



WARRIOR WIRE

DISTRICT NEWS FROM FAIRVIEW PARK CITY SCHOOLS

FALL 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

▶ NOVEMBER 10 - 12

FHS: Fall Play - "Dracula"
Fairview High School Auditorium
Check our website for show times

▶ NOVEMBER 20 & 21

Parent-Teacher Conferences
No School for Students

▶ NOVEMBER 22 - 24

Thanksgiving Break
No School for Students or Staff

▶ NOVEMBER 28

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Fairview High School Warrior Room
6:30 p.m.

▶ DECEMBER 9

Holiday Band & Orchestra Concert
featuring students in grades 5 - 12
Fairview High School Auditorium
Beginning at 12:00 p.m.

▶ DECEMBER 12

Holiday Choir Concert
featuring students in grades 5-12
Fairview High School Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

▶ DECEMBER 19

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Fairview High School Warrior Room
6:30 p.m.

▶ DECEMBER 21

Winter Break begins
No School for Students or Staff

**FOR A FULL LIST OF
SCHOOL CALENDAR EVENTS**
FAIRVIEWPARKSCHOOLS.ORG/CALENDAR

Fairview Park Schools earns five stars on state report card

On September 14, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) released its 2022-2023 Ohio State Report Cards. The state report card now includes a "5-Star Rating" in five component areas instead of letter grades or rankings. We are excited to share that based on our results in the five component areas, the Fairview Park City School District has achieved an overall 5-Star rating, the highest overall rating possible.

The District received 5-star ratings, significantly exceeding state standards, in two components: **Progress** (the growth all students make based on their past performance) and **Gap Closing** (how well schools are doing in closing the achievement gap between students based on income, race, ethnicity, or disability).

In the other three components, the District received a 4-star rating: **Achievement** (how well students performed on state tests), **Graduation Rate**, and **K-3 Literacy**.

These report card results are due to the incredibly hard work and perseverance of our students, teachers, administrators, staff, and families. As we celebrate these results, we will continue to build on our strengths while addressing opportunities for continuous improvement.



Follow Superintendent Keith Ahearn on Twitter @KeithAhearn1

See Superintendent on page 2



Sponsored by the Fairview Park Athletic Club, this year's Fall Athlete Showcase on August 20 introduced each athletic team to the community. Students tested their skills in the Ultimate Warrior Challenge, where each fall sports team in both middle and high school competed. The winning team was the 8th grade volleyball team above, who completed the challenge in the fastest time.

We also want to remind everyone that these results are just one benchmark we use to measure the quality and rigor our students deserve and our community expects. The assessments used in this report card data show a single point in time.

STATE REPORT CARD GRADE OVERVIEW

Overall:



Districts and schools receive an overall rating of 1 to 5 stars in half-star increments. The overall rating is comprised of five rated components.

Achievement:



This component represents whether student performance on state tests met established thresholds and how well students performed on tests overall.

Progress:



This component looks closely at the growth all students are making based on their past performances.

Gap Closing:



The Gap Closing Component is a measure of the reduction in educational gaps for student subgroups.

Graduation:

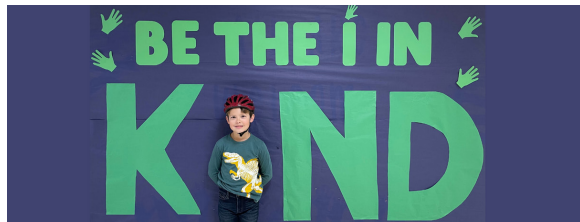
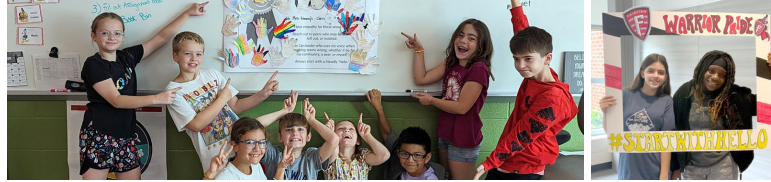


The Graduation Component is a measure of the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate and the five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.

Early Literacy:



The Early Literacy Component is a measure of reading improvement and proficiency for students in kindergarten through third grade.



The week of September 18-23 was Start With Hello Week in the Fairview Park City Schools. Developed by the Sandy Hook Promise, Start With Hello Week is a national initiative to create a culture of kindness and belonging. The program encourages empathy and empowers students to end social isolation.

New strategic plan continues focus on student success

In August, the Board of Education approved the Fairview Park City School District's new strategic plan, which had been in development since November 2022.

"A strategic plan is all about continuous improvement," Superintendent Keith Ahearn explained. "When you have a plan that sets out measurable goals, it focuses the work that you do as a district at continuous improvement. A strategic plan, if it's done well, should reflect a shared vision for all of the stakeholders in the district."

The new strategic plan recently approved by the Board of Education focuses on six areas: academic achievement and technology integration, communication, safety and security, climate and culture, career exploration and development, and facilities, finance and resource management.

The development of the six focus areas is directly related to the work of John Tanner and bravEd. In his work, Tanner encourages school districts to focus on accountability and the organization's value to its community.

"Tanner's work really helped me guide the stakeholder meetings," Ahearn added. "I was able to ask stakeholders, in simple terms, what were their hopes and dreams. He also really focuses on ensuring the benefits we provide are described in clear terms that are easily accessible to all stakeholders."

Every six months, Ahearn will revisit the plan with the Board of Education to provide updates on how initiatives and current programs

are helping students achieve even better outcomes.

"Student success is not a moment; it's a movement of many connected pieces that help students grow and be successful," Ahearn said. "Our organization cannot focus on momentary goals and achieving them at a baseline bar. A strategic plan should focus our energy to make sure we make movement continuously to positively impact the student environment."

To view details on the six strategic focus areas, visit fairviewparkschools.org/strategicplan.

Help improve our communications Take our survey today!

We strive to keep our students, parents and community up-to-date on everything happening in our schools. To help improve our communications, we're asking for your help.

Please scan the QR code to the right with your smartphone and complete our quick survey about district communications. Your answers are anonymous and will help us plan for the future.

Visit fairviewparkschools.org for more information.



LEAD with an IDEA empowers FHS students to create positive change at building

Sometimes, being a strong leader means having a strong idea and vision for the future. As a group of Fairview High School students recently discovered, leadership can mean much more than that.

Last school year, approximately 40 students participated in LEAD with an IDEA, a training program provided to students at FHS in conjunction with the Effective Leadership Academy (ELA).

"LEAD with an IDEA was created to guide students through a series of interactive discussions focused on inclusivity, diversity and empowerment, leading to the development of a school-wide student-led plan for change," Jessica Vaughn, talent manager with ELA expressed.

"LEAD with an IDEA equips students with the skills to listen, the desire to lead, and the impact that leaves a legacy," Vaughn added.

"The first five or six weeks, it was all pretty much leadership development," Ben Stoessner, a senior in LEAD with an IDEA explained. "There were videos that would show us scenarios and lessons. We had activities with groups. They encouraged us to sit with different people every week so that we could get to know people more and find out what makes them different from you, or similar to you."

Besides learning leadership skills, styles, and personality types as part of the LEAD with an IDEA program, students identified what areas of the school could use improvement. A lack of school spirit and a need to promote inclusivity stood out for students.

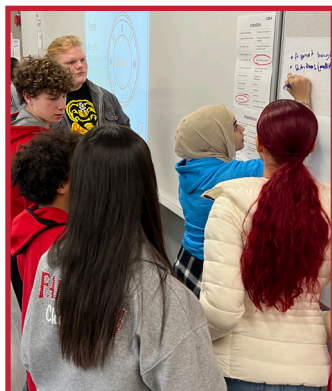
"I feel like LEAD was one of the best things that could have happened," Alex Brown, another FHS senior in LEAD with an IDEA explained. "The group there really did want to make a change in the school, even if you didn't expect them to. It was a lot of you can't judge a book by its cover. People who wouldn't necessarily talk with each other were talking and getting along with each other."

"It was very interesting to hear people's perspectives," Stoessner added. "Normally, if you didn't surround yourself with them, you wouldn't hear their opinions or know how they felt about things in the school...I learned a lot more about the people I go to school with."

Students submitted their report to building and district leadership, including the superintendent, as part of making real organizational change.

"When you're in Fairview, you're kind of in this bubble, and you have this security blanket that you kind of know everyone here and have experiences with them," Stoessner added. "In college, it feels like you're going into pretty much a whole new map of the world. You have to find a way to connect with people that are different from you.

"It's what I took away the most," Stoessner added. "I'm getting prepared for the rest of my life, and all those next chapters, to collaborate with people in my life that are different from me."



FHS students collaborate and discuss ideas for improving their school. These workshops developed a student-led plan for change and were facilitated by the Effective Leadership Academy last year.



» SUPERINTENDENT TOWN HALL MEETING RETURN IN OCTOBER

Fairview Park City School District Superintendent Keith Ahearn is pleased to announce he will once again hold four Town Hall meetings during the 2023-2024 school year.

The meetings will be held virtually on Facebook Live. You do not need a Facebook account to view the meetings in real-time.

The Town Hall meeting dates this year will be:

- » Monday, October 2, 2023
- » Monday, November 27, 2023
- » Monday, February 26, 2024
- » Monday, April 29, 2024

For more information about the Town Hall meetings and to view past meetings, visit fairviewparkschools.org/townhall.

» TREASURER'S OFFICE RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Fairview Park City School District has been honored with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, a recognition highlighting the district's commitment to fiscal transparency and responsibility.

District Treasurer Rob Showalter announced the recognition at the Board of Education regular meeting on Aug. 15. This achievement was awarded to the district for the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the 2021-2022 school year.

"Winning this award is a testament to our commitment to open, honest, and responsible financial management," Showalter explained. "It signifies the accuracy and completeness of the district's financial reports and allows stakeholders, including parents, staff, and taxpayers, to understand the district's financial health."



At the end of September, Fairview High School celebrated Homecoming. In addition to the traditional events including the parade and football game, the school rededicated its Athletic Hall of Fame and paid tribute to the 1985 state championship volleyball team.





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WHAT'S INSIDE:

- SCHOOL DISTRICT RECEIVES HIGHEST POSSIBLE OVERALL RATING ON OHIO'S STATE REPORT CARDS
- NEW STRATEGIC PLAN CONTINUES FOCUS ON STUDENT SUCCESS
- SUPERINTENDENT TOWN HALL MEETINGS RETURN IN OCTOBER
- FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE LEADERSHIP TRAINING



WANT MORE NEWS?

Scan this QR code with your smartphone to find out more about what's happening in the Fairview Park City Schools.

ISSUE 55 SUPPORTS STUDENTS, ATHLETICS AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



- **ISSUE 55 IS A 1.49 MILL LEVY ON THE NOVEMBER 7 BALLOT PROPOSED BY THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW PARK TO REPAIR THE GEMINI RECREATION CENTER**
- **THE GEMINI CENTER HAS SERVED RESIDENTS SINCE 2007 AND HAS BEEN A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE SCHOOLS**
- **SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETICS, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS ROUTINELY RELY ON THE NATATORIUM FOR USE**