



# “The Foxworthy”

## Winter 2011

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Attendance Line 508-543-1626

Main Office - 508-543-1616 Fax - 508-698-6517

Guidance Office- 508-543-1620 Fax - 508-543-1670

[www.foxborough.k12.ma.us](http://www.foxborough.k12.ma.us)

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*From the Office of the Principal  
Jeffrey S. Theodoss*

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are beginning our scheduling process for the 2011-2012 school years. Members of the guidance department have gone into classes to discuss the process and changes to the curriculum for the next school year. Much time and effort will be devoted to the scheduling process. We will ensure that every student will meet with counselors in classroom meetings, but students will also meet individually with their counselors to develop the most rigorous, yet appropriate schedule. It is important that students and parents spend some time discussing expectations and set up a plan for the remaining school years.

After meeting with students and inputting student requests, we will begin to build the master schedule. Verification of student requests will occur before building the master schedule. After the master schedule has been built, any course/student conflicts will be discussed with the guidance counselor and the student. A final verification of courses will be sent home in early June to every student. If any concerns arise, please call guidance to make any corrections. The final schedule will be given to students on the first day of school.

All parents were notified by mail of the “Program of Studies Night” that was held on Thursday, February 10th in the high school auditorium. Please remember that once the schedule has been built, we will do our best to honor student course changes. We cannot guarantee that when a student drops a class we will be able to accommodate the new request. The earlier in the scheduling process a change can be requested, the better the chance of making the change.

Teachers will recommend their students for an appropriate level of study. As a parent, if you disagree with your child’s placement, please fill out the override form which acknowledges your wish to move your child from a college prep course to an honors level course or from an honors level course to an advance placement course. As I previously mentioned, developing a challenging, yet

appropriate class schedule requires input from parents, students, teachers and guidance counselors. We will do our best to accommodate your requests.

The following course changes will take place in the Senior English Program. We are moving to a more diverse senior elective program. The senior elective program will require all 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to select either the Advanced Placement English Literature and Language course, or a half semester of British Literature and another semester elective from the following course offerings:

*Lyrics and Literature, The Tides of War, Film and Novel, Irish Literature and Culture, Diversity: Teens and Literature, Advanced Creative Writing, Public Speaking and Debate, Journalism, Poetry Workshop, and Non-Fiction and Contemporary Issues.*

There are also other English Electives seniors may take in addition to, but not in lieu of the courses listed above. The intent is to prepare seniors for college electives classes they will take next year. Students will be able to select from the above courses and determine whether they will take the course for honors or college prep credit.

**Science**-Forensic science will be offered next year. This multi-faceted course will utilize other core sciences (biology, chemistry, physics and earth science) as a means to methodically gather and analyze information.

**Social Studies**-Advanced Placement United States History I and Advanced Placement United States History II - Any sophomore student interested in Advanced Placement United States History must be prepared to take these courses in both their sophomore and junior years. Since the course will be divided into a two-year course, students will be allowed to take this course in both their sophomore and junior year for AP credit.

Next year only, juniors will be able to take the traditional one-year AP United States History course. Also, as is the case with

all Advanced Placement courses, students must take the advanced placement exam in May.

On January 24, 2011, the administration made a recommendation to the school committee to change the current weighted grading system and current class rank. A little history....six years ago Foxborough was using a quality point average. Each level was weighted, so a student taking an honors course who received an A+ was given a quality point rating of 21, an A received a 20, an A- received a 19, and for College prep courses an A+ equaled an 18, an A equaled a 17 and an A- equaled a 16. So at the end of a four year period, when the quality point total was divided by the number of credits, a student could have a quality point average anywhere from 21.0 to 0.

When FHS moved to the current weighting system, a 1.0 differentiation was created between each course level. An A in a college prep class was equivalent to a 4.0. That same A in an honors course was equivalent to a 5.0. Finally, an A in an advanced placement course was equivalent to a 6.0.

Our intent is to change the differential between course levels from 1.0 to .5. The result would be as follows:

- An A in an Advanced Placement course would be a 5.0,
- An A in an Honors level course would be a 4.5,
- And an A in a college prep course would be a 4.0.

The calculation of the GPA would remain the same. The current GPA is inflated and misleading. Even though we talk to students and remind them that colleges re-calculate their transcripts, seeing these numbers on their transcripts will have more realistic value for parents and students. Also, the change in GPA will better align FHS with Massachusetts Colleges and Universities, which is more aligned to a 4.0 scale.

We have also recommended that class rank would be replaced by a decile system. The first decile system (assuming a class of 200), would place the first 20 students in the first decile. Only the first decile would be broken down into 10 percentiles, with the top two students in the first percentile, the third and fourth ranked students in the second percentile and so forth. All other students would be ranked by deciles (second through tenth). Since students do not take the exact classes, a decile system would place students in a category where they would be represented with students of similar academic achievements. Sometimes distinguishing between students at the one hundredth or one thousandth of a percentage difference, when you are not comparing (apples to apples) seems unfair.

Also, if you struggle in school, do we really need to give a student a ranking of 195 out of 200? There seems to be no purpose.

For the most competitive students, we have maintained a percentile system within the first decile system that will report out a more traditional class ranking that may be necessary for the most competitive schools. The administration believes that since colleges deal with schools that have no class rankings or attempt to determine a home school student's transcript or interpret a decile system such as the one we are proposing, the bottom line is that colleges and universities recalculate the student's grade point average, and assess the other admission variables. Since we will continue to provide a transcript, standardized test results, class rankings and recommendations, colleges will have more than enough information to determine if a student meets their eligibility criteria.



## "Warrior Huddle"

*Warrior Huddle* is a new program that will begin during the week of February 7<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the *Warrior Huddle* is to continue to personalize each student's education. The goals of the program are as follows:

- support the growth and development of all students,
- improve the school culture by having students and teachers get to know students they may not normally come in contact with,
- create an environment where relationships within the school, focus on cooperation and working together,
- provide a means for students to frequently assess themselves and plan for their future,
- provide each student with an adult other than a guidance counselor to advocate for them.

The program will run for 30 minutes every three weeks. One faculty member will help to mentor twelve students (*three students per grade level*).

We will combine two groups during the first few sessions as team building and trust will be the focus of the lessons. Over time we hope that our students will serve as role models for each other and in addition to the group guidance program, provide avenues for students to seek out information and to be supported by an adult in a timely manner.

Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 508-543-1616. ....*Jeff Theodoss*

## Business Department

Head Teacher.....Mr. Jon McCabe

On Friday, December 10th, 2010, five students from the Business Department's Accounting I course attended a conference entitled *"Is Accounting for Me? - From College to Career"*.

The annual conference which was hosted by the Massachusetts Society of CPA's (*certified public accountants*) took place at Babson College. This conference gives accounting students the opportunity to learn more about the profession of accounting and the many opportunities which exist within the field. Students got an inside look into the daily life of a modern day CPA. The conference began with a video of CPA's discussing their experiences. The CPA's were employed in a variety of different settings including the MLB, NFL, FBI and also public accounting firms. They also got a chance to hear from current undergraduate students about majoring in accounting as well as what future employment awaits them when they graduate.



Left to Right: Joe Mancinelli, Dan Ross, Chelsea Antosca, Danielle Dutra, Ahmand Hodroj and Mr. McCabe.

## HOCKEY NEWS

....Mr. Mark Cedorchuk

The varsity hockey had a huge victory over Stoughton on January 29th. The ending score was 5-2, with goals from Greg Stamatov, Conor Lynch, Shawn Delaney, who had the go ahead goal, and Owen Campbell who had two goals. Great game everyone!!!



## Student Council News

.....Student Council Advisor- Senorita Smith



Talent Show sponsored by Student Council  
Thursday, Feb. 17th at 7 p.m.

\$5 for adults, \$4 for students

performances by:

Meghan Fitton,  
Jacque Illsley, Hailey Johnson & Jon Urquhart  
Tae Von McLeod Palmer & Brandon Dailey,  
Jayda Powell Thompson, Kaileigh Reiss,  
Shannon Suess & Derek Wilson, Nirali Vagadia,



The Student Council has been very busy with many activities.  
Take a look at some of the Student Council accolades.

### School Activities

- Hosts and tour guides for 8<sup>th</sup> grade orientation, curriculum night and parent teacher conferences,
- Assist teacher with room preparation prior to the first day of school,
- Host spirit week and holiday spirit week,
- Organize talent show,
- Sponsor pep rallies,
- Host annual Teacher luncheon.

### Community Service

- Collected items for soldiers at Halloween – Trick or Treat for Troop,
- Sponsored teams for the Walk for Hunger / volunteered at Relay for Life,
- Organized food drive for Foxborough Community Discretionary Fund-Turkey Hunt,
- Organized blood drive,
- Donated \$1,500.00 to Camp Sunshine.

### Leadership

- Participated in SEMASC and spring and fall conferences,
- FHS students have presented workshops at conferences,
- Participated in officer workshop,
- Participated in summer camp and MASC-Hyannis.

Congratulations to all members of FHS's Student Council!

## Music Department News



By...Mrs. Leanna Pink-Sewell

Congratulations to all those students who were invited to audition for the Massachusetts All-State Festival. The following students were accepted:

Student	Gr.	Group	Instrument	Accepted Group
Connor Schultze	11	Jazz	String Bass	Jazz Band
Brendan Thomas	12	Jazz	Tenor Saxophone	Jazz Band
Cooper Vacheron	11	Jazz	Trombone	Jazz Band
Emma Carleton	10	Vocal	Alto	Chorus
Kaileigh Riess	11	Vocal	Soprano	Chorus
Kevin Eagan	12	Winds/ Perc.	French Horn	Concert Band
Celine Haddad	12	Winds/ Perc.	Flute	Concert Band

Congratulations to Kaileigh Riess for being selected to represent Foxborough High School at the All Eastern Music Convention March 28-April 4, 2011 in Baltimore, MD.

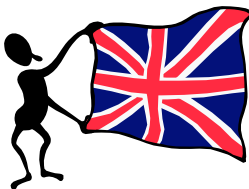
Kaileigh went through two separate auditions and two festivals in order to receive a recommendation to be qualified for All Eastern and after careful consideration was selected to participate. She will be rehearsing with approximately 200 choral students from the East Coast for 3 days with a final performance on the fourth day of the MENC National Convention; performing for thousands of music educators and other musicians. We are happy to add Kaileigh to the list of students who have represented our school in a Regional Conference. This kind of musicianship takes dedication and many hours of committed practice. These accomplishments do not come on talent alone and we are pleased to have such a strong music program that prides itself on achieving excellence in music and students who subscribe to those same work ethics. Great Job!!!



FHS goes to London!

By Advisor: Ms. Shannon Wasilewski - (AKA Ms. Waz)

FHS students will be “crossing the pond” during February vacation to tour London. The itinerary includes all of the usual attractions (Look kids, Big Ben, Parliament!) as well as visits to Stonehenge, Bath, and Oxford. We will also be touring Shakespeare’s birthplace and gravesite when we visit Stratford-upon-Avon. Students have already started signing up for next year’s trip—if you are interested in the trip, please contact Mrs. Shannon Wasilewski



at 508-543-1616 x206 or email her at [wasilewskis@foxborough.k12.ma.us](mailto:wasilewskis@foxborough.k12.ma.us).

A informational meeting will be held for students interested in next year’s trip on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm in room 206.



Representatives from the Class of 2014, this year's freshman class, will be collecting class dues during lunches. \$20 will be collected to cover dues for both freshman and sophomore year (usually \$10 each year). If you are paying by check, please make the check payable to Foxborough High School. Dues are used to fund class activities, such as the sophomore semi formal. Dues will again be collected for junior and senior year activities.

Ms. Kelly Bishop and Ms. Caitlin Annicelli  
Class of 2014 Advisors

### Seniors

CLASS 2011

*Have you forgotten to pay for your Cap & Gown?*



*Cap and Gown payment is due.*

*Mrs. Sneyd in the main office if  
have any questions.*

*Cap & Gown/ Photograph*

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cap and Gown \$ 25.00

Graduation Picture: ☐ Yes ☐ No (Optional) \$ 8.00

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Art Department News

..... Department Head, Mr. Gerald A. Roy

The Art Department would like to recognize and congratulate the following 17 students who captured awards at this year's Scholastic Art Awards Contest. The contest was sponsored statewide by the Boston Globe.

Sarah Andres- Honorable Mention - (Sculpture)  
 Liz Delaney- Gold Key - (Computer Design)  
 Maddie Fletcher- Silver Key (Drawing)  
 Jillian Harrison- Honorable Mention (Computer Design)  
 Dylan Heinricher- Honorable Mention (Computer Design)  
 Catherine Hughes- Honorable Mention (Computer Design)  
 Jake Littlefield- Silver Key (Sculpture)  
 Nick Marves- Silver Key (Computer Design)  
 Cassidy Maziarz- Gold Key (Drawing)  
 Sam Motta- Silver Key (Computer Design)  
 Joseph Mulherin- Silver Key (Film & Animation)  
 Jessica Septelka- Silver Key (Computer Art)  
 Evan Serpis- Honorable Mention (Computer Design)  
 Victoria Solomon - Honorable Mention (Computer Design)  
 Kathryn Spillane - Gold Key (Computer Art)  
 Juliette Weiss - 2 awards, Silver Key (Painting) and Honorable Mention (Photography).

Again, congratulations to all the award-winning students for their hard work and dedication to the arts.

All Gold and Silver Key Award Winning works will be on exhibit at the State Transportation Building,  
 John Hancock Hall in Boston  
 Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup> - Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

The Gold Key award winning works will go on to New York City in the spring to compete on the national level.

Gerald A. Roy  
 Art Department Chair



From College Admissions Advisor  
 Mr. Joe O'Neil....

## COLLEGE ADMISSION PANEL

**Parents / Guardians of  
 Juniors - (Class of 2012)  
 and Sophomores - (Class of 2013).**

**All parents and students are welcomed!**

**Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
 Room # 122**

**Contact Mr. O'Neil in the Guidance Department  
 with any questions at:**

**[oneilj@foxborough.k12.ma.us](mailto:oneilj@foxborough.k12.ma.us)**

**or 508-543-1620**



**FOXBOROUGH SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT  
 ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**By: M. Chaisson**

**Ahern Middle School Library Conference Room**

*Social Skills Curriculum*

**Presented by: Lori Normandin, School Social Worker, Ahern Middle School and Mary Beth Keene, Speech & Language Pathologist, Ahern Middle School**

**Thursday February 17 2011  
 7:00 PM  
 Igo School Cafeteria**

**What is Social Thinking? .....“Social Thinking” is what allows us to think and act the way we do! It is the HOW and WHY of communication. Introduced to the world by Michelle Garcia Winner, Speech Pathologist; social thinking curriculum is rapidly becoming a valuable asset to socially challenged students of all ages.**

**Presented by Tracey Stoll, M.Ed. of Learning Solutions, LLC**

# Senior - All Night Party

## June 12th - 10PM - 5AM

The Senior All Night Party is held each year as a way to keep graduated seniors safe on graduation night when the risk is high for drinking and driving incidents.

The high school parents organize the event for the seniors each year.

Senior All-Night Party will be held the night of FHS graduation, Sunday, June 12, 2011, from 10PM-5AM. All Foxboro residents graduating from high school in 2011 are invited to attend.

Dan Brennock and his crew at the Foxborough/Invensys YMCA have graciously offered to host us again this year.

Please consider volunteering.

Come to an upcoming meeting or contact Rose Lincoln @[roselincolnphotography@gmail.com](mailto:roselincolnphotography@gmail.com) or 617-828-3760.

Future meetings:  
All held at the FHS Media Center

Monday, March 21, 7PM  
Thursday, April 14, 8PM  
Monday, May 23, 7PM  
Thursday, June 2, 8PM  
Thursday, June 9, 7PM

**\*\*\*We especially need clean up volunteers who would come at 4AM on June 13 and help us dismantle and transport our decorations from the Y to the storage site on route 1.**

Last year we were finished by 9AM.  
Please contact:

Maryellen Whall at [Mel3w@verizon.net](mailto:Mel3w@verizon.net) or Maura Sweeney at [mcsmj@verizon.net](mailto:mcsmj@verizon.net) if you can help.

Thank-you!



# SENIORS!

Attention Seniors...

Have some old photos of yourself from the "younger" days? How about you and a few friends from a Birthday Party from long ago? How about Best Friends back in first grade?



Share your pictures and bring back some memories for you and your friends for the Senior All Night Party. Please bring copies of your photos to the Main Office – there is a box titled "Memory Wall" or you may email your picture(s) to [dwarner82@verizon.net](mailto:dwarner82@verizon.net) and we can print them off for you. Please have all photos submitted by Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>!!



Thank you and if you have any questions, please email me back!!!

Dawn Warner



To see a video from last year and learn more about the party, please go to our website: [www.fhsseniornight.com](http://www.fhsseniornight.com)  
Our meeting dates and times for the year are listed below.



February - 2011-Days of the Cycle						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>Vacation Week</b>						
27	28 Day 1					

March - 2011-Days of the Cycle						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Day 2	2 Day 3	3 Day 4	4 Day 5	5
6	7 Day 6	8 Day 7	9 Day 1	10 Day 2	11 Day 3	12
13	14 Day 4	15 Day 5	16 Day 6	17 Day 7	18 Day 1	19
20	21 Day 2	22 Day 3	23 Day 4	24 Day 5	25 Day 6	26
27	28 Day 7	29 Day 1	30 Day 2	31 Day 3		

### Parents

*Please remind you student that due to the high snow banks in the parking lots that students are to drive slowly and carefully.*



Please mark your calendar.

### **FEBRUARY**

- Feb. 21-25 School Vacation
- Feb. 28 School Committee Meeting- 7:00 p.m.

### **MARCH**

- Mar. 2 MCAS - ELA Long Comp. Retest-Sessions A & B
- Mar. 3 MCAS - ELA Reading Comp. Retest - Sessions 1 & 2
- Mar. 4 MCAS - ELA Reading Comp. Retest - Sessions 3
- Principal's Coffee - 9:00 a.m.
- Mar. 7 MCAS - Math Retest - Session I
- Mar. 8 MCAS - Math Retest - Session II
- Mar. 9 MCAS - Retests - All Makeup's
- Mar. 8-10 Self-Defense Demo.- All Wellness Classes
- Mar. 10 FMA - SE District Jazz Festival
- Mar. 15 MEPA Testing
- Mar. 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day
- Admissions Meeting for Parents - 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 18 Drama Production - Bye Bye Birdie - 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 19 Drama Production - Bye Bye Birdie - 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 20 Drama Production - Bye Bye Birdie - 2:00 p.m.
- Mar. 22 MCAS - ELA Testing - Sessions A & B
- Band-O-Rama - 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 23 MCAS - ELA Reading Comp. - Sessions 1 & 2
- Mar. 24 MCAS - Reading Comp. - Session 3
- Student / Teacher Basketball Game - 2:30 p.m.
- Mar. 24-26 Mass All-State
- Mar. 26 Sophomore Semi-Formal - 7:00 p.m. - Cafeteria
- Mar. 28 School Committee - 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 31 FMA-All-State Festival in Baltimore

Please refer to the on-line calendar for further dates at: [www.foxborough.k12.ma.us](http://www.foxborough.k12.ma.us). Click on the FHS website.