



# FALCONER CENTRAL SCHOOL

## DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

December 2019

Home of the Golden Falcons

### December

10 Gr. 9-12 Winter Concert @ 7 p.m. in Aud.

12 Gr. 6 Winter Concert @ 6:30 p.m. in Aud.  
Gr. 7-8 Winter Concert @ 7:30 p.m. in Aud.

13 Gr. 1 Music Program @ 2 p.m. at Temple Elem.

17 BOE Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

19 Progress Report (MS/HS)

23-1 Winter Recess (No School)

### January

7 BOE Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

8 Photos: Winter Sports, Superlatives, Music, & Clubs (MS/HS)

10-11 Patrick J. Morales Wrestling Tournament

13 PTO Meeting @ 6 p.m.

20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)

21 BOE Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

21-23 Regents Exams

24 1/2 Day (District Wide) Quarter 2 Ends (MS/HS)

### February

1 CCMTA Solo Festival (Fredonia H.S.)

4 BOE @ Temple Elementary Walk-Through @ 7 p.m. Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.



### Congratulations to the Cast and Crew of the Middle School Play!

Approximately 45 students recently presented the Play, Law & Order: Fairy Tale Unit after six weeks of practice under the direction of Mrs. April Binkley, Mrs. Jennifer Mikula, and Mrs. Pam Sigular. The students worked very hard and also had a lot of fun putting on this comedy. Thank you to all who support Drama at FCS!



Please follow us on Facebook!  
@FCSGoldenFalcons

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**Falconer Central School**  
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## Greetings from Paul B. D. Temple Elementary!

The start of the 2019-2020 school year has been a fantastic one for the students and staff at Temple Elementary! We are almost complete with our building project...new entryway, new offices, new computer

lab, and more! One exceptionally exciting addition is the NEW sensory path down the main hallway of Temple!

FCS Occupational Therapist, Holly Yagger, was awarded a grant for a sensory path at Temple through the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. The sensory path is a great way for students to develop motor skills like balance, hand-eye coordination, crossing midline, spatial awareness, left/right discrimination, visual tracking, strength, endurance and brain development, all while having fun! High intensity activities like a sensory pathway function as a "brain break" and get the blood pumping, helping students to sit still and focus for longer periods of time in the classroom. On any given day at Temple Elementary, you can observe whole classes, small groups, and individual students waiting their turn to go through the sensory path. Mrs. Yagger has a colorful sign posted at the beginning of the path thanking the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation and explaining the benefits of the sensory path.

To see the sensory path in action, please join the Falconer School District's Facebook page. There is a video you can view that shows a Temple student going through the sensory path from start to finish.

For more information about Temple's sensory path, please email me at [hhannon@falconercsd.org](mailto:hhannon@falconercsd.org) or Holly Yagger at [hyagger@falconercsd.org](mailto:hyagger@falconercsd.org).

Holly Hannon, Principal  
Paul B. D. Temple Elementary



## Math Teachers' of New York State Annual Conference

FCS Math teachers, Barb Tordella and Mary Plumb, recently attended the Association of Math Teachers of New York State's annual conference in Rochester, NY. Ms. Plumb presented sessions on the lessons she has written and published in collaboration with the Math Circles of Inquiry grant funded by the American Institute of Mathematics and facilitated by professors at Buffalo State and D'Youville. Both Ms. Plumb and Mrs. Tordella are working with Buffalo State on a National Science Foundation grant examining effective models of math teacher professional development, using case studies of formative assessment tasks and the Teaching for Robust Understanding Framework.



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## FCS Represented at the NYSCATE Conference

Educational Technology Specialist, Jen Mikula, and Library Media Specialist, April Binkley, recently attended the four day New York State Computers and Technology in Education annual conference in Rochester, NY. The conference is not only great for networking and learning about new technology, but this year, Mrs. Mikula and Mrs. Binkley were also accepted to present at this conference of over 1500 fellow teachers, administrators and technology coaches.



## The F<sup>2</sup>CS Blue and Gold Vanguard Shows Off New Uniforms

The F<sup>2</sup>CS Blue and Gold Vanguard Marching Band was very proud this season to receive funding in order to purchase custom designed uniforms for the group. This is the first set of new uniforms the band has owned since the merger between Falconer and Frewsburg. This was thanks to the support of the Falconer and Frewsburg School District administrations, as well as continuous support from both communities.



## F<sup>2</sup>CS Blue and Gold Vanguard Performs at State Championship

The F<sup>2</sup>CS Blue and Gold Vanguard, the combined Marching Band program between the Falconer and Frewsburg School Districts, performed in Syracuse at the end of October in State Championship competition. Despite placing eighth out of ninth in their division, F<sup>2</sup>CS scored a 71.65; the highest score since the merger and one of the highest scores in the histories of both Falconer and Frewsburg! The band members and their families will have a banquet celebrating their successful season in January. Congratulations on a fantastic season F<sup>2</sup>CS!







### Falconer Santa House

The Falconer Central School Art Teachers and Students painted the Santa House in Falconer.



### Kiwanis Annual Student Leadership Program

Falconer Kiwanis held its annual Student Leadership Program on November 6, 2019, in the High



School cafeteria. Officers and new members were inducted into the Builders Club and Key Club. With the support of the Falconer Kiwanis, both organizations are growing in numbers and in their capacity to learn leadership through service to our community.

### Key Club at St. Susan's Soup Kitchen

Members of Key Club have been actively supporting community events this fall. Columbus Day allowed time for students to be trained as volunteer ushers at the Reg Lenna, and since then students have been supporting the arts by guiding patrons during performances. Students also spent Veterans Day at St. Susan's Soup Kitchen in Jamestown, helping organize donations in the storage room and bussing tables during lunch. If you see them shoveling snow at the Falconer Baptist Church on Sundays, give them a friendly wave. They are raising money to support homeless youth in Chautauqua County. Plans are underway for the garden's second growing season, with hopes of installing another bed and a picnic table.







### Falconer FBLA Visits Our Nation's Capital

On Thursday, October 31, Spencer B., Kyla R., Curtis H., Hanna H., Lily B., Mrs. Johnson, and FCS grad, Emily J., hit the road for Washington DC to attend the National Fall Leadership Conference.

On Friday, the day was spent visiting local attractions...starting with a tour of the White House. It was so interesting to see all the photographs, paintings, artifacts, and historic rooms that can be found in the home of our President. The chapter then visited the World War II Memorial, the Reflecting Pool, and the Lincoln Memorial.

Beginning Friday evening, Falconer joined FBLA chapters from around the U.S. as they gathered for the opening session of the 2019 NFLC. After the recognition of some chapters for their recent membership and Super Sweeps accomplishments, the new CEO, Alexander Graham, addressed the audience. Friday night's keynote speaker was John Guydon. John shared his story of developing leadership and how he uses what he knows to not only maintain his own success but to influence others to work hard for what they want.

On Saturday, members attended a wide variety of workshops designed to encourage the growth of FBLA programs, create networking opportunities, and help strive for success. The day ended with the closing session and the second keynote, Anne Bonney. This fun and energetic speaker highlighted her extensive leadership roles through fun, relevant stories. She offered her knowledge and strategies for becoming the best leaders we can be.

The trip proved to be a great opportunity for Falconer FBLA to build their program, develop new strategies to achieve success, and visit with other members from across the nation.





### Cross Country Teams

The Boys' Cross Country Team won the county meet at Long Point State Park on November 1. They also captured the league title for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Bryce B. took second place, running the fastest 5K time in school history. The boys continued, placing 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Sectionals, earning red patches and bringing home the Runners-Up Plaque. The Girls' Cross Country Team won Sectionals, earning blue patches and the Section 6 Champions Plaque. Bryce B., Joe K., Rayven S., Jon B., Joey P., Wyatt H., Tabitha

C., Mikaela L., Marie L., Sarah E., and McKenzie H., were all named to the league All-Stars Team.



### Class of 2022 Candle/Candy Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who ordered candles and candy for the Class of 2022's fundraiser. Orders will be ready for delivery before the holiday break. We appreciate your support!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FALCONER FALL SPORTS AND CLUBS FOR YOUR SUCCESSFUL 2019 SEASONS!**

### Girls' Tennis

The Falconer Girls' Tennis team were league champions this fall, finishing the season with a perfect 8-0 record. This makes the second year in a row that the girls' team has finished in the top spot. On a side note, Macy and Nicole Y. took second place at the County Tournament, which qualified them for Sectionals in Buffalo. Macy and Nicole won their first round match without losing a single game, but lost in the second round, missing out on qualifying for the State Tournament by one win. The team's goal for next year is to Three-peat and send a player/players to the State Tournament.







## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade STEM Class

One of the goals of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade STEM class is to instill in students the idea that technology and creativity can empower people to be producers of products and digital content. This represents a significant shift from their primary role in life so far as consumers (of food, information, entertainment, etc.). The first quarter curriculum focuses on the problem solving process and how technology can help people solve everyday problems. The culminating project unit requires

students to propose an app for use on Smartphones or tablets. Students first started by brainstorming routine problems they experience in life and how technology might help solve those problems. Then, after learning about how a computer processes input with stored information to develop a reasonable output, they set out to design critical components of their personal app. This creative process is not an easy one, and students had to put their thoughts to minute details about their audience, the input required, the storage and processing tasks and the desired output. They presented their ideas to their peers for collaborative feedback, which was then incorporated into their final designs. They designed summary proposal posters and then gave each other additional feedback in a gallery walk. Many apps addressed organizational issues, remembering things, and what snack to make given the contents of a refrigerator (all very important concerns of our Middle Schoolers!). Some specific apps are described here:

- Where's My Car? (to help find parking spaces and then later your car when you forget where you parked)
- Hearing Aid (to test the user's hearing level and then deliver the needed volume to the ear through wireless ear-buds)
- Tool Chest (3D scanner of any object which then generates plans to build that object and suggests the materials and tools needed)
- Got Gear? (sports bag content tracker that suggests necessary gear for a specific sport and then notifies the user if the needed items are not in the bag)
- Smart Homework Folder (tracks student's homework and if they remember to bring it home or not!)

There were many other fabulous ideas that would have most people agreeing that there should be an app for that!

The students did a great job working through the creative process, which is not an easy thing to do! They really showed off their problem-solving skills and (hopefully) will start to change their perspective from one of being a consumer needing assistance to one of being a producer and problem-solver. The second quarter will introduce students to coding in Hyper Markup Language (HTML) and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Students will choose a topic as the subject of their own website, which they will then develop in code for publication.



**Middle School Awards:  
Students of the Month**

September

October



Justin W.  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade



Marissa S.  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Middle School Awards:  
Kiwanis Terrific Kids**

September

October



Madelyn C.  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade



Rachel E.  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Harvest Happenings**

On October 16, the fourth graders visited Harvest Happenings, a grape vineyard in Forestville. They learned about the grape harvesting process, sampled different kinds of grape juice, and even picked some grapes for themselves! A big thank you to the PTO for fully funding this field trip.



**Fenner Elementary's  
October's Soaring Citizens**







### Middle School Play Ticket Winners

These lucky students won the drawing to receive complimentary tickets to see the Middle School production of *Law & Order: Fairy Tale Unit* during the casts' Temple Preview:

**UPK:**

Carson W.  
Cody H.

**Kindergarten:**

Averie P.  
Keegan C.

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:**

Skylar M.  
Michael H.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:**

Keaira B.  
Natalie M.

### Happy Halloween from Temple Elementary



Everybody dresses up for Halloween at Temple Elementary. From teachers, to students and even the Principal gets dressed up to join in on the fun!







**September**



Jonah ate lunch with his Mom in the cafeteria.



Kendall ate lunch with her Mom in the Cafeteria.



Aiden ate lunch with his Mom in the cafeteria.



Lauren ate lunch with her Mom in the Cafeteria



Trenton ate lunch with his friend, Ethan, in Mrs. Hannon's office



AJ ate lunch with his mom in the Temple Cafeteria



**October**



David ate lunch with his friend, Vera, in Mrs. Hannon's office.



Claire ate lunch with her friend, Avery, in Mrs. Hannon's office.



Jazelle ate lunch with her friend, Luca, in Mrs. Hannon's office.



Courtney ate lunch with her Mom in Mrs. Hannon's office.



Noah ate lunch with his mom in Mrs. Hannon's office.



Ethan ate lunch with his family in Mrs. Bidney's classroom.

Temple Elementary: Students of the Month



### October 3 B's Winners!



AM UPK

PM UPK & Kindergarten



1st Grade



2nd Grade

### October Cheer Bear Winners



Mr. Bianco's Kindergarten Class



Mrs. Boughton's 1st Grade Class



Mrs. Bidney's 2nd Grade Class

### Fire Prevention Assembly at Temple





### Mission Statement

The Board of Education, collective staff, and community of the Falconer School District are committed to preparing our children to be productive members of society. Through continuous evaluation and improvement, this partnership will provide a quality educational environment for students to meet the graduation requirements.

### Alma Mater

Falconer High School here's to you best in the land. 'Neath the old gold and blue, we will proudly take our stand. In classroom study, field, or track with you dear as our guide, no honor ever shall you lack. I'll win your pride.

### Board of Education Agendas, Additions/ Deletions, & Minutes

- To access any of the above documents, go to: [www.falconerscsd.org](http://www.falconerscsd.org)
- ⇒ District Home Page
  - ⇒ Our District
  - ⇒ Board of Education
  - ⇒ Board Meetings 2019-20
  - ⇒ Select what you want to look at (ex: *Agendas, Additions/ Deletions, or Minutes*)
  - ⇒ Click on Meeting Date

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### Google Calendar Training

Teachers at Temple Elementary were recently trained on the many functions of Google Calendar and how to better incorporate its functions into their classrooms. This session was led by Ed. Tech. Specialist, Jen Mikula.

### Temple Summer Fun Challenge

Temple students were invited to participate in a fun, summer challenge.

Research shows that students who engage in educational activities throughout the summer come back to school ready to learn skills on a higher level. Students received calendars during the last week of school and were challenged to complete 20 activities per month. Activities ranged from reading with a pet, to visiting the library, to playing hopscotch. The activities selected support early childhood development. Those students who completed the summer challenge were celebrated during September's 3B's assembly. Each



student received a certificate and a mini soccer ball. In addition, students were able to enjoy extra outside time and cool down with an ice cream treat. Each year participation continues to increase thanks to the support of parents, caregivers, and teachers. A special thank you to the Falconer Elementary PTO for supporting this challenge.

