From the Superintendent...

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Pardon Our Mess...

Thank you again Fife Lake and South Boardman communities for passing our bond on November 6, 2018. The Forest Area Board of Education is busy working with architects to design building renovations and additions to best meet the needs of our students.

Once these drawings are complete we will accept bids from prospective builders and proceed with construction! This is a very exciting time at Forest Area as we haven’t had significant upgrades to our campuses since the late 1980’s. Our goal is to complete these extensive renovations prior to the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.

In order to achieve this ambitious goal with such a short timeline, we will begin many of the renovation projects prior to the end of this school year. You may see work begin on the secure entryways, fitness center, and the new commons area at the middle/high school.

Security is always a primary concern at Forest Area, so we will be sure to have background checks completed for workers who are in and around our buildings during school hours. We will have to redirect visitors to other entrances in the spring as work begins on the main entryways so please be prepared. Proper signage will be displayed to ensure visitors are aware of our temporary entries to both buildings.

I will continue updating students, staff, parents, and community members as we proceed with construction. This is FA!

Respectfully,
Joshua T. Rothwell

Kindergarten Round-Up
April 25

It’s almost time to register for Forest Area Community Schools Kindergarten for the 2019-20 school year! Kindergarten Round-Up is Thursday, April 25. Call Fife Lake Elementary at (231) 879-3362 to schedule an appointment. Families with children who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2019 may enroll.

Kindergarten Round-Up - April 25
• Schedule an appointment to learn more & register for kindergarten
• Meet staff & visit classrooms
• Vision & hearing screenings
• Bring parent identification, certified birth certificate & immunization records

Fife Lake Elementary School Thrives
• All day, every day kindergarten
• Highly qualified teachers
• Reading, writing & behavior support staff
• Physical education, art & music

FREE Preschool - Apply Now!

Apply now for Forest Area Community Schools FREE Great Start Readiness preschool for fall 2019. Children must turn 4 years of age on or before September 1, 2019. Additional tuition-based preschool option also available for those who do not qualify for GSRP. Call Michele Knight at (231) 879-3362 for more information.

Early Learning Center
Child Care and Preschool

Forest Area Early Learning Center offers child care for infants and toddlers, preschool, and before/after school care. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. DHS payments are accepted. Call (231) 369-2841 x308 for additional information.
The Board of Education meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the high school band room. Special meeting dates/times/places as published.

**Board of Education:**
- Rick Hulwick, President
- Steve Kniss, Vice President
- Chrissy Ingersoll, Treasurer
- Christie McLeod, Secretary
- Jon Lange, Trustee
- Joanna Durfee, Trustee
- Allison Miller, Trustee

**Meeting Dates:**
- March 11, 2019
- April 8, 2019
- May 13, 2019
- June 24, 2019

### Young Scientists

Middle school students never know what’s in store for them when they walk into Mrs. Hollow’s science class. They have had many dissecting experiences, exploring the anatomy of a worm, owl pellet, chicken bone, chicken foot, deer lungs, sheep heart, and pig head. Although they can be challenging at first, dissections are a great way to encourage hands-on scientific learning. All the students have done a great job channeling their inner scientists!

Pictured above, seventh graders had mixed feelings when it came to dissecting a sheep heart. Below, eighth graders were amazed by the external and internal structures of a pig head.

### Late Start Wednesdays

Forest Area Community Schools have scheduled the following late start Wednesdays for the 2018-19 school year to allow teachers extra regularly scheduled work sessions focusing on student achievement.

**2nd Semester**
- February 27
- March 13
- April 17
- May 1

Students report to their respective buildings one hour later than regular school days. If your child needs to arrive at the regular start time on these Wednesdays, support staff will be available to supervise your child. Busses will run one hour later than regular schedule, and school breakfast will be served at 8:45 a.m. on late start Wednesdays.

### Generous Givers

Thank you for the many donations from community members to ensure that Forest Area families who were in need could enjoy a less stressful holiday season. Kudos to Stacy Muth for her work on the Giving Tree program. Plus, thank you to the Loose Wheels Motorcycle Club for their generous donation of $200! This is a great place to live because of wonderful people like you who put the FA in FAmily. Go Warriors!
Math Talk
Kindergarteners are practicing using vocabulary in class that helps them build and understand math skills.

Warrior Spirit
First graders enjoyed their annual holiday tradition of a viewing of The Polar Express at the State Theater in Traverse City followed by caroling at local businesses. The Forest Area High School choir joined in spreading merry spirit throughout the community.

Childrens Museum Visit
Fife Lake Elementary students enjoyed a field trip to Great Lakes Childrens Museum in Traverse City where they learned about the water cycle and the Great Lakes.

Play Ball!
Forest Area Summer Ball Association is sending home registration forms for summer 2019 tee ball, baseball and softball for players ages 4-14. Interested players should complete and return the registration form to school. For parents who prefer to register in person, there will be a registration event at Forest Area High School on Saturday, March 16, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Forest Area Summer Ball Association is also looking for volunteers for coaching some levels, board membership, preparing fields, team sponsorship, etc. If you are interested in volunteering, please attend an informational meeting on Saturday, March 16 at 12:00 p.m. at Forest Area High School. There will also be a meeting for current coaches on the same date and time.

Financial Responsibility
Forest Area Federal Credit Union’s Amy Bridson presented to Mrs. Magee’s high school students on the topic of financial responsibility. Highlighted were the uses and benefits of checking and savings accounts, ATM cards, credit union memberships, and loans. The important real-life lessons were of great interest to the teenagers. Forest Area appreciates the time and expertise of Mrs. Bridson and Forest Area Federal Credit Union.

Music Notes
Forest Area Community Schools
musical performances:
Feb 27 Choir Festival
Mar 1 Band Festival
Mar 9 Talent Show
Mar 20 Jazz Festival
April 23 Jazz Dinner
May 18, 19 Musical
May 23 Spring Concert
Warrior Spellers

Congratulations to Forest Area Community Schools students on a fantastic performance at the Kalkaska County Spelling Bee. Sixth grade student Michele Blandon took first place, followed by sixth grader Leah Durfee who took second! Vanek Schultz is runner-up and all three students move on to the Regional Spelling Bee in Traverse City in March.

Readers Theater

Third graders are developing their reading fluency and confidence by reading out loud with a strategy called “readers theater.” They are improving their skills and learning about the legal process and jury trials through the assigned grade-level reading materials.

SEEDS After School

It’s been a great school year so far in SEEDS After School at Fife Lake Elementary and Forest Area Middle School. At the elementary school, SEEDS students enjoy healthy cooking class, hands-on science activities with 4H, and visiting the Fife Lake Public Library each week. Middle school students recently built cardboard sleds for Carly’s Hill, and take part in a cooking class provided by MSU Extension.

SEEDS After School programs are high-quality academic enrichment programs open to students in the Forest Area School district grades K-8. Programs include dinner and a snack, recess, homework help, time to socialize, and hands-on learning opportunities. For elementary program information, contact Kari Gauthier-Parrett at kari@ecoseeds.org. For the middle school program, contact Joe Kreider at joe.kreider@ecoseeds.org. Be on the lookout for information about the SEEDS summer program to be coming soon!

School Meal Information

Breakfast
FREE for ALL students
• Fife Lake Elementary cafeteria starting at 7:45 a.m.
• High/Middle School cafeteria starting at 7:50 a.m.

Lunch
FREE for ALL students
• Lunch price for adults is $3.75
• Milk is $0.35 without a lunch
• No charging allowed

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

Food Allergies
If a student has food allergies, a Medical Statement Form must be completed by a physician so the child’s needs can be accommodated. Forms are available at forestarea.org on the food service page.


New Tastes in the Cafeteria

Forest Area students enjoyed sampling two types of salsa during the school cafeteria’s taste tests celebrating foods with different herbs and spices.

FA Teen Closet

Helping Hand

Sometimes Forest Area students need assistance with meals, boots for recess, clothing, shampoo, and more. That’s when Forest Area Teen Closet steps in to lend a hand. If you know a student who has needs that cannot be met at home, please contact Stacy Muth in the school office, and she will try to provide kids with the essentials so they can focus on learning. Donations are gladly accepted: healthy, nonperishable food items, toiletries, and gently used clothing, shoes and outerwear. For more information, call 369-4191.
March - May 2019

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School Days

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 3:15 p.m.
1/2 Day 8:25 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Visit Websites
forestarea.org
Lunch Menus
School Calendar
Staff Directory
and more!

forestareawarriors.com
Sports Schedules
Event Results
Photos
and more!

Forest Area Focus is provided periodically during the school year and on our website 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, Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District (TBAISD). 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:
Josh Rothwell,
Superintendent &
Elementary Principal
Kelly Holeman,
Middle & High School Principal
Mar 7 Half Day
MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences
8 Half Day
22 End of Third Quarter
Mar 25-31 No School - Spring Recess
April 1 School Resumes
26 Half Day
May 27 No School - Memorial Day
Jun 2 Graduation
6 Half Day
Last Day of School