FOX POINT BAYSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Significantly Exceeds Expectations 2012-2025

603 E Ellsworth Lane, Bayside, WI 53217
(414) 247-4167

WHAT MAKES OUR DISTRICT SHINE

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2026

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT WEAVER and BOARD PRESIDENT DR. MELBYE

Each day, we see the heart of our district in the small moments: in the classroom with teachers asking questions that guide student learning; in hallways when older students support younger ones with reading; in our families and educators who work together to maintain a strong community. Our strategic plan, the Framework for Our Future, is reflected in these moments — not as an abstract concept, but as part of how the district **SHINES** and finds success.

ENGAGING ACADEMIC CURIOSITY:
From makerspace innovations to project-based learning, the district's STEAM-forward culture, hands-on learning, project-based experiences and modern classrooms ensure every student is able to explore, create and excel.

INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING:
When teachers truly get to know their students, magic happens. Small class sizes mean personalized support, deeper relationships and learning that meets students where they are in their educational journey.

WHOLE-CHILD FOCUS:
Social-emotional learning and student support services are woven into the district's daily fabric, preparing students for success both at school and in life.

COMMUNITY AND BELONGING:
Close partnerships with community organizations and our families uphold a spirit of collaboration and inclusion, strengthening both the student experience and the Fox Point-Bayside community as a whole.









ELEVEN YEARS ranked "Significantly Exceeds Expectations" by the Department of Public Instruction

TOP 15 Best Wisconsin Elementary Schools by the U.S. News & World Report (2026)

BEST Public Middle School in Wisconsin by Niche (2026)

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL designation for Bayside (2022)

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

Explore what else makes the Fox Point-Bayside School District shine in this newsletter!

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SURVEY **SAYS...**

A long-term vision for the success of our schools and community guides every decision we make. That's why, in November 2025, **all Fox Point-Bayside households received a community survey seeking input on the programs, services and resources that matter most to you.**

Thanks to your participation, **we collected nearly 400 responses** on questions related to each pillar of the Framework for Our Future strategic plan to help us understand what our schools are doing well, where we need to improve and where we should focus our efforts over the next five years.

The results affirm what we see and feel every day. Community members expressed exceptionally strong confidence in the quality and value of our schools. That level of trust is not something we take lightly. **It reflects the collective efforts of our staff, students, families and community partners.**

Survey responses also showed **strong affirmation across all five strategic pillars**, reinforcing that the priorities identified in the strategic plan continue to reflect community values and expectations.

HERE ARE SOME KEY SURVEY TAKEAWAYS THAT WILL SHAPE THE NEXT VERSION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE STRATEGIC PLAN.

WHAT IS THE FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE?

In 2021, we began a comprehensive process with our teachers, staff and community to develop a strategic plan that would guide our district for the next five years. The result is the "Framework for Our Future," which has five major pillars that define the priorities of our community. Each pillar has unique goals and accompanying strategies to accomplish them.

You may have noticed our Future in Action icon (above) throughout our newsletters and social profiles. This icon is used to highlight an effort that is aligned with our strategic plan.

To learn more about the Framework for Our Future, visit **www.foxbay.k12.wi.us/district/framework.cfm** or scan the QR code.

PILLAR 1: ENGAGING ACADEMIC CURIOSITY

95%+ | agree or strongly agree that the district demonstrates **exceptional confidence** in teaching quality, high expectations and student growth.

PILLAR 2: FISCAL & FACILITIES STEWARDSHIP

98% | agree or strongly agree that our schools are safe, clean and well-maintained.

80% | agree or strongly agree that the district clearly communicates its budget situation and challenges.

Responses indicated strong community support for funding priorities that sustain our schools as the district nears the end of its current operational referendum, which is set to expire following the 2026-27 school year.

This input will guide **ongoing conversations and long-range planning for the district's financial sustainability**, ensuring we can continue to provide high-quality programs, services and staffing for students.

SURVEY SAYS...

PILLAR 3: MENTAL HEALTH & PERSONAL WELLNESS

96% agree or strongly agree that the district supports student well-being, kindness and healthy relationships.

PILLAR 4: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

97% agree or strongly agree that the district provides authentic learning opportunities through strong community partnerships and maintains a positive community reputation.

PILLAR 5: DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING

93% agree or strongly agree that the district provides appropriate resources and support for students with diverse learning needs.

95% agree or strongly agree that the district creates a welcoming environment where everyone feels valued and respected.

COMMUNITY SATISFACTION

We asked the community to rate the district in key areas that matter most, and the results are clear:

Fox Point–Bayside ranks in the ***99TH PERCENTILE*** among comparable districts for overall satisfaction and likelihood to recommend to others.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE



Our leadership team is continuing to review survey feedback and we'll share an updated strategic plan with tangible goals and metrics in the coming months.

In the meantime, **we're using survey feedback to guide financial planning to ensure we are transparent as we share future budget and district information**. It's my goal to continue to make it easier for families and the community to stay informed as we plan for our future.

Thank you for your continued support, trust and engagement in our schools. It is a privilege to serve a community that cares so deeply about education. I am grateful to work alongside you as we as we continue building strong academic environments where every student feels supported, challenged and valued.

I'm always available should you have any questions about the future of our district. Email me at **mweaver@foxbay.org**.

Michael Weaver, Superintendent



STORMONTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Andrew Joseph, Principal, Stormonth Elementary School

At Stormonth, we know that high-leverage learning happens not individually, but alongside others. This journey begins with our dedicated teachers, who strive to know every child as a unique learner. By understanding each student's individual strengths and needs, our staff can effectively guide them as they take the exciting step of applying their knowledge and showing their learning to the world.

Deep learning occurs through the power of engagement, when students connect their classroom discoveries to the people around them. Authentic experiences allow our students to practice essential communication skills and see themselves as active contributors to our shared world.

By bridging the gap between school and community, we help our learners understand that learning can happen anywhere at any time.

The highlights below are perfect examples of this connection in action. Whether it is third graders engaging in commerce, fourth graders bringing music to our neighbors or our youngest learners reading with their friends and family, you will see the joy of community firsthand. These moments remind us that **at Stormonth, we are building both strong minds and a strong community.**

THIRD GRADE MARKET DAY

Third grade classrooms recently transformed into bustling hubs of commerce for Market Day. During this project-based learning experience, students stepped into the shoes of budding entrepreneurs, taking charge of designing, producing and pricing their own unique goods. Market Day requires students to apply real-world math skills for budgeting and making change, understand basic economic concepts like supply and demand, and practice essential communication skills. Learning about economics was serious business — and serious fun!





OUR FUTURE IN ACTION

FOURTH GRADERS VISIT AZURA MEMORY CARE

In December, our fourth grade students visited Azura Memory Care for a very special community visit. Putting their classroom learning into practice, the students proudly shared songs and laughter, delighting the residents with their performance. This bridge for connection was a beautiful experience focused on empathy, joy and intergenerational friendship.



KINDERGARTEN RINGO

Our K5 classrooms are building a strong foundation for literacy with our monthly tradition: RINGO (Reading Is Now Going On). During these special gatherings, we open our doors to parents and guests to create a shared environment where a love for books takes center stage. Families and guests bring in favorite books and stories and give students the opportunity to hear reading from new voices. It is a wonderful way to celebrate reading milestones while strengthening the bond between home and school.

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

Winter always brings exciting opportunities for Bayside students, such as participation in various teams and clubs, including our newest team, MATHCOUNTS, as well as girls and boys basketball, ski & snowboard club and our fifth through eighth grade band, choir and orchestra groups.

The Bayside girls basketball team has hit the court running this winter, showcasing talent, teamwork and a competitive spirit. The season kicked off on December 15 with a game that came down to the wire. Bayside secured a win, setting a positive and energetic tone for the weeks to follow.

The ski & snowboard club continues to be a popular activity. We have another record number of athletes with about 140 students participating!

Our performing arts department has also been keeping busy with their winter concerts, showcasing some incredible student talent! Some highlights from these wonderful programs are featured below.



MATHCOUNTS

Sixth through eighth grade students met every Thursday over their lunch and recess period to prepare for the February Greater Milwaukee MATHCOUNTS Competition. Our team earned fourth place and will advance to the state competition.





BAND, CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Bayside's bands, choirs and orchestras presented their winter concerts in December and January. More than 200 students participated in these performances. An added feature this year was the inclusion of students from each grade level forming four separate rock bands to accompany several of the pieces performed with the choir. This showcased additional student talent and enhanced the enjoyment of our audience!





SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

Ski & snowboard club students attended four outings to Little Switzerland in January and February. We are grateful to the club advisors, chaperones and parents who help make this club a success.





GIRLS BASKETBALL

Bayside's 2025-26 girls basketball team features a unique blend of leadership and emerging talent. The roster is composed of 12 dedicated athletes: Nine eighth-grade leaders who are providing experience and mentorship and four seventh-grade standouts who have stepped up to the challenge of middle school competition.

The hard work during practice is paid off. The team ended the season with a record of four wins and four losses. Whether they were executing plays or cheering each other on from the sidelines, these girls represented Bayside with pride and sportsmanship.

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

EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

STATE REPORT CARD:

"SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS"

Back in November, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) released its State Report Card, and the **Fox Point-Bayside School District once again earned the top distinction of "Significantly Exceeds Expectations"** for the 2024–2025 school year. This marks the 11th year the district has received this honor.

The district achieved an overall score of 96.8, with Stormonth Elementary scoring 91.9 and Bayside Middle School scoring 97.7.

DPI report cards evaluate schools and districts in four priority areas: **Student Achievement, Student Growth, Target Group Outcomes and On-Track to Graduation.** Combined scores in these areas determine the overall ratings for all public schools and districts across the state, providing a standardized tool for parents and community members to assess the effectiveness of their local schools.

These top ratings reflect the district's tradition of academic excellence, its commitment to educating the whole child and the dedication of educators who go above and beyond to ensure students have the tools and experiences necessary to thrive. The progress highlighted in the DPI report card aligns with the district's **Framework for Our Future,** guiding continuous improvement in teaching, learning and community engagement.

HEALTHY MEALS RECOGNITION FOR ARAMARK

The Fox Point-Bayside School District recognizes **Aramark**, the district's lunch provider, for receiving a **Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Award**. The award acknowledges Aramark's commitment to providing nutritious meals that support students' learning and overall well-being throughout the school day. The district expresses appreciation for Aramark's ongoing dedication and efforts, which contribute significantly to the health and success of students.

STATE & NATIONAL HONORS FOR BAYSIDE & STORMONTH

The accomplishments of Fox Point-Bayside students, teachers and administrators continue to be recognized at both the state and national levels. This year, Bayside Middle School was named the

TOP MIDDLE SCHOOL IN WISCONSIN

by Niche and was also ranked among the **top five middle schools in the state by U.S. News & World Report**. Stormonth Elementary School earned recognition as one of the **top 15 elementary schools in Wisconsin by U.S. News & World Report**.

TEACHERS & STAFF
BY THE NUMBERS

The Fox Point-Bayside School District employs a team of dedicated teachers and staff who provide a rich educational experience for all students. These educators equip students with the foundational knowledge, skills and support necessary to succeed academically and personally. **The summary below highlights the individuals behind this work and the vital role they play in shaping the district's success.**

OUR TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

87% OF STUDENTS SAY CLASSES ARE FUN AND INTERESTING

93% OF STUDENTS UNDERSTAND LESSONS THANKS TO CLEAR TEACHING

95% OF STUDENTS FEEL THEIR TEACHERS CARE ABOUT THEM

98% OF STAFF SAY DISTRICT TEACHERS EDUCATE EFFECTIVELY

Spring 2025 School Perceptions Family, Staff and Student Engagement Survey

OUR TEAM AT A GLANCE

- **130+** staff members across the district
- **62% of certified staff** hold a master's degree in education
- **31 teachers** have been in the district for 10+ years
- **1,493** collective years of teaching experience

TEACHER HONORS & RECOGNITIONS:

- **Brandon Blahnik** nominated for **National History Day Teacher of the Year** (Junior Division).
- **Jillian Heise** serving on the **2026 Caldecott Selection Committee.**
- **Bayside Music Department** awarded the **NAMM Foundation Best Communities for Music Education Award.**

WHAT OUR PARENTS ARE SAYING

"These educators have gone way above and beyond to push our son to try harder and really apply himself in everything he does!"

"All of the staff at Stormonth have helped my child in a positive way."

"All the teachers that my children have had throughout their schooling at Stormonth have been absolutely incredible and have far exceeded my expectations. I am so grateful that my children get to go to school at Stormonth!"

"My kids so enjoy all of the specials and I feel they all do such a great job at bringing art, music, activity, books and languages to life."

CONGRATULATIONS MS. O'SULLIVAN! Stormonth music teacher, Ms. Shaina O'Sullivan, has been awarded the Certificate of Excellence for General Music Education by the Milwaukee Civic Music Association! This prestigious award recognizes educators who demonstrate extraordinary dedication and impact in the field of music education. Ms. O'Sullivan embodies these qualities every day and fosters a lifelong love of music in our students. From the daily joy in her classroom to the many opportunities she creates for students to shine on stage, her impact is felt across every grade level.

Ms. O'Sullivan will be recognized on March 1 at the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra concert.



COFFEE HOUSE: BIANNUAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

STUDENT SHOWCASE

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS AND THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

Every two years, Bayside Middle School hosts an evening showcase called Coffee House where students highlight their talents developed through classes and extracurriculars. **Our school community is invited to join us for Coffee House on Thursday, March 12, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Bayside Middle School**!

To share all the great student accomplishments, there will be multiple stages set up for performances. Art and class projects will line the halls. There will even be interactive areas. Student docents will be available to make sure all visitors know where they are going and explain all the great things to see. Here's a preview of what you can expect at Coffee House.



WISCONSIN SCHOOL MUSICAL ASSOCIATION SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL

Choir and orchestra students are busy preparing to participate in the the Solo and Ensemble Festival taking place in March. They select and practice solo and ensemble pieces that they will present on the day of the festival. Presenting their pieces on one of the multiple stages at Coffee House will give them a chance to share their work with our community and to practice in front of an audience.





FORENSICS

Members of our Forensics team have been competing against other teams throughout the region. Students share their practiced and honed presentations at the regional competitions hoping to earn enough points to qualify for the state competition. Audiences aren't allowed at competitions, so this is an exclusive chance to see their carefully prepared performances!



ART GALLERY

The hallways of our middle school will soon be filled with art. Every student who is in an art class will have art showcased in the hallways. Art Club students will have their own section to share the variety of pieces they have worked on over the year.

COFFEE HOUSE: BIANNUAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

STUDENT SHOWCASE

INTERACTIVE OPPORTUNITES

From miniature golf to chess, there will be plenty of interactive activities. Our miniature golf activity is being designed by our Those Who Code group. They are using their coding skills to craft unique miniature golf holes using robotics. Our Chess Club will have a dedicated room to give visitors a chance to relax and play chess with a club member.



SCHOLASTIC WRITING

Scholastic Writing Club members will share their writing through displays and some will take the stage to read selections aloud. Stop by the Scholastic Writing display to read through all their writing including the seven pieces, **which were recognized through the Scholastic Writing Awards** this winter.





JAZZ BAND AND POP ORCHESTRA

In addition to the individual student performances, we will be treated to performances by our Jazz Band and our newly formed Pop Orchestra.

STUDENT MAKERS MARKET

Find a range of student-created crafts for sale. The Makers Market gives students an opportunity to explore how to create and market their own crafts.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

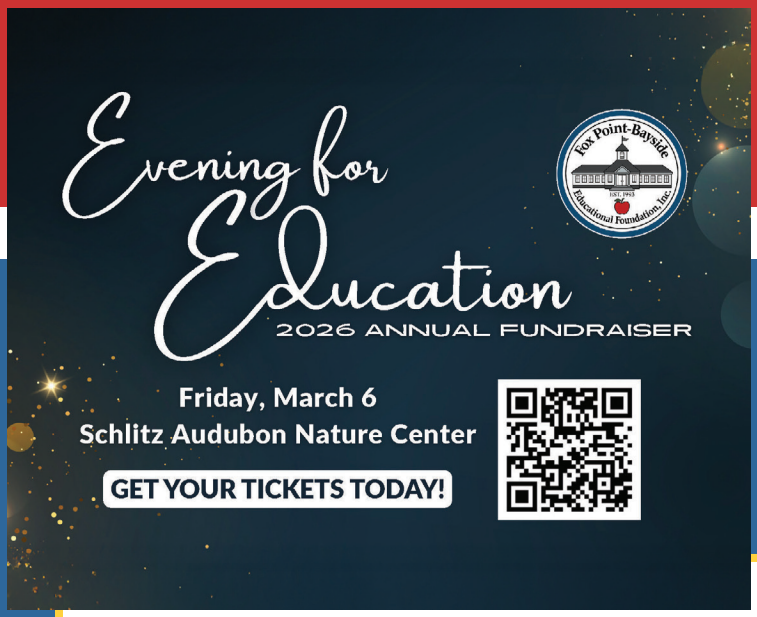
As a special treat this year, we will have the Scholastic Book Fair open during Coffee House. Students from our Library Advisory Committee will help run this returning favorite!



COFFEE!

What would Coffee House be without coffee? Our student group that delivers coffee and other beverages to staff weekly will be selling coffee, tea, and snacks.

FOUNDATION UPDATE



LEARNING THAT GROWS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The Fox Point-Bayside Educational Foundation supports programs that spark curiosity and help students thrive in the classroom and beyond.

One of our biggest priorities this year is helping fund outdoor learning spaces at both district schools. These aren't playgrounds. They're extensions of the classroom where reading, science, creativity and teamwork happen outdoors.

The new spaces will give students and teachers places to gather, explore and learn together in the fresh air, shaping how students engage and grow. We're excited to help bring this vision to life and look forward to sharing more updates as plans develop.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Join us for our annual fundraiser event, **Evening for Education, on Friday, March 6. Tickets and family sponsorships are available now,** and tickets are limited! You can also support these initiatives by donating at **fpbedfoundation.org/donate** or contacting **fpbedfound@gmail.com**.



Bayside students exploring robotics.

OUR FUTURE IN ACTION



K5 students stepped into the role of conductor through MSO's ACE program.

MORE WAYS WE SUPPORT STUDENTS

As a nonprofit, the Foundation depends on the generous support of our community to bring meaningful educational experiences to students, such as:

- Expansion of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra's ACE program for K5 through second grade
- STEAM programs, equipment and hands-on learning opportunities
- Upgraded, ADA-compliant sound and lighting equipment in the Stormonth gymnasium
- Seventh grade Courage Retreat empowerment program

THANK YOU to our generous sponsors* for supporting our event and district initiatives!

GOLD $5,000

Miron

eu:a

SILVER $2500

MATHNASIUM The Math Learning Center of Whitefish Bay and Mequon

ATTOLLES LAW, s.c.

Rebecca Wahlberg, Peck Foundation | The Cook Family
The Kamm Family | The Stickler Family | Willette Knopp

BRONZE $1,000

Fiduciary Management, Inc. | Huffman Keel
Sendik's Food Markets | The Phung Family

SUPPORTER $500

Concept4 | Farnsworth Group | L&A Crystal Services LLC
The Andrew Family | Lauren Balda | Amy & Adam Bazelo
Anne & Mark Berkoff | Kristi & Tyler Carlson
Laura & Ross Cover | The Kushi Family
Abby & David Schwartz | The Weinberg Family

FRIEND $250

WEA Member Benefits | Jessie & Jason Allen Family
The Stegall & Berta Family | Tom & Kathy Nash
The Toppel Nelson Family

A special thank you to Mueller Communications, All Occasions Catering, Schlitz Audubon Nature Center and Sendik's Home for their continued support!

**Sponsors as of February 1, 2026*

FOX POINT-BAYSIDE PTO

Winter is off to a busy and exciting start with a brand-new Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) board in place! The last few months have consisted of new member onboarding, planning key events and brainstorming fresh ideas. The first quarter of the year is also when PTO begins reviewing grant proposals and discusses how we can continue to bring meaningful improvements and resources to our classrooms. We're incredibly excited for what's ahead as we continue to grow and build on the strong foundation already in place.



Here's a quick recap of our fall successes, made possible by your generosity, our amazing volunteers and our premier sponsor, Midwest Orthopedic Specialty Hospital:

- Conference dinners for all staff
- Bike to School Day at Stormonth
- Monster Bash (with 600 registrations, and $13,000 raised to benefit our schools)
- Fall Book Fair
- Noodle's Restaurant Night
- Bayside Activity Nights (BANs)
- KinderDate Night (with almost 70 Kinder-kid attendees!)
- First Stage Theater Family Night
- Yearbook Cover Contest (with 31 entries!)
- Our first Kids Night Out (KNO)

Looking ahead, we have two Winter Family Fun Nights planned at Elite and Fiserv Forum, along with more restaurant nights, BANs and KNOs. We're also in the early planning stages for the Cupcake Fun Run in early June, and we'd love your help. **If you're interested in joining the fun and creative planning team or volunteering at the event, reach out to cupcakerun@foxbaypto.org.**

Stay connected with us:

- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram (**@fpbspto**) for regular PTO news and updates.
- Get involved with the PTO. Find our volunteer interest form in the membership toolkit to find the best opportunities for you.

Thank you for your continued support as we all partner together to make a difference in our schools and for our students.

GayAnne Ketter
PTO President | ptoteam@foxbaypto.org

FOX POINT BAYSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Significantly Exceeds Expectations 2012-2025

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EXPLORING SUMMER PATHWAYS

REGISTRATION SAVE THE DATE!

Keep kids busy this summer with unique opportunities for discovery and growth by enrolling in Summer Pathways! With more than 40 programs, Summer Pathways provides students with enriching educational experiences to reinforce skills, extend learning and, most importantly, have fun!

Summer Pathways is not your typical summer school. Students explore new ways to learn every day with programs like **Cinema Kitchen**, where students will cook up the most famous foods in film, **Comic Books and Beyond**, which explores all parts of pairing images with narrative storytelling, **Wilderness Survival Squad**, where students learn outdoor survival skills and problem-solving with limited resources, and more!

Check out the Summer Pathways 2026 program booklet to learn more about this year's offerings.

Registration for Summer Pathways 2026 officially opens on March 2, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

SCAN HERE

