



Forest Area Community Schools

Forest Area Focus

Serving the Communities of South Boardman and Fife Lake • June 2023

Congratulations Forest Area Class of 2023

2023 Senior Spotlights

We salute these seniors who graduate with highest distinction for earning grade point averages of 3.75 or better. They are awarded gold honor cords to wear during graduation.

Alayna Wildfong
Makayla Dennis
Teri Wieling
Kierstyn Elya
Gavhran Collins
Lillian DeBarr

Valarie Nelson
Abigail Gordon
Matthew Lenz
Meagan Lange
Landon Magee

Graduation Ceremony June 4

Please join us for the ceremony to celebrate the Class of 2023 and officially transition our seniors to high school graduates:

Sunday, June 4, 3 p.m.

Forest Area High School Gym

Keynote speaker will be Kristen Romps. Valedictorian Alayna Wildfong and Salutatorian Makayla Dennis will also give speeches.

Because this is a special and formal ceremony, please refrain from bringing noisemakers and other devices that may distract from the event.

Scholarship Awards

Forest Area congratulates the Class of 2023. These hard-working students were awarded more than **\$205,000** in scholarships to attend institutions such as University of Michigan, Ferris State University, Olivet College, Baker College and Northwestern Michigan College. Thank you to those who awarded the scholarships and financial assistance including but not limited to Forest Area Federal Credit Union, Wilfred and Joan Larson Scholarship, Academia Club Scholarship, Traverse City Track Club Scholarship, Kiwanis Club, John E. Ricketts Memorial Scholarship, Peggy Duran Coan Trout Pond Scholarship, and various military scholarships.

Salute to Top Achievers

Congratulations to top academic achievers from 2023! And best wishes to *all* graduates in their next steps!



Valedictorian

Alayna Wildfong

is the daughter of Renay and Adam Wildfong. She began attending Forest Area when she entered second grade. Alayna has been involved in National Honors Society, Student Council and is currently the Class Secretary. During her high school career, she completed multiple college courses at

NMC and Baker, and has held a spot on the Dean's List for every semester. In fall, she will be attending University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where she plans to study nursing. She also plans to pursue a masters degree and become a nurse practitioner.



Salutatorian

Makayla Dennis

is the daughter of Jessie Green and Samuel and Jodi Dennis. She began attending when she entered the preschool program. Makayla has been involved in National Honor Society, Student Council and is currently the Class President. During her high school career, she completed multiple college

courses at NMC and Baker, and has held a spot on the Dean's List for every semester. In fall, Makayla will be attending University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where she plans to study sociology and social work. After obtaining her undergraduate degree, she plans to pursue a masters degree in social work with the goal to become a school social worker.

Thank You & Congrats!

Dear Forest Area Community,

A tremendous thank you to our communities for a successful sinking fund millage renewal! This renewal passed on the May 2 election with 369 “yes” votes and 179 “no” votes.

Our 10 year sinking fund will be used primarily for continual upkeep of school buildings and surrounding school sites. Specifically, we will focus on enhancing school security and purchasing updated technology for our staff and students. Thank you to everyone for their support of the students of Forest Area Community Schools.

I also extend sincere congratulations to our Class of 2023 and their families and friends. The staff and I wish the graduates all the best in their next steps. It has been an honor to contribute to their educations!

Sincerely,

Josh Rothwell, Superintendent
Forest Area Community Schools



Disc Golf Takes Flight

Forest Area Middle/High School now has an official disc golf club and it was an instant success! In its first year, there have been around 12 students attend each meeting/outing and they are learning and improving quickly.

Forest Area MS/HS was granted \$1,500 from Special Olympics of Michigan to launch a Unified Champion team, meaning the club is 100% inclusive and will work to organize a school wide campaign promoting inclusion in all settings. Disc golf is an excellent activity for inclusion because participants can be new or more advanced and still find success and have fun.

Students of the Month

Forest Area staff selected the following Fife Lake Elementary Students of the Month for February and March who demonstrate outstanding character, work ethic, attitude and academics:

*Jayden Baker
Ben Birgy
Lilly Blackledge
Chiara Bryant
Harper Dontje
Bella Franklin
Mason Helsel
Jaylee Hulwick
Kahlan Jones*

*Zayden Kevwitch
Cohen Kruenegel
Valkyrie Litchard
Cora Lundy
Clare McDonald
Liset Newland
Kason Remington
Gentry Smith
Rosella Steelman*

We also celebrate the Middle School and High School Students of the Month for April:

Middle School
*Rose Hulwick
Alex LaLonde*

High School
*Ky Rogers
Ivan Hempton*



Reading Success = Zoo Trip

First graders celebrated their reading success with a trip to the John Ball Zoo in Grand Rapids. They read more than 1,500 books in February! This exciting field trip was also made possible through the support of the Forest Area community and families.

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
Krysta Beyer, Secretary
Joanna Durfee, Treasurer
Rich Steffe, Trustee
Kevin Thayer, Trustee
Travis Tracey, Trustee

Meeting Dates:

June 26, 2023
July 10, 2023
August 14, 2023



STEM Honoree Ryan Hyde

Sixth grader Ryan Hyde was honored for achievement in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) at North Ed Career Tech in Traverse City on May 18. Ryan was nominated by his computer literacy teacher Ms. Holeman because he goes “above and beyond” and also takes time to help others. Ryan has a positive attitude about learning technology and is always trying new things and expanding his knowledge and skills. Students in middle and high school were able to choose Computer Literacy as an elective this year and the curriculum included digital citizenship, keyboarding, coding and applied digital skills using Google for Education. Congratulations Ryan!

Warrior Gear On Sale Online

The Forest Area PTO created an online store for Warrior families to purchase school spirit gear.

Visit www.shopforestarea.org to purchase. The PTO receives

18-20% of proceeds to support school programs!



Great Start Readiness Preschool

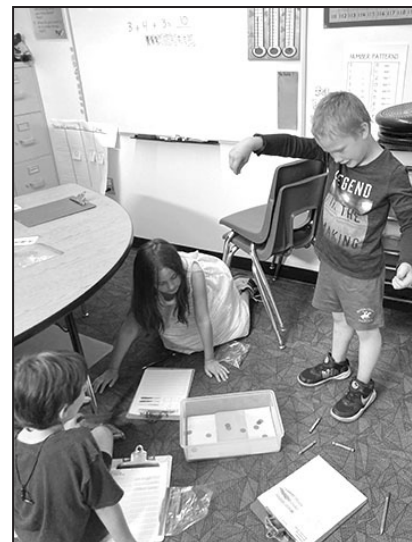
Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a FREE preschool for children four years old on or before September 1. Families must meet income eligibility and/

or risk factors for the free program. Families with income *above* guidelines may still qualify for the program and be asked to pay tuition based on a sliding scale. Contact Michele Knight at 879-3362 or mknight@forestarea.org.



STEM Honoree Caleb Smith

Fife Lake Elementary student Caleb Smith was one of only 12 STEM Award winners at the regional math-science symposium on May 18 at North Ed Career Tech in Traverse City. Caleb's teacher, Mrs. Wilson describes him as a deep thinker and an old soul. Teachers have the option to nominate students for these awards when they show great potential in STEM studies and Caleb has many years to continue his growth in learning. Congratulations Caleb!



Early Math Skills

First grade students joined in creative activities to help them learn to add three numbers together and write equations. These important skills are the foundation of important math lessons to come.

Contact Us

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Email jrothwell@forestarea.org

Middle/High School • Ph 369-2884 • Fax 369-3646

Fife Lake Elementary • Ph 879-3362 • Fax 879-4825

Website • www.forestarea.org



Sugar Time

Mrs. Magee's middle school reading class learned all about making maple syrup. After researching the maple syrup process in class, Joe from MSU Extension worked with the students to teach them how to tap the trees, collect and boil sap, and jar the syrup. Finally they enjoyed the fruits of their labor over pancakes and it was delicious! We are grateful for this learning opportunity right on Forest Area High School property.



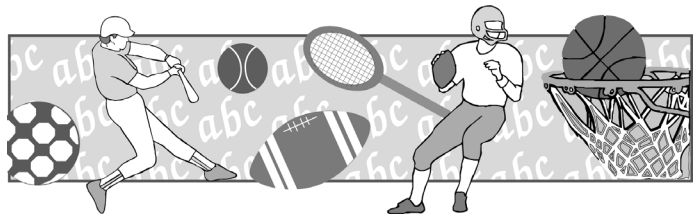
Preparing for Real Life

Forest Area High School strives to prepare students for real life -- especially juniors and seniors. And to support that mission, students participated in a Reality Fair designed and facilitated by Forest Area Federal Credit Union. More than 20 volunteers from FAFCU and the community managed stations where students made difficult decisions about how to spend and save money based on mock careers and credit scores they were assigned before the event. At the fair, students visited stations representing housing, transportation, clothing and personal care, lifestyle, technology, furniture, food and leisure. They also were "surprised" by random events with financial impacts on their budgets. At the conclusion, students met with financial advisors who helped them with budgeting and adjusting when necessary. Thank you to the highly engaged students, FAFCU staff and other volunteers!



Health Fair Lessons

Fife Lake Elementary first graders attended Kalkaska Memorial Health Center's Health Fair Day where they learned about nutrition and exercise, x-rays, asthma, wheelchairs and walkers, and EMTs.



Well Child & Physicals at Teen Health Corner

It's easy to schedule appointments for Well Child visits and physicals at Teen Health Corner! Plus, physicals completed after April 15 can serve as a school sports physical for the 2023-24 school year! Regular physical exams have lots of benefits:

- Screen for anemia, vision, joint/muscle conditions that may lead to injury, and potential heart conditions that could cause sudden death
- Time to address concerns about immunizations, acne, asthma, stress, moods and sleep

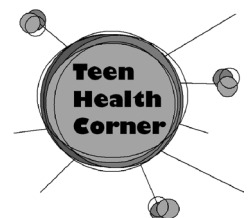
In addition to routine physical exams, Teen Health Corner provides compassionate and comprehensive care for youth at Forest Area and Kalkaska.

- Injury and physical therapy referrals
- Sick visits and urgent care
- Concussion management
- Counseling with licensed social worker (3 locations - KTHC, KMS, FA)

Services are billable to all insurances or there is a sliding scale fee for those with no insurance. Assistance is available for Medicaid applications.

**Call Teen Health Corner
in Fife Lake**

231.369.2000



May - June 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAY 29	30	31	JUNE 1	2	3
No School Memorial Day					
5	6	7	8	9	10
FULL Day	FULL Day Last Day of School End of 2nd Semester				

Dates and times subject to change



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



Have a wonderful
summer break!



MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food
to fuel your
summer.

FREE Summer Meals for Kids

Forest Area Community Schools announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program for Children. Free meals will be made available to children 18 years of age and younger, or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program for people with mental or physical disabilities recognized by a State or local public educational agency.

Meals will be provided at the site(s) listed below:

Meal schedule at Fife Lake Elementary

Meal	Dates	Days	Time	Location
Breakfast	June 12 th – August 18 th	Monday-Friday	8:00am-8:45am	Fife Lake Elementary
Lunch	June 12 th – August 18 th	Monday-Friday	11:30am-12:30pm	Fife Lake Elementary

Meals will not be served on July 3rd & 4th

Meal schedule at Forest Area HS/MS

Meal	Dates	Days	Time	Location
Breakfast	June 12 th – August 18 th	Monday-Friday	8:30am-9:15am	FAHS/MS
Lunch	June 12 th – August 18 th	Monday-Friday	11:30am-12:30pm	FAHS/MS

Meals will not be served on July 3rd & 4th

Adults are asked to please accompany young children.

Adults may purchase meals - breakfast is \$3.50 and lunch is \$5.15

The meals will be provided without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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:

Josh Rothwell,
Superintendent

Amberle Eaker,
Elementary Principal

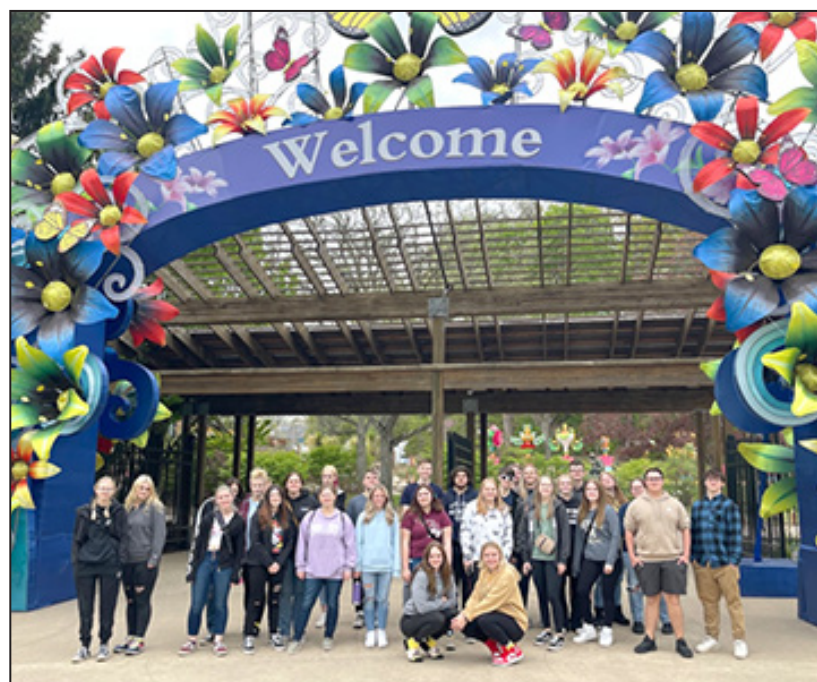
Mike Moran,
Middle & High School
Principal



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Senior Day

The Forest Area Class of 2023 spent a fun-filled day together on May 8. They spent hours at Craig's Cruisers for go carts, bumper cars, laser tag, mini golf, video games, trampolines and more. After a pizza buffet, they headed to John Ball Park Zoo for a great time visiting the animals. They capped off the day with ice cream at Mad Swirls in Fife Lake. Special thanks to chaperones Kallie Lange, Lisa Magee, Angel Nolff, Krysta Beyer, Amy Collins and Rick Magee who had almost as much fun as these fantastic and respectful seniors!

