

The Tower Tribune

Your School Your Voice

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DEARBORN MI, FORDSON HIGH SCHOOL

Freshman Tailgate



By: Kawther Abdallah

This year, the Freshmen Tailgate was held outside in the student parking lot on September 27, 2012 after school. The event occurred before the freshmen football team played against the Thunderbirds. This year’s success was largely due to the preparation done beforehand by Ms. Jamieson, Mrs. Wright and the Link Crew. The Link Crew did a great job of making the event a memorable experience for all the freshmen who attended. Activities at the Tailgate included musical chairs, face painting, a crackers eating contest, limbo and football related games. Ms. Hermiz showed her incredible flexibility through playing limbo. Teachers, who assisted with the event, include Mrs. Kassem, Mrs. Koch, and many more. Mr. Hargraves was seen flipping burgers at the grill while Link Crew members provided the drinks and snacks. The Link Crew also got the chance to “link up” with their links at the event. Before heading to watch the game, the freshmen were able to win gifts from the link crew, which included Fordson towels and bottles. Overall, it was a success!

Pep Rally



On Friday, September 21st the Fordson student body and staff converged on the football field for a pep assembly during 5th and 6th hours. An enjoyable time was had by all. The pep assembly included tricycle racing, the refrigerator box relay, the tug of war, and tunes from the Fordson band. All fall sports teams were represented at the event and were acknowledged for their current efforts on the athletic field. Mr. Mosallam sang the fight song and spoke about the importance of pride, legacy, and tradition. That very same evening, the Fordson Varsity Football team defeated Dearborn High by a score of 35-0. Students and staff were excited to know that Mr. Mosallam plans on making the pep rally an annual event. The Tower Staff would like to give a special thanks to Mrs. Durfee for taking charge of the organization of the pep assembly.

SPORTS



Boys Cross Country

The Boys Varsity Cross Country Team has jumped off to a successful start this year with a record of 3-2. Coach Bruce stated, “We are improving with every race. As a team we saw a tremendous improvement in our overall 5K times. I expect those times to continue to drop as long as our team is committed to working hard in practice.” The Tractors have beaten Romulus, Inkster, and Crestwood so far this year. Top performers have been Khalil Aljahmi (17:18), Mustafa Saleh (18:54), Sahal Saleh (19:08), Mohammed Faraj (19:16), Salah Salim (20:37), Nagi Musid (20:45), and Tamar Abuhala-wah (21:30). Amir Nagi, AbbassBerjaoui, Hadi, Akhdar, Sharif Nasser, and Abdurrahman Johnson have also worked consistently to improve upon their overall times.

Girls Cross Country

By: Amal Choucair

As they run to beat out the rest, this year’s girls cross country team sure has swift feet on the track. Head coach McFadden believes all of her girls have improved. The girls also see it in themselves as they push each other to achieve better times. Some standouts include freshman runner Nour Eidy, Zahraa Zreik, and Lena Jaafer, the lone senior on the team. Many of this year’s runners have improved their times and are exceeding expectations. The team looks to finish out the home stretch of the season strong and end with a winning record. Good luck and run hard ladies!

Senior Cross Country runner Khalil Aljahmi (right) ran an impressive 17:18 for 5000 meters on Saturday, September 29th at the Falcon 5K at Ford Woods Park here in Dearborn. Khalil placed 8th overall at the meet and has hopes of breaking 17:00 in the near future.



Fordson Football

By: Raina Hazime

Fall is the best time of year; Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Fordson Football! Football season is the most exciting part of the year here at Fordson High School. Our team is standing behind everything they represent; Pride, Tradition, and Legacy. They have been making us proud this season. These boys have been playing their hearts out, and even with a loss, they’ve come back even stronger and better ever. The last game was an away game recently played on Friday, September 28, 2012 against the Edsel Ford Thunderbirds. This game was well played by both teams, but the Tractors took home the win with the score being 21-14. Fordson’s current record now stands at 5-1, with their only loss being against Warren De LaSalle.

On September 21, 2012, the Fordson Tractors hosted a home game against their biggest rivalry team yet, the Dearborn Pioneers. Our stands were filled with a sea of maize and blue. This game was truly a game that the team could never forget. The overall score was 35-0. The touchdowns came from seniors Hussein Kadry and Ali Farran, and the other 3 were scored by junior Hady Bandar.



None of this would be possible without the rest of the team and our coaches as well. Coach Zaban is happy with the win, but says, “As far as I’m concerned, winning against our rival DHS is not any different than beating Edsel. I try to have our team concentrate on each opponent the same. I try and make them understand that any team is capable of beating their opponent if they are over confident and not focused.”

Overall, the team has been having a great season so far and we are all looking forward to the playoffs. We wish our boys the best of luck with the rest of the season and we’ll be there to support them every step of the way. Go Tractors!

Do Something Club

By: Lujine Nasralla

The Do Something Club, sponsored by Mrs. Howell, has one main goal: to leave a mark- and it starts with crayons. The club is hosting a crayon drive for the Children’s Hospital. If you would like to participate, please bring a box of crayons- Crayola or RoseArt only- to Room C203. Two crayon boxes are equal to one hour of community service. The club also meets every Tuesday in the auditorium after school. Members have decided to kick off the year with a bowling fundraiser on October 2, 6:00 PM at Cherry Hill Lanes. Tickets are \$15 and can be bought from any of the board members. Part of the profit from this will be going to the AP Exam fundraiser. Also in the works, is a trip to the Animal Shelter for a volunteer opportunity. More information will be provided at the upcoming meeting. For quick info, or any questions, follow the club on Twitter @dosomethingclub.



The NaTioNal hoNor socieTy

By: Sekna Dabaja

Having honored students in grades 10 to 12 for years now, NHS is a long-standing organization in the history of Fordson High School. Through NHS, students are recognized for upholding the four pillars, scholarship, leadership, service, and character, and are given opportunities to further affect these qualities around school and in the community. For those of you who are considering applying for membership in NHS, Mrs. Wright, the club sponsor, and a few other members had these things to say:

Q: Why should a student in Fordson become a member of NHS?

A: NHS offers qualified students the opportunity to lead their peers, do service for their community, and represent Fordson in a positive light.

Q: Who should apply to be a member of NHS?

A: Students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher, and have completed 30 community service hours by the end of 9th grade are encouraged to apply. Students should also have a passion for service, and demonstrate the qualities maintained by the four pillars.

Q: What is the most important thing to know about membership in NHS?

A: Membership in NHS is a lifetime commitment and affiliation, and will enhance character and leadership skills in active members.

Q: What are the goals of NHS for the upcoming school year and the future?

A: We hope to increase our fundraising outcomes, increase community service in Fordson and the community, and broaden our service to new areas of the community.

The National Honor Society meets at 6:30 a.m. every Tuesday in the auditorium. Applications for new members are available near the end of every school year.

Blood drive

By: Hadeel Maseoud

The first blood drive of the current school year was held on September 20 2012. The semi-annual blood drive is run by none other than the National Honors Society .Talking to Ms. Wright, the sponsor for the drive; I was informed that we did not reach our goal of 66 pints of blood. Although we have had 32 pints of blood collected, Mrs. Wright says “every drop of blood donated is appreciated. Donating blood is a great thing to do, it saves a life and gives you a chance to get healthy and fit before you give blood.” The next upcoming drive is going to be December 11, so students, teachers and staff, mark you calendars and help us reach our goal!

Key Club

On Saturday, September 22nd Fordson's Key Club traveled to Gleaners Food Bank in Detroit and packaged food for people in the Detroit area who struggle to make ends meet. Mrs. Zriek and the Key Club packed over 20,000 pounds of carrots that went directly to needy families in our community. Mrs. Zriek's group spent 3 1/2 hours volunteering their time. We thank Mrs. Zriek and the Fordson Key Club for spending their valuable time giving back to the community in such a tangible way.



Freshman Orientation

By: Howraa Hammoud

This years 9th grade orientation was a marvellous success. The orientation took place on Thursday August 23rd in the big gym ; a crowd of freshmen were lined up waiting for doors to open. The gym was filled with link leaders cheering on the oncoming freshmen who well attended the event. When the freshmen were settled in, a fun Introductory was given by the Fordson staff and link leaders. certain activities were set up for the freshmen to welcome them to our school. The freshmen engaged in a tour around Fordson, a 2016 photo and a pizza lunch. The orientation was enjoyable and served its purpose of welcoming the freshmen to their new school.

Pride, Tradition, and Legacy

By: Siham Saleh

As you all know Mr. Mosallam is very positive and optimistic person. He always stresses the idea of Pride, Tradition, and Legacy to us students. Does anyone know what it *truly* means? What does this motto mean to him? How will this motto positively affect the students this year and what positive changes does he see in store for us this academic school year? I was able to ask Mr. Mosallam these questions and received a great response:

“The motto represents who we are as a school, a community, an educational entity, and as a family. Think about your family; think about the times that you get together with your siblings and/or cousins and you reflect on funny stories of the family, family achievements, family disappointments, and you begin to talk about your dreams for the future. Additionally, think about the times that your parents, aunts or uncles, and your grandparents tell you stories about your family history and these stories begin to shine light on who you are and why you have to succeed.

These two examples are of Pride, Tradition and Legacy because everyone has something to be proud of when it comes to their family; every family has a tradition that allows for them to be with one another and reflect; every family has a legacy because without a legacy none of us would be here today. Your Pride, Tradition and Legacy is what makes you believe in yourself and that belief will lead to your success. Therefore, I believe that, like your family, our school is rich in tradition and legacies that establishes the pride we should have to be a Tractor!

We all have to remain positive, and we all have to take control of the school so that everyone understands that if you want to be a Fordson Tractor you must lead with discipline and always do the right things no matter how hard that may be. Last year’s MME/ACT scores went up in math, reading and writing. Additionally, our ACT composite score average went from 17.2 to an 18 average. Our goal is that these scores continue to go up, our failure and discipline rates go down, and that our graduation rates steadily rise each year.

Fordson is rich in tradition and has a very strong legacy and we need everyone to believe in this in order to continue to find success. When I attended Fordson High School, my friends and I were Tractors. We did not care what nationality, religion, culture, or what part of the world we all came from...we were Tractors and as Tractors we stood up for one another and what was right.”



Teacher Spotlight of the Month

By: Zahraa Dabaja

As the month of September comes to a close, we look back at all the great teachers we've started the school year with. This month we'd like to honor Mrs. Morris with the teacher spotlight. Mrs. Morris is a 9th grade language arts teacher here at Fordson High School. I recently sat down with Mrs. Morris to learn a little about her, asking questions that reflect on her career and on a personal level.

Q: How long have you been a teacher?
A: I have been a teacher for 3 ½ years, because it was a second career for me.

Q: What made you want to become a teacher?
A: I had always been intrigued by teaching; however, my love for art took me down an alternate path. I earned a B.A. and M.A. in Art History and worked downtown, in a gallery, with local artists for a period of time. Being that the Detroit art market was slowing and relocating to NYC, Chicago, or LA was not an option at the time, I was forced to reconsider my career. It was then that I realized teaching was the best option for me at that point in my life. Ultimately, I could share my love of art with students through lessons combining literature and art history. I believe that using visuals and opening students up to culture is a great opportunity to get them thinking about the world around them.

Q: What do you like most about being a teacher at Fordson?
A: I love being a teacher at Fordson, because I grew up here and still live in Dearborn. My aunts, uncles, cousins and parents graduated from this school and now I am a part of the pride, tradition, and legacy.

Q: What is your favorite genre of books?
A: I enjoy reading historical fiction. One of my all time favorites is The Book Thief. I also read a great deal of essay collections. Sloane Crosley is my favorite author. She is a young, fresh writer. In terms of student reading curriculum, I love to teach African American literature.



Stop Shop DiSpl ay CaSe

By: Rasheen Al-Hamadi

After weeks of hard work, the stop shop display case is finally finished! It is brightly decorated with the link crew t-shirt colors, purple and green. The pictures of this year’s link leaders are displayed in a big 16 representing the year 2016, in honor of the freshmen. The link leaders got creative by hand making 3D origami flowers out of construction paper. “They took forever,” says Ahed Yousef, “but they were totally worth it.” The words pride, tradition, legacy are hung up to represent what Fordson Tractors are all about. Luckily, this year the display case was finished earlier than last year. The stop shop is located near the end of A hall, so if you happen to pass it, take a look.