

Schools:

Junior/Senior High:

- Dr. Craig attended mandated Safety Coordinator Training @ IU1.
- Several senior celebration breakfasts were held to recognize students.
- The Elementary and Secondary schools held Ranger Rallies on March 19, 2024, to honor the PIAA Western Finals boys basketball team.
- On March 15th, an Act 80 Day pretraining was held regarding Mental Health First Aid and Senior Presentations were completed.
- 2/22/24 - Insiders Club to Moon Township Park (Dully)
- 2/23/24 - Insiders Club to Heinz Field (Gasbarro/Dully)
- 2/28/24 - Jr. High Student Council to Washington County Food Bank (Shoup)
- 2/29/24 - Senior Class Meeting - Baccalaureate Info & Senior Presentation Reminder
- 3/1-3/24 - Willy Wonka Musical
- The FCHS Family Festival was held on March 6, 2024.
- 3/7/24 - FCHS Blood Drive
- 3/7/24 - School Health Physicals
- 3/8/24 - Media Club @ Cinemark Theater (Center)
- 3/8/24 - National Honors Society Induction
- 3/11/24 - FFA LAC & OAC Meeting Student presentations
- 3/11/24 - School Dental Exams
- 3/13/24 - Senior Class Meeting - Balfour Info
- 3/13/24 - Parkway West CTC Skills USA Award Banquet
- 3/17/24 - FC Football Pancake Breakfast
- HS Rally Parade – Wrestling will be held on March 22, 2024, at the Elementary Center.
- 2023 Bronze Level Award for Outstanding Service in Child Nutrition Programs - Helping Hands & FC Cafeteria
- Thiel College students nominated Mr. Robert Breedlove and Mr. RB Hursch for Mentor awards. The voting is open to the public. Please encourage your friends and family to vote for them.

Elementary Center:

The Elementary has completed the mid-year DIBELS assessment and IXL exams.

The students celebrated National Breakfast Week March 4th through 6th

Grades 3-6 participated in the Science Olympiad, and all grades are participating in the Spring Book Fair March 18-26.

Congratulations to the student athletes that made it to the Keystone State Wrestling Championships and the Pennsylvania Junior Wrestling State Championships.

The Elementary Center currently has 53 students signed up and attending our after school acceleration program that began February 13th and runs through March 28th.

The Fort Cherry Flight School has 53 students enrolled. The program begins April 8th and concludes May 14th on Mondays and Tuesdays from 3:45 to 5:15 and will be offered to grades 4-8. The program is grant funded.

Athletics:

Boys basketball - The team finished 23-7 overall and won their 3rd section championship in a row. They finished 3rd in the WPIAL and made it to the State Semifinals. They lost to Aliquippa in the WPIAL and State Semifinals. This was the first time since 1961 we made the State final four. It is the 3rd consecutive 20 win season. Over the last 4 years, the team has an impressive record of 80 – 21. Coach Eugene Briggs is closing in on the career milestone of 400 wins. He achieved win number 369 vs. Jeannette in the State quarterfinals.

Girls basketball – The team finished as Co- champions for the first time since 2013. They won a first round WPIAL playoff game over Beth Center 66 to 16. They won a consolation WPIAL playoff game over Winchester Thurston and finished 7th in the WPIAL. They made the State playoffs and lost to number 1 ranked Kennedy Catholic in the first round. The team finished 19-8 overall. Raney Staub scored 1297 points for her career.

Wrestling - Isabella Spotti and Abigail Dolanch both finished 3rd place in their respective weight classes at WPIALS. They both advanced to the Western Regionals where Isabella finished 4th and Abigail finished 3rd. Both qualified for States. At States Abigail medaled and finished 6th. Braedon Welsh finished second at WPIALS and Anthony Salvini finished 5th at the WPIAL earning his 102nd win and Shawn Robertson finished 6th at WPIALS. All three qualified for Regionals. Braedon finished 2nd at Regionals and qualified for States. Braedon medaled and finished 5th at States. Braedon reached the 100 win milestone earlier this year. He will continue adding on wins when he returns to the team for his senior season. He has a chance of becoming the Fort Cherry all time wrestling win leader.

7/8 Volleyball – Will finish their season today (March 20th vs. West Allegheny). The 8th grade team is currently 17-1 overall and the 7th grade team is currently 10-2 overall.

Spring Sports – Started practicing on March 4th. Track, Baseball, and Softball had successful scrimmages the week of March 11th through the 15th. The week of March 18th through 22nd had bad weather. They will resume play the week of March 25th through Easter break.

Current roster numbers: B/G track and field – 70, Baseball 20 and Softball has 12 participating.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Elementary Life Skills (currently 5 students): Consultation with Watson Institute is ongoing. Monthly team meetings are being held with the classroom staff, related service providers, and administration to provide a forum for discussion. There is continued progress with all students.

Monitoring: The District received its findings from Cyclical Monitoring for Special Education. As expected, the District has 2 areas for improvement: Least Restrictive Environment and Assessment Participation. PDE is accepting the assessment participation plan previously submitted to PDE as corrective action for that area. Dr. Lauver and PDE will discuss what corrective action will be made for Least Restrictive Environment. As mentioned in last month's report, we have reached the state average by system changes made this year. PDE and PaTTAN will setup a meeting with Dr. Lauver to follow up.

Paraprofessionals: Due to 2 resignations, we are now hiring for 2 vacancies.

ARC of PA: Dr. Lauver will be hosting ARC of PA for walkthroughs in April to start our partnership.

Teaching Position: The District has one open special education teaching position. We have over 20 qualified applicants, so we hope to have a recommended candidate for April's board meeting.

GUIDANCE

Scheduling: Scheduling feedback information for 24-25 distributed to Board members.

GIFTED

Acceleration: Dr. Lauver met with both Mrs. Drummond and Mrs. Krajci to go over the new K-BIT testing edition and administration protocols with our Gifted Matrix. Additionally, Mrs. Eiler is leading a new Child Find process for potentially-gifted students in grades 4–6 at FCEC. These protocols form the foundation for a new Gifted Procedures manual that will guide our decision making processes moving forward.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Monitoring: Monitoring data is due virtually by March 31. Mrs. Burford and Dr. Lauver are recommending review and/or revision of several policies to ensure that all policies are compliant with federal guidelines. We do not anticipate major findings on this monitoring.

Facilities and Grounds

The end of February and March have remained busy for the Facilities department. The High School Musical was a weekend full of activity for our staff. Other weekend activities have included the pancake breakfast for the Football Boosters.

Due to unusual weather patterns, we have salted drives and cut grass all in the same month. We have spent a large portion of the month prepping the athletic fields. With such a cold and wet start to the spring sports seasons this has been a struggle. We have worked each day to keep the fields in playable condition. The custodians have removed bushes and shrubs around the high school building in an effort to improve the visual appearance of the campus.

Inside the schools, the maintenance team has replaced belts and filters for our HVAC system. In addition, the team worked to identify times when the HVAC system should be turned on. We have also continued to train and work with our evening staff to disinfect and keep the buildings safe for our

students, staff and visitors. Due to numerous staff absences, it has been challenging to address cleaning needs in the evening. However, we recently hired substitutes which should address these issues.

I sent surveys to teachers, coaches and Junior Senior highschool students to determine satisfaction with current performance. In the future, the surveys will be used to compare new protocol to old. Furthermore, it will help focus our training and any needed changes that may need to be implemented.

We continue to meet every month with the union leadership team to improve communication and address staffing issues.

State Funding Applications, Mandates and Updates:

PDE Special Education report returned. I submitted plan to state to address special education participation rates for state testing. The PDE accepted the plan last year.

The Fort Cherry School District has submitted a number of PCCD grants for Safety and Security as well as MH funding. In addition, the District submitted a competitive grant to the PCCD to address a number of recommendations made by the PA State Police.

Met with high school math, science and English departments to discuss the use of assessment data to develop goals for students as well as ensure students are experiencing rigorous learning experiences. The teachers also reviewed next year's department head meetings and need to align courses to Keystone Standards and Anchors.

Teachers approved all contractual language amendments.

Continue to research and write DCED competitive school grant.

Attended a number of playoff games for girls and boys basketball

Met with CCBC representatives to discuss STEAM related courses and the possibility of developing CIHS courses..

Budget discussions held with both building administrative teams to highlight expenses

Met with PSEA representatives regarding personnel matters

Worked with administration on several improvement plans and disciplinary notifications.

TEALS (Microsoft) Visit—April 4th—Review partnership and instructional approach—Dr. DaQuan Bashir

Held several union related investigatory meetings with staff

Completed Highmark Foundation Grant to fund the purchase of CPR manikins, AED training devices, as well as the cost of training a staff member to become a CPR trainer. The District should learn the status of the grant in late April or early May.