FOX POINT BAYSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Significantly Exceeds Expectations 2012-2024

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(414) 247-4167

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2 Welcome, Mr. Weaver
3 Smile, Fox Point-Bayside
4 State of the District
6 Stormonth Principal's Note
7 Bayside Principal's Note
8 RULER Update
9 Learning in Residence
10 PTO News
11 Educational Foundation News

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 17
School Board Meeting
6:00 p.m. at District Office

NOVEMBER 26 - NOVEMBER 28
Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER 15
School Board Meeting
6:00 p.m. at District Office

DECEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 31
JANUARY 1 - JANUARY 2
Winter Break

JANUARY 13
School Board Meeting
6:00 p.m. at District Office

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL THE LATEST EVENTS AT FPBS BY FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- Fox Point-Bayside School District
- Stormonth Elementary School — @stormonthelementary
- Bayside Middle School — @baysidefpbs

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
FALL 2025



LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Fox Point-Bayside Families,

I'm excited to be addressing you in my first newsletter as the new superintendent of the Fox Point-Bayside School District! Thank you all for such a warm welcome into the community. The 2025-26 school year is off to a strong start thanks to our dedicated staff, students and families.

In my first few months, I've been inspired by the warmth, pride and collaboration that define this community. Whether visiting classrooms, attending school events or meeting with families, it's clear that Fox Point-Bayside's success is rooted in a shared commitment to students. Our teachers bring incredible energy and creativity to their work, our students are eager and engaged, and our families are deeply supportive of learning both inside and outside the classroom.

Even before I started in July, faculty and staff were hard at work to prepare for this year. Guided by the Framework for Our Future, our strategic plan developed in partnership with the community, we implemented a new English Language Arts curriculum to strengthen our tradition of academic excellence as outlined in Pillar 1. At the same time, we're continuing our commitment to social-emotional learning (SEL) and entering Year 2 of RULER in alignment with Pillar 3. These efforts build on the strong foundation we have in place and ensure our students are supported academically and socially.

As we look ahead, several important priorities are on the horizon. Over the course of this year, we will be updating the Framework for Our Future. Launched in 2022, the plan was designed as a living document – one that evolves to meet the changing needs of our community. While our overarching priorities will remain the same, we will be refining goals and strategies to ensure they continue to reflect those needs.

Later this fall, watch for a community survey in your mailbox asking for your input on both the next version of the Framework for Our Future and our early planning to renew the District's operational referendum in fall 2026. **Your feedback will be key in helping our schools continue their success.** You can learn more about the community survey on page 4.

It's important to us that residents feel informed and valued as members of our school community. In addition to the survey, we are preparing to launch an updated website next summer to better connect you with District news, information and meet Federal ADA web accessibility standards

There's a lot to be proud of in our schools, and even more to look forward to in the months ahead. I'm grateful to work alongside such an engaged staff and supportive community as we continue to make Fox Point-Bayside a place where every child can thrive.

With gratitude,
Michael Weaver
Superintendent

WELCOME, MR. WEAVER

After a thoughtful search that began in January, with input from families, staff and community members, **we are delighted to welcome Mr. Michael Weaver as our new superintendent.**

Mr. Weaver officially joined us in July and has already made a strong impression with his leadership, vision, and commitment to our students and staff.

Since arriving, he has been actively visiting campuses, engaging with our community, and discovering firsthand the unique strengths and spirit that make our schools so special.











STORMONTH ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN

REGISTRATION IS OPENING SOON!



- K4 CLASSES | 4 YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPT. 1
- K5 CLASSES | 5 YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPT. 1

K4 AND K5 REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2026-27 four-year-old and five-year-old kindergarten programs will be here before you know it! **Scan the QR code to learn how to register** and discover what makes Stormonth Elementary one of the top-ranked elementary schools in the state.

SMILE,

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE

Exploring Summer Pathways! Our summer school program is back.

Summer Pathways is open to all district residents K4-seventh grade. **Stay tuned for more information on when registration opens this spring.**

EXPLORING SUMMER PATHWAYS 2026

Save the Date for Summer Pathways 2026

Important information for this year's program:

SESSION 1:	SESSION 2:
June 22 - July 2	July 7 - July 17
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.













STATE OF THE DISTRICT

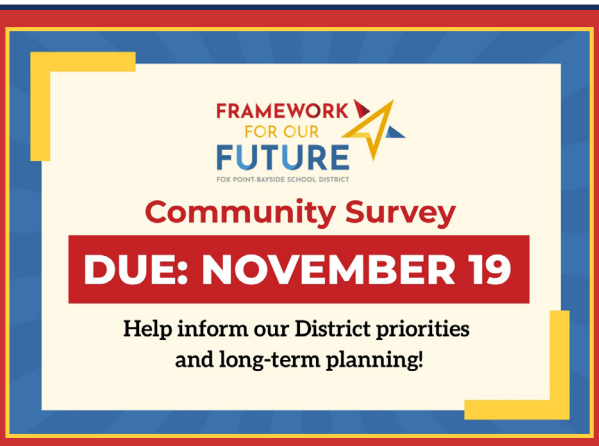
REFERENDUM PLANNING & BUDGET UPDATE

Pillar 2 of our Framework for Our Future strategic plan is Fiscal and Facilities Stewardship, meaning that we are committed to being 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.

Even during our day-to-day work, we are always focused on the long-term success of our schools. As part of his first year leading the District, **Superintendent Weaver is inviting all residents to take part in a community survey this fall.** Guided by the Framework for Our Future strategic plan, the survey seeks your input on priorities for the years ahead. In alignment with Pillar 2, the survey also looks ahead at future funding, including our operational referendum, which expires after the 2026-27 school year. **Your feedback will help shape the path forward for our students, staff and schools.**

Keep an eye on your mailbox for the community survey!

If you have any questions about the survey process, please contact the District Office at 414-247-4167 or email survey@foxbay.org.



Why This Matters

Since 2015, the District has relied on an operational referendum to continue funding the day-to-day learning experiences families count on at the levels they expect. **Our operational referendum helps us support salaries for our dedicated teachers, maintain small class sizes, ensure a robust offering of student programs, and provide essential services like transportation and classroom resources.**

The Challenges We Face

1. Funding for the current operational referendum ends after the 2026-27 school year.
2. Since 2009, state revenue limits have not been adjusted for inflation. If they were, our District would have approximately $2.9 million more this year, or roughly $3,500 more per student.
3. Federal funding for reading and math support has been reduced, putting more pressure on our local budget.
4. While our community has generously supported a $3.1 million operational referendum for the past 10 years, **rising costs for staffing, inflation, and student services mean that amount is no longer sufficient.** We are already projecting a $600,000 budget gap for the 2025-26 school year.

In fact, nearly nine out of ten Wisconsin school districts (87%) **rely on operational referendum funding** to keep delivering high-quality education.

What the Survey Will Ask

We want to hear from you! The upcoming community survey will help us better understand our community's priorities related to the Framework for Our Future and will ask the following questions about Pillar 2:

1. Would you support renewing the operational referendum, which would provide $3.95 million per year to maintain staff salaries, small class sizes, student programs, and routine building maintenance? This renewal would result in an estimated increase in property taxes of approximately $20 for every $100,000 of home value.

2. Should the renewal be:

   - Non-recurring: The referendum would need to be renewed when it expires after the 2033 school year. The next referendum could be for a different dollar amount.

   - Recurring: The referendum would not expire. The amount stays the same year after year, with the intention of providing budget consistency to the District and the taxpayers. However, we may need to explore another referendum depending on inflation and future state budgets.

Your input is critical as we plan for the years ahead. Thank you in advance for completing the survey and for helping us continue to provide the high-quality learning experiences that make Fox Point-Bayside such a special place for students and families.

Kathleen Wiesner
Director of Business Services











STORMONTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

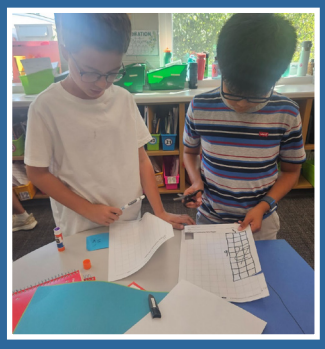
Andrew Joseph, Principal, Stormonth Elementary School

We are thrilled to be back together for the 2025-26 school year. In our first few weeks of school we have worked hard to build community and connections across our classrooms and campus. This year, our schoolwide theme is "Be You. Be Kind. Be Stormonth." Through our RULER program, we work hard for our students to see themselves as individuals who bring something special to their classroom and school community.

Our teaching staff has been working hard to implement our new reading/writing curriculum, Benchmark Advance. **This new resource helps our wonderful staff ensure our learners have the skills to understand complex texts and share their amazing ideas through writing.** The year is broken into different thematic units that help students build a wide range of background knowledge. We are starting the year exploring life sciences with the goal of our learners understanding that scientists are also readers and writers.

Critical Thinking in Math

Fourth grade mathematicians work with a wide range of resources to deepen their understanding of mathematical concepts. One activity involved students looking at a quilt pattern and determining the area of a missing piece.









Osmos in the Makerspace

In Makerspace, students work with the Osmo app to complete challenges with tangrams. The Osmos were donated by the Fox Point-Bayside Education Foundation as a way to support hands-on STEM activities.

Fall Storm Rally

We come together as a school once a month for our Storm Rallies. The rallies gives us a chance to celebrate our school living our theme of "Be You. Be Kind. Be Stormonth."



Thoughtful Thursdays

First graders in Ms. Mullen's room spread kindness around the building on "Thoughtful Thursdays."



Buddy Classes

Each classroom at Stormonth has a buddy class in a different grade. Buddy classes give our older students an opportunity to show their leadership skills. For our younger students, it helps them build friendships and connections across the building.

Want more news? Connect with us on social media: Stormonth Elementary School @stormonthelementary



BAYSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Jodi Hackl, Principal, Bayside Middle School

Bayside Middle School enjoyed an exciting and strong start to the 2025-26 school year! We are feeling much more settled in what still feels like a brand new space! There have been many fun experiences and opportunities for Bayside students to take part in this school year, including the seventh and eighth-grade Tenor and Bass Sing Out Choir Festival, the eighth grade team building field trip to Harrington Beach State Park, PBIS whole school spirit week, and a fun eighth grade physics project. Along with all of those events, athletics started up and we had a record 92 students on our fifth-eighth grade cross country team this year! Other clubs and activities that have begun include Art Club, Scholastic Writing and MathCounts. Please see the highlights from some of these events below.



Sing Out Choir Festival

A group of our seventh and eighth grade choir students, featuring our emerging tenor and bass voices, recently attended UWM's annual Sing Out Choir Festival alongside the tenor and bass singers from Nicolet Union High School. This collaborative field trip gave our developing singers the opportunity to learn more about the changing voice while experiencing the joy of singing with nearly 1,000 other students in a fun, supportive and educational setting. The festival concluded with a midday concert in UWM's Zelazo Hall where the middle school and high school choirs took turns performing the pieces they had learned for one another.



Eighth Grade Start of Year Field Trip

Each year, the eighth grade travels to Harrington Beach State Park the second week of school to participate in a day of team building activities. We had a gorgeous day at the beach with friendly advisor Olympic competitions, including a puzzle relay and tug of war. It's a great way to get to know our students and build community early in the school year.





Cross Country Team

Bayside Middle School is proud to have a record number of students who joined the cross-country team again this year, with over 90 students participating — one-fourth of our entire school! Their dedication, teamwork and school spirit are fun to watch as they represent Bayside in every race. We can't wait to cheer them on this season!



Soccer Team

The Bayside soccer team enjoys competing against other area schools. The team practices and has games approximately three days a week.



Spirit Day Event

"The Life of A Bayside Student" spirit day event offered fun photo ops and raffle tickets for prizes to participating students. Although spirit days and the daily cafeteria music were based on Taylor Swift albums, you didn't have to be a Swiftie to enjoy. Pictured above is Mrs. McGrath and Ms. Houck with a crew of students on "REPresent your favorite team" day.

Want more news? Connect with us on social media: Bayside Middle School @baysidefpbs

FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE PILLAR 3:

MENTAL AND PERSONAL WELLNESS

RULER: RECOGNIZING, UNDERSTANDING, LABELING, EXPRESSING AND REGULATING

We are excited to share that the **Fox Point–Bayside School District is now in its second year of implementing RULER** – an evidence-based approach to social and emotional learning developed at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. This initiative reflects **Pillar 3 of our District's strategic plan,** Mental and Personal Wellness, and underscores our commitment to supporting the academic and emotional growth of every student.

RULER – short for Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing and Regulating emotions **– gives students and staff a common language and set of skills for building emotional intelligence.** In our first year of using RULER, educators integrated RULER strategies into classroom routines, and we offered parent/caregiver workshops to bring the practices home. **This year, we are deepening that work, expanding student leadership opportunities, and providing additional lessons so these skills become second nature across our schools.**

Research shows that **strong social and emotional skills boost academic achievement, foster empathy and build resilience.** We are already seeing positive impacts as students learn to navigate emotions, communicate effectively and strengthen relationships.

Thank you for partnering with us in this important effort. Together, we are creating a learning environment where every student feels valued, supported and ready to thrive.





Scan the QR code

to learn more about RULER!

FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE PILLAR 4:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

Engaging our larger learning community to create limitless opportunities for students.

Goal 1: Engage diverse community experts in classroom learning and/or mentoring to expand opportunities for students to learn from field experts.

LEARNING IN RESIDENCE

If you walked through the halls of Stormonth last year, you might have witnessed a gathering of students hearing from a **Grammy Award-winning musician** or a **Caldecott Medal-winning author and illustrator.** At Bayside, you might have seen students crafting intricate cardboard creations with the help of professional artists. At Fox Point-Bayside School District, **community engagement and partnerships are both a pillar of our strategic plan and our educational philosophy.**

Through our Artist-in-Residence program sponsored by the Fox Point-Bayside PTO, Stormonth Elementary School students had the opportunity to **learn from Latin Grammy Award-winning artist, author and educator, Ben Gundersheimer,** also known as Mister G. Through music and books, he engaged and inspired our young learners.

At the middle school, **Daniel Murray and Micah Ebbe from FuzzPop Workshop, challenged students to expand their creativity and craftsmanship through cardboard creation workshops** that prepared the students to take part in an outside challenge. Students learned about prototyping, designing, problem solving and storytelling all by repurposing used cardboard.

Stormonth students also had the opportunity to **learn from author and illustrator Vashti Harrison – winner of the 2025 Caldecott Medal for her book, "Big."** They learned about her creative process, got a drawing demonstration and heard more about how she grew up to become an award-winning author and illustrator.

Learning opportunities such as these connect students with our wider community. They provide opportunities for students to expand their creativity and understanding of different careers through engaging experiences.







FOX POINT-BAYSIDE
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

OFF AND RUNNING!

The 2025-26 school year is off to a fantastic start as we settle into our routines!

A huge thank you to our incredible parent volunteers whose time and energy made so many events possible, including the Cupcake Color Run, staff luncheons, Bus Rider Program, back-to-school picnic, spirit wear sales, conference dinners, and school picture days. **Your involvement not only makes these events possible, but also sets a wonderful example of service for our kids.**

At Stormonth, we continue to focus on building community and welcoming new families. The Room Rep program is back again this year, helping to strengthen connections between parents, teachers and the PTO – creating stronger bonds both in and out of school.

We're also excited to continue our partnership with Midwest Orthopedic Specialty Hospital (MOSH) as our Premier PTO Sponsor.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 11/5 – PTO Board Meeting
- 11/7 – Seventh and Eighth Grade BAN
- 12/12 – KinderKid Date Night

Please make sure you have an account on the PTO website and that your student is linked to their teacher. A paid membership gives you access to the online student directory and our teachers' "Favorite Things" lists.

We'd love your ideas, energy and input! Contact us anytime at foxpoint.bayside.pto.team@gmail.com to learn how you can get involved. PTO meetings are held the first



Wednesday of odd months (Sept., Nov., Jan., Mar., May, June) at 7:30 p.m. in the District Office at Bayside or via Zoom. Meeting minutes are always available on our website.

Here's to a wonderful school year ahead!

Kaitlin Torres
Fox Point-Bayside PTO Past President

STAY CONNECTED!

PTO Website: fpbspto.membershiptoolkit.com/home

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/FPBSPTO

Instagram: @fpbspto

Room Rep Boards (Stormonth only)

Friday Folders & Communication Folder



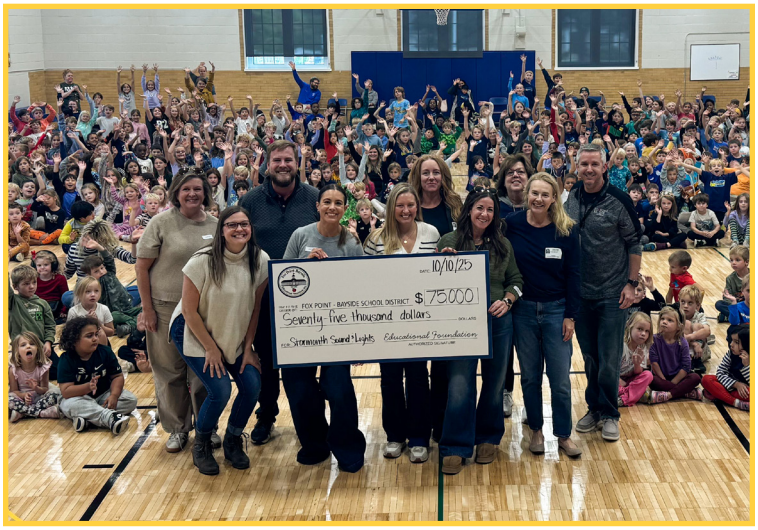


FOUNDATION UPDATE

Fox Point-Bayside District Newsletter
Fall 2025

Who We Are

The Fox Point–Bayside Educational Foundation is a parent- and community-led nonprofit committed to enhancing the learning environment at Stormonth Elementary and Bayside Middle Schools.
The Foundation invests in long-term initiatives, including classroom technology, building improvements and innovative programs that benefit all students.



Celebrating Over $100,000 in Impact

Thanks to the generosity of our families, local businesses and community members, the Foundation invested over $100,000 into District projects last year. These investments reached every grade level – expanding art and STEAM curriculum, funding field trips and supporting programs like the Youth Frontiers Courage Retreat. **Last school year's highlight was a $75,000 upgrade to Stormonth's gym lighting and sound system,** transforming it into an inclusive performance and learning space for assemblies, schoolwide events and daily classes.



New Year, New Projects, Same Commitment to Students

The District is exploring the development of outdoor learning spaces at both schools, and the Foundation is proud to be a funding partner in this project. These spaces are intended to give students more opportunities to learn and explore beyond the classroom. We're excited to bring this vision to life and look forward to sharing updates as it develops.

Because We Can't Do It Without You

Consider making a gift when your annual appeal card arrives in the mail this fall or via the QR code.

Our **annual fundraising event will return in early 2026,** and we hope you can join us! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@fpbedfound) to be the first to know the details and be entered into a drawing for a free ticket to this must-attend event with food, drinks, amazing auction items and casino games!

Together, we can give our students inspiring places to learn and grow – both inside and outside the classroom.

Interested in making a gift?

Scan this QR code:

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Significantly Exceeds Expectations 2012-2024

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A COMMUNITY SURVEY IS COMING TO YOUR MAILBOX SOON!

Find out what it will ask on page 4. The survey itself will include easy instructions for completing it online or on paper.

FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Survey

DUE: NOVEMBER 19

Help inform our District priorities and long-term planning!