



# The Fort Site Journal

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Fort Recovery Schools  
Fort Recovery, OH 45846  
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Fort Recovery Local Schools

December 2016

Indian Pride

We are coming up on the halfway point of our school year! I know it seems hard to believe that Winter Break is almost upon us. I wish a happy and productive end to the 1st semester to all of our students and staff members. I know there are many Holiday concerts, performances, extra-curricular activities and athletic events leading up to December 21 (our last day of the 1st semester). Wherever your Holiday Season takes you and your family, I wish your family much happiness during break. Our second semester of school begins on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

The Fort Recovery Local Schools would like to share with our community some of the service projects that our staff and students have been involved with this first semester. As part of the school district mission, we believe it is important for our students to be active in our local community. I am very proud of the FR staff efforts to create opportunities for our students to participate in these service projects. In addition, thank you to the community for your partnership in providing opportunities for our students to develop the skills necessary to be active members for our society. Most importantly, thank you to our students for 'paying it forward.'

Senior, Ashton Hoying, recently completed an Eagle Scout project and designed State Championship recognition signs. These signs are located on the major roadway entrances into Fort Recovery and recognize the boys and girls state championship teams from Fort Recovery High School. Thank you to Ashton and all of the donors that assisted in the making this fantastic project possible!



The Middle School Student Council just finished a Christmas service project. They collected items and shipping money to send nearly 150 Christmas boxes to children in over 130 countries around the world. Thank you to all that participated in making someone else's Christmas experience a memorable one!

The Elementary Student Council recently collected canned food for the local food drive. Thank you to the students for organizing this event and to all of those that donated to this worthy cause!

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a joyous winter holiday season. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to what the New Year will bring for us all. From our school district family to your family..... Happy Holidays!



With Indian Pride,

Justin M. Firks  
Fort Recovery Local Schools  
Superintendent





## Upcoming Dates

**Dec. 22—Jan. 2nd —**  
Christmas Break

**Jan. 4th—Semester 2**  
Schedule Change  
Requests Due

**Jan. 6th—End of 9 weeks/**  
1st semester

**Jan. 9th—Tri-Star Open**  
House 5:30-8:00 pm

**Jan. 11th —Tri-Star**  
Applications Due

**Jan. 13th—Last Day to**  
Register for Feb. ACT

**Jan. 20th—National Guard**  
Visit @ lunch

**Jan. 21st —SAT Test**

**Feb. 2nd —2017-18**  
Registration Presentations  
(grades 9-11)

**Feb. 6th—College Credit**  
Plus Meeting @ 6pm in the  
Community Room

**Feb. 11th—ACT Test**

**Feb. 11th —Band Solo and**  
Ensemble Contest

**Feb. 27th —HS Information**  
Night for 8th graders/  
parents @ 6 pm in HS  
Commons

## From the Principal's Desk

As shopping season and holiday parties begins to overwhelm us, I hope students remain focused and are ready to take on their last couple days of school. Heading into break, students will be taking their semester exams on December 19-21. The schedule for these exams has been distributed, and depending on their schedules, students may not have to be at school all day. Parents and students, please be sure to communicate when you are required to be in school.

The dates for End-of-Course Assessments, AP Exams, and the ACT have been finalized and are located on the school website. Parents, please refer to these dates, and avoid scheduling any doctor or dentist appointments on testing days. For those of you unaware, this is the first year the State of Ohio mandates that all schools offer the ACT to juniors at no cost to them. This is a great opportunity for juniors to earn a score on a College Readiness Exam that they can send to colleges for consideration along with their application. All juniors will be offered the ACT on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. Students please start preparing for the exam early!

Lastly, the winter sports season is upon us. The girls' basketball team is currently sitting on an undefeated record, while our boys recently completed their first contest, beating Delphos Jefferson. The swim teams has stared as well, as they have had several successful meets. I wish all the athletes the best, and hope for a successful winter season. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call the office or send me an email at [overmanm@fortrecoveryschools.org](mailto:overmanm@fortrecoveryschools.org).



Sincerely,

Marcus Overman, High School Principal

## REMINDERS:

After school weights for any athletes will take place on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays after school in the SAC until 4:30pm starting December 12<sup>th</sup>.



January 21st the High School Music Department will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner after the Drama Club production of Crazytown. Tickets will be presale only.

The Fort Site Journal is published monthly during the 2016-2017 school year. These issues are sponsored by the Fort Recovery Local Board of Education and are coordinated by the Publications class at Fort Recovery High School.

Community clubs and organizations are encouraged to submit articles for publication. These articles may contain news for club activities or notices of upcoming events. If you have any information that you would like to have placed in the Fort

Site Journal, contact the staff at [fsj@fortrecoveryschools.org](mailto:fsj@fortrecoveryschools.org) by the 15th of every month.

The advisory committee for this paper includes the Fort Recovery Local School Board of Education, Superintendent—Justin Firks, High School Principal— Marcus Overman, 6-8 Principal— Tony Stahl, Prk-5 Principal - Tracy Hein-Evers, Advisors Mindy Luthman and Tory Horstman and Staff.



## FRHS GUIDANCE NEWS

### Resources on the High School Guidance Webpage

Monthly Newsletters (very informative!)  
 Junior & Senior Year Checklists  
 ACT/SAT test dates  
 Tri Star Information  
 Test Dates  
 Career Info...and much, much more!



*Save the date...*



College Credit Options Meeting: February 6th

High School Information Night (*for 8<sup>th</sup> graders*):

February 27th @ 6 p.m.



**Follow FRHS Guidance on TWITTER! @KaiserFRHS**



## High School Happenings from the Teachers

On November 14, the Spanish 2, 3, and 4 classes traveled to Wapakoneta High School for the Emir Sensini Concert. Students got to sing along with and enjoy Emir's songs they had learned in class. The students also got to enjoy some yummy Hispanic food at Casa Lupita after the concert. On Thursday November 10, Spanish Club members were given the opportunity to learn the salsa with instructor David Fennig from Harmony Café & Studio. They got to learn the basic steps to dancing the salsa. Students had fun dancing with their peers and enjoying a key component of Latin culture, *la salsa*.

Mrs. Julie Schlater



Above:  
 Students show off their handmade t-shirts for the Emir concert.



Left: Students practice their salsa moves!

The 2016-2017 school year is moving along nicely. Students in CPT 1250 are making their way through Microsoft PowerPoint as Microsoft Word was covered during the first nine weeks. Web design students are working on their Website design skills, learning new features each week. Accounting I and II students are continuing through Aplia, our accounting program. This allows them to see accounting documents, such as income statements, in an easy to organize electronic format. Students taking personal finance just finished covering the topic of credit, including how to obtain and protect credit. The students of FRHS show great promise for the future. Thank you for allowing me to take part in their education and for the support you give them along the way.

Mr. Matt Kerns

The high school physics class has been participating in STEM Challenges sponsored by the Mercer County ESC. Students have worked in teams to complete monthly challenges. In October, students constructed bridges from straws, paperclips and string to support a paper cup of pennies. November's challenge was to create a Trash Slider whose body was a 2-liter bottle holding water. Sliders were launched down a ramp with the winning entry losing only a small amount of water. The winning team from each class submits a video to be judged by a panel of engineers from local companies. In December, students are creating packages protecting a single Pringles potato chip that will be mailed back to them to be opened in January. We are hoping for perfectly protected chips, not pieces!

Mrs. Robyn Armstrong



## Upcoming Dates

**Dec. 22nd —**  
Christmas Break  
Starts

**Jan. 3rd—School**  
Resumes

**Jan. 6th—2nd 9**  
Weeks Ends

**Jan. 16th—No**  
School

**Jan. 20th—Grade**  
Cards Go Home



**Dear Fort Recovery Schools Students, Staff, Parents, Alumni and Residents:**

Happy Holidays to you and your family! The students and staff at the middle school have been working hard and are looking forward to a much deserved Christmas break. As 2016 comes to a close, our students have been up to a variety of activities such as busy winter sports schedules, preparing for the end of the second quarter, and an upcoming trip to Wright State Lake Campus for the Team Ventures challenge. In fact, last Thursday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> some qualifying middle school students participated in the district Spelling Bee with the champion being, 8<sup>th</sup> Grader Dylan Langenkamp. Other winning students included Luke Keller (8<sup>th</sup>), Caleb Evers (7<sup>th</sup>), Megan Knapke (6<sup>th</sup>), Isaac LeFevre (6<sup>th</sup>), and alternate Carson Siefiring (6<sup>th</sup>). Congratulations to all the winners and participants! Also, our middle school basketball season is well underway and, at the time of this edition of the FSJ, our 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls team is 1-2 and our 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls team is 2-1 while our 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys are 0-1 and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys are 1-0. Be sure to come up and check out one of our middle school students' games! Again, I truly want to wish you and your family a happy holiday season and hope you will have time to reflect back on the previous year, count your blessings and recharge for a healthy and successful new year!



Sincerely,

Tony Stahl  
Middle School Principal  
[stahl@fortrecoveryschools.org](mailto:stahl@fortrecoveryschools.org)  
(419)-375-2815 (ext. 301)

## Operation Christmas Child

Fort Recovery Middle School participated in Operation Christmas Child again this year. They held a competition between grades 6, 7, and 8 to see which grade level could collect the most items. Students brought in items such as small toys, tooth paste, combs, bars of soap, washcloths, and coloring items. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade class won the competition overall, but it was very close. All three grade levels had amazing participation! Because of the generous donations, the student council was able to pack and ship 145 boxes this year! These packages will be sent to over 130 countries around the world, brightening the Christmas of many children! Student Council would again like to thank all those students who participated in Operation Christmas Child!



## Mix-It-Up Day at the Middle School

The 6th grade students at FRMS participate in a quarterly Mix-It-Up lunch day. We started Mix-It-Up lunch day 4 years ago as a way to encourage students to identify, question, and cross social boundaries. At Fort Recovery Middle School, students participate in a group challenge during Mix-It-Up lunch day and the winners are rewarded with "Pizza with the Principal."







## Middle School Math

In Mr. Miller's and Mr. Guggenbiller's 6th grade math classes, students are learning how to use ratios to solve problems that compare two quantities. Ratios are an important concept for students to understand because they are used all around us. We use them when baking to find the correct ratio of water to flour or oil to vinegar. In sports, we may use ratios to find our free throw percentage, offensive yards per game or kills per set. We also use them for our construction and business needs like finding the average cost or the selling price of an item. Therefore, these lessons provide students the building blocks of understanding proportional reasoning used in the real-world.

In grades 7 and 8, a critical area of instructional focus is understanding and applying proportional

relationships. Seventh graders need to solve problems involving scale drawings by relating corresponding lengths between two objects and maintaining proportionality. Eighth grades need to be able to reproduce a scale drawing at a different scale by using dilation. Both of these skills were put to the test while decorating our classrooms for the holidays. Each 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math class selected a Christmas card that would eventually become their class poster. That Christmas card was then cut into one-inch squares and distributed to the students. Their task was to recreate the image on their part of the card onto an 8 inch square piece of paper. Once the enlarged version of the card was colored, each piece was taped together to create a class poster. The final products are proudly on display in Mrs. Link's and Mr. Miller's classrooms.

## Intervention Math

Students in intervention math have been learning about graphs and data. In order, for them to show what they understand about graphing data, they conducted a survey to gather data points. They went around the Middle School and Elementary building and asked students what their favorite Christmas movie was. They gave the students four choices *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Polar Express*, *Home Alone*, and *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York*. After, they gathered their data, they tallied all the results. *Home Alone* was the winner! From their results they



made bar graphs to display the information in the hallway. They really enjoyed showing what they have learned about graphs and practicing their social skills.



## Middle School Giraffe Winners



Back row (l-r): Paige Bihn, Makenna Ellenberger, Olivia Hawk, Megan Abels, Caleb Evers, Daniel Patch

Front row (l-r): Alayna Laux, Alexis Wendel, Isaiah Heitkamp

Champion-Dylan Langenkamp (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Runner-up-Luke Keller (8<sup>th</sup> grade), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Caleb Evers (7<sup>th</sup> grade), 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Megan Knapke (6<sup>th</sup> grade), 5<sup>th</sup> Place- Isaac LeFevre (6<sup>th</sup> grade), Alternate – Carson Siefring (6<sup>th</sup> grade)

These students will attend the Mercer County Spelling Bee in March.



## Upcoming Dates

**Dec. 22nd**—  
Christmas Break  
starts

**Jan. 3rd**—School  
Resumes

**Jan. 6th** —End of 2nd  
9 weeks

**Jan. 13th** —3rd  
Grade to Library

**Jan. 16th** —MLK  
Day, No School

**Jan. 19th**— Grades 3  
-5 Student Council  
Meeting

**Jan. 20th**—Report  
Cards Go Home

**Jan. 26th**—Grades 3,  
4, 5 Book Club

**Feb. 6th**—Pennies for  
Patients Campaign  
Starts



## Student Council Canned Food Drive



The Elementary Student Council held their annual canned food drive. Thank you all who donated canned food! It was an unbelievable amount of food! Every member of the elementary student council was either carrying a bag of food or pushing the cart with filled boxes of food. This is the biggest amount of food we have ever collected. As you can see in the picture, everyone has something in their hand. The food was brought and donated to the local food pantry at Mary Help of Christians Church. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for everyone who donated to this worthy cause!

Fort Recovery Elementary Student Council

## Elementary November Giraffe Heroes



Back row (l-r): Kennedy Kunkler, Karlie Niekamp, Jose Martinez, Teigen Fortkamp, Alex Evers, Mara Wenning, Owen Knapke, Kyle Huntsman

Middle row (l-r): Georgia Wenning, Hudson Overman, Livy Timmerman, Jake Meyer, Jordan Dues, Alexis Grisez, Brodie Hart, Drew Stammen

Front row (l-r): Kale Diller, Vince Wenning, Tyler Dues, Malia Grisez, Brylee Kremer

## Thank You

The Fort Recovery Athletic Boosters would like to thank all the people in the community that worked the concession stands at volleyball and football games this season. A special thanks is extended to Craig and Sara Evers for running the football concessions, and Renee and Ryan Evers and Nick Wehrkamp for running the volleyball concessions. The Athletic Boosters is very grateful for all of the assistance given during the Fall sports season. Thanks for all your support and Good Luck to the Winter athletes this season! Go Indians!



### Area Student Competed for FFA Award

The National FFA Organization announced national finalist in August. Ross Homan of the Fort Recovery FFA was selected as a national finalist for the National FFA Proficiency Award in Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance. Homan is one of only four people chosen to compete for this award at the national finals held October 19th through 22nd during the 89th National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis.

The proficiency award recognizes outstanding student achievement in agribusiness gained through establishment of a new business, working for an existing company or otherwise gaining hands-on career experience. The Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance-Placement Award is one of 47 proficiency program areas FFA members can participate in to develop valuable experience and leadership skills at the local, state, and national levels. Homan, a member of the Fort Recovery FFA Chapter, became eligible for the national award after winning the Ohio state FFA competition earlier this year.

This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company. In recognition of being a finalist, each of the four finalist received a plaque and \$500. The national winner of the Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance-Placement Award will receive an additional \$500 during a special ceremony at the national FFA Convention and Expo.

Ross Homan (pictured right) of the Fort Recovery FFA Chapter in Ohio has worked for his father from a very young age. At their tractor sales operation, he has learned all about agricultural equipment maintenance and repair. He's been charged with handling everything from dock work to lot organization, from assembly to maintenance. Homan is supported by his parents, Michele and Todd, and his FFA advisors, Michael Gower and Joe Hawk.



### Upcoming Library Events

The **2017 Battle of the Books** is coming soon! The Fort Recovery Library is looking for FR students in 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades who have a love for reading and a willingness to work on a team. Students will read a selection of books and be prepared to answer questions in a competition with other local teams. The Battle of the Books will be held Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> in Coldwater. (More details to come once you have signed up.) Registration will begin in January, and the deadline to register a team is January 12<sup>th</sup>. You can sign up at the Library or with your Language Arts teacher at school. For more information call the Library at 419-375-2869.

The public is invited to the Fort Recovery Library for "**An Introduction to Yoga**" on select Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am beginning January 11, 2017. This basic introduction includes simple seated (chair) poses and standing poses which do not require a mat. For more information, please contact the Library at 419-375-2869. For a full schedule, visit the Library's website at [www.fortrecoverylibrary.org](http://www.fortrecoverylibrary.org).

"**Music Time**" for toddlers and preschoolers will resume at the Fort Recovery Public Library at 10:30 AM Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. This 6-week session will be held at the Library Tuesdays at 10:30 AM through Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. No registration required for this free program. For more information contact the Library at 419-375-2869.

The Fort Recovery Public Library will welcome guest speaker Jackie Sheridan on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM. A resident of Fort Recovery, Jackie will be speaking about the organization "A Better Life—Brianna's Hope" and the impact drug abuse has had on her life. A Better Life—Brianna's Hope is a non-profit organization with chapters in Union City and Redkey, Indiana which helps to provide individuals with assistance and resources to overcome their addiction. More information can be found at [www.ablbh.org](http://www.ablbh.org) website.





### Upcoming Meetings & Events

**Dec. 27th** —Library  
Card Club 1 pm

**Jan. 1st** —Grube New  
Years Day Auction

**Jan. 2nd**—Village  
Council 7:30 pm

**Jan. 3rd**—Boy Scouts  
6 pm, VFW Auxiliary 7  
pm, D of I 7:45 pm

**Jan. 4th**—Book Club  
10:30 am,  
Ambassadors 8 pm

**Jan. 8th**—Breakfast for  
the public @ VFW 7:30-  
11:30 am, Sons of  
American Legion 11 am  
Sportsman Club 1:30 p

**Jan. 9th**—Cub Scouts  
6:30pm, Park Board  
7pm, American Legion  
& Auxiliary 8pm

**Jan. 10th**—Library  
Card Club 1pm, Board  
of Education 6:30pm,  
Car Club 8pm

**Jan. 14th**—Hall of  
Fame Induction at  
FRHS Basketball Game

# Merry Christmas

## From the FSJ Staff



## The Meaning of Christmas

We asked students what Christmas means to them, and these are the responses we got: Madison Kaiser said, "Christmas means spending time with friends and family. Christmas presents is just an added bonus." Jackson Ontrop said that he enjoys getting present and going to all of the Christmas parties. A.J. Heitkamp said his favorite part of Christmas is celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. All in all, this just proves how many different meanings Christmas can have and all it brings with the joyful season.

By: Taylor Grisez, Rachel Moorman and Jessica Wendel

