



FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

May 25th

Good afternoon parents and guardians:

This was not the way anyone envisioned the school year ending, but we have finally arrived at the end of the school year. 10 weeks (Really 9 with Spring break) of distance learning and I can honestly say that everyone appreciates the ability to learn face-to-face in the classroom. We have also learned some new ways to reach our students from a distance, which will be beneficial in the long run as we learn to navigate a new world in dealing with COVID-19, and other issues which may come up in the future.

I would be remiss if I did not honor and remember all of our veterans who gave their lives to defend our freedoms on this Memorial Day. I hope your weekend was restful as we prepare for the final week of the 2019-20 school year, a school year which will be historic in several ways.

This is the last update of the year, although everyone will receive one more email about pick-up and drop-off of items in the building, and senior parents and seniors will receive a few more reminders about our Individual Graduation ceremonies, held the week of June 8-11.

Thank you again to everyone who has worked very hard this year, but especially over the last 10 weeks as we all try to educate our Falcons the best way we can, given our current situation.

END OF SCHOOL YEAR – The underclass year will end on Friday, May 29th, but no new classwork will be assigned after Friday, May 22nd. Report cards should be available in Powerschool by Friday, June 5th. Students should use this week to submit assignments that are due, or have not yet been submitted.

LOCKERS AND RETURN OF ITEMS –Week of June 1-5

- Students will enter the gravel drive north of the school and drive around the back.
- If they have band instruments, music, or other equipment to return, pull off to the side and stop at the band doors. Mr. Wiley will be there to collect any music items to be returned.
- Once students are done with band materials, or if they have none, continue around the building and stop in the drive in front of the school. One member of each family can enter the building and retrieve pre-packed, pre-labeled bag from the hallway outside of

their FAST class. Students that were never assigned a FAST will have their items in the main hallway.

- Students will return any school owned items (books, non-band equipment, etc) at a table in the main hallway. Students are allowed to keep their Chromebooks over the summer.

SENIORS ONLY: You MUST return your Chromebook and any school owned items in order to participate in commencement and receive your diploma and transcripts.

In order to minimize numbers of students/family members in the building, we will be allowing only 10 people in at a time according to the schedule below:

Monday, June 1st, 12:00-3:00: **ALL SENIORS**

Tuesday, June 2nd, 12:00-3:00: **Grades 9-11, Last names A – G**

Wednesday, June 3rd, 12:00-3:00: **Grades 9-11, Last names H – P**

Thursday, June 4th, 12:00-3:00: **Grades 9-11, Last names Q – Z**

Thursday, June 4th, 4:00-6:00: **All students that were unable to make the previous times.**

SCHOOL FEES – We understand that this is a tough time for many people, so we have extended the deadline for Senior Fees to July 28th. School Fees can still be paid through the mail, or on our website fee payment site, which is <https://www.payschoolscentral.com/>. You will need a current account, or have to create a new account to utilize this service.

For Seniors – We are extending the deadline to pay your fees to July 28th, **but please note that seniors will not receive a diploma or final transcript until fees are paid in full, in conjunction with Firelands Board of Education policy.** If a senior owes fees at the LCJVS, please contact their main office with questions about how to pay the JVS fees. If your fees are not paid by your individual graduation ceremony, you will receive a diploma cover, but there will be no diploma or final transcript, per Board of Education policy.

GRADUATION CEREMONY – The Class of 2020 has done a great job of signing up for Graduation slots. 91 of our seniors have signed up for a time slot. If your senior has not yet signed up for a graduation slot, you have another week to sign-up. Sign-ups have been extended to close on Friday, May 29th at 3 pm. Diplomas will be available to students who do not want to have an individual ceremony on Friday, June 12th. We will give more details on picking up your diploma if you do not participate in an Individual ceremony at a later date. The link to the senior graduation ceremony sign-up is here [Senior Individual Commencement Ceremony Sign-up](#)

FFA VIRTUAL BANQUET – Please join us for the 66th Annual Firelands FFA Banquet (virtual edition). I know the food at the FFA banquet is nearly as important as the awards ceremony. We definitely all miss our special dinner from City BBQ (thank you for your continued support of Ohio FFA). This year, please plan a nice dinner with family and join us for the premier of the Firelands FFA Banquet.

Please join us May 26 at 6:30pm.
<https://youtu.be/fnUTyNXdEHg>

You can set a reminder by clicking on the link above! We hope you all can join us for the special awards ceremony hosted by the Firelands FFA Officers, POA Chairs, and alumni!

GRADES – Official grades are posted in PowerSchool. Contact your child’s teachers, or me, if you have specific questions about your PowerSchool account. The second semester grade will be determined by a 60-40% split of the third and fourth grading period, with a student still able to pass the semester if they pass the fourth grading period. All assigned work should be turned in close to the assigned deadlines, as our staff also understands the immense strain that learning from home is truly becoming for our students and their families. The final day for any new assignments will be this Friday, May 22nd. The final week will be utilized for make-up work for submission.

LUNCH FEES - If you have a question about lunch balances, please email Judy Baumann, who is our Director of Food Services. You can email her at jbaumann@firelandsschools.org . A generous, anonymous donor has paid off all negative lunch balances for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. If seniors had a positive lunch balance, they have three options. Transfer money to a siblings account, request a refund or Mrs. Baumann does not hear from you, the balance will be transferred to the Firelands emergency/ donation account. Please contact Mrs. Baumann with your intentions, at the email listed above, prior to June 11th for members of the Class of 2020.

OPENING UP – SLOWLY – Firelands High School will be slowly opening for teachers and staff, beginning tomorrow, Tuesday, May 26th. The main office will be open from 9 – 2 pm daily, but we ask if you have any questions, please call the main office first at 440-926-4255. Email is also an excellent way to have any questions answered.

GRADUATION GEAR – As deliveries will be resuming on a daily basis, FHS is looking for chords and other Grad gear that has not yet been delivered. Once items are delivered, we will tweet out and let the seniors know what is in, and it can be available for a pickup, or during your individual graduation ceremony.

UNDERCLASS ATHLETIC INDIVIDUAL TRAINING – The Ohio Department of Health, in conjunction with the OHSAA is allowing schools to begin to open up for groups of less than 10 for individual athletic workouts. We will be submitting our plan to the Lorain County Department of Health for approval, and will roll out the plan through email and Final Forms, so that students, parents, and staff can review the plan and acknowledge that they have seen our phased in re-opening. Please look for that on the website, and in Final Forms by the end of the week.

YEARBOOKS AND SPRING EXTRA-CURRICULAR FEES – Mr. Stillman is working with the Treasurer’s Office on refunds of all spring extra-curricular fees. Mr. Jones has stated that all seniors who have ordered yearbooks will have them delivered in the late summer.

WOBL/WDLW SENIOR SHOUTOUTS – Thank you to WOBL and WDLW, who will be sending Class of 2020 shoutouts to our seniors. It is called “Shout Out to Seniors” and will be mentioned a few times over the next month to honor the Class of 2020.

Let's hope things keep trending in the correct direction and that school can begin, on schedule, which is Tuesday, September 1, 2020. Stay safe, healthy, and as always, Falcon Strong!!!

Have a good summer!

Bob Maver
Principal
Firelands High School