

April 1, 2019

Happy Monday, Yellow Jacket Universe,

Sometimes there is just so much to celebrate at our school it's tough to know where to begin.

Our school doesn't just boast a multiple Emmy award winning television program, we now have a two-time national championship broadcasting team. This past week members of The Buzz traveled to the National Student Television Broadcast & Film Competition in Seattle, Washington. Our amazing team of broadcast journalists were judged on prior submissions demonstrating their skill, and they also took part in live competitions testing their skills under pressure. Our students returned home with one 4<sup>th</sup> place, one 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and three 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes. The pièce de résistance was winning the distinction of Best Weekly High School Broadcast in the nation for the second time in school history. This is a huge accomplishment for our students, and we are very proud of our students, teacher, and program.



We all know that our school's marching band is one of the very best in the country, but you may not be aware that our students excel in concert performance as well. Earlier this month 18 students represented Fort Mill High School by participating in the South Carolina All State Band. This past Thursday, March 28, all three concert ensembles—Wind Symphony 1, 2, & 3—participated in the Concert Performance Assessment. Not only did each group receive a rating of Superior—the highest rating possible—but they also received the special designation of “Superior with Distinction.” This means that each of the five judges that adjudicated their performances each individually rated them as superior, indicating an indisputably solid showing. Next the band looks to represent our school overseas when they perform at the Harrogate International Youth Festival of Music in North Yorkshire, England.



Another area in which our school has a strong legacy of excellence is the performance of our Model United Nations (Model UN) team. This group researches countries throughout the world, learns the stance of a given country on historical global policy, and engages in debate regarding proposed legislation written by the students themselves. Over the years, our school has participated in university competitions at Clemson, Duke, and Furman; however one of the largest, most competitive, and prestigious is right in our backyard at Winthrop University. Last week, our team took the top honor and brought home the coveted Winthrop Cup. The lead team from FMHS, representing the USA, won the Winthrop Cup, and several FMHS students representing both the USA and Croatia delegations won Distinguished Delegate awards for their performance in individual committees. As an alumnus of this group during my time as a student at FMHS, I understand just how exciting this achievement is for these students. We are all very proud of them.

In other exciting news, we had 62 students from Fort Mill High School qualify at the state level to go on and compete at the Business Professionals of America (BPA) National Leadership Convention this May in Anaheim, California. Our school has one of the strongest presences in the state in BPA. All but one officer on the state board for BPA are Fort Mill High School Students. These outstanding young men and women compete in a host of business competitions that cover everything from small business management to webpage design to fundamental accounting. This group continues to excel year after year, and we look forward to the great things they are set to accomplish next month.

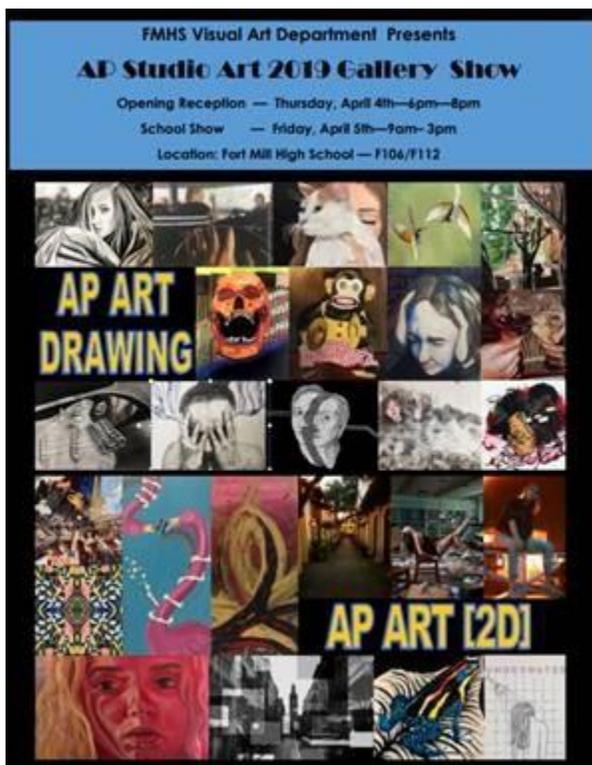


Below are several resources and items of interest that I would like to share.

Spring Musical—This week the curtain will rise on our school’s greatly anticipated spring musical *Seven Brides For Seven Brothers*. Opening night is set for April 4<sup>th</sup> and our talented students and directors cannot wait to show off what they have been working on this semester. The play runs April 4 through April 7<sup>th</sup>. The show starts at 7:00 pm April 4<sup>th</sup>-April 6<sup>th</sup> with a 3:00 pm on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. This theatrical adaptation of the 1950s film of the same name is set to be a toe-tappin’ good time. Please come out and support these talented performers.



AP Art Show— The AP Studio Art Gallery Show is a culminating exhibit of artwork that the AP Art Students have completed this year. Students create 20-24 artworks over the course of the year and develop to showcase their personal growth and artistic style. The Opening Reception on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> is from 6 – 8 pm in F106/F112 and all FMHS friends and family are welcome to attend. The Culinary Arts Classes taught by Mr. Shipston will be showcasing their artistic talents by providing light hors d'oeuvres at this reception. Please come support the work of these artists. I feel certain that you will be glad that you did.



Faculty Active Shooter Training—Last Friday, the faculty and staff of Fort Mill High School participated in active shooter training under the direction of the Fort Mill Police Department, Defender Security, and FMSD School Safety Personnel. Our training included potential responses to armed intruders, exposure to the discharge of firearms to help identify the approximate distance and immediacy of a threat, and evacuating in the instance of an armed intruder. As stated last week, our goal was to educate the faculty and staff on the best

ways they can respond during an actual incident. We hope and pray that we never have to use this knowledge; however, we want to take every precaution to ensure the safety of our students.

Course Verifications and 2019-2020 Schedules—Students received course verification forms during homeroom last month and had until March 22 to return these forms to guidance. Course verification forms list the primary and alternate courses that students and families selected during the IGP process. The courses listed on your child’s verification form serve as an official request to be enrolled in that specific class. We will use these requests to generate each student’s schedule this summer. It is imperative that students and parents carefully consider all of these requests (both primary and alternate) because they will not be able to make changes after the end of school this year. Please note that we take these requests very seriously, as we spend the spring and summer months analyzing these requests to determine the number of course sections offered and in turn make staffing decisions based off of the number of sections needed.

## Important Links

[The Loudspeaker](#)—\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*This link will take you to the 6th edition of our school newspaper: The Loudspeaker.

[Guidance Newsletter](#)—\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*This link will take you to the April edition of the Guidance Newsletter.

[Faculty & Staff Directory](#)—This link will take you to a directory of teacher and staff email contacts.

[Parent Portal](#) – This is the window for students and families to access our online gradebook system. If you need a login or assistance please contact your child’s counselor.

[Athletic Information](#) –This website has links to schedules for all our athletic teams, forms, and booster club information.

[Weekly Announcements](#)—This link will take you to a list of weekly announcements about club meetings, upcoming events, important guidance information, and other activities on campus.

## Important Dates

|           |                                                                  |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 1   | FMHS Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs Weddington @ 6:00 pm              |
| April 1   | FMHS Varsity Baseball vs Clover @ 6:30 pm                        |
| April 2   | R2W Career Readiness Assessment for all third year students      |
| April 2   | College Visit or Job Shadow Day for all Seniors                  |
| April 2   | FMHS Boys Tennis vs Clover @ 5:00 pm                             |
| April 2   | FMHS JV Baseball vs Clover @ 6:00 pm                             |
| April 3   | FMHS Varsity Softball vs Marvin Ridge @ 6:00 pm                  |
| April 4   | FMHS Softball vs Nation Ford (JV @ 5:00 pm & Varsity @ 7:00 pm)  |
| April 4   | FMHS Boys Lacrosse vs Clover (JV @ 5:30 pm & Varsity @ 7:00 pm)  |
| April 4   | AP Art Show @ 6:00 pm                                            |
| April 4-6 | Seven Brides For Seven Brothers @ 7:00 pm                        |
| April 5   | FMHS Soccer vs Rock Hill (JV @ 5:30 pm & Varsity @ 7:00 pm)      |
| April 5   | FMHS Varsity Baseball vs Clover @ 6:30 pm                        |
| April 6   | FMHS JV Baseball (vs Nation Ford @ 12:00 pm & vs York @ 5:00 pm) |
| April 7   | Seven Brides For Seven Brothers @ 3:00 pm                        |

Be sure to follow us on Twitter at @MrScroggs and @fmhsnews, visit our website at <http://fmhs.fortmillschools.org/>, and like us on Facebook at We Are FORT MILL.

Go Jackets!

Gales

Gales Scroggs  
Principal  
Fort Mill High School  
215 N. Highway 21 BYP  
Fort Mill, SC 29715