

FAIR HAVEN GRADE SCHOOL

JANUARY 2026

Principal's Message



Dear Families,
Happy New Year and welcome to 2026!
We hope your holiday season was filled with joy, rest, and special moments with family and friends. As we begin the new year together, we are excited to continue building strong partnerships with our families and providing engaging, meaningful learning experiences for our students. January is a time of renewed energy, reflection, and growth, and we look forward to all that lies ahead.

Winter Weather & School Closures
Winter has officially arrived! Please be sure your contact information is up to date in our school system so you receive timely notifications regarding weather-related delays or closures. We also ask that students come to school dressed warmly each day, as we will continue to enjoy outdoor recess whenever weather conditions allow.

Mid-Year Assessments
At the end of January (28, 29, & 30th), students will participate in mid-year STAR 360 assessments. These assessments help us celebrate student growth, identify strengths, and guide instruction as we move forward in the school year. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or would like to learn more about your child's progress.

Mark Your Calendar

- Drama Production (Grades 3–6): January 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
- No School: January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Early Release Day: January 30, 11:20 a.m. dismissal

Partnering for Success
Your partnership plays an essential role in your child's success. If you have not yet scheduled a conference with your child's teacher, we encourage you to do so. Open communication helps us work together to support each child's academic growth and social-emotional well-being.
Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to a joyful, productive, and successful year ahead. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions, ideas, or celebrations to share.

Warm regards,
Deborah Infurna
Principal



Upcoming Events

JANUARY

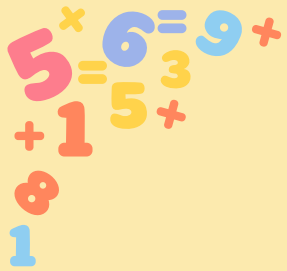
14th PTO mtg 6:00 p.m.
Week of the 12th - Options-based drill
12th Board meeting CES- 6:30 p.m.
14th Drama Production - gr. 3-6, 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
15th Veggie VanGo at FHUMHS 10:00 a.m.
19th No School - Martin Luther King Day
26th Board meeting FHUMHS- 6:30 p.m.
28th, 29th, 30th Star 360 benchmark K-6
30th 17th - Early Release Day, 11:20 dismissal.
30th Falcon Gathering

FEBRUARY

Week of the 2nd - Fire Drill
9th Board meeting FHUMHS - 6:30 p.m.
11th - PTO mtg 6:00 p.m.
19th -Annual Informational Mtg FHU 6:30
20th Early Release Day, 11:20 a.m. dismissal
23rd - 27th - **No School - February Break**

2nd Grade

Happy New Year, Families!
We are excited to welcome students back after winter break and begin a fresh new year of learning. January is a time for setting goals, building routines, and jumping back into learning with confidence and enthusiasm! This month, students will learn how to set personal learning goals and reflect on their progress. We will practice perseverance, self-control, and a growth mindset as we work through new challenges. In Math, we will continue to work on addition and subtraction within 100, and solving word problems using strategies and models. In Reading, we will be reading nonfiction texts and identifying key details and features of the text. We will work on comprehension through retelling and questioning the texts we read. In Writing, we continue to work on writing complete sentences and organized paragraphs.















Exciting Drama Production Coming Soon:

The Comic Book Artist by Pat Lydersen

Mark your calendars for a night of fun while our cast brings the incredibly popular comic-book genre to life with this hilarious, action-packed superhero saga! Over the last couple of months, our after-school Drama Club has worked hard rehearsing The Comic Book Artist by Pat Lydersen. Students have been busy bringing this fun and imaginative story to life through teamwork, creativity, and lots of practice. We invite families and community members to join us for the performance on January 14th at 6:30 PM in the FHGS cafeteria. We hope you can come support our young actors and enjoy an evening of theater!

Date: January 14th
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Fair Haven Grade School Cafeteria
Admission: Free

Student Absences & Safety Reminder

If your child will be absent from school, please be sure to call the school office or email our new administrative assistant Hannah Fifield at: **hfifield@svuvt.org** to let us know. This communication is essential, as it allows us to account for all students and ensure everyone's safety each day.

Thank you for your partnership and for helping us keep our school community safe and well cared for.





Student Support Center Strategies

Impulse Control

Impulse Control is a critical skill that is part of the Executive functioning of the brain. It is important for social and emotional well-being. Impulse Control is the ability to resist an urge, temptation, desire, blurt out, and to regulate the action that results from it. Adults and children who have impulse control issues can have difficulty controlling their behavior.

Impulse control issues are caused by many things, including but not limited to, Impulse control disorders or ICD, neurological disorders such as, ADD, ADHD, and OCD. Treatment can be through a variety of means such as medication, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), and encouraging prosocial behaviors.



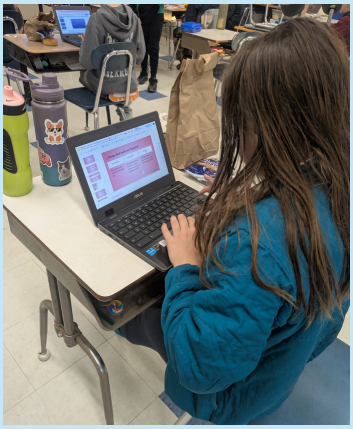
A simple strategy for managing impulse control is the STOP! THINK FREEZE strategy. If you get an impulse, you STOP and THINK about what might happen. If it is a good idea, you can follow the impulse. If it is a bad idea, you FREEZE it and use impulse control.

For more information - https://www.scholastic.com/parents/family-life/parent-child/why-impulse-control-harder-ever.html

Early Middle Level Happenings

The week before December break, the fifth- and sixth-graders participated in Student-Led Conferences. Students prepared by creating slideshows that highlighted work they completed in both their academic classes and SEL (Social Emotional Learning) sessions. The purpose of these conferences is to give students the opportunity to reflect on their progress so far in the school year and share their learning with their families. During these conferences, students are the presenters, families serve as the audience, and teachers act as facilitators who can answer questions or direct questions to the appropriate parties. Student-Led Conferences take place twice a year—in December and May.

The early middle level teachers are very proud of their students and the thoughtful work they put into preparing for these conferences. Students showed strong communication skills, bravery in sharing their reflections, and a growing sense of ownership over their learning.





Student-Led Conferences





PE Highlights

Our students have been having a blast in PE this season! Students in grades 3–6 have been sharpening their skills in badminton, focusing on agility, hand-eye coordination, and friendly competition.

Meanwhile, our K–2 students have been having tons of fun with parachute games, building teamwork, cooperation, and gross motor skills.

We would also like to give a special thank you to Mr. Ringquist for the amazing job he did this year. He built strong relationships with our students and brought incredible energy and creativity to PE, teaching engaging games that our FHGS students truly loved. As he embarks on his exciting journey toward becoming a PE teacher, we wish him the very best and are confident that he will continue to inspire students wherever he goes.

Stay tuned for more updates and photos as we continue to move, play, and grow together in PE!










PreKindergarten

Preschoolers have been engaged in a variety of activities within a gingerbread theme. The children completed a scavenger hunt, coloring activities, collage crafts, design/engineering challenges and listened to stories. Those activities presented opportunities to practice hand strength, motor skills, matching colors/shapes, counting, creativity, teamwork, retelling, answering questions, and communication skills. Learning through play!

