

Celebrations of the Fairfield Public Schools

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Superintendent's Message



Dear Colleagues:

Now that we are mid-way through the school year, students and staff alike have been very busy contributing on many different levels. Please enjoy reading about the varied accomplishments that have taken place thus far in the Fairfield Public Schools, and thank you to all who provided such engaging content for this issue.



Cynthia Eckerdt, Jennings Strings teacher, was awarded a grant from the Fairfield Foundation for Education in the amount of \$3500. A strings concert for parents and students will be held in April.



Eileen Roxbee, Sherman Principal, organized a *Sandy Relief Effort* to assist families displaced by the storm. Busing was arranged as well as a lunch program for Fairfield students. Donations came in from all Fairfield Public Schools as well as the residents of Fairfield and beyond.

Donna Schmardel, FPS Music Curriculum Coordinator, and the entire music staff received the *2012 Connecticut Arts Administrators Association's Award of Excellence in Arts Education*. Donna and the staff were honored in mid-November. Congratulations to all!

Linda McDonough, FLHS English teacher and *Prospect* advisor, announced that the student newspaper, *Prospect*, was awarded the silver medal in Columbia University's prestigious *National Journalism Competition* for 2012. Congratulations on this achievement.



Burr - The Burr Roots & Shoots members and the Burr community raised over \$3,000 to help *Simply Smiles* build a school for children in need in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Dwight - In a ceremony this past November, Dwight was honored in Washington D.C. for being a National Blue Ribbon School by the *US Department of Education*. Dwight held their own Blue Ribbon Ceremony in December, that was also attended by local media.



Jennings - Students, families and faculty participated in the Turkey Trot & Food Drive. Boxes of non-perishable food items were donated and delivered to the *Bridgeport Rescue Mission*.

Osborn Hill - The PTA chose to support Fairfield residents who had been directly affected by Hurricane Sandy. Families donated toys, stuffed animals, blankets, coats, cleaning supplies, etc. to the collection at Sherman School. Sherman then welcomed displaced families to come "shop" for items they needed or wanted from the donations.

Riverfield - The first annual *Riverfield Walk-a-thon* took place in October. It was led by Riverfield PE teacher, **Matt Narwold**. When the mile walk was over, **Brenda Anziano**, Riverfield Principal, revealed that the combined efforts from the school community donations and the local business donations raised over \$33,000. The money will be used to help complete a portable computer lab for the school.

Tomlinson MS - Tomlinson students raised approximately \$23,000 in their annual PTA sponsored Walk-a-thon. This event is the PTA's major fundraiser. The money raised is then used to support programs for TMS students throughout the year. Students and staff wore a custom designed Tomlinson Walk-a-thon tee shirt created by Art teacher, **David Ward**.



Fairfield Warde HS - FWHS earned the #1 ranking in the *2012 Connecticut Statewide CTE Assessment* in the area of concentration of Textiles & Design. FWHS was honored for this achievement at The Connecticut Career & Technical Education Conference in November. Congratulations!



Student News

Burr - A room at the *Guiding Eyes for the Blind* training office in Patterson New York was dedicated to the second grade for raising money to support the organization.



Dwight - Students from **Jessica Kensek's** fifth grade class won *Beardsley Zoo's 5th Annual Scarecrow Contest*.

Osborn Hill - Girl Scout Troops collected leftover Halloween candy. The candy was donated to the *Daughters of Charity* in Bridgeport for their annual Children's Holiday Party for underprivileged children. The party hosts low income families in Bridgeport for a special holiday celebration.



Riverfield - Author Jake Halpern visited students to discuss his writing process. He explained how he was inspired to write his *Dormia* series based on his real life experiences. His storytelling motivated the students to add realistic details to their own work.

Sherman - **Grace Beccaria** with her brother **Anthony** (Tomlinson MS) and sister **Lauren** (Roger Ludlowe MS) collected food, blankets, toys and treats for the animals at the *Fairfield Animal Shelter*.



Roger Ludlowe MS - **Bridget Yates** has been selected as a 2012 *National Fine Arts Exhibit* winner by the *Boys & Girls Clubs of America*. Bridget's colored pencil drawing was selected as one of 37 national winners. Congratulations!

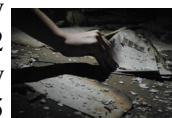
The American Math Challenge is a two day online mathematics competition where **Roger Ludlowe MS** students competed with students from the same grade around the world. The following four students made the distinction of placing in the top 100 students in the state of Connecticut: **Molly Reynolds** (9th place), **Jack Llewellyn** (29th place), **Kayla Shemesh** (38th place), and **Isabel Nikac** (64th place). In addition, the following students earned bronze medal certificates throughout the practice sessions: **Jack Adams**, **Ann Frances Fox**, **Henry Houghton**, **Peter Kryspin**, **Jesse Lanham**, **Michael Logan**, **Jack Lyons**, **Philip Nicholson**, **Isabel Nikac**, **Jack Owens**, **John Reynolds**, **Molly Reynolds**, **Kayla Shemesh**, **Kara Smith**, and **Jack Wheeler**.

Please congratulate FLHS photographers **Victoria Godfred**, who took first place, **John Cuccio**, **Glen Holzinger** and **Sasha McCay** for placing in the annual photo competition sponsored by *Moffly Media*. All of the winning photos will be printed in the January edition of *Fairfield Living* magazine.



David Seuch, **Fairfield Ludlowe HS** student, received a merit award for his photo in the 2012 *Annual Easton Photo Competition*.

Fairfield Ludlowe HS - Drexel University recently announced the winners of their 2012 Drexel High School Photography Competition. This year there were over 1,825 entries from across the country. Please congratulate photographer, **Ashlee Beadle** for her winning photograph titled "Burned".



The following **Fairfield Ludlowe HS** students auditioned and were accepted into the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra:

John Bookas, **Kavya Boorgu**, **Meredith Brown**, **Benjamin Crosby**, **Rachel Cupp**, **Adela Fejaz**, **Emily Fish**, **Ayana Jain**, **Anurag Kalra**, **Cosden Leahey**, **Bryan Page**, **Jeff Pearson**, **Mike Perlman**, **Elizabeth Reidy**, **Chelsea Varella-Lee**, **Sarah Wakefield**, **Alexander Yokokawa**, and **Kristen Young**.



The following FLHS students achieved "Commended Scholar" status in the National Merit Scholarship program: **Margaret Bonnell**, **Luke Donohue**, **Emily Fish**, **Anna Keleher**, **Matthew Macoy**, **Genevieve McNamara**, **Thomas Romano**, and **Cheslea Varella-Lee**.



Jennings student **JoAnna Moomjian** and Fairfield Woods MS students **Hannah Landesberg**, **Michaela Murdock** and **Haley Sepot** are part of a Pop Warner team of Cheerleaders who have earned the right to compete at the *2012 Pop Warner Super Bowl and National Cheer & Dance Championships* at the ESPN Wide World of Sports complex at Walt Disney World Resort.

