

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Spring 2022

## HALL OF FAME HONORS

Summit Elementary School and Sherwood Elementary School received Hall of Fame recognition from the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators in April. All six elementary schools in the Forest Hills School District have now received this significant honor, which follows an extensive application and review process.





# Thank You

## From Mr. Prebles

As we approach the end of another successful school year, I am reminded just how important the work of our teachers, staff and entire community is in providing the best education possible for our students. These partnerships are crucial to support student growth and to create innovative and valuable learning opportunities. Forest Hills School District is an incredible organization of dedicated professionals that sets high standards for quality education that our students, parents and neighbors have come to expect. Our students and staff both work hard to improve every day and that effort is acknowledged through countless recognitions you will read about in this publication. I am so proud of the entire school community and I thank you for the chance to serve as superintendent during the last seven years. I will miss FHSD when I move to another school district this summer, but I know the future here is very bright.



**Scot T. Prebles**  
*Superintendent*

scotprebles@foresthills.edu  
513-231-3600

Best wishes to all...

Scot





# ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

The Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators selected Ericka Thompson as the state's 2022 Outstanding Central Office Administrator. Thompson is a learning design specialist at FHSD and is the first person to ever receive this award. She works with all elementary buildings, connecting classroom teachers with resources and support to better meet the academic needs of students. OAESA selected Thompson following a statewide search which included an extensive application and interview process for all candidates.

"It is my hope that through this award there will always be a focus on the importance of keeping central office staff directly connected with the staff and students in the schools, because this is the only way to ensure we are truly meeting the needs of those most important in our district," Thompson said.



## HALL OF FAME

Summit Elementary and Sherwood Elementary have joined an exclusive list of over-achieving schools in the state of Ohio. OAESA awarded the schools with a Hall of Fame recognition this spring for going "above and beyond meeting the needs of the students." Only five schools in the entire state were recognized this year and all six FHSD elementary schools have now received this honor.

## TOP-RATED PROGRAMS



FHSD received an A+ rating based on academics, teaching staff and several other factors.

The district was recognized as one of the Best Communities for Music Education in the United States in 2022.



The FHSD preschool program has a Five-Star Step Up to Quality rating.

Anderson HS and Turpin HS are ranked in the top 50 high schools in Ohio by U.S. News & World Report.



The Ohio Academy of Science awarded both high schools with The Governor's Thomas Edison Awards for Excellence.



# FH5K

May 14, 2022  
Nagel Middle School

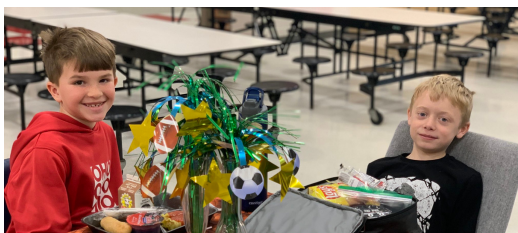


The 13th annual FH5K is back in person Saturday, May 14 and it is expected to be the largest Anderson community event in more than two years! With May being Mental Health Awareness Month, the Foundation is using the FH5K to focus on improving mental health resources available to students in FHSD. All money raised will support wellness initiatives in the schools and the Foundation is asking people to "Take a Step to Stop the Stigma." Don't miss out on the FH5K After-Party from 9-11:30 a.m. with free food and entertainment from FHSD students plus more than 70 local businesses and organizations sharing resources and information.

**JOIN US AND SIGN UP:**



Thanks to donors of The Forest Hills Foundation for Education for providing funding for an additional Child Focus Therapist, Nagel After-School Clubs/Tutoring along with College Prep classes for high school students, more than \$36,000 in Teacher Grants and more than \$20,000 for STEM programs, including Destination Imagination, E-Sports Teams (Anderson, Turpin and a NEW team at Nagel) and the Robotics Club.



Ayer Elementary students eat lunch at the "fancy table" for positive behavior.

## HOW FHSD HELPS STUDENTS

*Flourish in the Forest*

FHSD has placed a strong focus on enhancing mental health supports for students and staff. In March, the district's wellness team hosted an informative presentation about mental health and teen suicide with perspectives from expert community partners. The group also organized a training session for coaches to support mental strength and wellness in athletics. Each building hosts regular wellness events which included Healthy Habits Week in the elementary schools, Wellness Week at AHS and several others this semester.



Anderson HS students enjoy some down time with a therapy dog.



Summit Elementary students try some new, healthy snack options.



# LOOKING AHEAD

## Commencement

*Cintas Center, Xavier University*

May 28, 2022

- 3:00 p.m. for Anderson High School
- 6:30 p.m. for Turpin High School

## Summer School

*Elementary School*

- June 6 - July 1, 2022; Monday-Friday
- Wilson Elementary School

*Middle School*

- June 6 - July 15, 2022; Monday-Friday\*
- Nagel Middle School

*High School*

- **SESSION ONE:** June 6 - June 24, 2022
- **SESSION TWO:** June 27 - July 15, 2022\*
- Nagel Middle School, Monday-Friday

\*NO CLASS JULY 4-5

**COST AND MORE INFO:** [foresthills.edu/summerschool](http://foresthills.edu/summerschool)



## REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN!



## FULL-DAY AND HALF-DAY OPTIONS!

### REGISTRATION PROCESS:

**STEP 1:** Register online at [foresthills.edu/](http://foresthills.edu/)  
Click "How Do I..." and  
select "Register a Student"

**STEP 2:** Upload the  
required documentation  
online and send a \$75  
deposit for all-day  
kindergarten (if applicable)  
to 7946 Beechmont Avenue

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION:

- Parent/guardian driver's license
- Child's current immunization records
- Custody records (if applicable)
- Child's official birth certificate
- Proof of residency (mortgage, deed, lease)

### MORE INFORMATION:

[foresthills.edu/kindergarten.html](http://foresthills.edu/kindergarten.html)

**QUESTIONS:** 513-231-3600



# TECH NOTES

- Grades 6-11 will take their Chromebooks home over summer break. Anyone who needs device support during the summer months can call the technology office at 513-231-3600, ext. 2942.
- For the 2022-23 school year, FHSD will begin collecting a \$75 per student technology fee that was approved by the Board of Education in spring 2020.



# JOIN OUR TEAM!

## FHSD IS HIRING:

- Substitute Teachers
- Custodians
- Food Service Workers
- Bus Drivers & More!

## EARN COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS!



# TRAINING FOR STUDENT SAFETY

FHSD, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Anderson Township Fire and Rescue, TSA, Hamilton County EMA and Mercy Health will hold a full-scale emergency management exercise at Turpin High School in June. This is the most complex of the training drills required by the state of Ohio, covering multiple sections of the emergency plan and allowing first responders to simulate a more complete response.

This exercise will allow FHSD staff to work closely with law enforcement and first responder partners to ensure the district's emergency plans are effective and to refine those plans at the same time. State law requires school districts to complete three types of emergency tests in a rotating cycle every three years.





# FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Treasurer's Office at Forest Hills School District recognizes the continuing investment our community makes in education and is committed to providing strong fiscal stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Residents in FHSD experience a lower school residential tax rate than the average for Hamilton County and the average across Ohio, while our schools regularly outperform nearby districts based on the state performance index.

While responding to challenges created by the Coronavirus Pandemic, the district was intentional in its approach to building a remote learning infrastructure to ensure it would provide lasting value to our students and educators. The expansion of technology resources was handled in such a way that it is now able to support instructional learning in classrooms, in addition to the temporary remote model that was offered last school year. Sound fiscal strategies like that guide our efforts to provide the best education to students at a reasonable cost.

*Alana*



**Alana Cropper**  
Treasurer, CFO

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513-231-3600

## Hamilton County School Performance Index

1) Mariemont	105.5
2) Madeira	102.5
3) Indian Hill	100.3
4) Wyoming	96.7
5) Forest Hills	95.2
5) Loveland	95.2
7) Sycamore	93.2
8) Southwest	83.6
9) Oak Hills	82.9
10) Three Rivers	81.9
11) Deer Park	77.5
County Average	74.4
12) Reading	70.3
13) St. Bernard	67.1
14) Princeton	63.8
15) Finneytown	63.1
16) Norwood	60.2
16) Northwest	60.2
18) Winton Woods	55.2
19) Cincinnati	50.3
20) Mt Healthy	48.4
21) N College Hill	42.5
22) Lockland	41.3

Source: ODE Report Cards

## FUNDS SPENT ON CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

FOREST HILLS	74.4%
HAMILTON CO. AVERAGE	72.36%
STATE AVERAGE	69.6%

Source: ODE Report Cards FY21

## Cost Per Pupil

FOREST HILLS	\$12,470
HAMILTON CO. AVERAGE	\$14,068
STATE AVERAGE	\$13,387

Source: ODE CUPP Report FY21



FHSD once again received the coveted Auditor of State award in March 2022 to recognize effective financial practices. Less than 8% of the entities audited by the state qualify for this award.



In April, FHSD joined the Ohio Checkbook, in partnership with the State Treasurer, to provide another avenue for residents to better understand how tax dollars are being spent to serve our students and community.

## Residential Tax Rate

FOREST HILLS	38.89
HAMILTON CO. AVERAGE	43.45

Source: Hamilton Co. Auditor Tax Year 22



# STAY CONNECTED

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



1



2



3



4

- 1 **RECORDS SHATTERED!** Congratulations to Brock Grubert, Beckett Blazer, Chase Spencer and Toby Strausbaugh for breaking the Nagel school record by 22 seconds in the 4x800 meter relay!
- 2 Who's in the mood for pizza?? A few creative Mercer students helped design the newest pie for Lucy Blue Pizza!!
- 3 Our elementary students are gearing up for the FH5K! We're got a couple weeks under our belts with the building running clubs and students are LOVING IT!!
- 4 This is Staff Appreciation Week thanks to our friends on the Forest Hills Council! We are always grateful for the dedicated teachers and staff who work so hard to support and educate our students.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAY 14**

**Forest Hills 5K**  
8:30 a.m., Nagel Middle School  
1500 Nagel Road

**MAY 18**

**Board of Education Meeting**  
6:30 p.m., Nagel Middle School  
1500 Nagel Road

**MAY 27**

**Last Day of School**

**MAY 28**

**High School Graduation**  
3:00 p.m. Anderson HS  
6:30 p.m. Turpin HS  
Cintas Center, Xavier University  
1624 Musketeer Drive

**JUNE 22**

**Board of Education Meeting**  
6:30 p.m., Nagel Middle School  
1500 Nagel Road