From the SUPERINTENDENT

Ferndale Family,

March is Women’s History month. In keeping with that theme, I am going to write about a woman who has deeply influenced me. For many of us, our first true teacher is our mother. I know for myself this is especially true. My mother was born in Dakar, Senegal in the late 1940’s—the second of eight children. Studious and well-read, she dreamed of going to college, but, unfortunately for her at the time, it was not a possibility. Going to college then meant she would have to move to France, which was not an option for her as a female. Not one to be deterred, she read everything she could get her hands on and taught herself all that she wanted to learn. Her experience as a young adult made her determined that her children—be they sons or daughters—would be college educated.

Soon after she and my father had their first child—a daughter—they moved to the United States so her daughter would have all the opportunities she had not. My mother taught all her children that enlightenment and empowerment came through knowledge and that an education is vital to realizing one’s life goals. My mother taught me and my sisters that, as women we must define who we are; we should not allow society to tell us who we are or where our appropriate place is. She taught us that we needed to prepare ourselves to achieve our goals, that we should have lofty goals that come from within, and that the world would benefit from our contributions and leadership. She taught us that our thoughts, opinions, and ideas were worthy of being shared and acted upon. She taught us we have value.

During this month, I celebrate my mother.

What woman inspires you? Please email me at dania.bazzi@ferndaleschools.org and share your stories.

We will publish some of your inspirations in next week’s eblast!

In Education,

Dania H. Bazzi, PhD
Superintendent
Ferndale Schools
FYA TO HOST 39TH RECOGNITION CELEBRATION

Ferndale Youth Assistance invites you to nominate a deserving student or group of students for our “39th Annual Youth Recognition Celebration” on Thursday, March 28, 2019 from 6:30-8:00pm at University High School (formerly Coolidge School).

Ferndale Youth Assistance will be recognizing youth in two categories: Individual and Group, grades K-12.

CRITERIA FOR INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION:

Nominating a deserving youth for their ongoing volunteerism, school or community service projects, personal acts of heroism or someone who has overcome adversity in spite of personal hardship.

CRITERIA FOR GROUP RECOGNITION:

Nominating a deserving group of youth for ongoing volunteerism or school or community service projects, beautification activities, church/youth programs.

Criteria of Youth efforts that will NOT be eligible for the Youth Recognition award may include: athletic award, honor roll, attendance, students performing paid or mandated community services, teacher or instructor assignments.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 8, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact Ferndale Youth Assistance at 248-586-8700 or via email at MELINDA.HICKS@FERNDALESCHOOLS.ORG.

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK MOVIE FUNDRAISER

PRESENTING “LITTLE” W/ REGINA HALL AND ISSA RAE

Shake off the pressures of adulthood/parenthood and come be a kid again with your fellow Ferndale Bad Moms! Purchase of a ticket automatically enters you into a raffle to win a $25 Emagine Theaters gift certificate. Every cent raised goes to Ferndale Schools’ Blessings in a Backpack.

$25/ticket in advance - includes movie, popcorn, pop & automatic entry into raffle to win $25 Emagine Theater gift certificate.

50/50 and additional fantastic raffle items will be available at the event.

GET YOUR TICKETS

Get your tickets early! The organizing committee has reserved a small theater, but if enough tickets are sold early, then they can justify getting a bigger theater. The bigger the theater, the more people, the more laughs, the more fun and the more money for Blessings in a Backpack!

STUDENT TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

Did you know, Ferndale Schools and Wayne State University have a student teaching partnership? The partnership began in the 2016-17 school year. Future educators benefit from the classroom experience and tutelage of our experienced teachers. In turn, Ferndale Schools has created a pipeline for qualified teaching candidates and continues to gain additional classroom support. The partnership helps to prepare future classroom leaders across Metro Detroit.

There are three different student placements: Apprenticeship, Pre-Student Teaching, and Student Teaching.

APPRENTICESHIP

The goal of the apprenticeship is to provide teaching candidates with hands-on opportunities to serve alongside masterful classroom teachers and to connect positively with K-12 students. The apprentice focuses on meaningful and active engagement with students. Up to three apprentices can serve in a Mentor Teacher’s classroom, always at alternating days and times. Apprentices acquire skills and knowledge for their future careers.

PRE-STUDENT TEACHING

Pre-student teachers take on a much larger role in the classroom, serving 20 or more hours per week for the term. The candidates are scheduled for ten two-hour days and six half-day days or five half-day days. The schedule is kept flexible to accommodate commitments that include teaching responsibilities.

Teaching candidates begin their work in Ferndale two weeks before the start of the Wayne State academic year in order to attend district sponsored professional development and meet with their Mentor Teachers. The candidates then plan and co-teach throughout the term while also participating in school staff meetings and professional development.

Candidates also collaborate with a WSU Clinical Instructional Coach to reflect on and grow their teaching practice. In addition to teaching responsibilities in the classroom, candidates also attend school events like curriculum night and conferences whenever possible.

STUDENT TEACHING

Once candidates reach the Student Teaching phase, in addition to all of the responsibilities of Pre-Student Teaching, candidates now spend 40 or more hours per week in the classroom for a 15-week term.

Since our partnership with WSU began in 2016, Ferndale Schools students and staff have benefited from more than 150 teaching candidates district wide! We are committed to preparing future educators, and we appreciate all of the support they provide our students.
Dear Adventurer,

You are invited on a voyage of discovery. Your team of 4 adventurers will unlock mysteries within Ferndale Schools. Be one of the first three teams to uncover the truth, and take home fortune and fame. In exchange for your bravery, we will provide all food and accommodations.

Sincerely,

3/21 - 4/12

WHEN:
3:00-4:00
Thursdays
WHERE:
FHS Room 114

RSVP at ferndaleschools.org/adventure

April 22nd, 6:00 pm
FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND
& SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD
7:30 PM
The Addams Family
Ferndale High School Auditorium

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH
3:00 PM
The Addams Family
Ferndale High School Auditorium

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH
Early Release Wednesday

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
K-5 Reading Night at Ferndale Lower Elementary

FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH
K-5 ½ Day

MONDAY, APRIL 1ST - FRIDAY, APRIL 5TH
Spring Break

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