

POINTS OF PRIDE 2007

FERNDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2920 BURDETTE, FERNDALE, MICHIGAN 48220 248/586-8651 WWW.FERNDALESCHOOLS.ORG

The Ferndale Schools Staff and Students are proud of these accomplishments and highlights of 2006 & 2007

Accomplishments & Highlights

3rd State Championship for Marching Band

The **FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND** won their third state championship in a row in November 2006. The Golden Eagles not only received first place, they swept all award categories!

Winter Guard Champions

FHS WINTER GUARD placed first in the Independent A Class in the Michigan Color Guard Circuit Championships, in 2006, and the MCGC Sweepstakes Trophy, a traveling trophy awarded to the group with the highest scores consistently throughout the season, and high scores in sportsmanship.

University High School

This unique public high school is providing students with opportunities to prepare for their futures through a partnership with higher education (Lawrence Technological University), and partners throughout the automotive industry. This rigorous college prep curriculum is organized around career pathways in the automotive industry, and will provide on-site learning opportunities and internships. In 2007, UHS teacher Leonard Meraw and five of his students received a US Patent for their design of a vehicle center console that incorporates an iPod[®] docking station. Students receiving a patent is a first for the Ferndale Schools. In its first year, the Get It! (Girls Exploring Together Engineering Technology) group earned First Place at Robofest. UHS students and teachers worked with Siemens VDO to build an electric car to present at the annual global Convergence Education Foundation conference in October 2006.

Outstanding Staff

TEACHERS & STAFF OF THE YEAR: Every year, one teacher and employee of the year are honored at each district building. The district-level honorees are: 2007 Teachers of the Year Elementary Level-Heather Pironello, Roosevelt Primary School Kindergarten Teacher; Middle School - Nancy Hendriks, Special Education Teacher; and High School - Alison Maes, Science Teacher; 2007 Support Staff of the Year, Dee Petri, Transportation Supervisor.

REGIONAL RECOGNITION: Herbert Ivory, Principal of Ferndale High School, received the 2006 Freedom Fighter of the Year award from the NAACP of Southern Oakland County for his dedication to young people.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION: John Bassier, FHS science teacher, received the 2006 Butler-Cooley Excellence in Teaching Award.

Student Academic Excellence

2006 JFK HONORS: Neil Matouka and Abigail Ashmore were named 2006 John F. Kennedy Scholarship winners for their outstanding scholarship and leadership.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR FINALISTS: Scott Baumgartner and David Cardelli are among the top 15,000 students out of 1.4 million entrants nationwide who took the PSAT.

NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED SCHOLARS: Joshua Shelly and Katie Olesnavage are among the top 34,000 students nationwide who took the PSAT.

PERFECT MATH ACTs: David Cardelli and Katie Olesnavage earned perfect scores on the math portion of the ACT test.

AP SCHOLARS EARN COLLEGE CREDIT: A total of 16 FHS students passed the AP Literature and Composition exam, with Amanda Jacobs and Katelyn McCutcheon earning the top score. Neil Matouka earned the top score on the AP Language Exam, and 18 students passed the exam.

NATIONAL WRITING AWARD: Joshua Shelly won at National Council of Teachers of English writing award.

FHS STUDENTS FINALISTS FOR MICHIGAN MATHEMATICS PRIZE: Two Ferndale High School students qualified as Finalists in the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition. Seniors - David Cardelli, Katie Olesnavage

DETROIT FREE PRESS WRITING AWARDS: A record 10 students were recognized for their writing talent: Honorable Mention: Scott Baumgartner, features writing; Neil Matouka, editorial/opinion writing; Emell Adolphus, essay; Zhi Liu, sketch. Commendation: Grace Patti, essay; Crystal Payter, sketch. Award of Excellence: Lauren Sibula, sports writing; Annette Kennedy, essay; Lea Olson, sketch; Amanda Jacobs, sketch.

ADULT & ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION graduated 279 students between ages 17 and 37 in 2006. Two students, Deonte Riley (football to Knoxville State) and Janise Godboldo (basketball to Wayne State) earned full college athletic scholarships. College scholarships were also won by Sharon Keith (Becky Broughton Scholarship), Barkley Banks and Dana Hunter, Oakland Community College, and Desiree Jackson (Baker College).

Bond Project Work: Visit the restored Pinecrest Campus

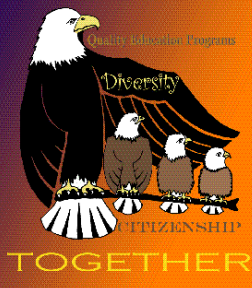
IMPROVED FACILITIES: In September 2004, the voters of the Ferndale Schools community approved (at a 72% margin!) a district-wide facilities improvement bond. Since that time, major renovations have been completed including the athletic facilities and stadium at FHS/FMS, auditorium seating, elevators, fire alarm system, and dance room.

NEW MULTI-PURPOSE ADDITION: Auxiliary gym facilities, team locker rooms, and an additional high school band rehearsal space were constructed at the southwest end of the Ferndale High School/Middle School site.

EXTERIOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS: To cap off the renovation work completed on the stadium and athletic fields, parking lots and walkways surrounding the campus were resurfaced and re-configured creating an attractive, safer, and more welcoming entrance to the school.

INTERIOR REPLACEMENTS: New unit ventilators were installed in all the classrooms, and the FHS gym was completely restored with a new wood floor, new bleachers, new paint, and renovated locker rooms.

FERNDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Focus on Athletics

At FHS, 1/3 of the student body are involved in a sports team, 37 students are three-sport athletes, and 42% of the student body participates in at least one sport.

NEW FOOTBALL PROGRAM: A new era has begun in Eagles Football under the leadership of **Ryan Dunlap**, Head Football Coach. The team had a terrific fall season, with extensive media attention and praise and made it into the playoffs.

BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL: Ferndale graduate **Randy Bolden** is revamping the basketball program.

FALL '06 LEAGUE CHAMPIONS: Girls Tennis, Boys Golf, Boys Soccer and Boys Cross-Country.

ALL-STATE HONORS FOR ATHLETES

2006 FOOTBALL ALL-STATE

HONORS: Senior **Ian Reeves** was named to the *Detroit Free Press* and *Associated Press* All-State team as a linebacker

ATHLETES RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS ATHLETES SIGN WITH COLLEGE

TEAMS: Seniors **Ian Reeves** and **Earnest Cleary** signed National Letters of Intent for college sports. **Reeves** signed to play football and received a scholarship for Indiana University. **Cleary** signed with Michigan Technological University and receive a scholarship for football and track.

Memorable Visitors

GOVERNOR JENNIFER GRANHOLM - visited FHS on December 19 to celebrate the new Michigan Promise law with a group of Ferndale seniors. After introducing the Michigan Promise Scholarship, she spoke individually with each student and signed their "promissary note" on which the students each promised to take advantage of the scholarship and complete college. U.S. Congressman **Sander Levin**, State Senator **Gilda Jacobs**, State Representative **Andy Meisner** and State Representative **Marie Donegan** were all in attendance as well, and all spoke to the FHS students about the importance of higher education.

RON BACHMAN - a motivational speaker who focuses on diversity and bullying, and the power of each individual to make a difference spoke at FHS and UHS.

CONGRESSMAN SANDER LEVIN visited with FMS and FHS students from the **STAND** and **SADD** organizations to talk about how their schools help them avoid drugs and alcohol use.

BERNARD CHARLES, CEO of French software company **Dassault Systemes**, visited UHS to talk about the design possibilities of using innovative software.

PLASTIVAN - Thanks to Board Member **Keith Warnick**, whose employer **Progressive Components** sponsored the visit to **Kennedy** and **Coolidge** Schools to give students hands-on opportunities to learn about how plastics are made.

JACK HARTMANN, a children's recording artist, performed at **Roosevelt**, and at a concert for 400 people at **Oakland** Schools hosted by **Roosevelt** School.

Achievement Test Scores Rising

MEAP 2006: The district is pleased with the progress our students have made on the State's MEAP achievement tests over the past four years since restructuring. When we compare the results of the Fall 2006 MEAP achievement tests, we have seen significant achievement in several key areas. We are especially pleased with the success we've demonstrated in narrowing the achievement gap between our subgroups including African American and Economically Disadvantaged students and the student body as a whole. Now that all students are achieving together at the same level, our focus will intensify in the area of improving the overall scores for all students.

Our students who have had the benefit of Reading First (Grades K-3 since 2002) are doing very well compared to those who were not exposed to Reading First.

- **Grade Three**, scores for all subjects were higher this year, with an increase from 79% passing in 2005 to 87% this year. At **Roosevelt Primary School**, Grade Three Reading increased from 73% in 2005 to 88% this year, a 15% increase, with those who exceeded standards increasing from 15% in 2005 to 37% in 2006.

Other highlighted improvements were observed in:

- **Grade Five - Science** scores improved from 66% of students passing in 2005 to 76% this year; **Reading** improved from 76% of students passing in 2005 to 82% this year; **Science** scores improved from 66% of students passing in 2005 to 76% this year.

- **Grade Six** saw improvements in four of five areas including: **Reading** from 74% in 2005 to 79% in 2006; **Writing** from 70% in 2005 to 78% in 2006; **English Language Arts (ELA)** from 71% in 2005 to 78% in 2006; **Math** from 61% in 2005 to 64% in 2006.

- **Grade Seven - Reading** scores improved from 69% of students passing in 2005 to 74% this year. Our low income students improved from 60% to 68%. In ELA, Grade Seven improved from 58% in 2005 to 65% in 2006

DISTRICT MAKES ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS under No Child Left Behind: The Ferndale Schools made AYP for the third year in a row in 2006, an indicator our student achievement continues to improve. Even though Ferndale High School did not achieve the AYP designation because only 91% of the students took the test rather than the 95% required, the high school met the state objectives in both language arts and math for AYP. All Ferndale Schools received a grade of B, with the exception of **Kennedy** which earned an A.

Recognition in the Performing Arts

MUSICIANS BRING HOME MEDALS: The Ferndale High School Jazz Ensemble was invited to play at the **Detroit International Jazz Festival** for the second year in a row. They earned straight I's at the **MSBOA State Jazz Festival**, and was one of only two groups to receive an overall rating of I.

YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL HONORS JAZZ BAND: Ferndale High School sophomore **Greg Smith** (vibe/marimba) was the first FHS student to perform with the Michigan Youth Arts Festival Honors Jazz Band. Students who received Honorable Mention for the band were: **Mariah Pflieger**, **Erik Johnson**, **Pete Ciaverilla**, **Jenny Hancox**, and **Greg Smith** (for piano).

HONORS BAND: Five Ferndale Middle School students were selected to perform with the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association District 4 Honors Band. They were: **Rachel Akers** - flute, **Peter Ceglarek** - trombone, **Seth Price** - clarinet, **Connor O'Meara** - trumpet, and **Kaleigh Wilson** - flute.

ALL-STATE BAND AND ORCHESTRA: **Erik Johnson** is 4th chair clarinet (out of 24) in the All-State Band, and **Katie Olesnavage** is 4th chair bassoon in the All-State Orchestra. This puts both at the top level of all high school musicians in the state.

Lincoln Mural



The Lincoln Mural came to the Ferndale School District from the Ferndale Historical Society after a man dropped it off in a plastic bag, saying it came from Lincoln High School. Researchers with the Ferndale Historical Society discovered that five students and their teacher created the mural for the 1929 senior class gift. The 9' long mural once hung in the halls of Lincoln High School, and the Ferndale Schools are pleased to have the opportunity to showcase and restore the mural. In 2007, art restoration specialists **Dayton Spence** repaired the torn and cracked mural to bring it back to its original condition and preserve it for future students in the Ferndale Schools.

If you're interested in seeing the mural, contact the Community Relations Department, 248/586-8651 or email shall@ferndaleschools.org.