Forest Area Community Schools

Forest Area Focus

Serving the Communities of South Boardman and Fife Lake • Fall 2025

From Superintendent Moran

Dear Forest Area School Families,

Welcome back to a new school year Forest Area Warrior Family! I want to thank you for the commitment you bring to our schools –whether as students, educators, parents, or supporters of our community – you are appreciated.

As we begin this new school year, I am excited to share that our district will be launching a strategic planning process in the coming months. This important work will help us set clear priorities and goals to guide our schools over the next several years.

The strategic plan will be built around input from our entire community—students, staff, families, and partners. Your voices will play a vital role in shaping the vision for our district's future. Together, we will identify what we value most, what challenges we need to address, and how we can best prepare our students for success in an ever-changing world. In the months ahead, we will provide opportunities for you to participate through surveys and focus groups. I encourage you to get involved and share your perspective. The strength of this plan will come from the collaboration and commitment of everyone in our district.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. I look forward to working alongside you to create a strong and successful path forward for our schools. GO WARRIORS!

Sincerely,
Mike Moran, Superintendent
mmoran@forestarea.org

FREE School Meals for ALL

ALL Forest Area Community Schools students are eligible to receive a breakfast and lunch at school at no charge during the school year. To support this program, **each household is asked to complete and return a simple form**. All information is confidential. Questions? Call 231.369.4191.

Middle/High School News

Forest Area Middle/High School is off to a fantastic start this school year, with energy and enthusiasm radiating through our halls. From academics to athletics, our students have hit the ground running – and the results speak for themselves.

Sports Success

Our fall sports teams are already making waves with impressive performances and strong teamwork. Whether on the field or court, our athletes are showing dedication, sportsmanship, and school pride. The stands have been filled with cheering fans, and the momentum is only growing.

PBIS Rewards: Shaping a Positive Culture

One of the most exciting developments this year has been the continued success of our PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) rewards system. By recognizing and celebrating positive behavior, we've seen a noticeable shift in school culture – students are more engaged, respectful, and motivated. The ripple effect has created a more supportive and uplifting environment for everyone.

Calling All Parents: Join Us!

We believe that strong schools are built on strong partnerships. That's why we're inviting parents and guardians to get involved – whether by volunteering at events, supporting classroom activities, or helping with fundraisers. Your time and energy make a real difference, and we welcome your support as we work together to uphold our mission of excellence, growth, and community.

Let's keep the momentum going. Forest Area MS/HS is thriving – and with your help, we'll reach even greater heights.

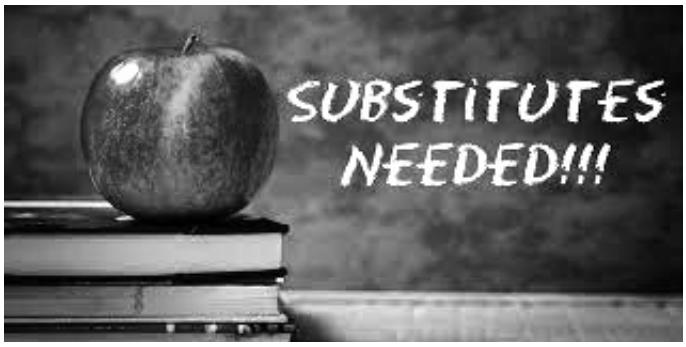
Konrad Molter, Principal
kmolter@forestarea.org

Contact Us

District Office • Ph 369-4191 • Fax 369-4153
Email mmoran@forestarea.org
Middle/High School • Ph 369-2884 • Fax 369-3646
Fife Lake Elementary • Ph 879-3362 • Fax 879-4825
Website • www.forestarea.org

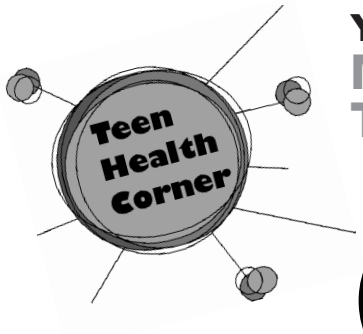
Welcome Mrs. Wooer

We'd like to extend a huge Forest Area Community Schools welcome to our new Fife Lake Elementary principal, Mrs. Kirsten Wooer. Mrs. Wooer brings 27 years of experience in education to Fife lake Elementary. She has spent 14 years as a school administrator as both a middle school assistant principal and elementary principal in a neighboring district. We are very excited Mrs. Wooer decided to join our FAmily!



Substitutes Needed

Forest Area Community Schools is seeking substitute teachers, bus drivers and support staff members. If you are interested in applying to be a sub for the 2025-26 school year, please contact FACS main office at 231-369-4191.



YOUR HEALTH MATTERS TO US

Call Us Now
231-258-7791 Kalkaska
231-369-2000 Forest Area
231-258-7922 KMS

Our Services

- Annual physicals/Well Child
- Immunizations
- Mental Health Services
- Sick Visits, Urgent Care
- Labs, X-rays
- Sports Injury, Concussion Care
- On-site Medicaid enrollment
- Telehealth Visits
- Behavioral Health Services - ages 5-21 years at Kalkaska Middle School Clinic, 231.258.7922

Teen Health Corner takes pride in providing compassionate and comprehensive care to youth in a teen-friendly setting for 10-21 year olds at the Kalkaska Clinic and 5-21 year olds at the Forest Area Clinic.

2025-26 FACS Calendar

Calendar as of August 2025 - Subject to Change

Aug. 27 ..... **Staff Work Day**
Aug. 28 ..... **Staff PD Day**

Sept. 2 ..... **Half Day - First Day of School**
Sept. 25 ..... **Half Day - Staff PD**

Oct. 16-17 ..... **Half Day - Conferences**
Oct. 23 ..... **Half Day - Staff PD**
Oct. 31 ..... **End of 1st Quarter**

Nov. 4 ..... **Reg'l Staff Development Day - No Students**
Nov. 26-28 ..... **No School - Thanksgiving**

Dec. 22- Jan 2 ..... **No School - Winter Break**

Jan. 5 ..... **School Resumes**
Jan. 15-16 ..... **Half Day - End of 1st Semester**
Jan. 28 ..... **Half Day - Staff PD**

Feb. 16 ..... **Staff PD - No Students**
Feb. 26 ..... **Half Day - Staff PD**

March 5-6 ..... **Half Day Conferences**
March 27 ..... **End of 3rd Quarter**
March 30 - Apr. 6 ..... **No School - Spring Break**

April 24 ..... **Half Day - Trout Friday**

May 25 ..... **No School - Memorial Day**
May 31 ..... **Graduation**

June 8-9 ..... **Half Day - End of 2nd Semester**

FACS Board of Education

The Board of Education meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the high school commons or via teleconference as needed. Special meeting dates/ times/places as published.

Board of Education:

Dan Smith, President

Chrissy Ingersoll, Vice President

Travis Tracey, Secretary

Joanna Durfee, Treasurer

Hannah Bird, Trustee

Kari Morgan, Trustee

Adam Schaefer, Trustee

Meeting Dates:
September 8, 2025
October 13, 2025
November 10, 2025
December 8, 2025
January 12, 2026
February 9, 2026
March 9, 2026
April 13, 2026
May 11, 2026

Important Notices

Forest Area Community Schools is required to make several public notices at the beginning of the school year. Please carefully review the next few pages of the newsletter to ensure you have all the information you need for a successful year.

Student Records

Student records, other than directory information shall be available only to students and their parents, eligible students, and designated school personnel who have a legitimate educational interest in the information, or to other individuals or organizations as permitted by law. The term "parents" includes legal guardians or other persons standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or step parent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the welfare of the child). The term "eligible student" refers to a student who is eighteen (18) years of age or older, or a student of any age who is enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

"Legitimate educational interest" shall be defined as a "direct or delegated responsibility for helping the student achieve one or more of the educational goals of the District" or if the administrative, supervisory or instructional task or to perform a service or benefit for the student or the student's family.

To request this information or amend a child's educational records, please contact the principal of the building the child attends or most recently attended. The District will comply with a legitimate request for access to a student's records within a reasonable period of time. Based upon reasonable requests, viewers of educational records will receive explanation and interpretation of the records.

Only "directory information" regarding a student shall be released to any person or party, other than the student or his/her parent, without the written consent of the parent; or if the student is an eligible student, the written consent of the student except those persons or parties stipulated by the District's policy and administrative guidelines and/or those specified in the law. If you believe that your rights have been violated under Federal Law (FERPA and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment), please contact the FACS Superintendent, 7741 Shippy Road SW, Fife Lake, MI 49633

Instructional Materials Review

If you are interested in reviewing instructional materials used by the district, please complete the following procedure:

1. Make the request to the principal of the building in which the instructional materials are used.
2. Submit completed form 9130F3 to the building principal.
3. Upon receipt of the form, the principal will schedule an appointment for you to visit the building to review and inspect the material indicated on the form.
4. Upon inspection and review, if you would like to file a complaint about the instructional materials, you should contact the FACS Superintendent at (231) 369-4191, who will help you follow the complaint procedures outlined in FACS School Board Policy.

Asbestos Report

A complete set of plans and results of inspections for all buildings are available for review during normal business hours in the office of the superintendent at 7741 Shippy Road SW, Fife Lake, MI 49633. Contact the superintendent at (231) 369-4191 for further information.

Information Release to Military Recruiters

Two federal laws and one Michigan law require Forest Area Community Schools to provide military recruiters, upon request, names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students. A parent/guardian or 18 year old student may exercise the option to withhold consent for the release of this information to military recruiters by signing and returning the form below to the Forest Area High School office. If you do not return this form, Forest Area is required to release the requested information.

Reservation of Consent

Please do not release the name, address and telephone number of

_____
student name

to the entities checked below without my prior permission.

_____ U.S. Military Recruiters
_____ Institutions of Higher Education

_____
parent/guardian signature *date*

_____
student signature *date*
(must sign if 18 or older)

_____
student date of birth if 18 or older

Source Water Assessment

Notice to the Public: Water Quality Annual Report Amendment to Act 1976 PA 339 Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act - R325.10416. Per the above citation of law this report is made known to all concerned as follows:

1. A summary of water sampling compliance data for the previous calendar year and copies of laboratory results are on file at the office of the superintendent, 7741 Shippy Road SW, Fife Lake, MI 49633. Office hours are 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon-Fri during school (7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in summer).
2. Copies of the actual water analysis reports and/or any violation notices are available upon request.
3. This information is required for all K-12 schools and child care centers that are also nontransient, noncommunity public water supplies as an annual report to the public. For information, contact FACS at (231) 369-4191.

MI Immunization Requirements

A child enrolling in public, private, parochial or denominational school in Michigan for the first time shall submit one of the following: 1.) statement signed by a physician that child has been tested for and immunized or protected against diseases specified by the director of public health, 2.) statement signed by parent/guardian that child has not been immunized because of religious convictions or other objections, 3.) request signed by parent/guardian that local health department gives the needed protective immunization. **In addition, a statement that vision and hearing tests were passed is required unless parent indicates in writing that child cannot submit to the tests because of religious convictions.**

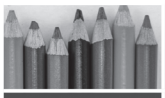
Michigan law prohibits a principal or teacher from admitting new students without record of having at least one dose of each: measles, mumps, rubella, polio, diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis. Records for all entering kindergarten students and students enrolled from outside the district will be reviewed to ensure immunizations are up-to-date. Notice will be sent to parents/guardians if there is no immunization record upon school entry or if records are incomplete. Students not in compliance with immunization requirements will be excluded from school until documentation of immunization is presented. Michigan law requires that all students be immunized against the diseases listed in the chart below. Immunizations can be obtained from a physician or health department.

Below is the most recent list of vaccines required for school entry in Michigan. This list is also available online at: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Adult-and-Childrens-Services/Children-and-Families/Immunization-Information/School-Waiver-Information/MDHHS-Pub--1378_3323-(004).pdf



Vaccines Required for School Entry in Michigan

Whenever children are in group settings, there is a chance for disease to spread. Parents must follow state vaccine laws in order for their children to attend school. These laws are the minimum standard for preventing disease outbreaks in group settings. The best way to protect children from serious diseases is to follow the recommended vaccination schedule at www.CDC.gov/Vaccines. When following the recommended schedule children are fully protected and any school vaccination requirements are met.



	All kindergartners and 4–6-year-old transfer students	All 7th graders and 7–18-year-old transfer students
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP, DTaP, Tdap)[1]	4 doses DTP or DTaP 1 dose must be at or after 4 years of age	4 doses diphtheria and tetanus or 3 doses if 1st dose given on or after 1 year of age 1 dose Tdap at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher
Polio[1]	4 doses or 3 doses if dose 3 was given on or after 4 years of age	
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)[1, 2]	2 doses at or after 12 months of age	
Hepatitis B[1, 2]	3 doses	
Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY)[1]	None	1 dose at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher
Varicella (Chickenpox)[1, 2]	2 doses at or after 12 months of age or current lab immunity or history of varicella disease	

[1]Vaccines should be given at certain ages and at certain times (follow CDC Immunization Schedule for the recommended number of doses, correct spacing, and ages); this chart is based on Michigan school immunization requirements. We strongly encourage parents and providers to follow the CDC recommended schedule because school requirements are the minimum for protection. Follow this chart when assessing immunization status for school immunization requirements.[2]If the child has not received these vaccines, documented immunity/waiver is required. During disease outbreaks, incompletely vaccinated children may be excluded from school. Parents and guardians choosing to decline vaccines must obtain a certified non-medical waiver from a local health department. Read more about waivers at www.michigan.gov/immunize. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, national origin, color, sex, disability, religion, age, height, weight, familial status, partisan considerations, or genetic information. Sex-based discrimination includes, but is not limited to, discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, and pregnancy.

MDHHS-Pub-1378 (Rev. 02-24)

MDHHS

Substance Abuse Policy

Matters pertaining to Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act Amendments of 1989. Public Law 101-226

Forest Area Community Schools district (FACS) believes that use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession of alcohol is wrong and harmful. Age- and developmentally-appropriate drug and alcohol education and prevention programs which address legal, social and health consequences of drug and alcohol use and provide effective techniques for resisting peer pressure.

1. FACS prohibits unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as part of any of its activities. ***COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY.***
2. Disciplinary action (consistent with local, state and federal law) up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed upon students who violate.
3. Discipline will be applied appropriately to the offense and offender following Forest Area Suspension and Expulsion Policy guidelines. Discipline may include a.) Completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program at parent/guardian expense, b.) Referral for prosecution. Parents are encouraged to seek family counseling agencies as necessary, with the associated costs borne by the parent.
4. FACS will review its drug prevention program at least biannually to a.) determine program effectiveness and implement changes if needed, b.) ensure that disciplinary actions are enforced.

Teacher/Paraprofessional Qualifications

FACS is a school that receives federal funds from Title I and parents and guardians may request the following information about the professional qualifications of teacher(s):

1. Whether the teacher has met Michigan licensing requirements for the grade level(s) and subject area(s) for which the teacher provides instruction;
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status through which Michigan licensing requirements have been waived;
3. The teacher's college degree(s), major(s), and field(s) of discipline, as well as any graduate degree or certification.

You may also request this information about any paraprofessional who provides Title I services to your child. If you would like to receive this information, please contact the superintendent, FACS. Your request will be processed in a timely manner.

Complaint Procedure

Any person who believes they have been discriminated against or denied equal opportunity or access to programs or services may file a complaint with the district's Civil Rights Coordinator, Superintendent, FACS, 7741 Shippy Road SW, Fife Lake, MI 49633 (231) 369-4191. The individual may also contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 600 Superior Avenue, Room 750, Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2611.

Pest Management Advisory

Forest Area Community Schools uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM uses all suitable techniques to prevent pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level. Techniques emphasize pest exclusion and biological controls. However, as with most pest control programs, chemical controls may also be utilized.
You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds or buildings. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students. You will be notified following any such application. If you need prior notification, please complete the form below and submit it to your school principal.

Pesticide Prior Notification Request

Parent/Guardian Name:

_____

Student (Child) Name:

_____

Street Address:

_____

City:

_____

State: ZIP:

_____

Daytime Phone:

_____

Evening Phone:

_____

Please check one option:

_____ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment inside of the building
_____ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment on the outside grounds of the school
_____ Both of the above
_____ Please have the school contact me

Student Insurance

All athletes must have Interscholastic Athletic Coverage if they are not covered through a family policy. Each athlete must have a waiver signed by a parent indicating they have adequate insurance, or be covered through the Interscholastic Athletic Insurance before participating in sports activities. Coaches will have the necessary forms.

Title I

Title I paraprofessionals will serve Forest Area Community Schools in Grades K-5. Title I staff members work with classroom teachers and students in math, reading, science, social studies and computer technology to help children make optimal educational gains.

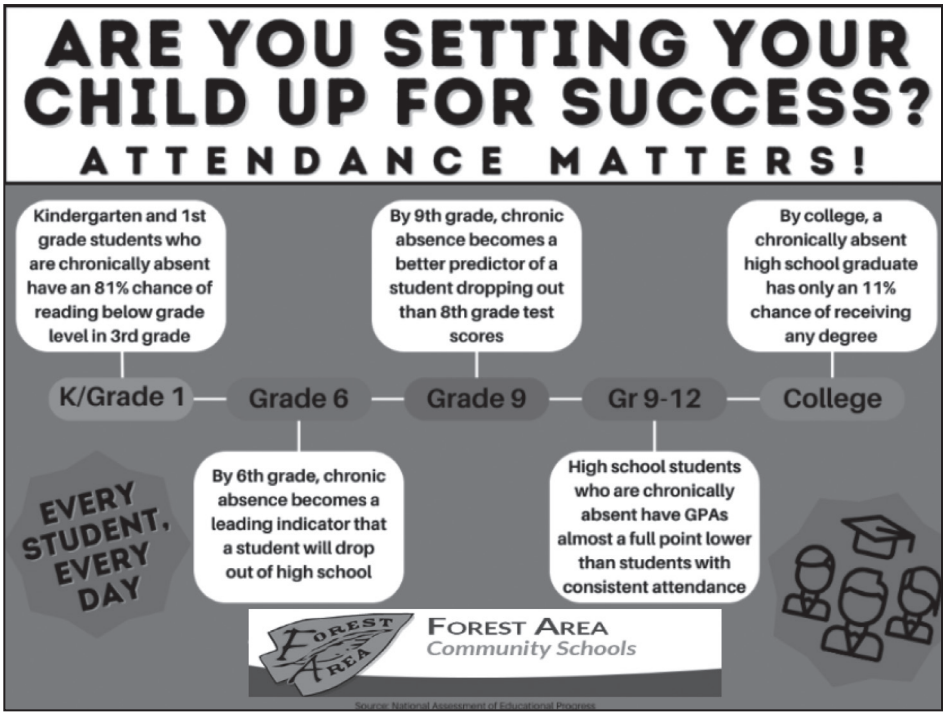
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

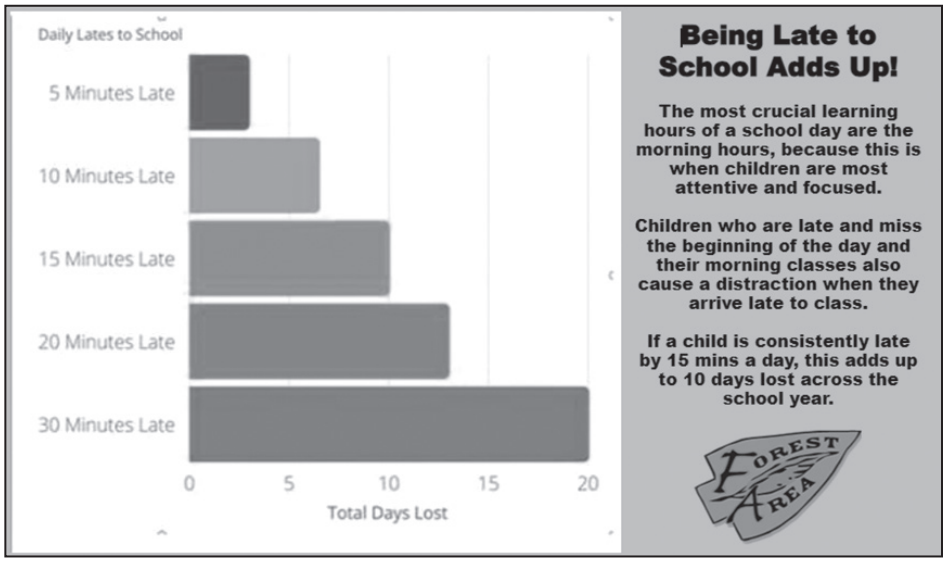
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) federal law requires that Forest Area Community Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Forest Area may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The purpose of directory information is to allow Forest Area to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications such as a playbill, yearbook, honor roll, graduation programs, and sports activity sheets.
Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.
If you do not want Forest Area to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must annually notify the District in writing. Please send notification by ***Sept. 15, 2025*** to: Office of the Superintendent, 7741 Shippy Road SW, Fife Lake, MI 49633. Forest Area has designated the following information as directory information: Student name, address, and telephone listing; date and place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height, if members of an athletic team; dates of attendance; date of graduation; degrees, honors, and awards received; honor rolls or scholarships received.

Privacy Notice Consent Opt-Out

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 USC § 1232h, requires Forest Area Community Schools to obtain consent or allow you to opt your child out of participating in certain school activities, including a student survey, analysis, or evaluation in an applicable program in one or more of the following eight areas:
1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or parent;
2. Mental/psychological problems of the student or family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, physicians, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parent/guardian;
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility or financial assistance.

This opt-out right also applies to the collection, disclosure, or use of student information for marketing purposes ("marketing surveys") and to certain physical exams and screenings.





Student Safety

To ensure the safety of all students, visitors must check in at the office before entering the school area. If you wish to leave a message or speak with a teacher, please contact the school secretary. The secretary will be able to help parents get in touch with teachers and avoid classroom interruptions.

AmeriGas

America's Propane Company

Save Your Receipts

Forest Area Community Schools can earn up to $2,000 per year in free money through the AmeriGas School Days program. Bring your Amerigas receipts to school and Amerigas will award FACS a $0.02 per gallon rebate on the propane receipts. The money can be used to purchase school-related items such as books, computers, sports equipment, band equipment, art materials and more.

Warriors Athletics

Visit the Warriors Athletics website to find school sports schedules, photos, videos, and more.

www.forestareawarriors.com

You can also find athletic updates on the Forest Area Warrior Facebook page. Like us!

School Meal Information 2025-26

Breakfast
FREE for ALL students

Lunch
FREE for ALL students
Lunch price for adults is $4.00. Milk is $0.35 without a lunch. No charging allowed.

Food Allergies - If a student is requesting special dietary accomodations by school food service due to food allergies or other needs, families and their physicians may complete and submit the form available at forestarea.org.

Lunch Menus - Visit **forestarea.org** for monthly lunch menus. You may also download the FREE app, Nutrislice to see menus and nutritional information.

Questions? Contact Director of Food Service Shelly Ritchie at 369-4191.

Nondiscrimination Statement: In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; by fax to (202) 690-7442; or by email to program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

October - December 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	OCTOBER 1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11
13 Board of Education Mtg, 6:30p	14	15	16 Half Day Parent Teacher Conferences	17 Half Day Parent Teacher Conferences	18
20	21	22	23 Half Day Staff Professional Development	24	25
27	28	29	30	31 End of First Quarter	NOVEMBER 1
3	4 No School for Students Staff Professional Development	5	6	7	8
10 Board of Education Mtg, 6:30p	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26 No School	27 No School Thanksgiving Holiday	28 No School	29
DECEMBER 1 School Resumes	2	3	4	5	6
8 Board of Education Mtg, 6:30p	9	10	11	12	13

Dates and times subject to change

FOREST AREA WARRIORS

School Day Start/End Times

Fife Lake Elementary
Start Time 8:00 a.m.
End Time 3:00 p.m.
1/2 Day 8:00-11:45 a.m.

Forest Area Middle/High School
Start Time 8:25 a.m.
End Time 3:20 p.m.
1/2 Day 8:25 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Visit Websites

forestarea.org
Lunch Menus
School Calendar
Staff Directory

forestareawarriors.com
Sports Schedules
Event Results
Photos

Forest Area Focus is provided periodically during the school year and on our website (www.forestarea.org) for residents of the Forest Area Community Schools District. Staff, students and community members write the articles. Newsletter editing and layout is provided by the Communications Department, Northwest Education Services. Printing for the newsletter is provided by Forest Area Community Schools. Questions about the newsletter should be directed to the Superintendent at (231) 369-4191.

Administration:
Mike Moran,
Superintendent
Konrad Molter, Middle & High School Principal
Kirsten Wooer,
Elementary Principal

Forest Area Community Schools
7741 Shippy Road SW
Fife Lake, MI 49633

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