

Schools:

Junior/Senior High:

New Teacher Induction -- August 15th -- We welcome the following teachers: Mrs. Cechhini (HS Nurse), Mrs. Snatchko (HS Math), and Ms. McIntyre (substitute German). Special thank you to our teacher mentors working with our new teachers: Mrs. Cieply and Mrs. Artim.

Successful Teacher In-service Days -- August 21-25

7th Grade Orientation -- August 22 -- We were happy to welcome our new 7th graders and their families to the high school. Special thank you to Mrs. Fedinetz, Mrs. Cowden, and our food service staff for a wonderful dinner; our 7th grade teachers for supporting our students and families; and our custodians & cleaners for making our campus shine.

We are excited for all of our students in grades 7-12 to join us for the first day of school on Monday, August 28th!

Elementary Center:

The following is a list of accomplished items throughout the summer and into the first week of In-Service for the teachers:

Completed the FCEC Master Schedule

Completed individual student schedules

Completed PBIS Training to be a Trainer for the Elementary Center

Met with each bus contractor on numerous occasions to redesign bus routes and update bus stops

Completed an extensive deep data dive to determine the correlation between IXL and PSSA data

Interviewed continuously to identify a qualified candidate for the FCEC Mental Health Counselor

Interviewed continuously to identify qualified candidates for paraprofessional openings

Interviewed and identified a qualified candidate to fulfill the Elementary P.E. Teacher opening

Attended a four-day-long PA Principal's Conference/Professional Development in King of Prussia, PA

Conducted and led a transition meeting with the Jr. High School for incoming 7th graders

Designed and conducted a Welcome Back Building Level Meeting for FCEC staff

Partnered with IU 1 for 10 professional development in Illustrative Math throughout the school year

Partnered with Dr. Lori Kenavey, Structured Literacy Interventionist, to provide professional development in the implementation of Foundations

Along with Mrs. Eiler conducted grade-level transition meetings for teachers with new incoming students

Identified "look fors" when conducting informal walkthroughs in the areas of Kid Writing, Foundations, and Illustrative Math

Partnered with Amplify to conduct Dibels 8 Training for K-2 Teachers

Athletics:

Fall sports are underway. Below is a report on current Fort Cherry roster numbers for our teams and co-ops.

Varsity Football - current roster numbers 45. 1st scrimmage August 19th.

7/8 Football- current roster numbers 22. 1st scrimmage August 30th.

Varsity Cheer – current roster numbers 19

7/8 Cheer – current roster numbers 11

Varsity Volleyball - current roster numbers 24. 1st scrimmage is August 19th.

Varsity Boys and Girls Cross Country - 14 girls, 1 boy; 1st scrimmage August 23rd.

7/8 Boys and Girls Cross Country - 12 girls, 4 boys; 1st scrimmage August 23rd.

Boys' Golf – current roster numbers 7. 1st scrimmage August 10th.

7/8 Softball – current roster numbers 14. 1st scrimmage August 30th.

Girls Tennis co-op with South Fayette - current numbers FC – 1. 1st scrimmage August 19th.

Boys Soccer co-op with Washington - current numbers FC – 7 boys/ 4 girls. 1st scrim. Aug 21st.

TECHNOLOGY

App: The new FC App currently has 309 (increased from 233) registered parent/guardian users.

This has continued to grow.

Ordering: All but 40 Chromebooks have arrived from AGi Repair. Mr. Speakman is working to determine a plan in case these devices are not ready.

Increased Enrollment: Our greatest challenge is increased enrollment, which is putting a strain on device types. We are continuing to monitor grade level needs, and we will make recommendations should a need arise to purchase additional devices.

Device Warranties: So far, 193 students have indicated interest in a warranty for their device.

135 of these students are paid at this point. I have followed up with families to ensure that they make payment prior to September 1. A final reminder will be sent via eBlast and the app to

make sure that every family has been informed multiple times about the availability of the device warranties. Final payments are due no later than September 1.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Elementary Life Skills: An open house was held on August 16 at 10 AM in the new classroom to orient families to the new site. Additionally, Watson Institute completed its first consultation with staff on August 22, with the next session scheduled for early September. The room is ready for the first day!

Monitoring: I am continuing the process of gathering documents for the Facilitated Self Assessment (FSA) for the upcoming monitoring.

Paraprofessionals: I have conducted paraprofessional interviews throughout the summer.

Currently, we still have 1 opening at FCEC. The posting is open until filled.

IEP Meetings: Since the last Board meeting, I have participated in 8 IEP meetings.

GUIDANCE

Naviance: Counselors will be working to implement the Common App for college this year with seniors via Naviance. Additionally, letters of reference will be live on Naviance this year.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Title I Schoolwide Plan (FCEC): The Schoolwide Title I plan is being presented tonight for board approval, and it will be submitted to PDE prior to the September 1 due date.

Monitoring: The District is scheduled for its cyclical monitoring in federal programs this year.

More information will be coming from the PDE Office of Federal Programs.

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Parent Meetings: Since the last board meeting, I participated in 2 parent meetings.

In-Service Meetings: I led the following staff development sessions:

- Technology training (FCEC & AMP; FCHS)
- Special Education Department Meeting/Preparing for Cyclical Monitoring
- Act 13 Training (teacher effectiveness model)

Facilities and Grounds

The Facilities department, custodians, cleaners and maintenance staff have been putting in a yeoman's effort to prepare the school buildings for a safe, clean, and successful start to the school year. Below are a few of the key events and actions that have been achieved over the past several weeks in preparation for the upcoming school year.

Before the list of accomplishments, I would like to recognize Tony Liebert for his effort and dedication to the district while in the role of acting director. Tony did a tremendous job leading the completion of numerous facility upgrades during the transition.

- The completion of the new mental help office in the learning commons at the High school.
- The completion of general summer cleaning and disinfecting of classrooms, common spaces, offices and athletic facilities.
- Multiple AC/ HVAC units have been serviced returned to working condition.
- Fencing funded by state grants have been completed at the EC (playground) and the HS (courtyard area). The District anticipates having the PCCD funded tier 1 fence implemented by Monday, August 28, 2023.
- Dr. Craig and I completed a building walk in early August to ensure classroom changes were completed to her satisfaction. The work included replacing over 200 damaged chairs, 75 damaged desks. The staff did an incredible job assembling these items as well as moving multiple teacher rooms.
- Dr. Willyerd's new room design (room 118) consisted of removing broken science tables, considerable floor repairs as well as adding new chairs and desks to accommodate her "active learning" design.
- Multiple rooms have been painted throughout the summer due to general need and the movement of teachers classrooms throughout the building.
- The exterior of the EC was addressed with trimming and mulching around the entrances.
- The staff has spent time the last few weeks to address the football field. Lining the field, cleaning press box space. (this continues to be a work in progress)
- Staff will return completely to school schedule shifts in Aug 28th
- During the week of August 21st, staff across campus have responded to countless undocumented requests and needs from the principals and faculty at both schools. From desk redesign, to disposal of unwanted materials and furniture.
- A weekend custodian was approved by the board at the August 14th meeting and will begin work with the district Friday August 25th.

The support staff here at Fort Cherry is prepared to do our part to ensure a successful and harmonious part of the Fort Cherry family throughout the 2023 -2024 school year.

State Funding Applications, Mandates and Updates:

A number of engaging professional development activities were attended by faculty staff during the teacher in-service program.

The 7th-grade orientation was well attended on 8/22/23.

The District administration completed a number of interviews to fill staff vacancies.

Student and parent feedback regarding the summer acceleration and STEAM camps was positive.

The administration is working closely with the FC Foundation to examine grant funding opportunities to support our learning acceleration programs as well as fund STEAM learning.

Room redesigns were completed by the maintenance department

STEAM professional development will be provided to