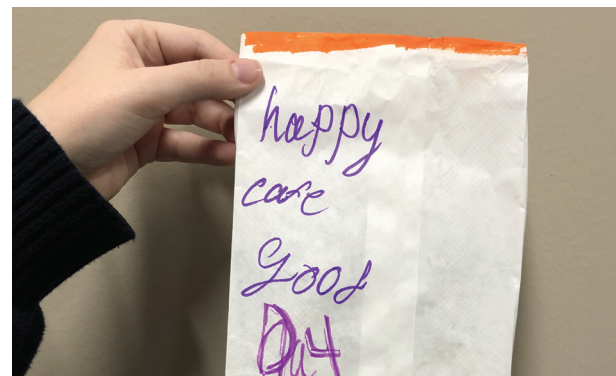
Mrs. Hagedorn and Mrs. Getchell's students run the Falcon Cafe at Faribault Middle School and Mrs. Larson's students run the Falcon Coffee Runners at Faribault High School. Both coffee shop locations are supported by donations from the Faribault Knights of Columbus.

Faribault High School, Middle School and District Office staff can place an order online. Once received, students complete the order and deliver it to the classroom or office location. If staff give students a recommended donation, the students put the money in a cash register. To operate, the Falcon Cafe uses a Keurig and electric tea kettle to make the beverages and offers pre-packaged food options as well. The students (acting as employees) have gone through an application and interview process to get the job. The employees also receive on-the-job training sessions and wear gloves. At the end of the day, the students



calculate how much money they made. The profits are divided; a portion of the money is used to purchase more supplies and another portion of the funds is put towards a "Pay Day" party for the students/employees. In the past, the students have had a hot cocoa party, pancake party, and at the end of the year, they enjoy a bowling party at Bashers. The Bowling party is always a highlight of the year.

Some students have worked on becoming managers. Those students are coached on how to speak to employees to support and encourage them and to lead by example. All employees work on the soft skills needed to maintain employment such as taking turns, personal space, voice tone, handling high-stress, busy environments, what to do when there is seemingly nothing to do, and more.



The teachers shared, "The goal of the Falcon coffee shops is to teach our students valuable life skills that they can apply not only in our classrooms but in real-life situations. We also hope that what they learn now will help them have a positive experience when they get their first part-time job. Last spring, we started the process of connecting with the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce to perhaps expand and connect these life skills to other types of businesses in the community. We are still in the beginning stages but hope to expand our program."

Elementary Students Receive Winter Gear from Faribault Rotary Club

Thanks to the Faribault Rotary and their 5th Annual *Warm Our Community* initiative, all three of our elementary schools: Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt received winter coats, snow pants, boots, hats, and gloves for students in need. Parents and legal guardians received an online form where they could choose which items their children needed. After all order forms were received, Rotary members delivered the items to the schools. Many pre-k through fifth grade students received all items offered. Rotary Club Member, Keith Kramer, shared, "We believe that *Warm Our Community* was a success and we believe there is a genuine need for items that some families cannot afford."

The Faribault Rotary Club partnered with other community organizations in order to grow the program every year. "It truly takes a community team to pull off a large-scale



outerwear drive. Reliance Bank allowed us to deliver, sort and pack all items in their basement. Kristen Thiele from Treadway Graphics ordered many of our items, Casie Steeves from the Chamber of Commerce designed the flyer and order form. We also received generous financial donations from sponsors like Rotary Charitable Gambling, Allina Health, Hometown Credit Union, Rice County Sheriff's Association and River Valley Church to make this event possible," said Kramer, "Rotary is all about service above self and collaboration with other entities that share our vision of making a difference in the lives of youth."

DATES TO REMEMBER/CALENDAR:

December 22-30 - NO SCHOOL - Winter Break

January 2 - NO SCHOOL - New Year's Holiday

January 16 - NO SCHOOL - MLK Jr Day

January 20 - End of Semester 1

January 23 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Workday

February 16 - PreK-Gr 8 Conf 3:30-8:30 /HS Reg.

February 17 - NO SCHOOL

February 17 - Conferences PreK--Gr. 8 7:30-11:30 AM

February 20 - NO SCHOOL - Curriculum Day

February 23 - PreK-Gr. 5, Gr. 9-12 Conf 3:30 - 8:30

March 3 - End of Trimester 2 (MS)

March 24 - End of Quarter 3

March 27-31 - NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

April 7 - NO SCHOOL-Good Friday Holiday

April 21 - NO SCHOOL-Eid al-Fitr Holiday

May 26 - Last Day for Seniors Only

May 29 - NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

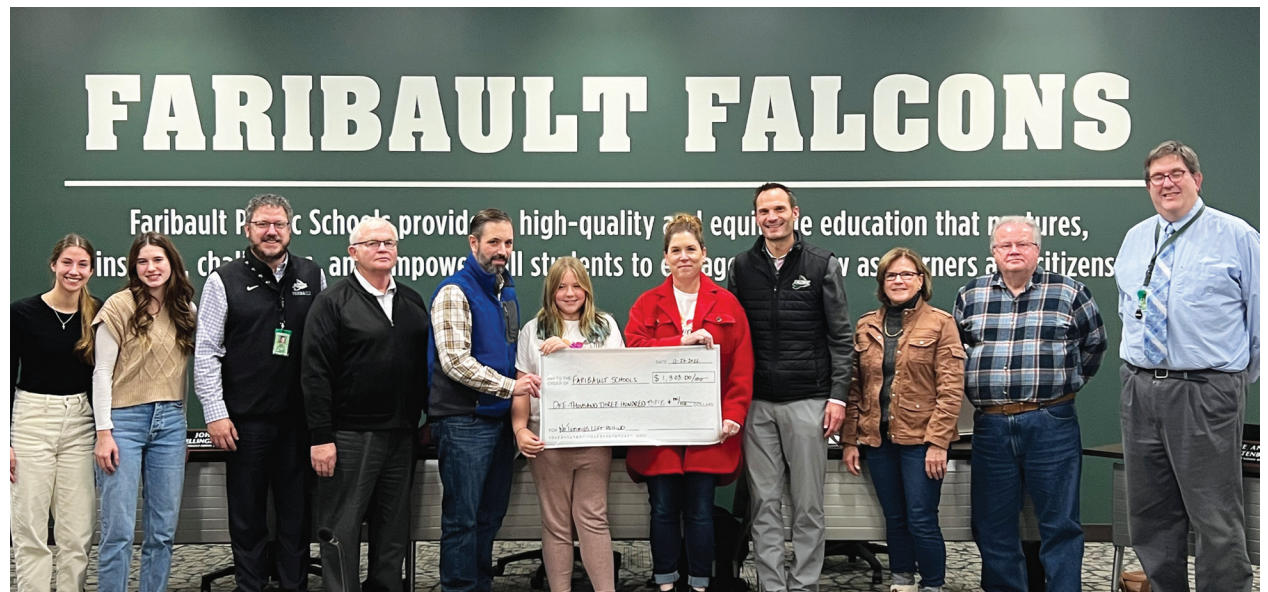
June 1 - Last Day of School - PreK-Gr. 11

June 4 - Graduation

Falcon Fund - No Tummies Left Behind

Sixth grader Ella Bettner is erasing some of Faribault Public Schools students' negative lunch account balances. Through her *No Tummies Left Behind* charity, Ella is raising money to help cover student lunch debt. After learning about food insecurity in schools as a fifth grader, Ella decided she wanted to help. To raise money for *No Tummies Left Behind*, Ella makes and sells bracelets at craft shows, local farmers markets, and restaurants. Last year, Ella raised \$600 for Faribault Public Schools, eliminating all of the outstanding lunch balances. This year, she has raised a whopping \$1,303 for FPS students. Ella shared, "I am grateful that at 11 years of age I can make this contribution."

Ella hopes to help as many students as possible who do not have the financial means to pay off their lunch balances, especially those on the Free/Reduced Lunch program or who are going through financial hardship. The purpose of *No Tummies Left Behind* is to help real people, real kids, and real families in local communities. With this donation, Ella hopes to eliminate the stigma around not being able to afford school lunch and increase awareness of food insecurity at school. Due to the growing need, Ella has partnered with local businesses to raise more funds, stating, "I welcome continuous support from local communities."



Faribault Public Schools is not the beneficiary of *No Tummies Left Behind*; Ella has helped surrounding districts as well. If you would like to support Ella and her cause, you can make donations to *No Tummies Left Behind* through Venmo or PayPal, at any of the local fundraisers, or at any of the Cannon Valley Farmer's Markets located at the Faribo West

mall every-other Saturday. The fundraisers in Faribault and Northfield will help Rice County students, while the fundraiser in Morristown will help Waterville-Elysian-Morristown students. *No Tummies Left Behind* plans to continue to grow and reach out to local businesses to help schools within the Rice, Steele and Waseca Counties.

DECA Back to Business Challenge

32 members of the DECA program attended the Back to Business Challenge held in Minneapolis on November 13th and 14th. Students attended workshops and competed in a practice competition in preparation for their upcoming district competition in Owatonna in January. Students winning a medal for a top 25 exam score or top 2 in their role play section were Trent Ta, Preston Berger, Jillian Huberty, and Joey Steinberg.



DECA Members Complete Their Community Service Project

The Faribault DECA program made 20 tie blankets and filled out over 50 holiday greeting cards for the residents of the Mill City Senior Living facility. Pictured are the students making tie blankets and a group of the officer team delivering the blankets and cards.



DECA Members Win Competition

Congratulations to Junior Joey Steinberg and Senior Trent Ta on winning the DECA Central Region Virtual Business Restaurant Challenge. They were tasked with running a virtual restaurant for a year and had to use market research data and financial reports to provide adequate seating, popular menu items, prices, staffing, hours, and make decisions according to customer feedback.

As a result of placing as the top team in the Central Region they will move on to compete at the 2023 International Career Development Conference (ICDC) held in Orlando, FL in late April. Last year in Atlanta, Joey and Trent finished in 3rd place at ICDC and won a trophy and \$250. Advisor Jared Kegler said, "I'm proud of the effort and commitment Joey and Trent made to finish in 1st place. Both are student-athletes and had section playoffs during the competition but they badly wanted to go back to ICDC and make another run at winning it all."





Area Learning Center Gives Back to Community

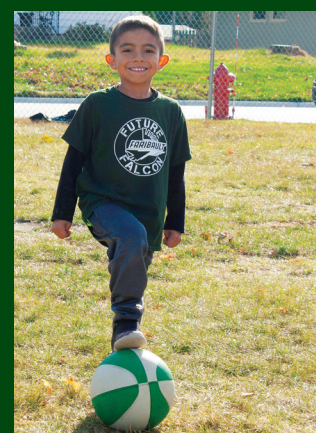
Faribault Area Learning Center students choose to volunteer at the Faribault Area Community Action Center every week. Area Learning Center Coordinator, Cora Packard-Emery, shared, "Our students love giving back to their community by helping stock shelves with resources they might've needed or used at one time. I think it makes them feel really good to give back to a place that has given to them."

The Nest is seeking donations of gently used winter wear (coats, hats, mittens, scarves) for middle school- and high school-age youth.

Donation boxes can be found at:

- * Faribault Middle School
- * Faribault High School
- * Faribault Area Learning Center (ALC)
- * Faribault Public Schools District Office
- * Star Sports and Apparel
- * Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church
- * Erickson Chiropractic

Please donate by December 16!



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION KICKOFF

Mark your calendars! Faribault Public Schools' Kindergarten Registration Event is on January 13th from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Principals and school staff will be at the Faribault Community Education Center to answer your questions and help you register your child for Kindergarten. Registration is done online and available to all incoming kindergartners beginning December 13th. Parents and legal guardians are invited to this event to get support in registering from school staff, ask questions, and pick-up a gift bag of books and toys for their future Falcon!

Falcon Highlights



Ms. Knudson-Griffiths' Leadership class serving others by volunteering at Feed My Starving Children.



Elementary students are LOVING "The Farm" in P.E. Class! The obstacle course has kids smiling and sweating.



Superintendent Jamie Bente spent time serving lunch to our early childhood and elementary-aged students.



Jefferson first graders and their families learned about the meaning behind Thanksgiving.

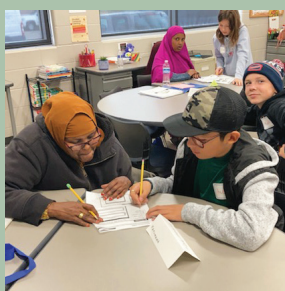


All of our schools celebrated Veteran's Day in their own way. At Lincoln Elementary, our students and staff created a Veterans Wall honoring around 60 Veterans who are family members to Lincoln students or staff. Thank you to all who sent in pictures or names. The hall was full of joy as students were able to find their parents, cousins, grandparents and great grandparents.

Mr. Luettel's Cabinet I woodworking students are testing out the new Shaper Origin. It's a hand-held CNC machine. Students work on using offsets, design software, and tolerances needed in manufacturing and construction. This student pictured is cutting out 14 inch circles for his project.



These second graders had a ton of fun making homemade ice cream with their fifth grade buddy.



Falcons for Change

Faribault Middle School students have begun Community Service projects. Each week, our students volunteer at the Faribault Education Center helping adults in the community build their English Skills. Every other week, our students help out at Roosevelt Early Childhood Center. Our students have many more projects they are planning in the coming weeks and look forward to helping out the Faribault Community as much as they can!