



Significantly Exceeds Expectations 2012-2019
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 21

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at Stormonth Elementary School

FEBRUARY 22

BAYSIDE MUSIC CONCERT

7:00 PM at Bayside Middle School

MARCH 1

REFERENDUM OPEN HOUSE

6:00 PM Virtual (Recorded and Posted on District Website)

MARCH 7

REFERENDUM INFORMATION MEETINGS & TOURS

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM at Stormonth Elementary School

MARCH 15

REFERENDUM INFORMATION MEETINGS & TOURS

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM at Bayside Middle School

MARCH 16 & 17

STORMONTH MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM at Stormonth Elementary School

More dates are available at www.foxbay.org

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER WINTER 2022



MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT **DR. MELBYE**

Dear Fox Point-Bayside families:

The well-known adage "time flies" applies in many cases, but none so perfectly as a school year. Each year, we're surprised to look at the calendar and see that somehow it is already the second semester and, even more shocking, it's 2022!

While filled with its own unique challenges, this school year has been a particularly exciting one so far. I know you'll enjoy reading the many wonderful updates shared in this newsletter. It also highlights several important projects happening right now that will affect the district for years to come.

First, the Board unanimously approved asking school district residents to vote on a comprehensive facilities referendum plan on April 5, 2022 during the Spring General Election. This facilities plan has been years in the making. District Administration engaged experts and gathered community input to prepare a plan that addresses our aging facilities and student needs. Please turn to page 4 to learn more about the proposed plan so you can make an informed decision on Election Day, April 5, 2022.

Additionally, many staff, parents, students and community members participated in the Framework For Our Future process in fall. Our administration is working diligently to prepare a comprehensive strategic plan, based on the priorities of the Fox Point-Bayside community, to guide the district for the next 3-5 years. You can read an update on the planning process on page 3.

While these recent years have had their unique challenges and stressors, I'm thankful for a community that engages and encourages each other and for an administration that guides us with integrity.

Best wishes, stay healthy and safe.

Dr. David E. Melbye
School Board President

DISTRICT NEWS

EXPLORING HISTORICAL RESEARCH BY LEARNING ABOUT MARY NOHL

A hallmark of the 8th grade social studies curriculum has become the National History Day project. Every year, each 8th grader completes an extensive research project in line with the requirements of National History Day. This year, students embarked on this project through a unique introduction made possible through a collaboration between Bayside Middle School and the John Michael Kohler Arts Center (JMKAC).

Through the JMKAC Teacher Fellowship Program, Brandon Blahnik (7th and 8th grade social studies teacher) and Kris Lockhart (talent development coordinator) worked with museum educators to develop an introductory activity on how to use primary and secondary sources to build a historical argument by exploring documents related to Mary Nohl, an artist who lived in Fox Point. Students viewed images of Mary Nohl's desk drawer, reviewed an inventory, and read her newsletters to consider what inferences they could make about Mary Nohl and what additional information they would need to confirm their inferences.

To further students' understanding of using primary sources, each 8th grader brought in an item they felt represented the 2020-2021 school year. 8th graders viewed the items compiled into a primary source exhibit from the lens of historians 50 years in the future, who were trying to make sense of the collected items. In groups, students viewed the collected items and made inferences using these primary sources to determine what was important to individuals in 2020-2021.



Students talking with artist Alex Gartelmann at the Art Preserve.

Students interested in extending their learning took on the role of student archivists who cataloged the primary source exhibit and interviewed each student contributor about the reason they contributed the selected items.

This exploration of primary and secondary sources to launch historical research will be featured at JMKAC Youth Art Month and will be made available to other educators as a lesson plan distributed by JMKAC.

Students furthered their learning about Mary Nohl and how to use primary resources by attending a presentation by Barbara Manger, who has written books on Mary Nohl, and by attending a field trip to the newly-opened JMKAC Art Preserve. On the field trip, students met and asked questions of Alex Gartelmann, the artist living in and restoring the Mary Nohl Art Environment, and Dr. Charles Smith, the artist and founder of the The African-American Heritage Museum + Black Veterans Archive. While this experience started out as a way to launch students' work on their National History Day projects, the collaboration with JMKAC and their educators created an opportunity that helped students learn more about their community and their place in history. We are very grateful to the support of JMKAC and the wonderful individuals who work there for making this experience possible for our students.



Students exploring the primary source exhibit.

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Fox Point-Bayside District's strategic planning process, Framework for Our Future, kicked off in the fall, hosting more than 100 district stakeholders to plan and discuss the future of the Fox Point-Bayside School District.

Following this tremendous feedback from our community, district leaders **refined five priorities** that will serve as the main pillars of the strategic plan. These priorities have been affirmed by the School Board to guide the district for the next 3-5 years.

STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES

- 1. ENGAGING ACADEMIC CURIOSITY:**
Maintain and enhance innovative academic conditions conducive to personal achievement and long-term success.
- 2. FISCAL AND FACILITIES STEWARDSHIP:**
Be responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars, while ensuring the ability to afford the resources that support the mental wellness and educational endeavors desired by our community.
- 3. MENTAL AND PERSONAL WELLNESS:**
Support the physical and mental health of students, staff and families.
- 4. DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING:**
Honoring diversity, acknowledging differences that matter and creating a unique sense of belonging for each individual.
- 5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS:**
Engaging our larger learning community to create limitless opportunities for students.



Now, district leaders and staff are in the process of developing strategic, measurable goals for each priority followed by the specific tactics that will be used to achieve each goal. Progress toward these goals will ultimately be shared through regular dashboard updates to ensure that the District is accountable for actions and progress.

The District is thrilled with the engagement in the Framework For Our Future process thus far and looks forward to sharing the goals with the community in the coming weeks.

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



The Fox Point-Bayside School District Board of Education unanimously approved a comprehensive facilities referendum plan. School District residents will have the opportunity to vote on one referendum question for an amount not-to-exceed \$58,500,000 to address critical facility needs at both Bayside Middle and Stormonth Elementary Schools. **The referendum will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2022.**

Facilities Planning Process

For more than two years, the District has been exploring options to address critical facility needs identified at both Bayside Middle School (built in 1953) and Stormonth Elementary School (built in 1935). Major challenges identified include: significantly aging building infrastructure and systems; safety, security, and accessibility; and outdated, inflexible learning environments.



Highlights of the Proposed Plan

- Building a new, two-story Bayside Middle School on the existing Bayside site
- Addressing critical, building-wide capital improvements at Stormonth Elementary School
- If approved by voters, the estimated tax increase over the current level for each \$100,000 of fair market property value would be \$232 per year (\$19.33 per month) for approximately 21 years.

STAY INFORMED

Voters can learn more by visiting the district website at foxbay.k12.wi.us/district/referendum-info.cfm

Questions specifically about the proposed referendum can be emailed to referendum@foxbay.org



Community Survey Highlights



Over 50% of each unique respondent group (non-parents, parents, staff) supported rebuilding Bayside Middle School.



86% of survey respondents are likely to recommend Fox Point-Bayside Schools to a friend or family member!

Throughout the planning process, the Board actively solicited stakeholder input. In the fall 2021, the District conducted a staff and community-wide survey on facility needs and preliminary solutions.

Valuable feedback provided by more than 800 district residents helped inform their final decision-making in January, including *replacing* Bayside Middle School rather than renovating the building. Residents also supported critical repairs and upgrades at Stormonth Elementary School.

Referendum Information Meetings & Tours

MARCH 1, 2022, 6:00 PM

Virtual (Recorded and Posted on District Website)

MARCH 7, 2022, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

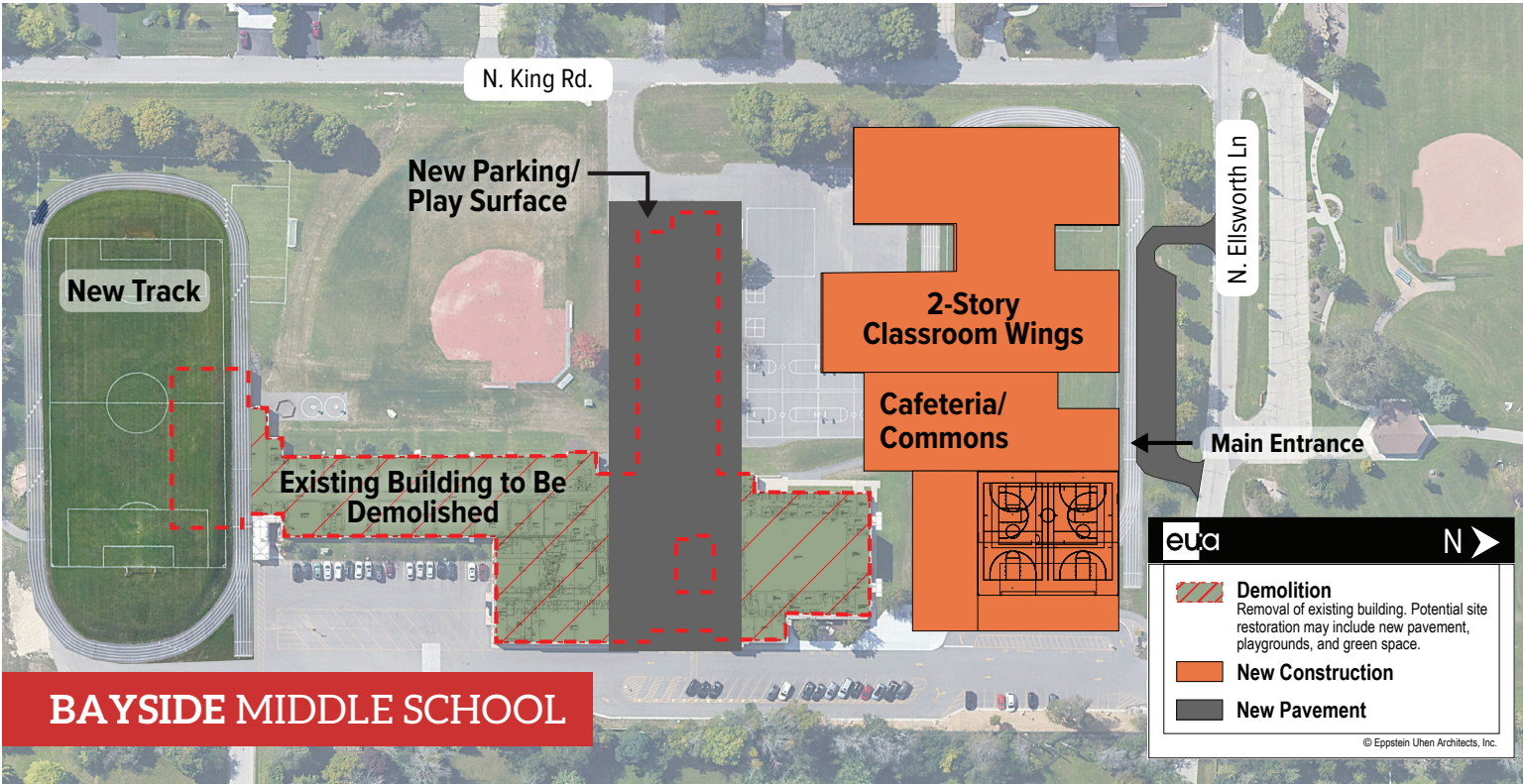
at Stormonth Elementary School

MARCH 15, 2022, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

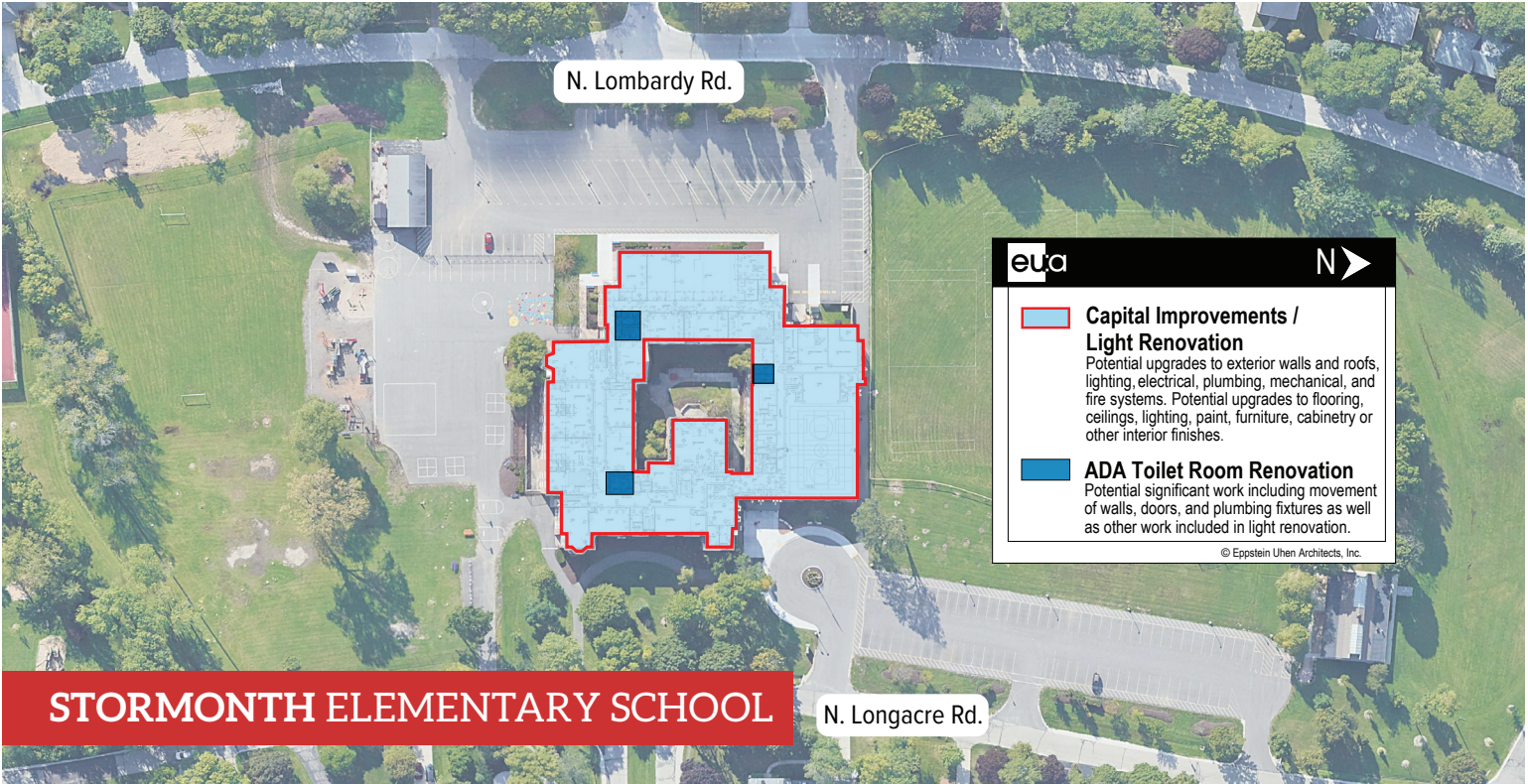
at Bayside Middle School

Please join us for an upcoming referendum information meeting to learn about the proposed plans, take an optional tour, and get your questions answered.

PROPOSED PLAN



The inclusive playground and Phillip’s Supreme Court will be relocated and rebuilt adjacent to the new school.



Note: all plans are conceptual for planning purposes only.



STORMONTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NOTE



Students participating in the Fall Folk Festival.

The 2021-2022 school year is in full swing! In addition to the strong academics we offer, Stormonth provides opportunities for students to expand their learning in non-traditional ways, growing creatively through clubs and extracurricular activities.

Stormonth is very excited to be back on stage with their **annual musical production**. This year, our show will be **"The Grunch,"** a musical about a student who tries to sabotage the school's drama production. But will the spirit of theater prevail? You will have to come to our performance on **March 16 and 17** to find out!

Students in 3rd and 4th grade have the opportunity to participate on and off stage by acting, singing and dancing or creating set pieces and running the curtain. Ms. O'Sullivan (music teacher), Mrs. Grambow (1st grade teacher) and Mrs. Miner (art teacher) will lead our students through cast and crew auditions, rehearsals and set design from January through March.

We are excited our **Earth Ambassadors** program is in full swing again! This year, all kindergarten students have the opportunity to participate in a specific 5-6 week project to learn about nature and taking care of the earth. Under the direction of Mrs. Ziegler (K5 teacher), Mrs. Cosgrove (talent

development teacher) and Mrs. Ristau (English learner teacher), students have planted kale, collected leaves, made bird feeders from recycled milk cartons and will have the chance to do some composting and make maple syrup!



Earth Ambassadors present to the school board.

Other enrichment activities offered through the Talent Development Program this year included **WordMasters** and the **Spelling Bee**. Mrs. Cosgrove (talent development teacher) leads our students through these exciting opportunities. WordMasters is a vocabulary-based program focusing on building students' skills in word meanings through analogies. This club is offered to any interested 4th grade student this year. Also, the spelling bees for 3rd and 4th graders were held in January. Top spellers advanced to the District Spelling Bee, and then possibly even to the Regional Bee after that.

In the STORM (library/makerspace), students are given the choice to participate in a variety of clubs throughout the school year during their recess time with Mrs. Ahles (library/makerspace teacher). Some of the clubs that are offered include:

Second grade **Coding Club** in which students work with block coding using the Dash Robot and Blockly app, and then students continue their learning of block coding using coding.org.

Third graders can join the **Digital News Team** which creates monthly slideshows for the cafeteria and foyer televisions. Third graders can also join Coding Clubs and one classroom each month creates a Stormonth Live television show highlighting the many aspects of Stormonth School.

In 4th grade, students can join **Book Trivia**, which is a year-long event reading books and participating in three rounds of trivia throughout the year. Fourth graders also can join the Coding Club or the **Sewing/Kindness Club** where students learn basic sewing skills and contribute to three charities: Sending Smiles, Capes for Kids and the Snuggles Project.

Each of these clubs and extracurricular activities guide students through important life skills including **leadership, collaboration and creative thinking/problem solving.** As a school community, we are proud to offer these additional opportunities for students to learn and grow.

We are already beginning the process of registration for K4 students and new students for the 2022-2023 school year! Do you know a neighbor or friend who is interested in seeing all of the amazing opportunities Stormonth has to offer? Contact our school office at (414) 247-4102 to set up a tour.

Respectfully,

Laura Witkov
Stormonth Principal



K4 Superheroes!



4th and 1st Grade Reading Buddies



Students making kindness posters.



BAYSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Late fall and early winter brought exciting opportunities for Bayside students to once again participate in several in-person clubs and groups, many of which were offered across all grade levels. Among these were **Student Council, STEAM Club, Strategy Club, Forensics, Ski & Snowboard Club** and, debuting in January, **Sewing Club!**



Ski & Snowboard Club returned on December 17



Student/Faculty Basketball Game

Bayside students also enjoyed the return of some wonderful field trips including a 7th & 8th grade trip to a Nicolet High School Theater production in November and a December visit to Milwaukee's Discovery World Museum for 6th graders.

School sports also made a long-awaited comeback! **Cross Country, Soccer, Girls Basketball** and **Boys Basketball** are up and running strong! The Bayside co-ed **Soccer Team**, consisting of 19 players, ended the season with a 4-1 record. The **Cross Country** team had over 60 participants this season. The boys team ended up taking 2nd overall at the conference meet. Thanks to all the athletes and parents for making it such a great season!

In addition to field trips, clubs, groups and sports, our performing arts students presented a highly entertaining winter concert on December 7 and look forward to presenting a second concert on February 22.

The **Girls Basketball** team opened their season with a win over Maple Dale Middle School. The team of seven 8th graders and nine 7th graders ended their season with a 6-3 record. The girls topped off their season with an exciting student/faculty basketball game.

It was such a pleasure to hear live music from our **Band, Choir** and **Orchestra** students once again, after a long pause during the pandemic!

The audiences so enjoyed seeing and hearing the live music performances!

Throughout the season, the team gave tremendous effort and support for one another. In competition, they were leaders on the court by displaying good leadership and sportsmanship.

Jodi Hackl
Bayside Principal

Best wishes to the 8th graders on the team this year! We hope you continue playing basketball at the high school level.

The **Boys Basketball** season got underway on December 6 with 34 boys participating.



Students participating in Band, Choir and Orchestra Concert

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Bayside students and staff collected over 1,065 canned items and \$978.50 to support the Nicolet Spanish 4 Honors Thanksgiving Food Drive! These food drive donations benefited hundreds of families in the Milwaukee area, brightening their holiday.

STUDENT COUNCIL

On November 11, Veteran's Day, the Student Council held a Bake Sale to benefit the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative. They raised \$225.00.

STRATEGY CLUB

New this year, Strategy Club offers students fun and challenging activities, including solving Rubik's Cubes and playing Chess.



Students participating in Strategy Club



Student Council and Advisors present check from bake sale

NEW INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND AT BAYSIDE

A ribbon cutting on September 29 celebrated the new inclusive playground funded by the FPBS Educational Foundation.

STEAM CLUB

The STEAM Club features professionals presenting topics and hands-on activities to students relating to careers in science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics.



Playground Ribbon Cutting



Students participating in STEAM Club

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE COMMUNITY

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Happy New Year! One of my “resolutions” this year is to practice gratitude more frequently. So, this seems like the perfect opportunity to start with a sincere thank you to the district administration, teachers and staff, PTO board members, event chairs and countless volunteers who continue to give their personal time to make the District better for ALL our students and staff.

Now, as for what has been accomplished since our last update in the fall!

Our PTO directory has been officially moved to our new Membership Toolkit website. We encourage you to create your Membership Toolkit account, using the same email you use for Infinite Campus, and download the app. Stay up to date on all the PTO happenings, from calendar and event information, volunteer sign-up, online sales and donations, plus the coveted online directory!

To show our teachers how much their dedication is appreciated, the PTO coordinated grab-n-go snacks and breakfast for our teachers and staff at both schools during fall conferences. Conferences are extra-long days for the faculty, and the food was greatly appreciated. Plans are underway for conference dinners for faculty in March.

In October, we offered **Monster Bash-In-A-Bag**, along with festive games in the gym, which was a welcomed return to (somewhat) normalcy for our students and was a massive success, raising nearly \$11,000.

The PTO hosted its **Fall Book Fair** to the delight of readers, young and old. This is one of the PTO's biggest fundraisers, raising over \$5,000 in Scholastic dollars, which allows us to purchase books, classroom supplies and other requests from teachers.

Our annual **Club's Choice** fundraiser raised over \$4,000 for our schools, despite global supply chain delays. The Fund Allocation Committees are hard at work reviewing the grant proposals from teachers and staff at both Bayside & Stormonth for use of those valuable resources. Stay tuned for further information!

The **“Peppermint Pop-Up”** will be held when the weather is just right and will include ice skating and fun snow activities, which will be available for free to everyone in our community. Hot chocolate, specialty toppings, coffee and snacks and baked goods will be available for purchase as a PTO fundraiser. Watch for our announcement on Facebook, Instagram, Friday Folders, and Daily Communications for more details, including event date and time.

The **Cupcake Color Run** is in the early planning stages, with the event slated to take place on June 4, 2022. If you're interested in volunteering on the committee, please contact Jamie Carlson at cupcakecolorrun@gmail.com. We are also looking to fill chair positions for upcoming events, as well as Board positions for the next school year. Please feel free to email me at foxpoint.bayside.pto.team@gmail.com with questions or interest.

Jayme Cain
2021-2022 Fox Point-Bayside PTO President

REMINDERS:

- Follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/groups/FPBSPTO) and Instagram (@fpbspto)
- Check out our updates in Friday Folders and the Daily Communication Folder
- Create your Membership Toolkit account and download our app
- Join us at our monthly PTO meetings the first Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m.

FOUNDATION UPDATE

FROM THE FOX POINT-BAYSIDE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Annual Appeal Ushers Out 2021

Thank you, families and generous community members for getting our academic year of fundraising off to a terrific start by contributing to our annual appeal.

Within just six weeks from the time our letters reached your homes to the end of the calendar year, we reached 50% of our \$20,000 goal! Your generosity keeps the momentum strong toward supporting our schools.

It's not too late to contribute! **Visit our website www.fpbedfoundation.org and click donate to make a gift today.**

Rolling on the Green Postponed

The Educational Foundation decided to skip its annual spring event Rolling on the Green in 2022.

Stay tuned for new, creative fundraising ideas to help keep the momentum of giving strong. We hope to get back to Rolling on the Green in 2023.

Continuing To Invest and Grow

Did you know that each year, in addition to providing money to enhance Stormonth Elementary and Bayside Middle Schools, the Educational Foundation invests in an endowment?

An endowment sets our community on a path toward long-term growth that we can rely on year-over-year.

The Educational Foundation established an acorn fund with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation in 2015. The acorn fund would fully mature when it reached \$100,000 after which, the Foundation would receive distributions off that principal investment. In 2021, in addition to funding more than half the cost of new playgrounds for our schools, we were able to surpass that investment threshold!

This is no small milestone. The Foundation has already started to receive distributions. The potential these distributions offer the district is exciting. The Foundation board members are working hard to structure a grant program that will put these earnings to good use by empowering educators and administrators within the Fox Point-Bayside School District to apply for funding to support special projects or district initiatives, like:

- **Seed money** for innovative programming
- **Classroom solutions** inspired by your child's needs
- **Tuition** for cutting-edge staff and teacher training
- **Inspirational social programs** that promote emotional literacy and development



Referendum Information Meetings & Tours

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6:00 PM

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MARCH 7, 2022
6:00 - 7:30 PM

at Stormonth Elementary School

MARCH 15, 2022
6:00 - 7:30 PM

at Bayside Middle School

VOTE

APRIL 5, 2022

VISIT

foxbay.k12.wi.us/district/referendum-info.cfm

QUESTIONS?

Email referendum@foxbay.org



2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE!



6th grade students enjoying Discovery World field trip.



8th grade choir students taking part in music clinic with Dr. Zach Durlam, Director of Chors at UWM.



K5 students practicing snap words with Code and Go Mouse robots.



1st graders learning about wind, speed and direction.