

THE FALCON

BUDGET EDITION
2021

FALCONER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

IN THIS EDITION

- 2 Administrative Letter
- 3-6 Middle/High School
- 7-12 Elementary School
- 13-15 Proposed Budget
- 16 Reminders/Announcements



UPCOMING EVENTS

May

- 4 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
Public Hearing @ 7 p.m.
(MS/HS Media Center)
- 6 NYS Grades 6-8 Math Assessment
- 11 NYS Grades 3-5 Math Assessment
- 11-12 Select Chorus Concert
(by ticket only)
- 18 Budget Vote 2-8 p.m.
(HS Gym Lobby)
BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Blood Drive (HS Gym)
- 31 Memorial Day (No School)

June

- 1 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
- 5 Senior Prom
- 5-6 After-Prom (Jrs.:8:30-11 p.m.,
Srs.:11:30 p.m.-4:30 a.m.)
- 8 NYS Grades 3-8
Science Assessment
- 15 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
- 17-24 NYS Regents Exams
- 21 Baccalaureate (in-person
by ticket only)
- 24 Graduation Ceremony
(FCS Athletic Complex, Rain
Dates: June 25-26)

Remember to Vote!

Please vote on **Tuesday, May 18, 2021**, from
2-8 p.m. in the **High School Gym Lobby**.



District Vote

- ⇒ Vote on Budget
- ⇒ Vote on Board of Education Position

Voter Qualifications

- ⇒ 18 Years of Age
- ⇒ United States Citizen
- ⇒ District Resident (last 30 days)

For additional budget information, recent newsletters, school calendars,
and events please go to www.falconercsd.org.



Falconer Central School
 2 East Avenue, North
 Falconer, NY 14733
 (716)665-6624



Board of Education

- President
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- Vice President
Tom Frederes
- Members
Robert Carpenter
Marcella Centi
Tracy Schrader
Krissta Swanson
Ro Woodard

Administration & Supervision

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- High School Principal
Jeffrey Jordan
- Middle School Principal
Terry English
- Fenner Elementary Principal
Gary Gilbert
- Temple Elementary Principal
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- Director of Special Education
Julie Widen
- Director of Instruction & Staff Development
Judith Roach
- School Psychologist
Ashly Warner
- School District Business Leader
Sara Kennison
- General Maintenance Mechanic
David Micek
- Transportation Supervisor
Scott Peterson
- Coordinator of District Data
Judith Roach



www.FalconerCSD.org

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Clipart obtained through FCS' subscription to clipart.com

As we move into spring, we continue to focus on the instructional process for our students at Falconer Central School. We realize that the pandemic has forced us all to make changes in our daily lives, work and schooling practices. It's so exciting to have our kids in pre-k through gr. 12 back full-time for in-person learning.

Our goal throughout this pandemic has been the safety and welfare of our students, staff, and families. We thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we navigate this ever-changing pandemic. Your support and cooperation is appreciated, as we work together to provide a healthy and safe learning environment for all. We feel our parents are, more than ever, the key in their child's success in learning, and we feel it is critical that we continue to have strong lines of communication between the home and school.

Instruction will, of course, always be a top priority at FCS. We are committed to providing a quality education for all in the Falconer schools. Whether students are in our school buildings full time, hybrid or remote, we will work harder than ever to get this right. This, of course, includes Social and Emotional Learning, Mental Health Awareness, and Sensitivities for our staff and students.

Our District has made considerations over the past several years to provide for the educational and financial stability of our community. The Board anticipates a 0% Tax Levy increase for the 2021-2022 school year which is very positive given the continued uncertainty of resources we receive from the state. Falconer Central School will continue to investigate all areas of cost savings for our District taxpayers while still providing the highest quality of education for our students during an era of increased efficiencies. "We truly believe that our two most important responsibilities are offering our students excellent educational opportunities, along with charting a financially sustainable long-term course for our schools."

In addition to this newsletter, a copy of the budget is available for inspection in each of the Elementary and Middle/High School Offices, as well as in the Business Office at 2 East Ave., Falconer, New York, 14733. Please remember to attend our annual Budget Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 4, at 7 p.m., in the High School Media Center and to vote on Tuesday, May 18, between 2 and 8 p.m. in the Middle/High School Gymnasium Foyer. If you have any additional questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 665-6624 ext. 4, or visit www.falconercsd.org.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support of Falconer Central School. Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 18.

Stay Falcon Strong!

~Stephen Penhollow



FEATURED FALCONS

Mrs. Michelle Pitts
 High School Regents Earth Science and Anatomy & Physiology—Teaching 21 years

This year, I am proud of getting students to open their eyes to the natural world, to be good stewards of the Earth, and to realize Science is truly all around them! That and, of course, patience and flexibility.



Board of Education Meet the Candidate

Krista Swanson

I have an AA in Police Science and an AAS in Nursing from Jamestown Community College, as well as a BSN in Nursing from Daemen College. I currently work as a Registered Nurse Clinician for UPMC Chautauqua in the Emergency Department.

I love my community! I have lived in the FCS District for the past 15 years. I have one child, Olivia, (10 years old) attending school and a second child, Mason, (2 years old) that will attend in a couple of years. My husband, Ryan, and I made the choice to stay within the District several years ago, as we believe that our children will have a quality education that will provide a solid foundation for life.

I have been a leader within my professional organization for the past several years in different capacities. I enjoy being part of a team of people that can work together to accomplish positive impacts. I would like to share my time and talents with the Board of Education to maintain and improve the quality of the school system.

I wholeheartedly believe in the bottom line, which is providing the best possible education, environment and interactions for our students, families, and our community. Thank you for taking time to consider my application.

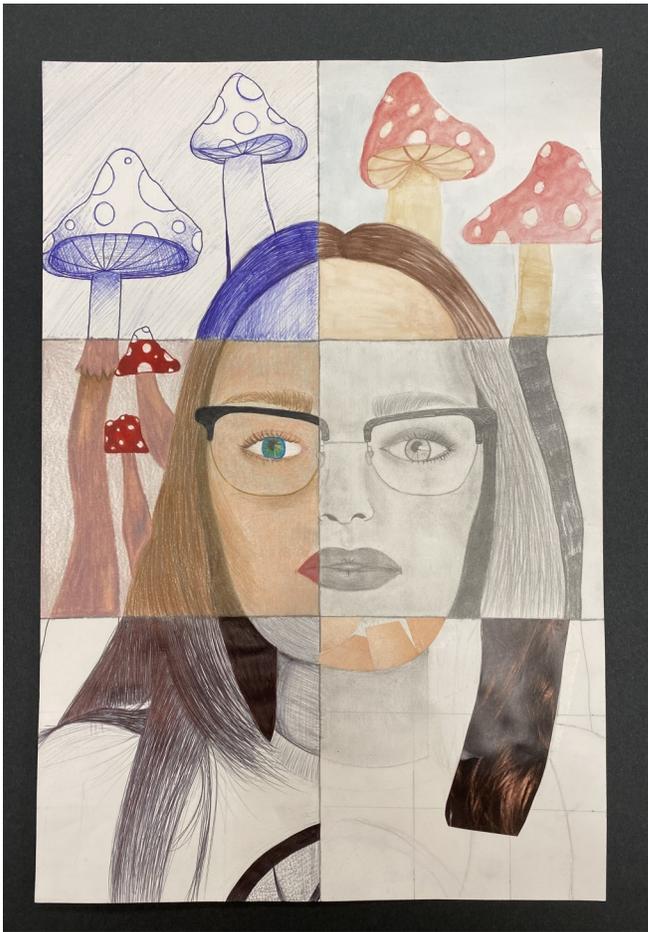




by Kayla D.



by Jillian H.



By Marlei A.



by Celia S.



The NYS FBLA theme, “ASPIRE” Encourages Falconer Members

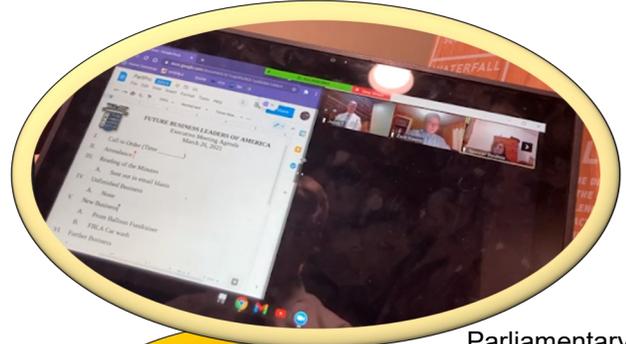
While Falconer FBLA has struggled to maintain their activities virtually throughout the pandemic, they dove into the competition season with determination. Through weekly Zoom practice sessions for performance events, to pre-recording speeches, our chapter refused to give up their competitive dreams.

The competitions definitely looked different this year, but members did the best they could in completing online exams and presenting via zoom. These methods proved to add additional challenges to an already high stress situation.

Despite these challenges, first year member, Ava T., placed 5th in Word Processing. This event required the completion of a five-part production test and an online written exam.

Our Parliamentary Procedures team of Jacob T., Spencer B., Zach K., and Curtis H., qualified for competition at the virtual National Leadership Conference with a 2nd place finish. This is an incredibly vigorous competition as it requires the completion of an online exam to qualify for the state competition. Only the top 5 teams are advanced to the performance level. Falconer proudly qualified and performed well to achieve this honor.

Everyone who competed should be proud of their hard work and dedication in these crazy times. Now, the planning begins for next year when Falconer FBLA hopes to be an even bigger success. If you are interested in more information about FBLA, please contact the Chapter Advisor, Michelle Johnson.



Parliamentary Procedure Performance Recording



Curtis H's Pre-Recorded Speech

Falconer Honor Society Inducts New Members



Congratulations goes out to the 25 new members of the Falconer Honor Society. The annual induction of new members took place on Thursday, April 1. These students accepted an invitation to apply for Honor Society based on their academic accomplishments. Students then completed an application process that included an essay showcasing their belief in the Honor Society tenets of leadership, service, character and scholar. Members of Falconer Honor Society are expected to maintain a grade point average of at least 90% and to participate in community service and volunteerism. If anyone is interested in seeking Honor Society volunteers for an organization or community event, please contact Mrs. Black, Honor Society Advisor, at 716-665-6624.

Students of the Month



March 2021
Alaiyna W.
6th Grade



April 2021
Hannah M.
7th Grade

**Kiwanis
Terrific Kids**



March 2021
Noah D.
6th Grade



April 2021
Mackenzie K.
7th Grade

Bowling Teams Find Success in Compacted Season

The Girls' Bowling Team ended the season with a first-ever Girls' Bowling Sectional Championship. Leading the way was Hannah C. with an average of 176.86. The Girls' Team finished second in the division (20-12) behind solid contributions from ALL team members.

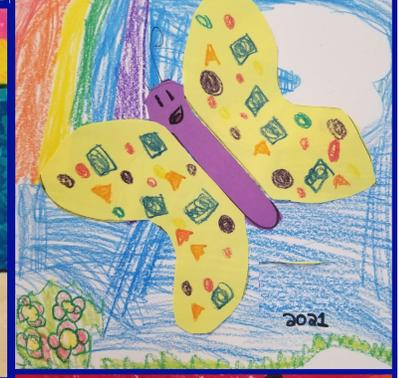
The Boys' Bowling Team was led by Damen V. and Nic H. to a 17-23 record, just missing out on sectionals. The Boys' Team was very young, composed of all 8th and 9th graders. Doing that well in a division filled with such strong teams was a great achievement.



**Boys Modified Basketball Completes
UNDEFEATED Season**

The Boys' Modified Basketball team recently completed an undefeated season, compiling a record of 5-0. Roger M. (Grade 7) was the leading scorer, averaging over 16 points per game.

- Season Scores:
- FCS 55: Cassadaga 38
 - FCS 36: Maple Grove 34
 - FCS 44: Chautauqua Lake 41
 - FCS 48: Sherman 27
 - FCS 51: Frewsburg 25



4th Grade Flag Essays

Every year the American Legion visits local schools and announces the annual "What the Flag Means to Me" essay contest. Fourth graders at H.C. Fenner Elementary have participated for years. Unfortunately, this year due to COVID restrictions, the members of the American Legion couldn't visit the school. However, they sent in the DVD and Mrs. Sigular showed it to all the students during writing class. The fourth graders read articles and books about the flag and why it is a symbol of our country. In addition to writing their essays about what the Flag means to them, they also made hand flags to hang up in the school. Contest winners will be announced by the American Legion sometime in May or June.

Pictured are Colleen F., Brody T., Carson B., (top right) and Elizabeth B., Jackson B., Koleson L. (bottom right).



As Smooth as Butter

Fourth graders at Fenner Elementary are studying Colonial Times in Social Studies, and they are also reading Little House in the Big Woods, by Laura Ingalls Wilder, in their Reading classes. They are learning how people made most things at home during this time period in history. One example is churning butter. Mrs. Payne made butter with all the 4th grade classrooms. The students used a mason jar, heavy cream, and their muscles for shaking! And, of course, there was plenty of tasting!



3rd Grade Busy Bunnies



Mrs. Pawlak and Mrs. Garrison's third grade classes learned to sew this spring by making stuffed Easter Bunnies. Both classes loved learning this fun skill and were super excited to take their bunnies home to share. (Pictured above is Mrs. Pawlak's class).



Pick a Reading Partner Read Across Fenner Event

Fenner has wrapped up this year's PARP (Pick a Reading Partner) festivities! Our theme for the event this year was "Read Across Fenner With Kindness." Each day of the week a book relating to the kindness theme was shared in school. Students were invited to come to school wearing items that fit in with each of the books. They enjoyed events such as *Creative Outfit Day* and *Dress Alike Day!* Students, teachers, and staff enjoyed showing their school spirit! Students were asked to complete a minimum of 20 minutes of reading at home daily. Congratulations to our responsible readers who read at home and returned their PARP reading logs to school! We ended PARP with treats and a movie. We hope students will continue to make a daily habit of reading at home.



March Soaring Citizens

3rd Grade



(pictured above)
Carter B., AJ S., Josiah D., Ruthie B., Jaxin J., Aiden P., Ethan D.

(pictured below)

Sebastian T., Hunter K., Liam G., Mason C., Matthias M., Maddie O., Braedan P., Mason C., Leah H.

5th Grade



(pictured above)
Sullivan S., Colin L., David P., Ethan Y., Kale L., Evan M., Noah M., Jonathan R.

4th Grade



Soaring Citizens of the Month

1. Are respectful to all students and staff.
2. Make responsible choices at all times.
3. Make safe choices.
4. Put forth their BEST effort.

Kid's Heart Challenge



American Heart Association.
KIDS HEART CHALLENGE™

<https://www2.heart.org/aha-luminate/dist/ym-primary/image/fy21/khc-logo-2021.png>

For the Kid's Heart Challenge this year, Fenner students raised \$5,685.87! Unbelievable job, considering how difficult this year has been on so many of our community members! Thank you to all who donated, Mr. Johnson for running it, and to the students for reaching out to their family, friends, and loved ones.

The Top 10 Fundraisers are:

1. Lilliana F. - \$704.10
2. Laine C. - \$376.82
3. Ayden C. - \$256.89
4. Abreyanna E. - \$251.16
5. Mattheus A. - \$221.04
6. Sebastian T. - \$205.00
7. Jimmy M. - 204.16
8. Colton S. - \$201.201.58
9. Mikaha H. - \$200.00
10. Kolton V. - \$179.55



Salute these Top Fundraisers:

<https://www2.heart.org/aha-luminate/dist/ym-primary/image/fy21/khc-top-fundraisers.png>

Fenner Fake Snow Day

To help break up the long winter (without a snow day), we wanted to have a “fake” snow day during school. Many students wore their pajamas to school. Teachers were very creative with classroom activities, and Mr. Gilbert read *Snowflake Bentley*, by Jacqueline Briggs Martin, to the whole school via Zoom to start the day. Teachers had fun activities such as snowball fights with paper balls, cutting out snowflakes, hot chocolate, marshmallow snowmen, etc. Students read stories and created poems around the winter theme.



Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament at Fenner

Another fun activity at Fenner was a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament. The teachers had a competition in their classroom and then determined a Grade-Level Champion. Finally, they had each Grade-Level Champ compete to be the Grand Champion!

The kids loved it, and it was a great way to have a little fun. The 3rd Grade Champ was Autumn C, and the 4th Grade Champ was Korry M. The 5th Grade Champ and Grand Champion was Conner D.



3B's Awards

Students who receive these awards exemplify the Temple 3B's (Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible). One to two students per classroom are given this award monthly and Special Area Teachers also distribute this award to students. Award recipients are featured in the Student Spotlight found on the Temple Elementary Website (<https://www.falconercsd.org/Page/4084>).



March Cheer Bear Winners



Mrs. Nutt's Kindergarten Class



Mrs. VandeVelde's 1st Grade Class



Mrs. Perry's 2nd Grade Class



College Day at Temple

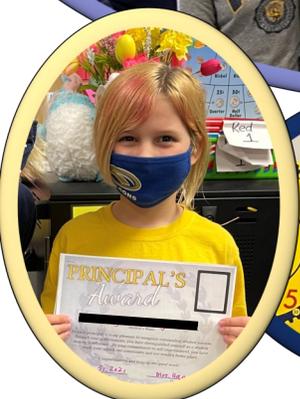
Staff was encouraged to wear attire from their college.



March Students of the Month

Students who receive this award are featured in weekly videos, assist with the announcements, and are able to eat a lunch with a friend of their choosing in a special location.

Congratulations Macynn, Carson, Kenley, Kaylee, Lukas, and Owen!



2021-2022 Proposed Budget

The 2021-2022 Budget will provide the necessary resources for our students to attain the knowledge required to meet the standards necessary to reach higher education and work goals. The passage of the New York State budget inclusive of additional State Aid should allow the District to levy a tax equal to the tax levied in the preceding year.

Program Component

The program component of the budget represents the cost of providing an appropriate education to all students of the District. It includes salaries and benefits of teachers and supervisors who spend the majority of their time teaching; instructional costs of supplies, equipment and textbooks; co-curricular activities; interscholastic athletics; and transportation operating costs.

	Adopted Budget 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022
Legal	\$70,900	\$71,195
Instruction	\$7,026,227	\$7,500,110
Special Education	\$2,385,289	\$2,516,925
Occupational Education	\$666,000	\$676,800
Summer School	\$44,970	\$45,160
Library/Audio Visual	\$310,256	\$321,034
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$866,264	\$714,266
Guidance, Health, Psychological, and Social Worker Services	\$825,896	\$859,016
Co-Curricular Activities	\$57,064	\$58,400
Interscholastic Athletics	\$339,642	\$374,100
Transportation	\$919,935	\$916,365
Community Service	\$6,000	\$6,000
Employee Benefits	\$4,363,354	\$4,724,262
Interfund Transfer	\$315,000	\$20,000
Total Program Component	\$18,196,797	\$18,803,633

Administrative Component

The administrative component of the budget includes expenses for office and administrative costs; salaries and benefits for certified school administrators who spend 50 percent or more of their time performing supervisory duties, data processing; public information; legal fees; property insurance; and school board expenses.

	Adopted Budget 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022
Board of Education	\$32,034	\$31,702
Chief School Administrator	\$232,785	\$240,210
Business Administration	\$239,373	\$212,129
Legal/Personnel/Public Information	\$87,093	\$87,489
Central Services	\$266,115	\$267,950
Insurance	\$52,000	\$52,000
BOCES Admin and Capital Costs	\$220,117	\$200,006
Curriculum and Staff Development	\$199,880	\$198,236
Supervision	\$589,060	\$614,000
Employee Benefits	\$590,584	\$575,399
Total Administrative Component	\$2,509,041	\$2,479,121

Capital Component

The capital portion of the budget includes school bus purchases; debt service on buildings; proposed capital outlay and all facility costs including salaries and benefits of the custodial staff; service contracts, maintenance supplies and equipment; and utilities.

	Adopted Budget 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022
Operation and Custodial	\$1,184,243	\$1,206,657
Maintenance	\$316,340	\$343,300
Purchase of Busses	\$275,000	\$340,000
Employee Benefits	\$378,734	\$396,697
Debt Service	\$134,544	\$1,616,032
Capital Interfund Transfer	\$100,000	\$100,000
Total Capital Component	\$2,388,861	\$4,002,686
TOTAL BUDGET:	\$23,094,699	\$25,285,440

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Adopted Budget 2020-2021 School Year	Proposed Budget 2021-2022 School Year	Contingency Budget 2021-2022 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount	\$23,094,699	\$25,285,440	\$24,667,540
Increase (decrease) for the 2021-2022 school year		2,190,741	1,572,841
Percentage increase (decrease) in proposed budget		9.49%	6.81%
Change in the consumer price index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$7,133,890	\$7,133,890	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A+B+C-D)	\$7,133,890	\$7,133,890	\$7,133,890
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$22,503	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$7,321,027	\$7,318,959	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E-B-F+D)	\$7,111,387	\$7,133,890	
I. Difference: (G-H); (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$209,640	\$185,069	
Administrative component	\$2,509,041	\$2,479,121	\$2,460,471
Program component	\$18,196,797	\$18,803,633	\$18,706,383
Capital component	\$2,388,861	\$4,002,686	\$3,500,686

* Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-2022 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Non-aideable equipment may not be included in a contingency budget

**List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount; (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements.

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021-2022 School year

Estimated Basic STAR¹ Exemption Savings: \$504

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-2022 by the qualified voters of the Falconer Central School District, Chautauqua County, New York, will be held at the gymnasium foyer in said district on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, between the hours of 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM prevailing time in the Middle/High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

¹The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.



Budget Edition: Reminders & Announcements

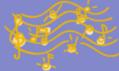
Mission Statement

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
 - ⇒ District Home Page
 - ⇒ Our District
 - ⇒ Board of Education
 - ⇒ Board Meetings 2020-21
 - ⇒ Select what you want to look at (ex: *Agendas*, or *Minutes*)
 - ⇒ Click on Meeting Date



www.FalconerCSD.org

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Clipart obtained through FCS' subscription to clipart.com

Reminder to Parents/Guardians

- ⇒ Call your child in sick whenever they are absent (the nurse needs to know symptoms).
- ⇒ If your child is tested for COVID-19, please notify the nurse.
- ⇒ Complete your child's COVID-19 screening daily.
- ⇒ If your child has had a physical in the last year, please have a copy faxed to the school (665-6704).

Potential Symptoms for COVID-19

- ⇒ Cough
- ⇒ Shortness of breath/trouble breathing
- ⇒ New loss of taste or smell
- ⇒ Temp 100.0F/37.8 C or greater
- ⇒ Chills
- ⇒ Fatigue
- ⇒ Sore
- ⇒ Throat
- ⇒ Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- ⇒ Muscle pain or body aches
- ⇒ Headache
- ⇒ Nasal congestion/runny nose

2021-2022 District Calendar



The 2021-2022 District Calendar is now available on the District home page at www.falconerscsd.org.

UPK and Kindergarten Screening

UPK Screening June 2-4

- ⇒ Child must be 4 on or before December 1.
- ⇒ Child cannot ride a bus until they turn 4.
- ⇒ Spaces are limited!



Kindergarten Screening June 9-10

- ⇒ Child must be 5 on or before December 1.

Call Paul B.D. Temple Elementary to register at (716) 267-3255.