



BUZZ FROM THE HIVE

A newsletter of the Ferndale Area School District

JUNE

“Big Enough to Challenge, Small Enough to Care”

2005

Saying Good-Bye

The Ferndale Area School District will say goodbye to several staff members at the end of the school year! Retiring teachers include **Debra Barnhart** and **William Flook**.

Ms. Barnhart, retiring as a third grade teacher, began teaching in 1972. Mr. Flook, retiring as a fourth grade teacher, started teaching in 1978. He also served as the Ferndale Area Education Association President for



William Flook



Dr. Linda Kittell

the last 14 years.

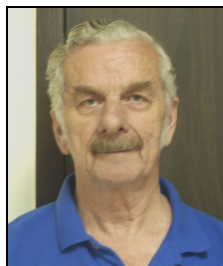
Dr. Linda Kittell, FASD's school nurse, will also be retiring this year.

Dr. Kittell has

cared for the medical needs of Ferndale Area's elementary and secondary students for the last 24 years.

Other staff retirements include **Louise Minemyer** and **Mervin (Skip) Berkebile**.

Louise has been a high school cook for 30 years. She makes the best gob cake in town!



Skip Berkebile

They all have given so much over the years. Our wish is that our retirees will have happy and healthy retirements.



Louise Minemyer

Off to a Great Start!

This school year the Ferndale Area School District began two 4-year old kindergarten classrooms. A total of 40 children attended school from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. An ordinary day was filled with the following activities: handwriting, language, small group activities, centers (such as art, blocks, and dramatic play), and gross motor activities.

The children were able to benefit from the district's breakfast and lunch programs as well as be introduced to the elementary school's music, physical education, and library classes. Themes were incorporated into each week of learning and field trips to Giant Eagle, a firehouse, and the Pittsburgh Zoo were enjoyed by all.

Parent workshops and parent involvement within the classroom were also offered and were very successful.

A graduation ceremony took place in June. The K4 staff is looking forward to the 2005-2006 school year and the exciting times that will be had by all. For more information about the K4 program, please contact the Elementary School at 535-6724.



Welcome from the Superintendent

Dr. Christine Oldham

Another school year has come and gone. With it, Ferndale Area School District has experienced changes, and seen successes. Our greatest success this year was the graduation of 54 students on June 8. We are proud of their efforts and encouraged by their dreams.

Throughout the pages of this

newsletter we hope you will enjoy reading about the activities of our students during the second semester of the 2004-2005 school year. We also hope that you will help us look forward to what the next school year will bring. Wishing you and your family a safe, enjoyable summer.

Ferndale Area School District

Board of Education

President

Mr. Ridley Banks—Dale

Vice-President

Mrs. Barbara Penna—Ferndale

Secretary

Mr. Edward Jones—Middle Taylor

Treasurer

Mr. Robert Vamos—Brownstown

Board Members

Mr. Greg Blue—Middle Taylor

Mrs. Sandra Chobany—Dale

Mr. Joseph Corle—Ferndale

Mr. Michael Firm—Ferndale

Mr. Jeffrey Stewart—Dale

Administration

Ferndale Area School District

100 Dartmouth Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15905

814-535-1507

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Christine Oldham

Business Manager

Mr. John Kowal

Ferndale Area High School

600 Harlan Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15905

814-288-5757

High School Principal

Ms. Kathy Nagle

Assistant High School Principal

Mr. Douglas Henry

Ferndale Area Elementary School

100 Dartmouth Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15905

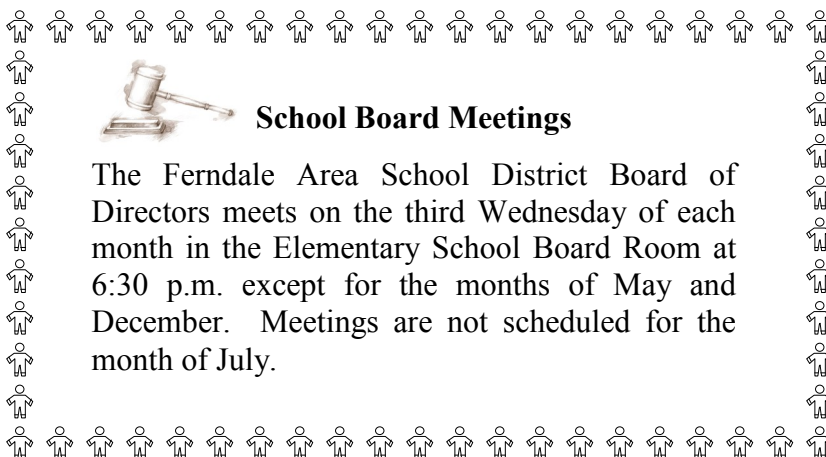
814-535-6724

Elementary Principal

Mr. Edward Moran

What's Inside

New Board Members.....	3
Congratulations Graduates	3
District Honored by PDE.....	3
New Members to FASD Family	4
Reading Teams	4
2005-2006 School Calendar	5
Federal and State Grant Programs	5
Everyday Mathematics	6
6-8 Math.....	6
Cognitive Tutor	6
High School Renovations	6
Students Dance the Day Away.....	7
Students Collect Tsunami Aid.....	7
Student Volunteers	8
Senior Charity Volleyball Tournament	8
National Honor Society	8
Your Voice Counts	9
Elementary School Special Recognition Awards.....	11
Scholarships.....	11
Challenge Program	11



School Board Meetings

The Ferndale Area School District Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Elementary School Board Room at 6:30 p.m. except for the months of May and December. Meetings are not scheduled for the month of July.

Ferndale Area School District is a Smoke-Free District

It is the policy of the Ferndale Area School District that all buildings, property (including sidewalks and parking areas), outdoor fixed seating areas, vehicles owned or contracted and other designated areas of the Ferndale Area School District are designated to be tobacco free environments.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

New Board Members

Welcome to our newest board members, **Mr. Edward Jones and Mrs. Sandra Chobany**. Due to resignations, vacancies in Region 3 (Brownstown, Lorain Borough, Middle Taylor Township) and Region 2 (Dale Borough) were created on the Board of School Directors.

Mr. Jones, a 19-year resident of Middle Taylor Township, was appointed effective December 22, 2004 through December 7, 2005. He has two children at the junior/senior high school, is involved in the community,

and has a real desire to contribute to the Ferndale Area School District.

Mrs. Chobany, a 16-year resident of Dale Borough, and an active parent of the PTO for 8 years, was appointed May 25, 2005. She has two children at the elementary school and one child at the junior/senior high school. Mrs. Chobany looks forward to making decisions that will keep the interests of students and taxpayers in mind.



Congratulations Graduates

Patrick Adams
Nicole Berg
Rachelle Bersamina
Eric Blue
Brede Bohn
Nathan Bovino
Andrea Bridges
Richard Crandle
Sasha Crawford
Samuel Eash
Samantha Eisenhuth
Brandon Ferre
Ashlee Ferry
Elyse Gojmerac

John Gregorchik
Ian Haskins
Dylan Holdsworth
Kathryn Holko
April Jensen
Ashlee Johnson
Emily Johnston
Kayla Kamler
Timothy Keith
Andrew Kessler
Tanesha King
Rebecca Kopco
Ryan Krenisky
Carl Lovrich

Dustin Lovrich
Nichole Macy
Shawn Mahon
Michael Matus
Amy Miller
Adam Nisewonger
Sarah Phillips
David Porter
Michael Priest
Amanda Radwanski
Jacob Radwanski
Eric Rex
Katie Rhodes
Korey Roberts

Whitney Sheehan
Monica Shiley
Nicholas Simonton
Dallen Spaugy
Gregory Thomas
Joost van der Heijden
Felicitas Vauk
Nicole Waligora
Scott Walsh
Aaron Washington
Tara Wentz
Bryant Williams

District Honored for Academic Achievements by PA Department of Education

The Pennsylvania Department of Education has honored both Ferndale Area Elementary School and Ferndale Area Junior/Senior High School with an award for meeting the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) standards for two consecutive years.

The keystone-shaped award is being given to schools across the state where the students have exceeded the math, reading, and other standards required by the state's accountability system and the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

To meet AYP in the 2003-2004 school year, 35 percent of students needed to be considered proficient in math and 45 percent in reading. In the current school

year, the percentages will be increased to 45 and 54 percent, respectively.



Superintendent Christine Oldham accepting the award from Deputy Education Secretary Jerry Zahorchak.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education has created an ever-growing slate of tools that help lay the groundwork for sustained, substantial improvement. These include school improvement and district strategic planning frameworks, a guide for using data to improve teaching and achievement, an item bank of PSSA sample questions and student responses, and a comprehensive set of Assessment Anchors that clarifies the information to be covered by the PSSA and identifies a core set of standards used on the assessment.

New Members to the Ferndale Area School District Family

Ferndale Area School District has been lucky to have several new employees join its family during the 2004-2005 school year.

Eric Burkley, who has been hired as one of two new **guidance counselors** at the junior/senior high school, brings several years of experience as a mental health therapist and behavior specialist. He has a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from IUP. He also has a master of education degree in school counseling from Duquesne.



Eric Burkley



Laryssa Bremer

Laryssa Bremer has also been hired as a **guidance counselor**. Mrs. Palko-Bremer received her bachelor's in psychology from Canisius College. Her master's in counseling is from Saint Bonaventure University. She was previously employed as a guidance counselor in Saint Clair Area School District.

Our new junior/senior high school **physical education** teacher brings experience from Wesley Academy in Pittsburgh. **Art McClucas** is a graduate of

Lock Haven University. He is currently pursuing a master of education in special education at Carlow College.

Another new teacher at the junior/senior high school is **Dan Endler**, who has been hired to teach **social**



Daniel Endler

studies. A graduate of Forest Hills High School, UPJ, and St. Francis College, Mr. Endler has spent the last several years teaching in Virginia. He is happy to return home!

We also welcome two additions to the **custodial staff**. **Richard Hiner**, a graduate of Dale High School, is a retired teacher.



Richard Hiner

Dennis Willnecker, a Greater Johnstown graduate, has experience as a custodian and self-employed business owner.



Art McClucas



Dennis Willnecker

Reading Teams

Members of the Ferndale Area Middle School Reading Teams had a very busy year reading and memorizing book details for both the fall and spring Intermediate Unit 8 Interscholastic Reading Competitions. Fall and spring book lists each consisted of forty-two books which offered a wide range of reading levels as well as interests. Approximately sixty middle school teams participated in each competition.

Meyersdale Area School District hosted the fall competition on November 9, 2004. The Ferndale Area Middle School "**Stingers**" took second place at this competition. Team members included: **Brad Brosig, Domonick Carnevali, Chelsea Chobany, Sarah Davis, Katie Dorchak, Rachel Dorchak, Ashley Eisenhuth, Sierra Haskins, Kimberly Levergood, Jenny Livingston, Alexandra Ratliff, and Leah Weingartner.**

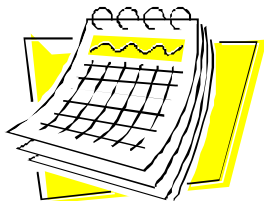
More students chose to participate in the spring competition. Roosevelt Junior High School in Altoona hosted this competition on March 29, 2005. Two middle school teams represented Ferndale Area School

District at this event. Members of the "**Skittles**" team included: **Domonick Carnevali, Chelsea Chobany, Alexandra Firm, Brittany Garfoyle, Kasey Lichtenfels, Jenny Livingston, Kaitlyn McMullen, Hollie Russell, Lindsey Thomas, Jessica Vamos, and Taylor Wyar.** Members of the second team, the "**Ferdoodles**," included: **Brad Brosig, Katie Dorchak, Rachel Dorchak, April Eisenhuth, Ashley Eisenhuth, Elizabeth Griffith, Samantha Lloyd, Anita Mangus, Alyssa Pudliner, Alexandra Ratliff, Leah Weingartner, and Cayla Zahoran.** Congratulations go out to the "**Ferdoodles**" on their **third place victory** at this meet.

Although reading competitions for this school year are finished, many students are already excitedly checking out and reading books that are on next year's reading competition book lists. Participating in the reading competitions is a great way to learn more about the world around us, gain new insights, and have fun at the same time. We look forward to more exciting and challenging reading competitions next school year!

2005-2006 School Calendar

The calendar for the 2005-2006 school year was adopted by the Ferndale Area Board of School Directors on March 16, 2005. The first day of school for students is August 31, 2005; the last day is June 7, 2006.



Teacher in-service days and Act 80 Days are scheduled for August 29, August 30, September 23, November 11, January 16, February 13, and June 6.

Scheduled make-up days are February 20, April 13, April 17, and May 26. If additional days are used for emergency reasons, the make-up days will be added at the end of the school term in June.

August 29	In-Service Day for Faculty
August 30	In-Service Day for Faculty
August 31	First Day for Students
September 5	Labor Day (No School)
September 22	Open House (HS)
September 23	Act 80 Day for Faculty
September 28, 29	Open House (Elem)
October 17	Parent/Teacher Conferences (No School)
November 11	Act 80 Day for Faculty
November 24 - 28	Thanksgiving (No School)
December 26 - 30	Christmas (No School)
January 2	New Year's (No School)
January 16	In-service Day for Faculty
January 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences (No School)
February 13	In-Service Day (No School)
February 20	Make-Up Day (No School)
April 13	Make-Up Day (No School)
April 14	Good Friday (No School)
April 17	Make-Up Day (No School)
May 26	Make-Up Day (No School)
May 29	Memorial Day (No School)
June 6	In-Service Day (No School)

Federal and State Grant Programs

The Ferndale Area School District participates in several state and federally funded grant programs to enhance our educational programs. Federal monies generally represent the smallest portion of revenue for the Ferndale Area School District. In order to be eligible for the grant funds, the district must complete the various grant applications each year and adhere to the numerous mandates imposed with the grants. Historically, the amount of revenue has fluctuated over the years.

Title I, Part A (\$206,163) will see an increase of \$703 for the 2005-2006 project. Monies are used to improve the educational environment of the entire elementary school. The schoolwide Title I program uses the money to support the salaries and benefits of the Reading Specialist and Math Specialist/Federal Programs Coordinator K4 - 6. Title I funds are also used for instructional supplies, pupil personnel services, staff, and community support services.

Title II, Part A (\$45,838), also known as **Improving Teacher Quality**, is the classroom size reduction initiative. This grant is utilized to reduce class size in second and third grade math and fourth grade reading by paying the salary and benefits of one teacher. Title IIA funds are also used for staff support services for the district administrators, teachers and paraprofessionals. The allocation represents a decrease of \$430 for the 2005-2006 project year.

Title II, Part D (\$3,434), also known as **Enhancing Educational Technology**, is used for educational technology and professional development (K4-12) related to technology. At least 25% of the funds must be allocated toward teacher professional development or technology training. The grant allocation represents a 29% cut for the 2005-2006 project year.

Title V, Part A (\$1,466) Innovative Education funds are used to support teachers' salaries and benefits for after school math and reading tutoring at the elementary school. This allocation represents a 58% cut in funding for the 2005-2006 project year.

Safe and Drug Free Schools (\$5,862) money is used primarily for the **Student Assistance Program** in the junior/senior high school with the focus being the prevention of drug and alcohol use and abuse by students. This grant program has level funding for the 2005-2006 project year.

This is the second year of the **Accountability Block Grant (\$106,154)**. This funding is used to maintain the salaries and benefits of two teachers and two paraprofessionals in the pre-kindergarten program. Funds are also used for instructional supplies, staff support and community services.

Marking Period Ends	Report Cards Go Home
November 3 January 19 March 28 June 5	November 9 January 25 March 31 June 7



Everyday Mathematics

Beginning this fall, the Ferndale Area Elementary School will implement Everyday Mathematics for pre-kindergarten through grade 5. Everyday Math is an enriched, comprehensive and balanced mathematics curriculum developed by the University of Chicago School Mathematics Project. The curriculum is based on extensive research, teacher input, field testing and spiraling levels of understanding from simple explorations to advanced understanding of concepts and skills.

The program utilizes discussion, daily routines, yearlong projects, partner and small group activities, games, manipulatives, and home school partnerships. Used in over 175,000 classrooms and with over 2.8 million students, Everyday Mathematics has a proven legacy of success. Districts from all over the country have reported strong evidence of dramatic improvement of student achievement and test scores.

Cognitive Tutor

In the fall of 2005, **Mr. Clawson's Algebra I** classroom will have both a brand new look and a brand new format. Twice a week, visitors to his room may be shocked to find students not quietly sitting at their desks copying notes from the board but instead busily typing at the fifteen new computers lining the perimeter of Room 22. These students will be using Cognitive Tutor, a program developed by Carnegie Learning, to master the concepts of Algebra I through data analysis and real-world applications.



As students work with data to answer practical questions such as "What are the start-up costs?" and "What values will maximize profit?" they will be developing formulas and equations and learning not only to solve for correct answers but also to interpret these answers in a practical way. For the remaining three days of the week, students will experience a traditional classroom setting in which Mr. Clawson will reinforce the skills being taught on the computer as well as "fill in the gaps" with material that cannot be learned on a computer.

Mr. Clawson is looking forward to implementing Cognitive Tutor, stating that this program "teaches problem-solving using a variety of methods and promotes making a connection between mathematics and real-life situations."

6-8 Math

Over the past year, all math teachers from grades six through twelve, as well as, the administration of the Ferndale Area School District have participated in several presentations to enhance their view of mathematics today. There were various experts, including college faculty and curriculum representatives, on hand to facilitate the program. Research of diverse mathematics approaches was reviewed and discussed in detail. Many activities and materials were made available for demonstration and evaluation.

The task at hand then, was to use all of that knowledge to select a new math program to fit the unique needs of Ferndale Area's students. Faculty members were given time to consult one another on present successes and shortcomings of the current math curriculum. They addressed a particular need for a smoother transition in mathematics from the elementary to the high school setting. A strong desire to maintain a traditional foundation in mathematics, while incorporating an innovative method was the driving force.



The Prentice-Hall Publishing Company has the proposal to fit the needs of our sixth through eighth graders. They offer a new and improved version of what looks like a traditional textbook written with state standards in mind. In addition, they supplement this program with the Connected Mathematics 2 investigations that provide the discovery learning that research indicates is so necessary for students in today's society.

Teachers and administrators look forward to implementing this exemplary program in the 2005-2006 school year.

High School Renovations

The Ferndale Area Board of School Directors voted to engage in a much needed renovation project at the junior/senior high school. The general contractor, L.W. Straw, began work on the project in May. While much of the renovation is mechanical in nature (replacement of the univents, boiler systems, cafeteria/kitchen ceilings, stage equipment), the high school will also have some cosmetic work completed. A fresh coat of paint and new flooring in the corridors will welcome students in the fall. The auditorium will also receive new carpeting, seating, painting, and stage curtains. Some particularly hot areas of the building will receive air conditioning.

Students Dance the Day Away

As a part of the senior graduation project that focuses on citizenship and volunteerism, the Class of 2005 organized and held a **"Dance Marathon"** on December 23, 2004 to **benefit Habitat for Humanity**. To prepare for the big event, each senior participated on one of four committees, including the pledge, refreshment/decoration and music, t-shirt, and prize committees. Students on the pledge committee were responsible for developing a pledge form and accounting for all of the money collected by the seniors.

The refreshment and decoration committee worked with area businesses and our school cafeteria service to provide the food and festive surroundings for the dancers. Refreshments included donuts, breakfast pizza and a

variety of beverages. The decorative theme for the dance was a "Tropical Christmas" complete with palm trees, lights and beach balls.

T-shirt committee members designed and ordered t-shirts that were given to any student who donated at least twenty dollars and to any senior who collected at least that amount. The students who earned t-shirts wore them during the dance creating a sea of school spirit.

Finally, the prize committee obtained vouchers from nearly fifty area businesses. Names of prize winners were randomly drawn throughout

the dance event. The senior class **raised nearly \$2,000** with this successful endeavor! The money raised was presented to the very appreciative director of the local branch of Habitat for Humanity.



Left to Right: Nichole Macy, Amanda Radwanski, Nicole Berg, and Nicole Waligora

Ferndale Area Elementary Responds Thoughtfully to Tsunami Disaster with Unprecedented Generosity

The devastating tsunami that struck south Asia on December 26, 2004, triggered an outpouring of generosity throughout the Ferndale Area School District. The relief effort giving was characterized by thoughtful planning, strong family, student, staff involvement and unprecedented generosity.

Grade 3 teacher, **Debbie Barnhart**, and Elementary School Counselor, **Eileen Zanke**, spearheaded and organized a school-wide collection drive. Monetary donations were collected for a week in each elementary homeroom. The elementary school was a bee-hive of enthusiasm throughout the week. Students took pride in sharing their donations as evidenced by many stories of selfless giving. Teachers, staff and families all worked diligently to make the relief effort a success. As a sign of appreciation, all students received ice cream to

celebrate the school's commitment to teamwork and doing the right thing. Ice cream sandwiches were generously donated by **Galliker's**. Bank tellers from the **Westmont branch of Ameriserv Bank** graciously assisted in the daily counting of relief donations. Top winning homerooms in each grade

level also received a pizza party, with pizza donated by **Domino's Pizza**.

The degree of unprecedented generosity of **Ferndale Area families** was announced at the end of the week, with a check presentation of **\$5,200 to the**

Keystone Chapter of the American Red Cross. While academics will always be the top priority of an educational institution, creating an opportunity to participate in acts of kindness remains a life long lesson. Diligence, teamwork and caring hearts made this relief effort an act of gracious compassion for our Ferndale Area Elementary students and families.



Left to Right: William Adamy, Michael Miller, Dylan Valinsky, Mackenzie Roberts, (Georgia Lehman - American Red Cross), Courtney Stewart, Nicholas Kasisky, Vanessa Sestrich

Student Volunteers

On February 24, 2005 a group of students assisted with the Special Olympics speed skating events held at Planet Ice. The enthusiastic student volunteers cheered for the participants, and served as timers and judges. Several students helped on the ice as cheerleaders and event monitors. The students and athletes had a great time! Student volunteers included **Rachelle**

Bersamina, Joe Cruz, Andy Dorchak, Sam Eisenhuth, Krista Geyer, Rich Henry, Emily Johnston, Jessica Jung, Tanesha King, Becca Kopco, Donovan Lechak, Mike Leverknight, Shawn Mahon, Micky Matus, Samantha Myers, Matt Peters, Jake Radwanski, Kory Roberts, and Shawn Tighe.

Senior Charity Volleyball Tournament

On April 22, 2005, the Ferndale Area High School **Helping Hands/Bible Club** sponsored the annual senior charity volleyball tournament. This organization raises money to help needy families in our school district.

That night after Jamie McMullen sang "The Star Spangled Banner", senior teams played the elementary staff, high school staff, administration, coaches, and alumni. They then had to play the **senior all-star team**, which consisted of **Eric Rex, Scott Walsh, Eric Blue, Sasha Crawford, Sammy Eisenhuth, Whitney Sheehan, Emily Johnston, Ashlee Johnson, Katie Holko, Tanesha King, and Becca Kopco.**



The coaches took two games, and the all-star seniors took one. The coaches won the tournament.

Over \$600 was raised thanks to the generosity of the students, staff, and members of our community. The following sponsors paid for event T-shirts: **Ferndale Area School District Administration, Ferndale Area School District Elementary Staff, Moxham Mobile, Wayne Freeman from State Farm Insurance, Makin Waves Hair and Nail Studio, the Meadows, Century 21, First National Trust Company, Hershberger Insurance Agency, First National Bank, and Riek's Country Store.**

National Honor Society

Four students from Ferndale Area High School were inducted into membership of the National Honor Society in a ceremony held at the school on April 6, 2005. Members were selected by a Faculty Council for meeting high standards of scholarship, service, and character.

Students inducted were: **Tabitha Blue, Melinda Cameron, Natasha Hamilton, and Jamie McMullen.** Graduating senior members who were elected last year include: **Eric Blue, Nathan Bovino, Sasha Crawford, Kathryn Holko, Ashlee Johnson, Emily Johnston, Rebecca**

Kopco, Michael Matus, Katie Rhodes, Whitney Sheehan, and Tara Wentz.

The National Honor Society ranks as one of the oldest and most prestigious national organizations for high school students. Chapters exist in more than 60 percent of the nation's high schools. Since 1921, millions of students have been selected for membership. Millions of dollars in scholarships have been awarded to senior members since 1945 by the sponsoring organization, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).



YOUR VOICE COUNTS!

We would like to know what you think about Ferndale Area School District. Please jot down your thoughts, place in a stamped envelope, and return to our Administrative Office.

What are we doing that we should continue doing?

What are we doing that we should stop doing?

What aren't we doing that we should start doing?

PLEASE RETURN TO:

**Ferndale Area Administrative Office
100 Dartmouth Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15905**

Elementary School Special Recognition Awards

President's Award for Educational Excellence Gold

Joshua Chuha	Haleigh Owens
Ryan Sweeney	Zach Toth
Devin Williams	Hannah Genovese
David Horvath	Zack Sanna
Tyler Alt	Matt Dorchak
Alyssa Mangus	Nicholas Naylor
Christopher Garman	James Gartrell
Tyler Glass	Taylor Hrabosky

President's Award for Educational Achievement Silver

Ashlyn Leventry	Brittney Wiesheier
Marie Custer	Hayden Stumpo
Ben Speicher	Brianna Hinkledire
Tanner Kulback	Amber Mangus
Robert Hess	

The "American Citizenship Award"

Casey Bendick	Aaron Tomak
Lauren Olschewsky	William Adamy
Samantha Collins	Tanner Kulback
Brenae Kelly	Michael Miller
Jordan Deffenbaugh	Morgan Vamos
Jillian Kegg	Elizabeth Chobany
Nicholas Naylor	Savannah Durant
Taylor Yuhas	Garrett Harrison
Cameron Baumgardner	Gregory Walters
Billie Jo Thomas	Ashlyn Leventry
Michael Hockensmith	

35th Senatorial District "Good Citizenship Award"

Given by State Senator John N. Wozniak

Hannah Genovese	Tyler Glass
David Horvath	Samantha Moore
Zachary Hrabosky	Amber Mangus

Scholarships

Students from the Class of 2005 have been awarded the following scholarships:

Michael Matus - Navel Academy Nomination
Emily Johnston - Academic Scholarship for Elmira College
Andrew Kessler - McKelvey Scholarship - Bronze and Athletic Scholarship to Seton Hill University
Carl Lovrich - Athletic Scholarship to Seton Hill University
Brandon Ferre - McKelvey Scholarship - Gold
John Gregorchik - McKelvey Scholarship - Gold
Michael Priest - McKelvey Scholarship - Bronze
Amy Miller - Academic Scholarship to Cambria Rowe
Katie Rhodes - Presidential Scholarship to U.P.J.
Eric Blue - U.P.J. Leadership Scholarship

Challenge Program

On June 3, 2005, five tenth grade students were selected to attend the Challenge Program's Student Networking Program. **Rich Henry, Jolene Mattis, Brock Rummel, Kristine Stroschio, and Jessica Jung** joined other Challenge Program members throughout the county at the Showcase for Commerce, held in downtown Johnstown.

The students begin their day by having their photograph taken with Congressman Murtha in front of the Pasquerilla Conference Center. They then moved across the street to the War Memorial where they began touring the Showcase. The students learned about the many business and job opportunities offered right here in Johnstown. They were also able to observe demonstrations of the latest technology being used in business and industry.

Following the morning tour of the showcase, the students returned to the Pasquerilla Conference Center for lunch. Dan Perkins, Challenge Program founder, spoke to the students and guests at the luncheon. The day concluded with student speakers as well as awards and prizes.

Thank you to our Business Sponsors, **Korn Galvanizing and Conemaugh Health Systems** for providing the following performance awards to our students.

Challenge Program Awards: (\$250/award)

Overall GPA: **Emily Johnston**

Most Improved: Senior, **Shawn Mahon**; Junior, **Amber Roberts**; Sophomore, **Lloyd Sharp**

Attendance: Senior, **Emily Johnston**; Junior, **David Angelo**; Sophomore, **Breann Ferre**

Community Service: Senior, **Jacob Radwanski**; Junior, **Caitlin Cruickshank**; Sophomore, **Michael Leverknight**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Ferndale Area School District is to be **“Big Enough To Challenge”** all students, but **“Small Enough to Care”** about each student. To accomplish this mission, the Ferndale Area School District will strive to provide a safe and nurturing environment for excellent teaching and learning experiences where students prepare for a life of continual learning, and acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to solve problems, communicate effectively and be a responsible citizen.

We're on the web!
www.fasdk12.org

Athletic Highlights for the Year

- The **Varsity Football** team finished 6-3, knocking off formidable opponents Windber, Conemaugh Township, and Blacklick Valley. Senior tailback, **Eric Rex** rushed for over 1,000 yards and scored 15 touchdowns.
- The **Varsity Volleyball** team finished at 11-6 and made the playoffs for **Coach Kim Reighard's** 15th straight season.
- The **Varsity Boys' Basketball** team won its first playoff game in over a decade, beating Homer Center in double overtime and giving District VI A Champ Blairsville a scare before succumbing to the PIAA Single A final four participant late in the fourth quarter.
- The **Varsity Baseball** team finished strong, winning 5 of their last 6 games. Freshman **Josh Stoehr** led the hitting attack with a .462 batting average.
- The **Junior High Girls' Basketball** team showed promise under new **Head Coach Henry Eisenhuth**, finishing at 9-8 with a second place finish in the Johnstown Parochial League tournament.
- **Junior High Volleyball** team posted a 13-4 mark in 2005, bringing home a second place trophy in the Penns Manor JV tournament.
- The **Junior High Football** team finished a strong year with 35 team members.

Baseball Field Given a Boost

The senior high baseball field was given a boost for the 2005 spring season. An all-grass infield was installed in the summer of 2004 by LD&C of Ebensburg. The infield has historically had drainage problems and the feeling was that grass provides a natural alternative for drainage instead of trying to install more pipes under the field. With the burnt orange Shippensburg sand mix installed on the basepaths, the field now has the look of a major league field. So the next time you're driving by the sports complex, take a gander over and see for yourself how pleasing to the eye the baseball field has become. If grass is good enough for the pro players, it is good enough for our Yellow Jackets.

Ferndale Area School District
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Johnstown, PA 15905

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