



FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL

End of School Year 2020 Information

Good afternoon Falcon Nation:

Well, we finally reached the finish line. It has been a rough road to the end of the 2019-20 School Year. When we started the year, our biggest challenge at FHS was that the contractors were behind schedule on updating our bathrooms. That seems like light years ago, and very small potatoes for what we have had to endure this year.

March 16th is a date that everyone will not soon forget. It was the date that FHS, along with every school in Ohio, was shut down due to the pandemic. Nobody envisioned ending the year the same way, with the closure order still in effect for much of the summer for schools. We have been given permission to open-up slowly, keeping to the 10-person limit on gatherings ordered by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). There is some guidance in this document covering the Individual Sport training workouts allowed by the Governor, ODH, and the OHSAA. We have sent emails to all students who played last year through Final Forms, and that information is also included in this email.

This is the final update of the year, except that seniors and their families will receive a final reminder about our Individual Graduation ceremonies, held next week from June 8-11. It is not a graduation ceremony anyone wished for, but our production company, who has produced virtual ceremonies for Midview, North Ridgeville, Cuyahoga Falls, and a couple other schools, has shared a snippet of their work, and I was very pleased with their work.

Thank you to all our Falcons for finishing the year strong. Also, Congratulations to the Class of 2020!!! There is light at the end of this long, dark tunnel, and the future can be as bright as you make it. Take your experiences and apply them in your future careers so that you can collectively go out and make our community and world a better place. Always show Falcon Pride in everything you do.

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. Any student who is not returning to FHS next year (JVS, transfer schools, etc) will need to return all FHS owned equipment at this time.

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.**

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:

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. Emails and phone calls will again be sent out in the middle of the week reminding you of your balance, if one still exists.**

GRADUATION CEREMONY – The Individual Graduation Ceremonies are set. We look forward to seeing each graduate and their families from June 8-11. You should get a reminder email from the sign-up website giving you an update on your scheduled commencement time. We will be putting out more direction later in the week, with a graduation practice video on how this procedure will work.

GRADES – Report cards will be available the week of June 8th through Powerschool. Grades are weighted as follows: Quarter 3 is worth 60% of the semester grade, Quarter 4 is worth 40% of the semester grade. However, any student that failed the 3rd quarter, but passed the 4th quarter will earn a passing grade for the semester. Any student who fails or receives an incomplete for the fourth grading period will receive an Incomplete (I) for the fourth quarter

grade. If your student would like to bring that grade up to passing, they will have the opportunity to do so. **They must email their teacher no later than 9:00 am on June 1st.** Their teacher will respond with any assignments that need to be completed to bring the grade up to passing. **All work is due by the end of the day June 26th. (NO EXCEPTIONS).** Teachers will grade the work when they return to school in August. Teachers will not be available after 2:30 pm on June 1 until they return to school in August.

EXCEPTION: This does not apply to seniors or students taking College Credit Plus classes either at LCCC or on the FHS campus.

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 is now open for limited contact. 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.

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. Our plan has been approved by the Ohio Department of Health, through the Lorain County Board of Health. It is available by [clicking here](#). Each student and parent who participated in a sport last season has been sent an email through Final Forms, and everyone needs to acknowledge they have seen and understand our regulations in Final Forms. If the student and parent do not sign-off on the regulations in Final Forms, they will not be permitted to participate until that has been completed. Mr. Stillman and Trainer Joe Menges have done a wonderful job in working begin our return to normalcy in athletics. If you are having any Final Forms issues, please contract Mr. Stillman (tstillman@firelandsschools.org) for assistance and/or more information.

OHSAA FALL ELIGIBILITY – The OHSAA surprised everyone last Friday afternoon and has stated that all students are academically eligible for athletics for the first grading period of the 2020-21 school year. A reminder was sent in Final Forms before that direction was sent out from Columbus, so, disregard that email and know that all students entering grades 7-12 will be academically eligible under OHSAA by-laws. This rule only holds true for the first grading period during the 2020-21 school year. The Firelands Local Schools still have a minimum GPA for high school students, which was reduced to 1.0 for the fall, due to the COVID-19 shutdown. Students who earned below a 1.0 GPA for the fourth grading period during this current school year, will be on academic probation during the first grading period of 2020-21. This means that to stay eligible after the mid-term, they must be passing five one-credit courses and have above a

1.5 GPA once school starts in September. This Firelands requirement is not a change, but the 1.0 GPA rule is only valid for the fourth grading period of 2019-20. It will return to the 1.5 GPA for a grading period beginning in the fall of 2020-21.

Have a good summer Falcons. As I said before, there is a gleam at the end of this long, trying period. Stay positive and safe, the future will get brighter as we progress through the summer and into the 2020-21 school year.

Again, congratulations to the Class of 2020!!

Bob Maver
Principal
Firelands High School