



## Principal Message

It's hard to believe we have already completed the first quarter of the school year! Time is flying fast and there has been so many great moments to think back on. Great teaching and learning, a strong focus on our positive school culture, fun events to build our community and so much more. We are looking forward to what the next quarter will bring!

### FAMILY | TEACHER CONFERENCES

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Fall Family | Teacher Conferences on Monday, November 6th and Thursday, November 9th from 4:30-7:30. Conferences will be held in the gym with staff organized by department alphabetically. Each teacher will have a table available for the conference so all you need to do is wait patiently in line for the next available seat. Conferences should run no longer than 10 min each. If you have something of significant concern or questions you feel will need more time, we recommend you contact your child's teacher for a different date and time. Counselors will also be present both evenings for any additional assistance. Conferences provide us an important avenue of communication as we work together to provide our students the best possible education, so your attendance is of great importance! We look forward to seeing you at Fall Conferences!

### PRACTICE ACT ASSESSMENT

9th, 10th, and 11th graders completed their fall Practice ACT assessment on October 16th. This practice of a standardized test not only allows students a chance to understand and experience this type of test, but also gives our teachers and families very detailed information on how each student is doing and what they need next in their learning scope. The information is used by teachers to design small group instruction to target the specific needs of each student. A separate email will be sent to families about these results and how you can get access to them.

### NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

November 13 - Early Release Day - Students will be dismissed at 1:30

November 22-24 - No School - Thanksgiving Break

### FAMILIES AS PARTNERS

I continue to be extremely grateful for the partnerships the FAHS families provide to students and staff. Your role in this educational journey is KEY to the success of our students. From checking in, to positive support, to follow up/follow through when needed and open communication, your commitment to this team approach has been GREATLY appreciated! Thank you for ALL you do!

We have a lot to get excited about and involved with in the coming months including winter sports, clubs, activities and organizations going strong. I look forward to seeing you all soon!



**Leigh Ann Scheuerell**  
High School Principal  
School District of Fort Atkinson





# November



- 2 - Big Buddy During Lunches
- 3 - FFA Holiday Sale Ends Today
- 4 - Jazz Band/Band Boosters Pancake Breakfast, 8-12noon, Middle School
- 6 - Family | Teacher Conferences, 4:30-7:30pm, Gym
- 6 - G BB Starts Today
- 8 - Josten's Graduation Senior Meeting during ET, Auditorium
- 9 - Family | Teacher Conferences, 4:30-7:30pm, Gym
- 9 - FFA Alumni Meeting, 7:00pm, Ag Dept.
- 10 - Josten's Graduation & Freshmen Class Ring Orders during Lunches
- 11 - Frosty Rock Run, Commons/Gym
- 13 - 1:30 Early Release Day for Students
- 13 - B BB, B Swim Wrestling Starts Today
- 13 - Voices Meeting, 6:30pm, IMC
- 15 - Big Buddy During Lunches
- 15 - Band Boosters Meeting, 6:00pm, Band Room
- 16- High School Musical-Mean Girls, 7:30pm, Auditorium
- 17 - High School Musical-Mean Girls, 7:30pm, Auditorium
- 18 - High School Musical-Mean Girls, 6:00pm, Auditorium
- 19 - High School Musical-Mean Girls, 2:00pm, Auditorium
- 22 - Thanksgiving Break-No School
- 23 - Thanksgiving Break-No School
- 24 - Thanksgiving Break-No School



## Future Dates

- 12/1 - Quarter 2 Progress Reports Due 8:00am
- 12/6 - Big Buddy During Lunches
- 12/9 - ACT National Test Day



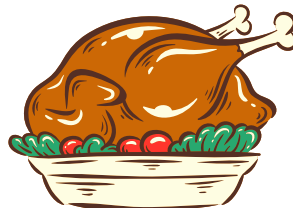
# DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS ON NOVEMBER 5TH

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour!



## CHRISTMAS NEIGHBORS PROGRAM

The Jefferson County Christmas Neighbors Program tries to connect with low-income families within the county so that their children might enjoy gifts and food for the holidays. Families should call the Jefferson County Christmas Neighbors Office Monday-Friday at (920) 674-4499 if you would like to get your family enrolled in the program. **Eligible enrollments will be taken until December 4th.** Families must be an active participant of one of the State-funded income based programs to be eligible.



## AP: PROCESS AND TIMELINE FOR EXAM REGISTRATION

AP test registration is here! If your child is taking an AP class, it is time for them to sign up to take the AP exam in May.

AP teachers shared a [payment information form](#) with all AP students, and [this form](#) was also emailed home to all AP parents. Here are the relevant details:

- \$98 per exam
  - 1 exam = \$98
  - 2 exams = \$196
  - 3 exams = \$294
  - 4 exams = \$392
  - 5 exams = \$490
  - AP Seminar - \$146



### AP: PROCESS CONTINUED..

- Due November 1, 2023
- Submit your payment through Powerschool/School Pay, or the main office at Fort Atkinson High School
- Checks may be made payable to FAHS (student name and "AP" in memo line)
- Multiple students and exams may be included in one check
- \$40 fee charged by College Board for late test registration. (\$138 per exam after deadline)
- Students taking (second semester-only classes) AP Microeconomics do not need to pay until February 1, but may pay for that exam now, if desired.
- If a child is on free or reduced lunch, they qualify for free AP exams. Please fill out this form (and turn in) to allow us to verify this information. [\[English\]](#) [\[Español\]](#)
- If your family is having financial difficulties and you may qualify for free or reduced lunch, please fill out this form to apply [\[Website\]](#), and this form so we can verify your status. [\[English\]](#) [\[Español\]](#)
- If your family is having short-term financial difficulties, please email [AdvancedPlacement@fortschools.org](mailto:AdvancedPlacement@fortschools.org) to let us know. We will arrange an altered payment schedule with you.

If you have any questions about AP exams, please contact your child's AP teacher. For questions about payment please email [knutsonj@fortschools.org](mailto:knutsonj@fortschools.org)

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO TAKE CHALLENGING CLASSES?

"College professors know the difference in their classes when they meet a student who has learned how to work hard, challenge assumptions, and think like a college student while in high school. Challenging, enriching course selection in high school makes a committed, interested student in college... Engaging in fast-paced learning now ensures a foundation for continued exploration at the college level."

Leigh J.- Western Kentucky University

### Common Misconceptions about College Entrance and Success:

#### **MISCONCEPTION 1: I have a great GPA; I won't have any trouble getting into college.**

Sorry, a good GPA is not enough. Colleges look closely at transcripts. They look to see if students took the most challenging classes offered. Colleges want students who will contribute to the intellectual environment in college, not just go with what is easy. Colleges look for applicants who will actively participate in and improve the campus community. When looking at extracurricular activities, they look for students who stick with and have leadership experience in those activities.



## ..CONTINUED

### **MISCONCEPTION 2: If I get a lower grade in an AP class, there goes my scholarship money.**

Universities and many scholarship organizations are much more concerned that students were challenged and engaged in intellectual exploration than have a high GPA. Harvard Admissions says, "There is no single academic path we expect all students to follow, but the strongest applicants take the most rigorous secondary school curricula available to them. The Admissions Committee recognizes that schools vary by size, academic program, and grading policies, so we do not have rigid grade requirements. We do seek students who achieve at a high level; and most admitted students rank in the top 10-15% of their graduating classes." A

### **MISCONCEPTION 3: The University I want to go to won't accept AP credit.**

Individual school websites show exactly how much credit a student can earn for specific AP exams. Most AP exams earn 3-5 college credits with some earning. Nationwide, more than 90% of colleges and universities accept AP credit.

### **MISCONCEPTION 4: I don't need to take honors classes prior to the AP class.**

Honors classes prepare students for the advanced thinking required in an AP or college class. Every time students challenge themselves in an academic environment, they become more prepared for and more likely to succeed in future scholarly endeavors.

### **MISCONCEPTION 5: The AP tests are too expensive!**

The tests seem expensive. Consider though, an AP test costs \$97 and can net a student 3 or more hours of college credit. The tuition savings at college can amount to literally thousands of dollars. AP also offers fee reduction for students who qualify for free/reduced lunch. At these rates, college-bound students can't afford *not* to take AP classes and tests.

### **MISCONCEPTION 6: AP won't help me once I get into college.**

AP classes give students a chance to "take a college class for free." A rigorous AP class will help students learn time management and study planning. The AP test is much like a college final—in some classes a final can be 30-100% of the grade. Most importantly, AP classes teach students how to think and ask questions—essential skills for a university setting. These statistics can make it even clearer:

- Research shows that students who take AP courses are more likely than their peers to attend college and graduate on time.
- Of students who earned a 2 or higher on their AP Exam, they are 21% more likely than their academically similar peers to enroll in a four-year college.
- Students who earn an AP Exam score of 2 or higher do significantly better in their introductory college courses.





### ONLINE SCHOOL STORE

The Fort Atkinson School Store online website is available all year round and makes great gifts for birthdays and holidays. Everything is made on demand and shipped to your front step. The site doesn't only have clothes. They supply an assortment of gear too! Most items can be customized with graduation year, different colors and designs. Deals are available leading up to most holidays and the start of a school year.

Link for website if you need it:

<https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/wisconsin/fortatkinson/fort-atkinson-high-school>



### IRELAND TRIP 2024

In late July, Fort Atkinson will be taking a group of students and families to Ireland! This 11 day trip is sure to make memories for everyone involved. While the trip is geared for students, parents/families are welcome to join in on the experience. To find out more details check out the [trip enrollment page](#) for all the information you're looking for. If you have additional questions please contact Mr. Daniels at [danielsn@fortschools.org](mailto:danielsn@fortschools.org).

Link for website if you need it: <https://www.eftours.com/tour-website/2569770EC>





## EVENTS AND DEADLINES FROM PUPIL SERVICES

### 2nd Semester Schedule Changes

Students who need to make adjustments to their 2nd semester schedules are asked to request an appointment with their counselor **during the second week of December**. The types of changes approved at this time usually result from difficulties or failures experienced in the 1st semester of a year-long course. Additionally, if 1st semester failures now place the student with too few credits, an additional elective can be picked up. We are trying to encourage careful course selection in February and discourage adding/dropping requests during the school year. Your support is appreciated.

**SCHEDULE**



## LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION FOR SENIORS



Seniors will be receiving information and instructions about how to apply for local scholarships at the Senior Scholarship Meeting the first full week of December. There are two types of local scholarships – Independent Scholarships which use individual paper applications, and Online Combined Scholarships which use one online application. The Online Combined Application was created through a partnership with the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation. In addition to the local scholarships, at this presentation, seniors will be encouraged to apply for scholarships through their college and will be given information about looking for scholarships through other sources as well. Please contact Ms. Samantha Ahler at 563-7811 ext. 1149 with any questions.

## COURSE SELECTION FOR 2024-2025

The course selection event has been scheduled for **February 5th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.** and on **February 8th between 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.** All students and one of their parents/guardians must come to one of the events to register for classes for the next school year. For upperclassmen, the event should take about 30 minutes. For incoming freshmen it will take about 45 minutes. Parents will receive a mailing that includes materials and further details in January.



### FAFSA WORKSHOPS

This year, high schools and universities have been notified that the FAFSA form will not open until sometime in December. With an unknown date of when the application will open, FAFSA workshops have been postponed. Fort Atkinson High School FAFSA workshops will be determined at a later date. Please keep checking for communication about this topic in the future.

COMING  
SOON

### WINTER GLOW

The Community Action Coalition is holding the annual Winter Glow winter item give away on Friday, November 4 at the Johnson Creek Premium Outlets, 575 Linmar Ln, Johnson Creek from 12:00-6:00pm. The event will be next to the Nike store inside of the old Bass store. There will be signage guiding people on the day of the event. Pre Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register. The Community Action Coalition will assist with transportation to the event, if needed. (This is asked on the questionnaire.) No ID or verification is required. Masks are required and available at the event.

- Free coats, hats, gloves
- Pop up food pantry
- Vaccinations







# Gingerbread House Contest

AT THE HOARD HISTORICAL MUSEUM



Build a gingerbread house and enter it into the contest

Drop-off/Registration Dates:

Tuesday, 11/29-Saturday, 12/2

Popular Choice voting:

Tuesday, 12/5- Saturday, 12/9

In-person voting during museum hours

For Registration Information: [www.hoardmuseum.org](http://www.hoardmuseum.org)

HOARD HISTORICAL MUSEUM  
920-397-9914

401 WHITEWATER AVE. FORT ATKINSON, WI  
[WWW.HOARDMUSEUM.ORG](http://WWW.HOARDMUSEUM.ORG)





# BASE AFTER SCHOOL REGISTRATION

## OPEN FOR 2023-2024

*Keeping kids safe  
and having fun during  
the critical hours  
school is out.*

### ABOUT OUR PROGRAM :

- Open to children 7 & Older
- Open at all 4 Public Elementary Schools 3-6pm
- Snack, Recreation and Enrichment Activities
- Open Early Release Days and Select No School Days
- Affordable Rates and Scholarships Available



### SIGN UP TODAY

**brightwheel**  
The all-in-one app for preschool and daycare



## Community Connections:

[Parks & Recreation](#)

[Fort Atkinson Chamber of Commerce](#)

[City of Fort Atkinson - News & City Council](#)

[Fort Atkinson Community Foundation - Projects](#)



**One Team, One District, One Community**

Fort Atkinson High School | Fort Atkinson Middle School  
Barrie Elementary | Luther Elementary | Purdy Elementary | Rockwell Elementary



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