

IN

An IN Community Magazine

Fox Chapel Area

2021-2022 FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT STATE OF THE SCHOOLS

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FOX CHAPEL AREA

State of the Schools



Fox Chapel Area School District

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MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Fox Chapel Area Community,

When I look back on the 2021-2022 school year, I tend to define it by one word: perseverance. I recall a year that started with a great deal of uncertainty. At the beginning, we were not fully aware of what challenges the COVID-19 pandemic would continue to bring. We were unsure of whether we would be able to have a school year in which the educational process would not be disrupted, as it was the previous school year. We didn't know whether we would be able to hold athletic competitions. We were unsure about whether we would be able to gather for the plays, musicals, and concerts that we anticipate so much every year. Thanks to the perseverance of our students, parents/guardians, staff, and extended school community, however, we experienced a year with no major hurdles. In fact, in many ways, it came to feel "normal" again. We held open houses and art shows. We watched our talented students perform. We cheered together in the stands for our teams. And, perhaps most importantly, we celebrated being able to do those things with one another in person once again.

To be clear, the year was not without its challenges. When needed, though, our students stepped up and exhibited the resilience that has come to define our learning community. They adapted to obstacles. They continued to be successful in their academic, athletic, and arts and music pursuits, as well as in myriad citizenship endeavors. In times of struggle, they held each other up. I'm #FCProud of them for all of these reasons.

Last year, the district placed an emphasis on implementing initiatives geared toward the mental and emotional health of our students, staff, and families. These included a partnership with Care Solace, a service that helps individuals find mental health care providers and substance use treatment centers; beginning an ongoing needs assessment of the district's mental health services; and continuing to focus on equity, inclusion, and belonging.

As we move forward, we will continue to do our very best to support learning, growth, and the social-emotional needs of our community. And, of course, we will continue to enjoy our successes while continuing to celebrate the seemingly ordinary, which we will not take for granted anytime soon.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac
Superintendent





Last fall, the Fox Chapel Area High School Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council sponsored a "Ceiling Unity Tile Event," during which students painted ceiling tiles featuring various races, ethnicities, and other messages of DEI.

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT INVESTED IN EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING

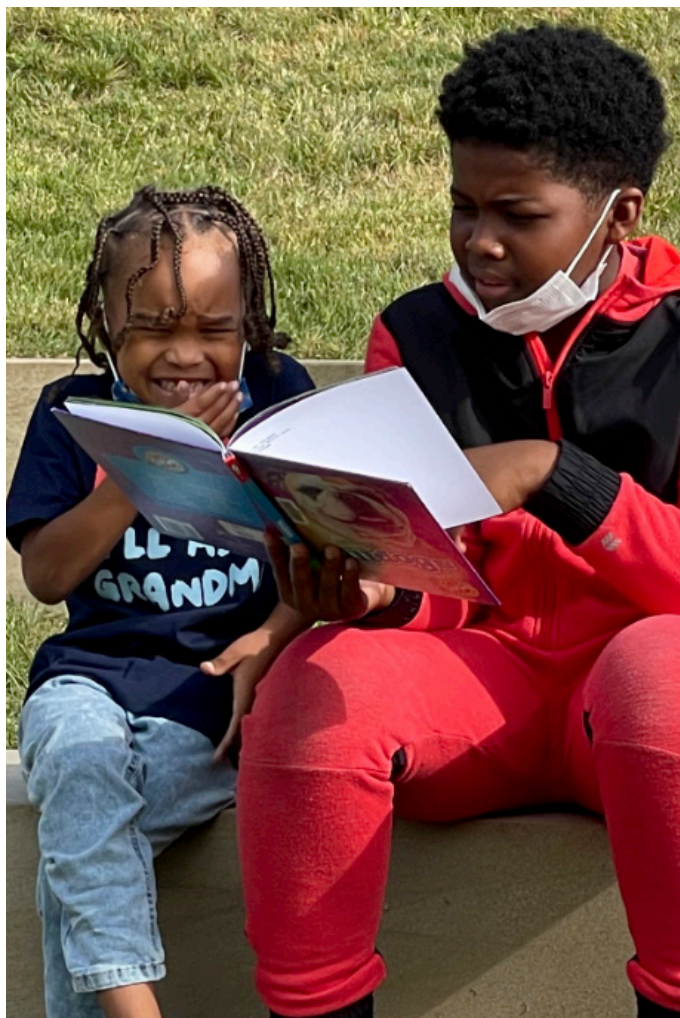
Knowing that learning takes place best in an environment where students feel safe and accepted, the Fox Chapel Area School District has placed an emphasis on equity, inclusion, and belonging.

"As a public school system, the Fox Chapel Area School District serves students from a wide range of socioeconomic, cultural, and religious backgrounds, as well as students with varying backgrounds of physical and mental readiness," according to Dr. Matthew Harris, the district's executive director of secondary education and instruction. "It is the district's mission and passion to bring all students together in a manner in which they feel comfortable, safe, and valued so that they will be in the best position to learn and succeed."

The district introduces students to a wide range of learning experiences and opportunities to prepare them for the next stages of their academic pursuits and/or careers, Dr. Harris says. Central to this is to develop a keen understanding of global diversity so that in college or the workplace, they come to recognize and value diverse perspectives, ideas, experiences, and voices, he says.

Initially, each school formed a team of teachers to promote a positive school culture focused on equity, inclusion, and belonging, according to Dr. Harris. From each of the building teams, a district committee was assembled. After a lengthy search, the district contracted with Dr. Lhisa Almashy, who has an extensive background in working with schools on equity, inclusion, and belonging.

Dr. Almashy facilitated several workshops for the district's leadership team on building community, forging relationships, and creating an environment that recognizes and values diverse perspectives.



Kerr Elementary School students celebrate "Choose to Shine Week," during which they were encouraged to strive to be the best they can be and to work with others to bring joy and kindness into the world.

During the 2022-2023 school year, Dr. Almashy will work with a second leadership cohort at Fox Chapel Area.

"Teachers have long known the educational benefits that positive relationships have on student learning, and the district's equity, inclusion, and belonging efforts are all part of a collective effort to build positive relationships with students in order to help them learn and understand others and themselves," says Dr. Ashley Constantine, the district's executive director of elementary education and instruction.

Building off Dr. Almashy's lessons, the district's schools continue to observe cultural heritage months, learn about famous people of color, engage in civic projects, and celebrate the diversity of the United States and the world. Here are just a few highlights:

- Fox Chapel Area High School established a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council that includes students and staff. Some of the sponsored activities included field trips, a World Read Aloud Day, and a movie night. The DEI Council also collaborates with clubs, such as the Asian Cultural Club, Gay-Straight Alliance, and the Black Student Union, and is always open to new ideas. High school students also study African American history, the Civil Rights movement, and many other topics related to historically underrepresented populations as part of the regular curriculum.

- At Dorseyville Middle School, equity, inclusion, and belonging lessons feature national historical figures, including those that are pertinent to Pittsburgh. Students also participate in several LIGHT Education Initiatives, which aim to connect students to community members through themes such as being an upstander, making responsible choices, social and environmental justice, kindness and love, and volunteerism and humility.

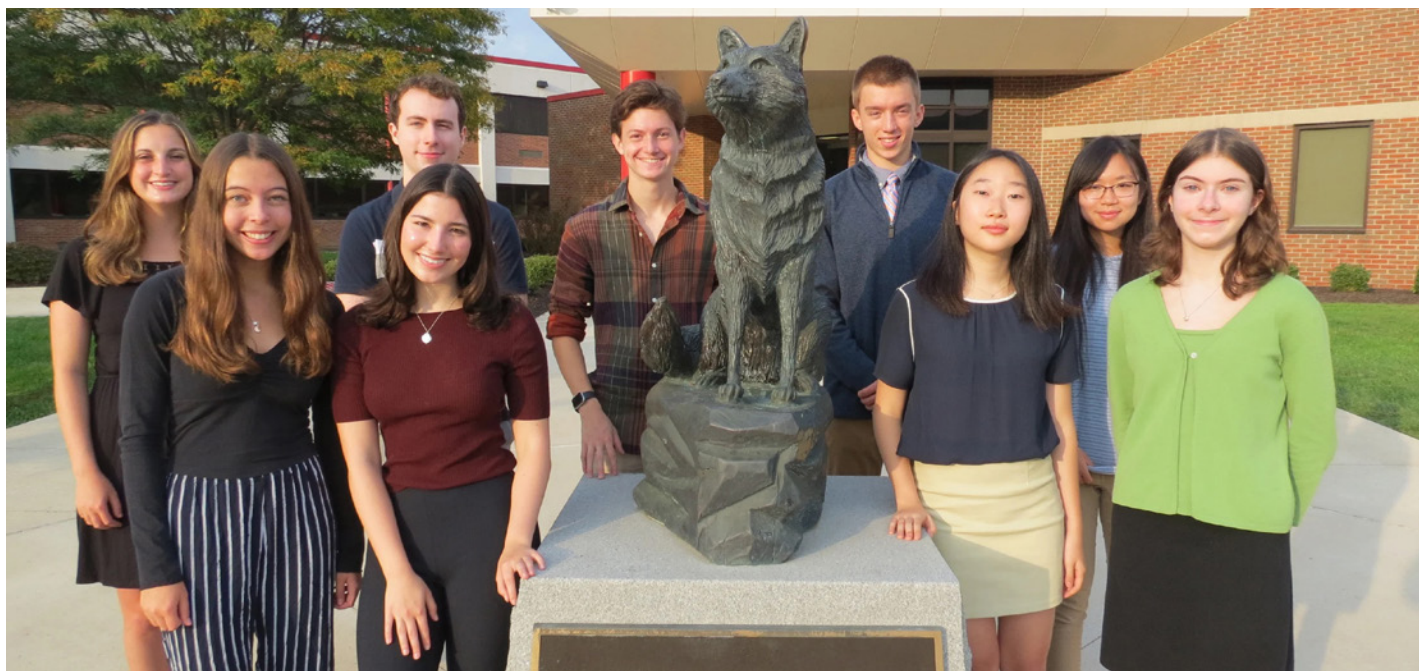
- Fairview Elementary School students explore belonging through monthly themes, such as Women's History Month and Disability Awareness Month. This includes read-alouds that address differences in people and how to celebrate them.

- Hartwood Elementary students participate in monthly belonging lessons. The school's student council also supports these lessons with monthly service opportunities for students and staff. Student council members create murals that include people of significance and compile historical information to share during the daily announcements.



- Kerr Elementary School students and staff celebrate differences through theme months and various lessons, including video clips, that are associated with those topics. Kerr also held a special Unity Day where students wore orange to show unity for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion, and participated in Choose to Shine Week where they were encouraged to strive to be the best that they can be and to work with others to bring joy and kindness into the world.

- O'Hara Elementary School students participate in read-alouds and activities that celebrate various cultures. Additionally, special area teachers also highlight prominent figures in sports and health fields, music and performance, and the arts. The school also holds a multi-cultural night each year.



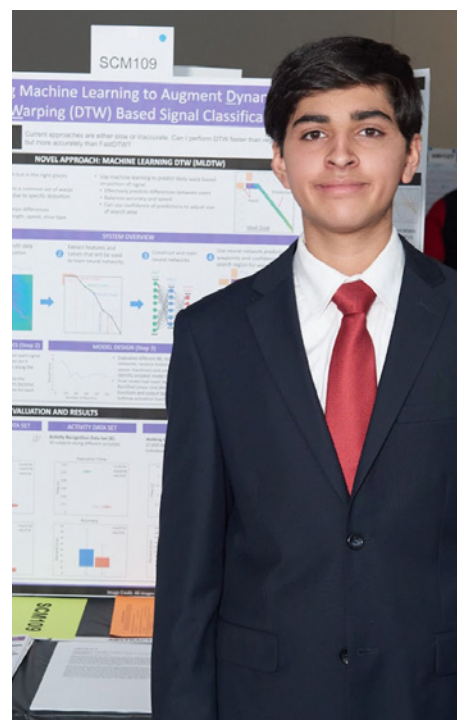
HIGHLIGHTS



- Nine Fox Chapel Area High School seniors were designated as National Merit Semifinalists, and 13 were named Commended Students in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program. The Finalists from Fox Chapel Area High School were **Noah Bradley, Zhiyi Chen, Shea Davison, Russell Fenton, Anna Ferris, Claire Hamilton, Janise Kim, Zoe Lakkis, and Nathaniel Mueller**. The Commended Students from Fox Chapel Area High School were **Patrick Alexander, Andrew Byersdorfer, Justine Eng, Cara Felman, Maia Gravina, Thomas Healy, Owen Hershey, Uma Muzumdar, Emma Szymanski, Shrivardhan Thada, James Trageser, Eduardo Weissmann, and Siddharth Yende**. The Finalists represent less than 1% of the nation's high school seniors, and the Commended Students are among the top 5%.

- Two Fox Chapel Area High School students were named national winners in the 2022 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. In the art portion of the contest, sophomore **Nicholas Goodman** won a Gold Medal for his photograph titled "Memory of Quebec" (left). In the writing portion of the contest, senior **Anna Ferris** won a Silver Medal for her short story, "The Last Line of Defense." Prior to being named national winners, Nicholas and Anna were named Gold Key winners in the 2022 Pittsburgh Region of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Only the top 1% of all entries earn national recognition. As a national Gold Key winner, Nicholas and his teacher, **Amy Wickman**, were invited to attend a ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 9.

- Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Arvind Seshan** qualified for the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair by being named one of four overall winners in the Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair. Hundreds of students worldwide competed for prizes worth millions. Arvind won a second-place award from the National Security Agency Research Directorate.





•Fox Chapel Area High School senior **Zoe Lakkis** was named one of the top 300 scholars in the Regeneron Science Talent Search 2022. Zoe was one of only six students in Pennsylvania, and one of 300 students from four countries to receive this designation. The talent search is sponsored by Society for Science and is the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. Scholars were chosen based on their exceptional research skills, commitment to academics, innovative thinking, and promise as scientists as demonstrated through the submission of their original, independent research projects, essays, and recommendations. Zoe's project was titled, "Data Mining to Identify Therapeutic Targets for Transplant Rejection."

•Fox Chapel Area School District students and staff held their 32nd annual telethon December 23, 2021, and raised a record-breaking total of \$107,242. This brings the total money raised by Fox Chapel Area students and staff to more than \$1 million over the last 32 years for various local and regional charities. The telethon raised money for Fox Families Care and involved students from all six schools in the district. Fox Families Care is an organization that works to bridge the gap between the needs and resources of children and families in the district.

•Sophomore **Eliza Davis** was named a national winner in The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America Essay Contest. Eliza was one of 50 winners from across the nation and one of three winners from Pennsylvania. She received an all-expenses paid trip



FCASD NAMED 'SYSTEM TO WATCH' BY NATIONAL SUPERINTENDENTS

The Fox Chapel Area School District was named an AASA (The School Superintendents Association) Learning 2025 Demonstration System to Watch. The district is one of only 18 across the nation to receive this designation in 2022. Fox Chapel Area School District was recognized for providing a student-centered, equity-focused, and future-driven educational system that serves all learners, with specific attention to cognitive growth.

"The Fox Chapel Area School District is pleased to be recognized nationally for its strong work on behalf of students," says Superintendent Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac. "We have shared our work with colleagues across the nation in presentations and engaged in learning together. We look forward to working with our colleagues to continue this national collaborative effort and meet the challenges of the future."

AASA Learning 2025: Student-Centered, Equity-Focused, Future-Driven Education is a movement that calls for holistic redesign of the public school system by 2025.

for a week-long, civic-focused experience in Washington, D.C., in June 2022.

•The high school team of senior **Ian Mackey-Piccolo** and sophomore **Adhitya Thirumala** placed in the top 32 policy debate teams in the nation at the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Tournament. A total of 1,973 students representing 400 public, private, and charter high schools from 29 states across the country participated in the event.

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HIGHLIGHTS

•Two Fox Chapel Area High School publications won recognition in the 2021 American Scholastic Press Association Annual Review and Contest Awards for scholastic yearbooks, magazines, and other publications. The 2020-2021 literary arts magazine "Tapestry" received a first-place national award. The high school's newspaper, "Fox Tales Quarterly," was also named a first-place national winner for the fall 2021 issue.

•Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Zachary Sullivan** was selected to attend the 2022 Disney Dreamers Academy educational mentorship program. Dreamers are selected through their answers to essay questions where they share their personal stories and dreams for the future. Zachary received an all-expenses paid trip to attend the Disney Dreamers Academy at the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida. A total of 100 high school students from across the United States were selected from thousands of applicants, and Zachary was one of only four students from Pennsylvania to attend.



•Four Dorseyville Middle School students placed first in Pennsylvania in The Stock Market Game. The students are sixth-graders **Maddox Chiu, Eliot Meese, Sebastian Rosenmeier, and Matthew Wang**. The team had a relative return of 32.16% above the performance of the S&P 500 over the time they competed. The Stock Market Game is an online simulation of the global capital markets for students in grades 4-12.

•Two teams from Dorseyville Middle School placed third in the nation in the Winter Knowledge Master Open virtual quiz bowl. Eighth-graders **Arman Alborzi, Beau Brush, Ori Goldin, Chase Hahl, Eloise Johnson, Zachary Rubin, and Rodrigo Silva** placed third in the middle school division. Sixth-graders **Lucas Ahern, Margaret Handron, Finn Johnson, Cameron Lapiana, Elizabeth Passavant, Sebastian Rosenmeier, Divya Thirumala, Matthew Wang, and Kanyapat Wesaratchakit** placed third in the elementary division.





• Ten students placed at the 2022 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference, and six qualified for the FBLA National Leadership Conference. Junior **Stephen Santilli** and sophomore **Joshua Brown** won first place, junior **Helia Hamidi** and sophomore **Ava McCaffrey** won third place, and senior **Paris Wohlgemuth** and sophomore **Maria Costantino** won fourth place. All six qualified to participate in the FBLA National Leadership Conference. Other state place-winners were senior **Sydney Kennedy**, junior **Zachary Sullivan**, sophomore **Harry Littwin**, and freshman **Swati Mylarappa**. Eighty-three Fox Chapel Area High School students placed at regionals and/or qualified for the 2022 FBLA State Leadership Conference.



• Nine Fox Chapel Area High School students won awards at the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association (TSA) State Leadership Conference. Junior **Ananth Kashyap** and freshman **Swati Mylarappa** qualified for the 2022 National TSA Conference. Senior **Dylan Berman**, juniors **James Harris**, **Talis Jacob**, and **Jonathan Li**, and freshmen **Sangyon Park**, **Samuel Ummer**, and **Rohit Velankar** all placed at the state competition. The TSA is a national organization of students engaged in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). The group supports STEM-education goals through competitions.



• Dorseyville Middle School seventh-grader **Darshen Jayaratnam** was named the champion in the seventh-grade division of the International Academic Competitions (IAC) Pittsburgh Regional Geography Bee and qualified to participate in the IAC's National Geography Bee.

• Fox Chapel Area High School senior **Hanna Essey** was named a 2022 Student of the Year by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Hanna and her team, Kick Out Cancer, raised \$50,522.





STUDENT HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS

•A total of 154 high school students were named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars. The College Board recognizes three levels of achievement: 86 students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction award by earning an average score of 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams; 32 qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams; and 36 qualified for the AP Scholar award by receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

•Fox Chapel Area High School junior

Zoe Broyles was named a first-place winner in the 2021 Gene Capaldi Lens on Litter Photo Contest. She won \$500 in the student category for her photo titled, "Rachel Carson's Dream." The photo shows litter strewn under the Rachel Carson Bridge with a picturesque Pittsburgh skyline in the distance. The contest was sponsored by the Pennsylvania Resources Council and was open to students and adults from across Pennsylvania. The purpose of the competition is to remind everyone about the environmental impact of litter.



•Three Fox Chapel Area High School seniors, **Justine Eng** – Latin, **Laura Klamut** – German, and **Paris Wohlgenuth** – German, were named 2022 Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA) Global Scholars Graduates. The purpose of the PSMLA Global Scholars program is to provide high school students with the opportunity to participate in interdisciplinary studies and activities; to develop global awareness and competency; and to better prepare students for personal and professional success in an increasingly global society.

•Three seniors, **Russell Fenton**, **Anna Ferris**, and **Eduardo Weissmann**, were named candidates in the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.





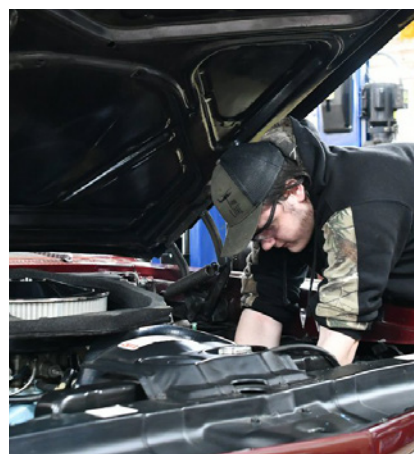
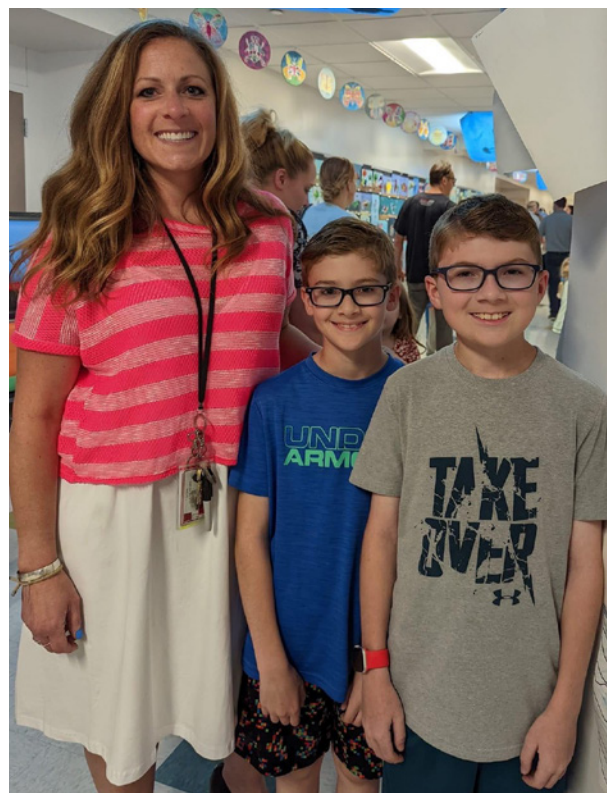
•Six Fairview Elementary School students placed in the top 10 as part of the 2022 Children's Choice Awards "Battle of the Books" competition, sponsored by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Allegheny County Library Association. Those placing were fifth-grade students **Elisabeth Lange** and **Salam Saidi**, and fourth-graders **Catherine Carlson**, **Eleanor McCall**, **Aarya Senn**, and **Naomi Thorne**.

•Fox Chapel Area High School and A.W. Beattie Career Center senior **Colin Stephens** placed in the Greater Pittsburgh Automotive Dealers Association/ Pennsylvania Automotive Association competition and earned a \$10,000 scholarship.

•Four Fox Chapel Area High School students qualified for the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Championship Tournament. Seniors **Patrick Alexander** and **Ian Mackey-Piccolo**, and sophomores **Adhitya Thirumala** and **Isabella White** all advanced to represent the Pittsburgh Diocese at the Grand National Championship Tournament.

•Fox Chapel Area High School senior **Patrick Alexander** was named a state co-champion at the Pennsylvania High School Speech League (PHSSL) State Championship Tournament. Patrick tied for first place in Student Congress. Three students also ranked among the best in the state tournament. The team of senior **Ian Mackey-Piccolo** and sophomore **Adhitya Thirumala** finished in the top eight in the state in Policy Debate, and in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, sophomore **Isabella White** also finished in the top eight. Additionally, junior **Martin Stanton**, sophomore **Lakshanya Rajaganapathi**, and freshmen **Swati Mylarappa**, **Joseph Seifried**, and **Colette Walter** qualified to participate in the PHSSL District 2 state championship tournament.

•Seven Fox Chapel Area High School students won high honors as part of Model United Nations (UN) competitions. This included seniors **Patrick Alexander** and **Nathaniel Mueller**, juniors **Caleb Hahl** and **Blaz Vavpetic**, sophomore **Connor Mazzoni**, and freshmen **Etash Jhanji** and **Swati Mylarappa**.



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STUDENT HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- A Fox Chapel Area High School student was recognized at the virtual Ninth Annual American University Model UN Conference. Freshman **Etash Jhanji** was part of the World Health Organization group representing Australia. The group developed a resolution that was selected to be sent to the U.S. State Department for further consideration.



- Fox Chapel Area High School sophomore **Isabella White** served as the first alternate to the National Speech and Debate Championship Tournament.

- Four Fox Chapel Area High School sophomores were selected to receive Hugh O'Brian Youth



Leadership recognition:
Annalese Bartolacci, Amelia Costello, Lakshanya Rajaganapathi, and Abraham White.

- Fox Chapel Area High School and A.W. Beattie Career Center junior **Monique Coutu** (veterinary sciences) was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.

- Six Fox Chapel Area High School students were inducted into the National Business Honor Society as part of the 2022 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference. Those students are seniors **Katherine Voigt** and **Paris Wohlge-muth**, and juniors **Aisling Beresford, Helia Hamidi, Diya Reddy, and Zachary Sullivan.**





•O'Hara Elementary School fifth-grader **Sidera Kingman-Graves** won second place in the Rule of Law Essay Contest. The competition was open to fifth- and sixth-graders from Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the U.S. Virgin Islands schools, and focused on civics, citizenship, and the concept of the "Rule of Law." The contest was sponsored by the Courts, Community, and Rule of Law Committee of the Judicial Council of the Third Circuit.



•Two high school students were named among the top 122 in the 2022 Trib Total Media Outstanding Young Citizen program: senior **Siddharth Yende** and junior **Zachary Sullivan**. A total of 200 students were nominated for the award, based on academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and community service.





STEM RECOGNITIONS

• Four freshmen were named first-place winners in the high school division of the Powering Pittsburgh competition: **Etash Jhanji, Arnim Kuchhal, Varad Sant, and Rohit Velankar**. As part of the contest, the students were asked to reimagine the way the city of Pittsburgh and/or Heinz Field are powered. The Fox Chapel Area High School team developed a unique way to power Heinz Field in an environmentally friendly way, harnessing energy from solar panels and the flow of the three rivers.



• Five students won first-place awards in the state competition of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS): juniors **Lawrence Liu** and **Arvind Seshan**; sophomores **Lakshanya Rajaganapathi** and **Adhitya Thirumala**; and seventh-grader **Param Thawani**. Six students won first-place awards as part of the virtual 88th Annual Region 7 Meeting of the PJAS: juniors **Lawrence Liu** and **Arvind Seshan**; sophomores **Lakshanya Rajaganapathi** and **Adhitya Thirumala**; freshman **Anna Delale-O'Connor**; and seventh-grader **Param Thawani**. The first-place winners qualified for the state PJAS competition.



- A team of Fox Chapel Area High School students placed at the PA BotsIQ 2022 Finals Competition. Core team members were seniors **Dino Isella** and **Shrivardhan Thada**, junior **Adam Zimmerman**, and sophomore **Eduardo Phelan-Vidal**. The Fox Chapel Area students placed first as the "King of the Ring" for their dominating performance during the multi-opponent "Royal Rumble."

- Freshman **Rohit Velankar** was named the first-place winner in the senior physics and astronomy category at the Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair. Junior **Lawrence Liu** won second place in the senior division computer science and math category.



- A team of seniors won first place in the 2022 Allegheny County Envirothon and qualified for states: **Maia Gravina**, **Sydney Inglis**, **Aurora Sauereisen**, **Kaylee Uribe**, and **Anushka Vis**.

- Two teams of Fairview Elementary School students tied for first place in the grades four and five division of the 2022 Science Bowl. Team members were fifth-graders **Bettis Bierenbaum**, **Elisabeth Lange**, **Salam Saidi**, **Glenn Story**, **Alejandro Torres-Smalley**, **Linden Trac**, and **Maya Vyas**, and fourth-grader **Om Vemulapalli**.

- A team of students was named the first runner-up in Division 1 of the ninth annual Governor's STEM Competition: senior **Janise Kim**, juniors **Prajval Sreenivas** and **Ananth Kashyap**, and freshmen **Alex Kim** and **Swati Mylarappa**. The group developed a product called MOOD, a low-cost, artificial intelligence-driven psychotherapy assistant that addresses the real-time needs of individuals struggling with various mental health issues.



- A team won first place in the 2022 Pittsburgh Brain Bee: junior **Prajval Sreenivas**, and freshmen **Omar Al-Bataineh**, **Murugan Ayyanar**, **Etash Jhanji**, and **Arnim Kuchhal**.

- Three Dorseyville Middle School students scored high on the American Mathematics Competition 8 exam. Eighth-graders **Chase Hahl** and **Rodrigo Silva**, and seventh-grader **Nathan Chu** scored in the top 10% nationally.

- Two high school students earned second-place awards as part of the 2022 PENN HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America)-Future Health Professionals State Leadership Conference: junior **Jonathan Li** and sophomore **Lakshanya Rajaganapathi**. Both qualified for the HOSA International Leadership Conference.





STAFF ACCOLADES

•Fox Chapel Area School District Chief of School Police/School Safety and Security Coordinator **Joseph Kozarian** was named the treasurer of the National Association of School Resource Officers. Mr. Kozarian was sworn in at the 2022 National School Safety Conference in July.

•The Fox Chapel Area School District won 10 awards in the 2022 National School Public Relations Association Publications and Digital Media Excellence Awards contest. Additionally, the district won 12 awards in the 2021 Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association Excellence in Education Communications Contest. The district's winning publications were coordinated by **Bonnie Berzonski**, the district's coordinator of communications, and **Jill Leonard**, the district's community engagement specialist.

•Fox Chapel Area School District Superintendent Dr. **Mary Catherine Reljac** completed the Leadership Pittsburgh program. Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. is the foremost multidisciplinary leadership identification, enrichment, and networking organization in Southwestern Pennsylvania dedicated to developing a robust pipeline of diverse civic leaders to serve the region.



•Fairview Elementary School educational support teacher **Kerri Bacco**, along with her husband, Frank, are the co-founders of the Dalton Bacco Living the Dream organization. In July 2021, the Baccos were presented with the Philanthropist of the Year award by the Statewide Adoption Network. In January 2022, they received an award from the Shaler Area Rotary Club, and, in February 2022, they were chosen by 100 Women of Cranberry to receive its quarterly award. The Baccos also served as the keynote speakers for the 16th Annual UPMC Conference on Child Maltreatment in April 2022. Additionally, the Baccos were featured in the Tribune-Review and on KDKA for their efforts.

•High school social studies teacher **Diana Sayre-Dolan** was recognized with the 2022 Social Justice Award by the Middle States Council for the Social Studies, presented to a teacher who demonstrates leadership in advocating for all students.

•Elementary teacher **Dr. Alison Francis** was named a finalist for the Innovation in Education Award: Innovative Educator. The award honors teachers and administrators who have shown innovation in their delivery of instruction and leadership. Dr. Francis was nominated by a Fairview Elementary School parent. The finalists were recognized at the 2022 Three Rivers Educational Technology Conference. The award was sponsored by the Pittsburgh Technology Council.



•Fox Chapel Area High School multimedia teacher **Ryan Devlin** was named a winner of the US 2021 Promethean Classroom Stories Competition. For sharing his inspirational classroom story, he received a 75" ActivPanel Titanium interactive panel, a mobile stand, and a Promethean Chromebox.

•Several high school teachers were chosen as readers for the Advanced Placement (AP) Exams for the College Board. English teacher **Daniel Kirk** served as a reader for the AP English exam, social studies teacher **Jennifer Klein** was an AP U.S. Government and Politics exam reader, social studies teacher **Eric Norberg** was a reader for the AP U.S. History exam, and social studies teacher **Brandon Rios** served as a reader for the AP World History exam.

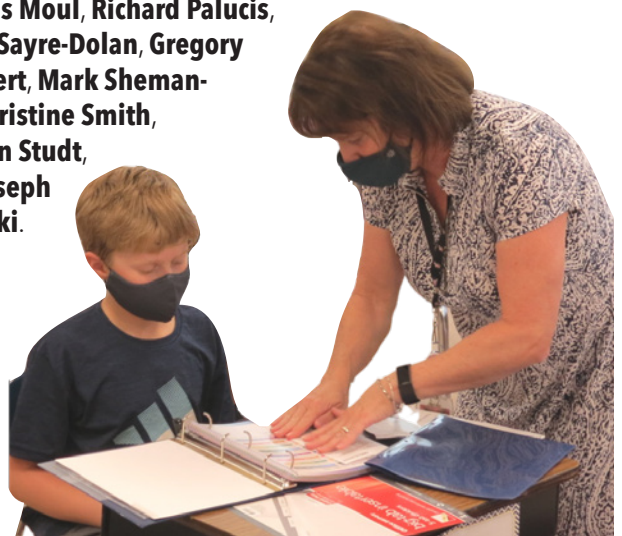
•Fox Chapel Area High School social studies teacher **Jennifer Klein** was asked to serve on the Teacher Advisory Council for the National Constitution Center. The council supports the center by sharing best practices for teaching constitutional and civic topics, and advises the center on programs and resources that would best support classroom instruction on constitutional fundamentals. Additionally, Mrs. Klein was selected through a competitive process for a professional development opportunity, the 2022 Summer Educator Institute.

•Fox Chapel Area High School librarian Dr. **Laura Ward** contributed to an article for Knowledge Quest, a journal of the American Association of School Librarians. She was also interviewed statewide about the rise in book challenges in school libraries across the state. In the fall of 2021, Dr. Ward completed training through the American Library Association that culminated in creating a new strategic plan for the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association.



•Fox Chapel Area High School math teacher **Kristine Yacamelli** was recognized by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Each year, students admitted to MIT are asked to submit the name of a teacher who has been especially influential in their development. Mrs. Yacamelli was nominated by 2021 graduate Vivian Shao.

•The following employees attained 25 years of service with the district during the 2021-2022 school year: Fairview Elementary School – **Jerry Susi**; Kerr Elementary School – **Christine Ehman** and **Traci Santoro**; O'Hara Elementary School – **Karen Fornari** and **Robert Klinge Jr.**; Dorseyville Middle School – **Albert Walker**; and Fox Chapel Area High School – **Daniel Kirk, Suzanne Miller, Thomas Moul, Richard Palucis, Diana Sayre-Dolan, Gregory Schubert, Mark Shemanski, Christine Smith, Carolyn Studdt, and Joseph Wysocki.**





FINE ARTS & MUSIC RECOGNITIONS

•Thirty-four students won awards in the Pittsburgh Region of the Scholastic Art Awards 2022. Senior **Emily Hook** won a Gold Key for her art portfolio. Emily also won two other Gold Keys and was selected as an American Visions nominee for her piece, "Night in the City" (above). The other Gold Key winners were seniors **Benjamin Shelestak**, **Noah Snider**, and **Mira Tramontina**; juniors **Eleanor Fox**, **Mikhail Ion**, **Jonathan Li**, and **Katelynn Rothwell**; sophomores **Hailey Anderson**, **Nicholas Goodman**, and **Emma Kim**; and eighth-graders **Nora Kelley** and **Elyse Ritchie**. The Gold Key winners qualified for the national competition.



•Eleven Fox Chapel Area High School students won awards for their submissions in the 2022 Pittsburgh Region Scholastic Writing Awards. Winning Gold Keys were senior **Anna Ferris** and junior **Helia Hamidi**.

•Seven Fox Chapel Area High School students were selected by audition to perform with the prestigious 2022 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) All-State Orchestra, Concert Band, and Chorus: seniors **Gabrielle Bell**, **Simeon Owens**, and **Samuel Slember**; juniors **Elijah Conklin** and **Lawrence Liu**; and sophomores **Chloe Kim** and **Micah Shelley**. Additionally, Samuel was selected as the principal bass, first chair of three separate honors orchestras.

•Eighth-grader **Alana Calig** was selected to perform with the 2022 PMEA District 1 Junior High Chorus.

•The Dorseyville Middle School Girls Chamber Chorus and the DMS FoxTones performed both separately and together as the DMS Com-



bined Honor Choirs at the High Note Festival adjudication. All three groups earned the highest rating of "Superior." Additionally, the DMS Philharmonic and Sinfonia orchestras were also rated "Superior" at the festival.

•The high school marching band placed first in its division at a Pennsylvania Interscholastic Marching Band Association competition. The band also received awards for Music and General Effect.

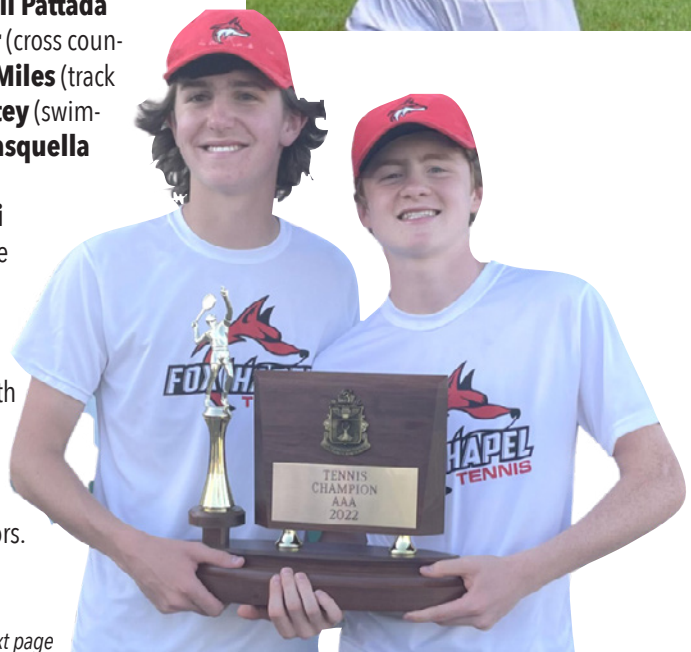


2021-2022

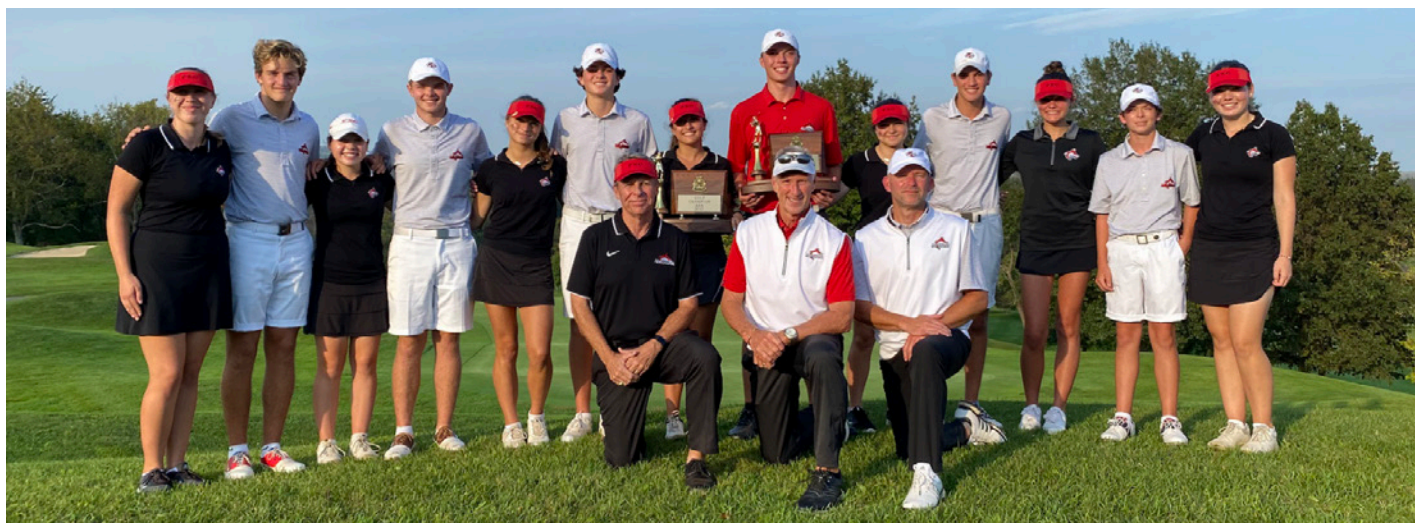


ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- A total of 901 Fox Chapel Area High School students and 480 Dorseyville Middle School students participated on athletic teams.
- WPIAL championship teams were boys basketball (first time since 1977), boys and girls golf, and boys tennis.
- The boys golf team were the runners-up, and the girls golf team placed third in the PIAA Class 3A team championships.
- The boys basketball team, boys cross country team, boys and girls golf teams, boys and girls swimming and diving teams, and the boys tennis team qualified for states.
- Individual state qualifiers were seniors **Nina Busch** (golf), **David Dering** (swimming), **Ariana Pasquella** (swimming), **Nathaniel Ross** (swimming), **Holden Smith** (swimming), **Rei Sperry** (swimming), and **Eli Yofan** (golf); juniors **Talia Bugel** (swimming), **Emmanuel Drappatz** (swimming), **Payton O'Toole** (swimming), **Aadil Pattada** (swimming), and **Sophie Shao** (swimming); sophomores **Laura Carter** (cross country), **Clara Kelley** (cross country), **Peter Manelis** (swimming), **Mason Miles** (track and field), and **Gloria Wen** (swimming); and freshmen **Christian Dantey** (swimming), **Jackson Hagler** (diving), **Owen Howell** (swimming), **Sarah Pasquella** (swimming), and **Margaret Rusche** (swimming).
- The 200 medley relay swim team of seniors **Ariana Pasquella** and **Rei Sperry**, and juniors **Talia Bugel** and **Sophie Shao** placed second in the state. Additionally, Sophie finished second in the state in the 100 butterfly, and third in the state in the 200 individual medley.
- The boys cross country team, boys and girls golf teams, boys and girls swimming and diving teams, and girls tennis team won their sections with perfect section records. Additionally, the boys basketball and softball teams also won their section championships.
- All high school teams had an average 3.9 QPA. Girls tennis earned a 4.45 team QPA, and boys soccer earned a 4.03 team QPA to win top honors.



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ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Fox Chapel Area High School seniors **David Dering** and **Lydia Turnquist** were named 2022 All-American Athlete Strength and Conditioning Athlete of the Year Award winners in swimming.

- The Fox Chapel Area High School girls 200 medley relay team of seniors **Ariana Pasquella** and **Rei Sperry** and juniors **Talia Bugel** and **Sophie Shao** received All-America honors through the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association.

- Senior **Eli Yofan** was named to the Pennsylvania Sports Writers 2021-2022 Class 6A all-state boys basketball second team. Eli was also selected as the 2021-2022 Tribune-Review High School Sports Network Boys Athlete of the Year; named to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Fab 5 boys basketball team; picked as the Post-Gazette WPIAL Class 6A Player of the Year; named a KDKA Radio 2021-2022 Super 7 Basketball Award winner in Class 6A; and selected for the Tribune-Review Terrific 10 boys basketball all-stars.

- Senior **Russell Fenton** was the recipient of a 31st Annual WPIAL James Collins Scholar/Athlete Award.

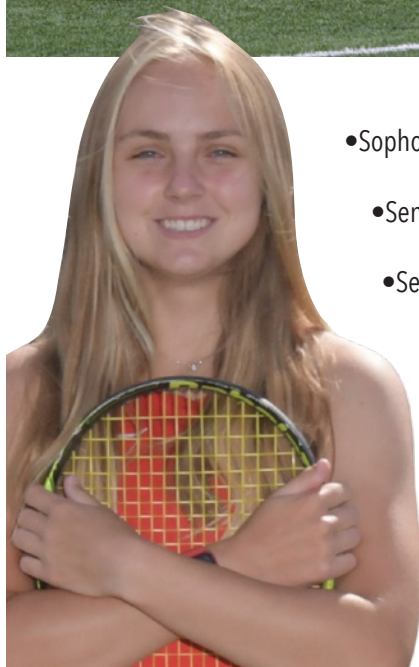
- Sophomore **David Fuhrer** won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 8 individual golf title.

- Senior **Jack Lorence** placed first at the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 cross country championships.

- Senior **Carissa Shepard** won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 3 tennis singles title.

- Five swimmers won first place at the WPIAL Class 3A swimming championships. Junior **Sophie Shao** won a gold medal in the 100 butterfly and set a WPIAL record, and she won gold in the 200 individual medley. The 200-medley relay team of seniors **Ariana Pasquella** and **Rei Sperry**, and juniors **Talia Bugel** and **Sophie Shao**, and the 400-freestyle relay team of Ariana, Rei, Sophie, and junior **Payton O'Toole** won gold medals.

- The Fox Chapel Area High School club ice hockey team won the Varsity Class A Northeast Division of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League and qualified for the Penguins Cup playoffs.





•Fox Chapel Area High School senior **David Dering** was picked to attend the USA Swimming National Diversity Select Camp. Only 52 student-athletes from across the nation were chosen to participate.

•Four Fox Chapel Area High School wrestlers were named to the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Association All-Academic Team. Sophomore **Alexander Kaufmann** was named to the first team, and senior **Raymond Worsen** and junior **Trevor Katz** were named to the second team. Sophomore **Joshua Alexander** received an honorable mention to the team.

•Sophomore **Anna Troutman** qualified for the Pennsylvania Track & Field Coaches Association indoor state championship meet in the 60m hurdles and the high jump.

•Fox Chapel Area High School junior lacrosse player **Lindsay Scheffler** was named a USA Lacrosse All-Academic honoree.



•Senior **JP Dockey** was named the MVP for the Class 6A gold team, and senior **Russell Fenton** was chosen as the MVP for the Class 6A silver team of the Roundball Classic.

•Junior **Makayla Mulholland** was named to the All-WPIAL girls soccer team.

•Junior **Anna Drum** was named to the all-WPIAL field hockey all-star team.

•Seniors **Sean Ahia** and **Ashton Schutzman**, and juniors **George Tabor** and **Colin West-erberg** were named to the All-WPIAL soccer team.



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ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

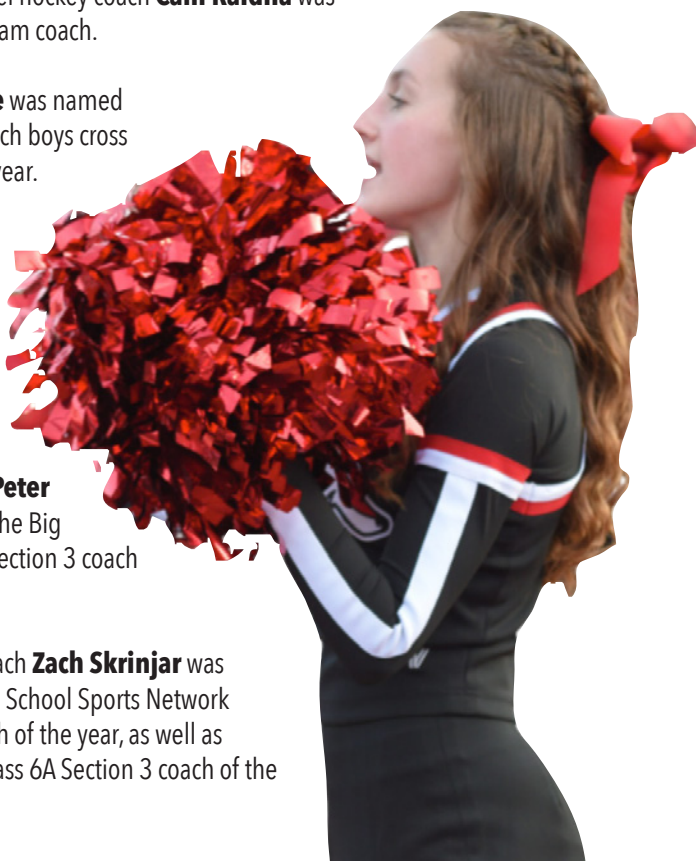
•Seniors **Thomas Healy** and **Nash Wedner**, and juniors **Daniel Downey** and **Mason Heininger** were named to Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League all-star teams. Additionally, Fox Chapel hockey coach **Cam Raidna** was chosen as an all-star team coach.

•Senior **Jack Lorence** was named the Valley News Dispatch boys cross country runner of the year.

•Football coach **Tom Loughran** was named the Big 56 WPIAL Class 5A Section 3 coach of the year.

•Girls soccer coach **Peter Torres** was named the Big 56 WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 coach of the year.

•Boys basketball coach **Zach Skrinjar** was named the Trib High School Sports Network WPIAL Class 6A coach of the year, as well as the Big 56 WPIAL Class 6A Section 3 coach of the year.



CLASS OF 2022 COLLEGE CHOICES

Allegheny College • American University • Appalachian State University • Belmont University • Berklee College of Music • Boston University • Brown University • Bucknell University • Carlow University • Carnegie Mellon University • Case Western Reserve University • Catholic University of America • Chatham University • Clarion University • Clemson University • Cleveland Institute of Art • College of Charleston • Community College of Allegheny County • Concordia University • Cornell University • DePauw University • Dickinson College • Drexel University • Duquesne University • Eastern Kentucky University • Eastern Michigan University • Edinboro University • Emerson College • Endicott College • Florida Atlantic University • Florida State University • Fordham University • Franciscan University of Steubenville • Gannon University • George Mason University • George Washington University • Georgia Institute of Technology • Grove City College • Hamilton College • Heidelberg University • Howard University • Indiana University • Indiana University of Pennsylvania • John Carroll University • Kent State University • La Roche University • Lebanon Valley College • Lehigh University • Loyola Marymount University • Loyola University Chicago • Loyola University Maryland • Maryland Institute College of Art • Miami University • New York University • North Carolina State University • Northeastern University • Northwestern University • Ohio University • Pace University • Pennsylvania College of Technology • Penn State University Park • Penn State Altoona • Penn State Beaver • Penn State Behrend • Penn State New Kensington • Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics • Pittsburgh Technical College • Point Park University • Princeton University • Rhode Island School of Design • Ringling College of Art and Design • Robert Morris University • Rochester Institute of Technology • Saint Francis University • Saint Joseph's University • Saint Louis University • Saint Vincent College • Santa Clara University • Seton Hill University • Slippery Rock University • St. Bonaventure University • St. Lawrence University • St. Olaf College • Stanford University • Syracuse University • Temple University • The College of New Jersey • Thiel College • Union College • University of Alabama • University of Cincinnati • University of Colorado Boulder • University of Colorado Denver • University of Florida • University of Georgia • University of Kentucky • University of Massachusetts Amherst • University of Miami • University of Michigan • University of Pittsburgh • University of Pittsburgh at Bradford • University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg • University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown • University of Rochester • University of South Carolina • University of Tennessee • University of Valley Forge • University of Vermont • University of Virginia • University of Washington • University of Wisconsin • UPMC Mercy Hospital School of Nursing • Vanderbilt University • Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University • Washington & Jefferson College • Waynesburg University • West Virginia University • Westminster College • Wittenberg University

FOX CHAPEL AREA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2022

On June 5, 2022, a total of 330 seniors became the 61st class to graduate from Fox Chapel Area High School. Of these, 97 students had a 4.0 weighted QPA or above. Approximately 82% of the Class of 2022 are continuing their education, and 52% are enrolled in schools outside of Pennsylvania. The graduates continued the tradition of being accepted to the top colleges and universities across the nation.



Fox Chapel Area
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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