

# BISON BULLETIN

Fenton Community High School - District 100  
630-766-2500 [www.fenton100.org](http://www.fenton100.org)  
Family Newsletter - December 2015 - Volume 13, Issue 5

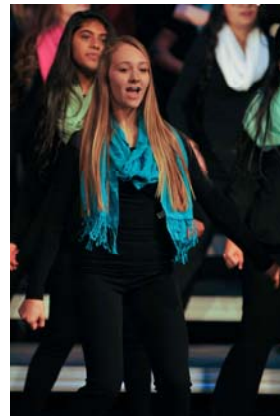
## Celebrate the Season with Fenton Concerts, December 10 & 17



The Fenton High School Music Department will host a Holiday Band Concert on December 10 and a Holiday Choir Concert on December 17 in the Lewis-Huffman Auditorium at Fenton. Both concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. Concerts are free and open to the public.

## BISON BULLETIN

Celebrate the Season with FHS Concerts,  
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# A Note from the Principal



Happy December!

It's hard to believe that we are in the holiday season, and I would like to wish a very happy holiday (and belated Happy Thanksgiving) to all our Fenton families.

The holiday season is the time of year where we reflect on our blessings. Life is filled with many surprises and challenges, this is the time of year we are grateful for the people in our lives who love and support us. I am personally thankful for my family, our students, staff and parents. I want to thank our students and staff who have been supportive and patient with the construction and all the curve balls it has thrown at us. Construction will end in January so there is light at the end of the tunnel. You are amazing.

In addition to our students and staff, I want to thank our Board of Education, Superintendent Pierce, building administrators and department chairs for all of their hard work. You put in so many hours behind the scenes to make sure our school is safe, positive and a school that we can all be proud of.

Let's continue to stay united, and love and support each other.

I wish all of the best to each and every member of our school family.

Happy Holidays!

James Ongtengco  
Principal

## **Dr. Kathie Pierce Receives DuPage Region Superintendent of Distinction Award**

The Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) recognizes the outstanding performance of school superintendents in each of its 21 regions. The "Superintendents of Distinction" are selected by their peers in their region based on the criteria established by the AASA for its national Superintendent of the Year program. Those general criteria include "Leadership for Learning, Communication, Professionalism and Community Involvement."



## **Northern Illinois Mobile Food Pantry**

*Sponsored by the Fenton High School Student Council*

**December 15**

**4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (or until supplies last)**

**Fenton High School Auditorium**

*All families in need are invited to attend and receive a box of nutritious food.*



## **DEANS CORNER** *How to Get Along Without Fighting - Mrs. Pomahac*

Getting along with others and dealing with feelings is something that teens learn through maturity. Often times, feelings get in the way and as a result, teens lose control or lash out verbally or physically. Why? Emotions and feelings can control our thoughts and actions. Teens don't always know how to cope with their feelings so they resort to aggressive behavior. The feelings that usually surface after a physical altercation are hurt feelings, anger and/or jealousy. All too often, the aggressor will say how angry or hurt they were that such and such happened or such and such was said about them. Instead of confronting the person in a mature way, they often resort to threatening, bullying or hurtful behavior.

Social media does not help matters. Teens will use social media forums like Facebook and Twitter to express their dislike of others. Others will often chime in taking sides and stirring the pot. Once students get to school, they are faced with seeing the person and often don't know how to manage how they feel. Throw in a few friends saying things to encourage them to fight, and there you have it! How do you back down? How do you take the high road and talk to them?

Teens need to understand that disputes are not solved this way in the real world. Resorting to fighting and bullying or intimidating the other is harmful and pointless. Often after an incident has occurred, teens will say they were hurt by the other or that they used to be friends. Why not communicate this in person? WE need to treat each other with respect and dignity. Not everyone will like one another but we have to maintain self-control and be able to solve our disputes with words, not fists. This is a skill we need throughout our lives. If a student is feeling controlled by their feelings, seek out support. Go to your counselor or one of our two social workers in the building. Talking it through can really help!

## Guidance Department News

### Course Selection for the 2016 - 2017 School Year

During the week of December 14, counselors will provide information during Bison Time assemblies to all current Fenton students regarding course selection for the 2016 -17 school year. In the weeks following these assemblies, students will choose their courses and counselors will meet individually with students to finalize their selections. Parents with questions about the course selection process should contact their student's counselor.

### College Corner

#### The College Visit - *Mrs. Georgakis, College & Career Counselor*

You can look at beautiful campus brochures, research everything about a major on a school's website, and even take a virtual tour of the newest dorm, but there is nothing like visiting a college in person to help a student and family know that school is the right fit. Often students wait until their senior year to visit colleges, and if a student has not yet visited a school the fall of their senior year is a perfect time to do so. However, it is helpful for students to visit schools during their junior year and the summer between junior and senior year. This helps students to form the list of schools they want to apply to by finding factors that are important to them. A common example of this would be school size. Often students tell me, "Ms. Georgakis, I have to go to a big school, I cannot go to a school the size of Fenton." After the visit, it's often a different story. When the student stood in the giant lecture hall it may have felt too large and isn't how they pictured learning. It's so much easier for students to see these things realized in person than to imagine them in their head.

We are so lucky to be in the Chicagoland area and have hundreds of colleges within driving distance. If a student is interested in a school that you can drive back and forth to within a day, it would be great if they could visit it before the start of their senior year. Weekends, spring break, summer break, Columbus Day, MLK Day and Presidents Day along with Fenton Teacher Institute Days are great times to visit a campus. If any of those times don't work, junior and senior students are allowed three college visit days.

There is a form to fill out for this that can be requested through the College and Career Center at Fenton or the student's counselor. For schools that require a flight and thus more money to visit, it's okay to wait to visit until after a student has been admitted if need be. In these cases it's great to attend the evening programs many colleges and universities offer at local hotels or high schools. We also offer college field trips through the College and Career Center for all grade levels. If a student were to sign up for each trip they would have the chance to visit six colleges by the time they graduate! While we encourage students to visit with us, we want to make sure that they still visit with their family as the family's ideas and input are vital to the college search and application process.

Some colleges, especially more selective schools, will look at whether or not a student has visited their campus as a factor in the admissions process. This shows a school demonstrated interest, and that the student is not applying just on a whim. While this is never the most important factor and will never trump a student's grades and course history, it is a factor that some schools consider. Schools want to admit students that want to go to their college. Visiting is a great way to show a school you are highly interested.

The best way to schedule a visit with a college is through their admission's website or by calling their admission's office. If you need any help doing this, please let me know, I am more than happy to help with this process!

If you have a question or topic you'd like to hear about in the next College Corner please email [georgakis@fenton100.org](mailto:georgakis@fenton100.org) and it may featured in the next Bison Bulletin!

~Ms. Georgakis

#### Upcoming College Visits

12/10 College of DuPage  
8:00 a.m.

12/14 Northern Illinois University  
TBA

#### College Financial Aid Workshops

12/15 Pre-FAFSA with ISAC  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

### Final Exam Information

Due to the late start of the school year, final exams will be taken after winter break on January 19, 20 and 21. Final exam details will be included in the January Bison Bulletin.

## Facilities Update

The construction project that began at Fenton High School on June 1 is scheduled to be complete in January when the new main entrance, student cafeteria, ChromeZone and six additional classrooms open.

The planning began in May of 2013 when Fenton hired Wight & Company to examine the current facility and the potential for the future. A Facilities Committee, comprised of Fenton staff and administrators, District 100 Board of Education members, parents, students and community members, formed to research, set goals and develop a long-range building renovation plan.

It has been an intense three months as a regular school day was met with ongoing construction. Eating lunch in the Fenton Field House and navigating the building has been difficult at times especially for those who need to get from one end of the campus to the other between passes periods. Temperature control within the building has also been a challenge. But in true Fenton spirit, students and staff members continue to work and learn alongside each other during the process knowing the end result will be a tremendous benefit to all.

November was an exciting time as true progress was witnessed every day. Outside, pavers are in place and landscaping is complete. Internally, ceiling grids, dry wall and a temporary wall has been removed. A community open house is being planned in 2016 to allow everyone to see the new Fenton campus. Details will be posted to the Fenton website when they are confirmed.



*Demolition to make way for the new main entrance began in the summer and continued through October.*



*Fenton's new main entrance in late October. Steel work started and plans for pavers implemented.*



*Fenton's new main entrance on November 16, 2015. The entrance will officially open in January, 2016*

# December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Save the Date</b> Tri-M Music Honor Society Fundraiser December 15 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Panera at 108 West North Ave, Elmhurst		<b>1</b> <b>2:00 pm Dismissal</b>  BBB A Reavis S 5:30 BBB A Reavis V 7:00 GBB H St. Edwards FA 4:30 GBB H St. Edwards JV 6:00 GBB H St. Edwards V 7:30 GBOWL H DGS JV/V 4:30 SO H OPRF V 6:00	<b>2</b>  BBB H Reavis FA 5:00 BBB H Reavis FB 6:15	<b>3</b> <i>First Semester Community Service Deadline for National Honor Society Students</i>  GBOWL H Hinsdale S JVV 4:00  Padres Unidos Meeting 7:00 p.m	<b>4</b> <b>Orange and Blue Day</b>  BBB H Hubbard S 5:30 BBB H Hubbard V 7:00 GBB H Reavis FA 4:30 GBB H GBS JV 6:00 GBB H GBS V 7:30 BSWIM A Elgin JV/V 5:00 GSWIM A Wheeling V 6:30	<b>5</b> Wood Dale Tree Lighting / Swing Choir Performance  CHEER A Reed Invite JV TBA DANCE A Eisenhower V 7am BBOWL A Vernon Hills V 11am GBOWL A Palatine JV/V 9am WREST A Geneva F/S 9am WREST H Weiss Invite V 9am GBB A Wheaton FA 4:30pm GBB A Wheaton JV 6:00pm GBB A Wheaton V 7:30pm
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Hour of Code -See page 5 for details	<b>8</b> <b>2:00 pm Dismissal</b>  Hour of Code -See page 5 for details  GBB H R-B FA 4:30 GBB H R-B JV 6:00 GBB H R-B V 7:30 BBOWL H Taft JV / V 4:30 BSWIM A IMSA JV / V 5:00 SO A R-B V 5:30	<b>9</b>  Hour of Code -See page 5 for details  WREST A Aurora Catholic JVV 5:30  Music Boosters 7:30 p.m.	<b>10</b>  Hour of Code -See page 5 for details  GBB FA IC Catholic FA 4:30 GBB A IC Catholic JV 6:00 GBB A IC Catholic V 7:30 BBOWL H Hinsdale S JVV 4:30 GGYM A Maine East F/JVV 5:30 Holiday Band Concert 7:00 p.m.	<b>11</b> <b>Orange and Blue Day</b> Hour of Code -See page 5 for details  BBB A GBS S 5:30 BBB A GBS V 7:00 SO H York 6:30  <b>PACK THE PLACE</b> <b>Special Olympics Basketball Game &amp; Fundraiser</b> <b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>12</b> CHEER A Lincoln Way V TBA DANCE A Oswego JV/V 7am BBB A GBS FA 9am BBB A GBS FB 10:30 BBB H GBS S 10:30am BBB H GBS JV 9am GBOWL A Plainfield N V 9am WREST A Thornton JV 9am WREST A Rolling Meadows F 9am WREST A Sterling V 9:30am GGYM A Hersey V 1pm BSWIM A Plainfield S JVV 1pm
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  BBOWL A Larkin JV/V 4:30 GBB A Ridgewood FA 5:30 GBB A Ridgewood JV 5:30 GBB A Ridgewood V 7:00	<b>15</b> <b>2:00 pm Dismissal</b> GBOWL H DGB JV/V 4:00 BBOWL H IC Catholic F 4:30 BSWIM H Morris JV/V 5:00 BBB H IC Catholic S 6:00 BBB H IC Catholic V 7:30 GBB A Lisle FA 6:00  <b>Northern Illinois Mobile Food Pantry</b> <b>4:30 - 6:30 Fenton</b>	<b>16</b>  GBOWL H Southland JV/V 4:30 SO A Addison Trail V 4:30 BBB A R-B FA 5:00 BBB A R-B FB 6:15 GGYM A Niles North F/JVV 5:30	<b>17</b>  Holiday Choir Concert 7:00 p.m.	<b>18</b> <b>Orange and Blue Day</b>  WREST A Hinsdale S V 4:30 BBB A R-B S 5:30 BBB A R-B V 7:00 GGYM A Niles West V 6:00	<b>19</b> GBB A Northside Prep V TBA CHEER A Rolling Meadows V 6am WREST A Larkin F 9am WREST A Hinsdale C V 9:30am WREST A Maine East JV 7am GBB A Lisle FA 9am GBOWL A Lockport JV/V 9am GGYM A Addison Trail V 11am BSWIM A Leyden W V 11am BBOWL A Freeport V 12pm
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  GBB A Northside Prep S TBA	<b>22</b>  BBB A Plano S TBA GBB A Northside Prep S TBA WREST A Sandwich JV 9:00 am	<b>23</b>  BBB A Plano S TBA BBB A Plano V TBA GBB A Northside Prep V TBA GGYM A Maine East V 5:30 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  BBB A Plano S TBA BBB A Plano V TBA
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  BBB A Plano S TBA BBB A Plano V TBA GBB A Northside Prep S TBA	<b>29</b>  BBB A Plano S TBA BBB A Plano V TBA GBB A Northside Prep V TBA WREST A Rolling Meadows JV 9am WREST A Rolling Meadows V 9am	<b>30</b>  BBB A Plano S TBA BBB A Plano V TBA GBB A Northside Prep S TBA	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	

## Hour of Code is Coming to Fenton, December 7 - 11 |

Fenton High School will join millions of students in over 180 countries and host its second annual Hour of Code from December 7 - 11. Students will receive an email during Bison Time to sign up for sessions. Please see Mr. Berago in the ARC for more information.

Morning Session: 7:00 - 7:55am  
 Afternoon Session: 3:30 - 4:30pm  
 Location: Academic Resource Center

### What is the Hour of Code?

The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and demonstrate that anybody can learn the basics.

### Why computer science?

Every student should have the opportunity to learn computer science. It helps nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation for success in any 21st-century career path. Please visit [code.org](http://code.org) for more information.

#### Guest Speakers

##### Rohini Pandhi

*Senior Product Manager at PubNub.com*  
 Description: Works at a tech startup in San Francisco where they build coding tools and infrastructure for developers. Started her career in Computer Engineering.

##### Bheeshmar Redheendran

*Senior Software Developer at Bloomfire, Inc*

Description: Write codes in Ruby and Shell scripts to ensure web applications are functional, create new features and maintain server functionality.

##### Sumit Gupta

*Certified Technology Officer*  
 Description: A company co-founder in charge of determining/building technical infrastructure to service their business.

##### Matt Cushing

##### *Application Architect*

Description: Write code to create single-threaded or user interface event driven applications, either stand-alone and those which access servers or services. Use source debuggers and visual development environments. Write, modify, and debug software for client applications. Test and document software for client applications.

## Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Parent Connection

During the month of December, Fenton's SEL program will focus on respecting diversity and preventing discrimination. Students will receive information designed to prevent bullying and discrimination related to issues of diversity. Here are some expert tips to encourage cultural understanding and acceptance at home. For more information, please see the following website: <http://www.pbs.org/parents/experts/archive/2009/02/teaching-children-about-divers.html>

- **Examine your own prejudices and attitudes.** Children quickly pick up on and replicate their parents' attitudes on important issues such as cultural diversity. According to diversity expert Dr. Christopher Metzler from Georgetown University, "If we are to teach our children to make decisions that are not based on stereotypes, then we must do the same."
- **Explore cultural diversity at home and in the community.** Talking about diversity, stereotyping and discrimination are important. Participating in culturally diverse activities expands the discussion to the level of action. Exposing teens to a wide range of diversity helps reduce prejudice and broadens horizons.
- **Listen and respond to their cultural experiences.** Children encounter a variety of individuals of difference cultural backgrounds at school and in their communities. Identifying experiences of discrimination or prejudice children have experienced or participated in is the first step in correcting attitudes and mediating problem situations.

## Fenton Student Council Hosts Blood Drive

On Tuesday, November 10, the Fenton Student Council held their annual blood drive to benefit Heartland Blood Centers. The event was held in the main gym with a total of 55 donations made.



## Fall Athletic Seasons Ends with Recognition

### 2015 Fall

#### All-Academic Athletes -

*Varsity Athletes with a 3.5 GPA*

#### Boys Cross Country

Jeremy Falconer  
Samuel Hernandez  
William Osorio

#### Football

Anthony Cantarelli  
Ryan Karich  
John Mason  
Ivan Rodriguez

#### Cheerleading

Charity Bullis  
Faith Bullis  
Nicole Diaz  
Melanie Garcia  
Natalie Saez  
Marisa Santore  
Ricardo Torres Gomez  
Yahira Valdeolivar

#### Girls Cross Country

Charity Bullis  
Rebecca Garcia  
Jessica McCauley  
Jacqueline Ponce  
Catherine Tilleson

#### Girls Swimming

Cassidy Feddersen  
Agnieszka Gasior  
Janah Hori  
Izabella Jablonska  
Emily Jarecki  
Jasmin Kon

#### Girls Tennis

Heena Amin  
Caitlin Exconde  
Julia Gainski  
Margaret Jalowiec  
Julia Jarmolinski  
Abril Rojas  
Rucha Shatri

#### Girls Volleyball

Jessica Bango  
Carli Benn  
Emelia Burris  
Katherine Cervantes  
Paulina Milanowski  
Magdalena Rusiecka  
Natalie Skop  
Isabella Wielga

### 2015 Fall

#### All-Conference Athletes

*Criteria is based on MSC bylaws and varies by sport based on team's conference finish*

#### Boys Cross Country

Samuel Hernandez  
Cristian Hernandez  
Jose Vazquez-Perez

#### Football

Dylan Butts  
Eric Lonergan

#### Boys Soccer

Juan Ayala  
Angel Barriga  
Paul Plizga  
Jakub Slomkowski

#### Girls Volleyball

Emelia Burris

#### Chicago Fire Boys Soccer All-State All-Academic 2nd team

Andrew Lake

#### IHSSCA Section 2 All-Sectional Soccer

Angel Barriga

#### Daily Herald DuPage County All-Area Soccer

Angel Barriga



### Cross Country

Fenton High School is proud to announce the following members of the boys and girls cross country teams qualified to compete at the IHSA Class 2A state finals in Peoria on November 7.

Pictured from right: Cristian Sanchez, Jessica McCauley, Sam Hernandez, Marisol Garcia and Jose Vasquez-Perez.

Jose Vasquez-Perez is the conference, regional and sectional Class 2A boys cross country champion.

### Girls Swim and Dive

The Girls Swim & Dive Team competed at the MSC conference swim meet at Oswego East on Saturday, October 31. Congratulations to Kanah Hori on placing fifth in the 50 free and Cassidy Feddersen on placing second in diving, The coaches gave a shout out to the entire team for dropping time at the meet!



## Art and Music Department

On Tuesday, November 17, the Wood Dale Library Art Show winners were announced during an evening reception at the library. Congratulations to the following Fenton art students:

### 2D

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Hanna Matuszewski
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Yvette Robles
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Dharma Bruce

### 2D Art

- 1st place - Monse Estrada
- 2nd place - Serena Napolitano
- 3rd place - Carlos Zuniga

### AP Art

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Ava-Clare Steed
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Mary Boomer
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Katie McElroy

### Ceramics

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Emily Patterson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Ripal Shah
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Jessica Bango

### Computer Art

- 1st place - Angelica Cardona Lopez
- 2nd place - Mary Boomer
- 3rd place - Dale Perry

### Drawing

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Edward Hodges
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – April Carter
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Kacper Malysa

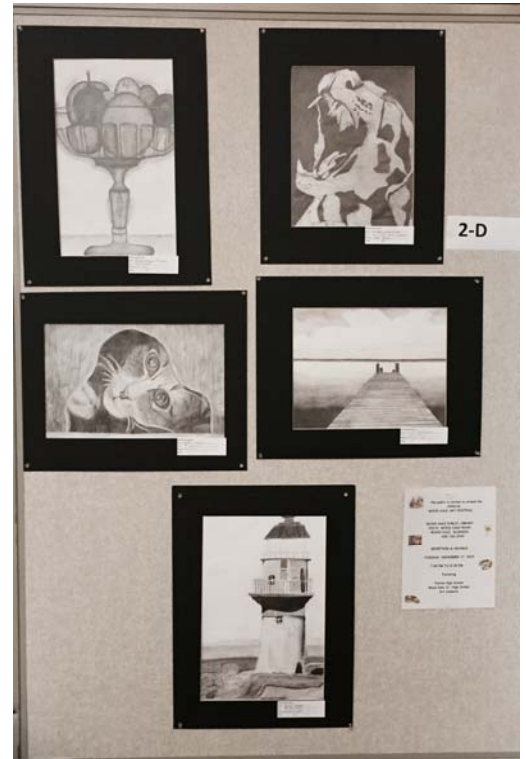
### Painting

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Maggie Rusiecka
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Jayce Bowers
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Lori Caballero

### Whole Portrait

#### Honorable Mention

- Cindy Cortez
- Gabe Flores
- Garrett Focht
- Emily Hernandez
- Agata Kukieklo
- Chris Kvistad
- Belem Oseguera
- Alex Sanchez
- Calvin Sanchez



## Speech Team Starts Competitive Season

The Fenton Speech Team competed at the Wheaton North Tournament on Saturday, November 14 along with over 650 entries. Congratulations to the following team members who placed in their events: Anne Gonzales, seventh place / Informative Speaking; Alex Krynski, fifth place / Informative Speaking; Spencer Franke, second place / Original Comedy and fourth place / Dramatic Interpretation and Ripal Shah, seventh place / Special Occasion Speaking. On November 7 the team competed at Downers Grove North where Chelsea Cabanada placed third in Original Oratory and Spencer Franke placed fourth in Original Comedy. Novice team member Alex Krynski placed first in Informative Speaking and fifth in Radio Speaking. Joy Bullis placed seventh in Original Oratory.

## Musicians Recognized by Illinois Music Educators Association

The Illinois Music Educators Association announced the students selected to participate in the IMEA District 1 Concert Festival. This honor, based on an audition, is awarded to the most accomplished music students in the District 1 area. Fenton High School is proud to announce the following students were selected based on their audition this fall:

### IMEA Band

Danielle Ferbrache (French Horn), Alex Krynski (Saxophone), Jacob Trzeciak (Trumpet), Spencer Franke (Bassoon) and Samantha Ward (Flute)

### IMEA Chorus

Jacob Trzeciak and Melanie Subach

