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the falconer

Fairhill School News, Information and Events

SINCE 1971

From the Executive Director

I love a good road trip. I love the planning, the exploring, and the sense of adventure that ensues when the journey begins. A school year operates exactly like a massive, 180-day road trip. It requires careful packing, navigating unexpected detours, pacing yourself through the long stretches, and eventually celebrating the final destination.

Our 2025-2026 road trip would not have been possible without the combined efforts of a talented team of people working together to ensure we reached our destination. That team included educators, support staff, parents, Board members, alumni, and of course students. Everyone's contributions led to a successful conclusion to a very busy and productive journey and many memories were made in the process.

The Class of 2026 completed their high school journey full of hope for the future. The graduation ceremony is the culmination of school experiences and recognizes each graduate's successes and achievements in their academic careers, and it provides an opportunity for families to reflect on that journey. Each graduate faced obstacles along the way, but with the support of family, teachers, and friends they were able to successfully reach this milestone destination. There is excitement in the air, and you can almost hear the sigh of relief and feel the joy as the graduates recess from the stage with diplomas in hand. It is truly an honor to be a part of their life journey, and we wish each one success as they embark on the next leg of their personal road trips.



Executive Director, Carla Stanford, M.Ed.

No sooner do we send these graduates off, than we begin the planning process for the next road trip. Planning certainly requires a good road map. Our school is an accredited institution that ensures we have a solid plan and a road map for now and into the future. We are deep into the accreditation review process that includes every domain in a school, including leadership, governance, school culture, and learning. It will require carefully analyzing data, processes and results. This process helps us recognize both our strengths and our growth opportunities so that we can create a comprehensive plan providing a successful learning environment for students now and in the future.

We are looking forward to the future of Fairhill and our continued partnership with each of you. Wishing you all a relaxing and joyful summer…and I'm looking forward to hearing about your summer road trips.

Celebrating 55 Years of Transforming Lives

Fairhill Fund 55 YEARS 1971-2026 HONORING OUR LEGACY *Investing in Our Future*

For 55 years, Fairhill School has empowered students who learn differently to discover their strengths, build confidence, and achieve success in school and in life. As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, we invite you to join us in honoring our legacy by helping us reach our **North Texas Giving Day goal of $55,000**.

Our Annual Fund Chairs, Nancy and David Ganucheau, know firsthand the life-changing impact of a Fairhill education.

"After years of searching for the right school for our children, we found Fairhill. From the moment we toured, we felt the warmth, support, and sense of community that make this school so special. Zachary discovered a passion for literature, science, and theatre, while Natalie flourished in yearbook, theatre, and photography, earning state recognition. Last year, our son Daniel joined the Fairhill community and quickly found a place where he could thrive academically and athletically. Our experience has been so positive that we are enrolling another child this coming school year."

COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

To inspire others to support Fairhill, the Ganucheau family has generously committed **a $10,000 matching gift** for North Texas Giving Day. Every dollar donated will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to $10,000, doubling the impact of your generosity.

Your gift to the Fairhill Fund supports personalized learning, specialized educators, innovative programs, campus improvements, faculty development, and financial assistance—ensuring every Falcon has the opportunity to thrive.

55 Years of Learning
55 Years of Growth
55 Years of Confidence
55 Years of Transforming Lives

Join us on North Texas Giving Day – Thursday, September 17, 2026. Help us reach our **$55,000 goal**, maximize the **$10,000 match**, and invest in the next 55 years of transforming lives.

Honoring 55 Years of Transforming Lives. Investing in the Next 55.

Please mark your calendar and make your gift on September 17, 2026, during North Texas Giving Day."

Together, we can make a difference. Give now or schedule your donation: **bit.ly/3rSZQRN / northtexasgivingday.org/fairhill-school**

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Fairhill Hosts Parent Seminar on Learning Differences

Building on the success of Parent University and our commitment to serving as a resource for the wider community, Fairhill welcomed families, educators, and professionals to a special seminar focused on learning differences and student achievement.

On Saturday, April 18, Fairhill School welcomed families to "Unlocking Your Child's Potential & Discovering Their Superpower," the latest installment of the school's Partnering for Success Parent Seminar Series. The event brought together parents, educators, and experts for an engaging and informative morning focused on understanding and supporting students with learning differences.

Throughout the seminar, attendees gained valuable insights into ADHD, executive functioning, psychoeducational testing, and the impact of technology and social media on children and adolescents. Presenters shared practical strategies and research-based approaches designed to help families support their children's academic, social, and emotional growth.

Hilary Stern introduced the LEAN framework, encouraging parents to Listen, Empathize, Ask Questions, and Notice patterns and strengths when supporting children with ADHD. Dr. Ragan Brown expanded on the development of executive functioning skills, offering families practical tools to help students plan, prioritize, pace, and persist through challenges. Dr. Abbey Weinstein demystified psychoeducational evaluations, helping parents better understand how diagnostic testing can uncover a student's unique strengths and learning needs. Dr. Caroline Ford explored the opportunities and challenges presented by technology and social media, providing guidance for helping children develop healthy digital habits.

A highlight of the morning was hearing from Max Golman, Fairhill alumnus and current Board Member, who shared his personal journey and reflected on the lasting impact Fairhill had on his life. Golman spoke about how dedicated teachers helped him develop organization, accountability, and self-advocacy skills that transformed his ADHD from a challenge into what he now considers a competitive advantage. His message served as a powerful reminder of the lifelong impact of understanding, support, and effective strategies.



Max Golman

The seminar's impact was summarized by one parent who attended the event, stating, "I love coming to the Fairhill parent education seminars. Every time I attend, I learn about new research and new strategies to use with my child. Every seminar is like looking through a window and better understanding my child's brain and how it functions."

At Fairhill, we believe that student success is the strongest when schools and families work together. Through programs like Parent University and the Partnering for Success seminar series, we remain committed to equipping parents with the knowledge, tools, and confidence needed to help students understand how they learn, build self-confidence, and develop the skills necessary for long-term success.



FAIRHILL SCHOOL
EF Edge
Executive Function

EF Edge: Empowering Students for Success by Developing Executive Function Skills at School and Home

Launched in conjunction with Parent University, EF Edge is a monthly resource designed to help families strengthen executive function skills at home. Executive function skills are the brain management system—helping students plan, organize, prioritize, manage time, regulate emotions, and follow through on tasks. For students with learning differences, these skills often require explicit instruction and ongoing support. Each month, EF Edge provided practical tips, strategies, and resources to support organization, focus, independence, and self-advocacy to utilize at home. By partnering with Fairhill and reinforcing these skills at home, families helped students build confidence, develop greater independence, and thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Parent Council Update



As we reflect on the 2025–2026 school year, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible Fairhill community. This year has been marked by meaningful connections, memorable events, and a shared commitment to providing the absolute best experience for our students and families.

The success of our Parent Council would not have been possible without the dedication of countless volunteers who generously gave their time, talents, and energy throughout the year. Whether helping with faculty appreciation events, welcoming new families, supporting campus activities, serving as Grade Level Coordinators, or assisting with fundraising efforts, your contributions helped strengthen our community and enrich the Fairhill experience.

This year, our community came together in remarkable ways. The Denim & Diamonds Gala & Auction, Golf Classic, Fairhill Fund Campaign, and numerous volunteer-led initiatives not only brought families together but also provided critical support for the programs and opportunities that make Fairhill such a special place. Thank you to every sponsor, donor, volunteer, and attendee who helped make these efforts successful.

One of the things I admire most about Fairhill is the willingness of our families to step forward whenever help is needed. As a small school, we rely on the passion and generosity of our community, and time and again you have demonstrated what makes Fairhill truly extraordinary.

Looking ahead, there is much to celebrate. The 2026–2027 school year marks Fairhill School's 55th Anniversary—a milestone that honors our rich history, our mission of serving students with learning differences, and the generations of families whose lives have been impacted by Fairhill. I know the year ahead will be filled with opportunities to celebrate our legacy while continuing to build an even stronger future.

Thank you for helping make this year so memorable. I wish you and your family a wonderful summer and look forward to celebrating Fairhill's 55th Anniversary together in the year ahead.

Clay Bonner, Parent Council President 2025–2026 School Year

26th Annual Fairhill Golf Classic Drives Success for Students Who Learn Differently

The 26th Annual Fairhill Golf Classic was a tremendous success, bringing together supporters, sponsors, families, alumni, and friends for a day of fellowship, friendly competition, and philanthropy. Held under beautiful skies with a record turnout, this year's tournament highlighted the strength and generosity of the Fairhill community while raising critical funds to support students with learning differences.

A highlight of the day was the return of Cannons for a Cause on Hole One. Participants eagerly embraced the opportunity to add a little extra excitement to their game, knowing that 100% of the proceeds would directly benefit Fairhill students. From the first tee shot to the final putt, the event was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and a shared commitment to Fairhill's mission.

The Golf Classic would not have been possible without the incredible generosity of our sponsors. We extend our sincere gratitude to our **Title Sponsor, Fleeger Family Foundation; Platinum Sponsor, Sara and Sean Kremin, WDW Financial; Gold Sponsors, Stay Kalm, Happy State Bank, Techscape Landscape, and Mosaic; Silver Sponsors, Macey and Steve Davis (for Fulton), Kirkley Realty Group, and Groove Tango/Toyota of Plano; Meal Sponsor, Lonestar Neurology/ The Sheth Family; Tee Box Sponsors, Fiberlux Pools, The Wissing Family, and The Dziminski Family; and Family Hole Sponsors, The Ganucheau Family, The Tucker Family, and The Paul Family**.













We also thank our generous raffle sponsors, including **Topgolf, The Golman Family, Arcis Golf/Twin Creeks Golf, The Davis Family, The Fleeger Family, and The Pizza Dudes**, whose contributions helped make the day even more memorable.

A special note of appreciation goes to our dedicated Golf Committee and volunteers: **John Newton, April and Cody Anderson, Michelle and Michael Stein, Rehan Zarak, Clay Bonner, Christy Carlo, Brooke Tucker, Jennifer Hendrix, Andrea and JD Sanders, Elizabeth Phifer, and Jacque Lake**. Their countless hours of planning and leadership ensured a first-class event for all involved.

Thank you to everyone who participated, sponsored, volunteered, and supported this year's Golf Classic. Mark your calendars for the 27th Fairhill Golf Classic on October 26, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at Twin Creeks.

Denim & Diamonds Gala & Auction Raises Over $150,000 for Fairhill Students

Fairhill School is proud to celebrate the incredible success of our **2026 Denim & Diamonds Gala & Auction**, presented by **The Fleeger Family Foundation/ Candee & Matt Fleeger**. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and attendees, the event raised **more than $150,000** in support of Fairhill's mission and the students we serve.

The evening was filled with excitement, laughter, and community spirit as guests embraced the Denim & Diamonds theme and enjoyed an unforgettable night of giving. The silent and live auctions, raffle, paddle pull, wine pull, and Heads or Tails competition created an atmosphere of fun while raising critical funds to support innovative programs and life-changing opportunities for students with learning differences.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our generous sponsors, including **Platinum Sponsor Macey and Steve Davis; Sapphire Sponsors Cheryl and Jerry Conatser/Hendrix Family, Nancy and David Ganucheau/Barrow Hanley, Cintia and Johnny Powers, and our Anonymous sponsors; Ruby Sponsors Katie and John Dziminski and the Fairhill Board of Directors**; and our many underwriting sponsors and donors whose generosity made the evening possible.







The live auction featured exceptional experiences, including the coveted Vail, Colorado getaway donated by Candee and Matt Fleeger, Chef Jeffrey Kollinger's Gourmet Five-Course Dinner for Eight, The Diamond Factory experience, and Broken Bow vacation packages. Guests also enthusiastically supported our teacher offerings and Head of School experiences, demonstrating once again their unwavering commitment to Fairhill students.





Most importantly, every dollar raised directly impacts our students by providing specialized resources, enriching programs, and opportunities that empower them to discover their strengths and reach their full potential.

To our Gala Committee, sponsors, donors, volunteers, families, alumni, and friends—thank you for believing in Fairhill and investing in our mission. Your generosity continues to transform lives, and together you have made this year's Denim & Diamonds Gala & Auction one of the most successful celebrations in Fairhill history. Be sure to save the date of February 27, 2027 for next year's event as we celebrate Fairhill's 55th Anniversary and honor more than five decades as a premier institution in the Dallas-Fort Worth area dedicated to educating students with learning differences.

THANK YOU DONORS AND SPONSORS



Donations made through the Annual Fund, golf tournament, and gala directly enhance the education of Fairhill students. We thank our donors for helping to provide services to students and incremental training to our specialized staff.

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Round-Up Table Sponsor

Max Golman
Boot Scootin' DJ
Pavithra and Kannan Soundarapandian

FAIRHILL SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

Fairhill School is a community of dedicated, caring, and experienced educators that empowers students who have learning differences. The student-centered curriculum focuses on differentiation, multi-sensory experiences, executive function development, and intervention for individualized learning needs. Fairhill fosters students' unique potential while guiding them on their journey toward becoming confident 21st century citizens.

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ADMINISTRATION

Carla Stanford, Executive Director
Tony Moreno, Head of School
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Caroline Ford, Ph.D., Director of Diagnostic Assessment Center

ADVANCEMENT

Deann Badura, Director of Development, Public Relations, and Alumni Relations
Susan B. Stern, Director of Admissions and Outreach

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Silent Auction "Hot Branded" Spotlight

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Community Partner Programs

Let Your Purchases Support Fairhill!

Register for one or more of the following programs!

Tom Thumb/Albertson's Good Neighbor Program
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Shopraise.com/for/fairhill

Lasting Legacy of Mr. Jim Toner



On Saturday, September 20, the Fairhill community gathered to honor the lasting legacy of Mr. Jim Toner. Mr. Toner, who taught at Fairhill from 1983–1997, made a profound impact on his students. Thanks to the vision of alumnus Max Golman '93, along with the support of the Fairhill community and the Toner family, his legacy will continue to inspire future generations.

The event included the unveiling of a street sign in his name at the school entrance and the announcement of the ***Jim Toner Post-Secondary Scholarship***—awarded annually to a graduating senior who reflects the growth and values he instilled in his students.

It was a beautiful day filled with stories, laughter, and gratitude. We were honored to welcome 12 members of the Toner family, along with alumni, former and current faculty, and friends who shared heartfelt memories. Moving tributes from Jim Toner's daughters, Michele and Lisa, Fairhill Executive Director Carla Stanford, Max Golman '93, Dr. Nathaniel Means '91, Brad Weinstein '96, Emily Stahl '96, Karen Johnson '96, beloved teacher Connye Williams Roberson, and Wade Mercer—Fairhill's current IT Director who also emceed the event—painted a vivid picture of Jim's remarkable influence.



Karley Knott, Inaugural Recipient of the Jim Toner Post-Secondary Scholarship Award



Building Strong Hearts & Minds with Friendzy, Kelly Hennig



At Fairhill, we are committed to supporting the whole child—academically, socially, and emotionally. That's why we have been excited to use the ***Friendzy*** Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program in our elementary classrooms this year.

Friendzy helps students develop important life skills such as understanding their emotions, showing empathy, building positive relationships, and making responsible choices. Through engaging, age-appropriate lessons and activities, students learn how to be kind, respectful, and supportive members of their classroom community.

Each week, students participated in short Friendzy lessons that encouraged meaningful discussions, teamwork, and real-life problem solving. These lessons help create a safe and inclusive environment where every child feels valued and connected. Families noticed students using Friendzy language at home—talking about kindness, friendship, making good choices using many of their catchphrases. By partnering with families and using programs like ***Friendzy***, we are helping our students grow into confident, compassionate individuals.

Teamwork makes the dream work!

FALCON ALUMNI AND FORMER FALCONS

We love hearing about the incredible journeys our alumni take after leaving Fairhill. Whether you've moved across the country, stayed close to home, started a new adventure, or are making a difference right where you are, we want to hear all about it! If you would like to share an update, please complete the form on the alumni page on our website or email Deann Badura, Director of Development, Public Relations, and Alumni Relations at alumni@fairhill.org.

Class of 1984

Christopher Nutter attended Reinhardt University before building an impressive career in security and loss prevention. After serving in the U.S. Army in Military Intelligence, he went on to become a licensed private investigator in Georgia and now serves as Director of Corporate Security for GSE, Inc., bringing more than 30 years of security management and operations experience to his role. Christopher married Jessica in 2016, and together they are raising their 8-year-old twins, Ethan and Aurora. He proudly notes that one of his greatest accomplishments has simply been "being a dad."

Class of 1985

John Kenneth (Ken) Thompson has built his career with Abbott Laboratories, where he works in quality control. He and his wife, Veronica, are the proud parents of Freddie (20) and McKenzi (14). Ken also shared fond memories of his parents, Tommy and Betty Thompson, who were part of Fairhill's early history and helped shape the school community.

Class of 1986

Jeffrey LaVigne has been self-employed for many years, working in welding, plumbing, and a variety of hands-on trades while enjoying life on the Trinity River. In his update, Jeffrey reflected warmly on his Fairhill years and the friendships he made, sharing memories of classmates and teachers who continue to hold a special place in his heart and expressing his hope of reconnecting with old friends.

Class of 1991

Nathaniel Means has dedicated his career to the study and teaching of history. After participating in American University's Washington Semester program, he earned his B.A. in History, cum laude, from Centenary College of Louisiana, followed by an M.A. from Louisiana State University and a Ph.D. from the University of Southern Mississippi. His academic honors include the Perkins Fellowship, the McCain Fellowship, and recognition as a Fulbright Scholar in China in 2009. Today, he serves as a Professor of History at Dallas College. He recently shared fond memories of his time at Fairhill at the Lasting Legacy event honoring beloved teacher, Jim Toner.

Class of 1998

Thomas (T.W) Foster recently reconnected with Fairhill, and we are delighted to include him among this year's alumni updates.

Class of 2006

Sean Rothberg graduated from The University of Texas at Dallas with a B.A. in Literature and later earned an M.A. in Humanities with a certification in Holocaust Studies. A Magna Cum Laude graduate who also received Department Honors, Sean recently achieved another milestone by being accepted into the University of North Texas Ph.D. program in English, where he will begin this fall with a Teaching Fellowship.

Class of 2009

Tori Levy (Murphy) graduated from the University of North Texas with a degree in accounting and earned Dean's List recognition during her studies. She currently serves as Executive Assistant for Accounting and General Counsel at Witherite Law Group, where she supports executive leadership on high-level projects and strategic initiatives. Tori married Daniel Levy in 2017, and together they are raising their daughters, Amelia and Greer. She shared that Amelia will begin kindergarten at Brentfield Elementary this fall and that she and Daniel still enjoy reconnecting each year with Sra. Dallas at the annual egg hunt.

Class of 2013

Kelsey Ziegler graduated from the University of North Texas with a B.S. in Hospitality Management and now serves as a Strategic Engagement Manager at Goldman Sachs, where she negotiates staff augmentation contracts that save the company millions of dollars each year. Kelsey credits Fairhill with changing the course of her life, sharing that she learned to read there despite being told she would never graduate from college. Today, after nearly two years with Goldman Sachs, she hopes to encourage and inspire current Fairhill students and families by sharing her own journey with dyslexia and ADD.

Class of 2017

Lauren Badura will begin her fifth year of teaching at Leadership Prep School in Frisco, Texas, where she teaches 3rd Grade English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR). She lives in The Colony, Texas, and enjoys spending time with family and friends. One of Lauren's unique hobbies is collecting playing cards, with a collection of more than 200 decks proudly displayed in her home.

Holly Lange completed the inaugural EMPOWER program at the University of Arkansas in 2021 before returning to Texas in 2024. She currently works as a Beauty Advisor at Sephora at Kohl's, where she enjoys helping customers find products that meet their individual needs and style preferences. Holly hopes to continue her education in the future and pursue certification as a licensed makeup artist.

Jessica Rickerby attended Hendrix College and graduated with an interdisciplinary degree in Human Animal Relations and a minor in Art. She is currently attending the Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD) working on her 2nd Undergraduate degree in Equestrian Studies with a minor in Photography. She then plans to pursue a master's degree in photography. She and her son Maximus live in Savannah.

Class of 2018

Sarah Beskok graduated from the University of North Texas with a degree in Rehabilitation Studies and a minor in Counseling, earning Summa Cum Laude honors. She now works as an instructor at My Possibilities, where she helps adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to strengthen their social and life skills. Outside of work, Sarah has rediscovered her passion for photography, theatre, and video production while enjoying life in downtown Dallas.

Class of 2019

Rachel Anderson graduated with honors from Austin College with a bachelor's degree in business administration and currently serves as Community Growth Marketing Manager for Lazy Dog Restaurants. In her role, she builds partnerships throughout the community and develops collaborative opportunities that benefit both local organizations and the company. Rachel will begin pursuing her master's degree in marketing at UT Dallas this fall.

Class of 2020

Taylor Adams completed her associate degree in General Studies at Collin College and is finishing her bachelor's degree in education with a specialization in Special Populations at Texas Woman's University this summer. She currently teaches the two-year-old class at Goddard Honey Creek and has already accepted a kindergarten teaching position for the 2026–2027 school year at Imagine International Academy of North Texas located in McKinney, TX.

Class of 2021

Autumn Hite is continuing her education at Collin College as she works toward her future goals. We look forward to following her continued journey.

Delaney Murchison earned her bachelor's degree in communications with a minor in Leadership Studies from Austin College and is now pursuing a master's degree in Speech Pathology and Communication Disorders at Abilene Christian University. During her time working with children with autism and developmental disabilities, she completed her Registered Behavior Technician certification before stepping away to focus on graduate school. Delaney also shared the exciting news that she and her fiancé, whom she met at Austin College, are getting married this summer and are enjoying life with their Great Pyrenees mix, Pluto.

Class of 2023

Virginia King is entering her senior year at Texas State University, where she is majoring in Communication Studies. This summer she is serving as a Communications Intern for a nonprofit organization while also managing social media for her sorority, gaining valuable leadership and professional experience along the way.

Class of 2024

Zach Ellis is currently attending Hofstra University while working at the Pat Montagano Campus Recreation Center and serving as an on-air DJ for WRHU 88.7 FM. Listeners can catch his "Rock 'n' Roll Oasis" program every Monday evening from 6-7 p.m. ET as he continues to combine his love of broadcasting with his college experience.

Class of 2026 Graduation

Graduation at Fairhill School was a heartfelt celebration of achievement, growth, and perseverance as family, friends, faculty, and staff gathered to honor the Class of 2026.

The ceremony opened with remarks from Senior Class Advisor and Upper School English teacher Mrs. Allen, who compared the graduating class to a group chat—different personalities and perspectives coming together to create a strong, supportive community. She shared, "If you can find your people—the ones who challenge you, support you, make you laugh, and show up when it matters most—you'll be more than okay. And wherever life takes you next, I hope you carry a little bit of this group chat with you, because that's what made all the difference."

Mrs. Allen then introduced Salutatorian Jack Traweek, describing him as "a human form of Google with an endearing smile and a giant heart." Valedictorian Chase Tucker reflected on the class's journey with humor and honesty, reminding classmates that while the path wasn't always clear, they never walked it alone.

Senior Class Advisors Sra. Lissa Dallas and Ms. Kathy Daley shared personal reflections honoring each graduate, celebrating their unique growth and contributions.

Commencement speaker and Fairhill alumnus Max Golman ('93) encouraged graduates to embrace their strengths, learn from setbacks, and confidently create their own futures, echoing Jim Toner's timeless advice: "The best way to predict the future is to create the future."

Head of School Tony Moreno announced each graduate as diplomas were presented by Mrs. Carla Stanford and Mr. Max Golman. Following a moving performance of *Open Spaces* by Dr. Caroline Ford, the Class of 2026 turned their tassels and stepped confidently into their next chapter.

Congratulations, Class of 2026. The future is yours to create!

Valedictorian: Chase Tucker Austin College, Sherman TX **Major:** Finance

Salutatorian: John Shell "Jack" Traweek Collin College, Plano TX **Major:** Automation and Robotics

Ean Miller Columbus Schreiner University, Kerrville, TX **Major:** Pre-Physical Therapy

Addyson Grace Dougherty Beacon College, Leesburg, FL **Major:** Anthrozoology

Madison Elizabeth Fix Collin County Community College, Plano, TX **Major:** Theater **Minor:** Psychology

Brooks Allen Harsila East Texas Baptist University, Marshall, TX **Major:** Kinesiology

Karley Paige Knott Drake University, Des Moines, IA **Major:** Psychology

Angel Lopez Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), Savannah, GA **Major:** Painting, Industrial Design, and Art History

David James Page Trade School **Major:** Electrician

Khushi Nilay Sheth Southern Methodist University, Dallas TX **Major:** Corporate Communications and Public Affairs **Minor:** Marketing

Fletcher Lawrence Stall Texas Tech University, Lubbock TX **Major:** Pre-Health - Nursing or Physical Therapy

Catarina Kyuin Velez Dallas College, Dallas TX **Major:** Digital Art & Design & Film

The Class of 2026 was awarded scholarships totaling more than $542,000.00!





















SENIORS READY FOR TAKE-OFF

Last First Day of School

Senior Parents Present Memory Boxes

Senior Walk

Feed My Starving Children

Senior Prank – TSA Security Check for underclassmen

Senior Outing trip to the zoo

Cap and Gown



Student Council: A Year of Leadership, Service, and Excellence

Fairhill School's Student Council (STUCO) had an outstanding year fostering leadership, school spirit, and service throughout our school community. High School representatives worked together to create meaningful experiences for students while supporting important charitable causes.

In October, STUCO hosted Homecoming Week 2025, themed Making Waves, featuring spirited dress-up days, a Homecoming Tailgate, the Varsity Volleyball Homecoming Game, an all-school pep rally, and the highly anticipated Homecoming Dance.

Service remained a central focus throughout the year. In November, STUCO organized a Peanut Butter Drive benefiting Frisco Family Services, while December's HOWL-i-day Dog Food Drive supported Home at Last Animal Haven through the generosity of Fairhill families. In April, members participated in Earth Week activities, promoting environmental awareness and stewardship across campus. In May, STUCO celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week by writing personalized thank-you notes for every faculty and staff member, recognizing their dedication and commitment to Fairhill students.



One of the highlights of the year came in late February when STUCO members traveled to Washington, D.C., for an unforgettable educational and leadership experience. Students explored many of our nation's most significant landmarks, including the White House, Lincoln Memorial, Tidal Basin, National Archives, Smithsonian museums, the United States Capitol, Supreme Court, Library of Congress, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The trip culminated with participation in the LEAD Conference 2026, the premier national leadership event for student council members, where students joined more than 2,000 peers from across the country for inspiring keynote presentations and leadership workshops.



The Student Council was led by President, Karley Knott; Vice President, Chloe Souther; Treasurer, Chase Tucker; Secretary, Annie Fisherman; Parliamentarian, Carolann Day; Historian, Jack Traweek; and Public Relations Officer, Khushi Sheth. Additional members included Eme Paul, Natalie Ganucheau, Faye Allsup, Kelly Keith, Catarina Velez, Ean Columbus, Maddie Fix, Sydney McKay, Addyson Dougherty, and Graham Lake, under the guidance of faculty advisors Jennifer Allen and Lissa Dallas.

The year concluded with an extraordinary honor as Fairhill's Student Council was recognized as a 2026 National Council of Excellence by the National Association of Student Councils. Announced following the LEAD Conference, this prestigious designation recognizes exemplary leadership, service, citizenship, and student engagement. Even more impressive, this marks the sixth consecutive year that Fairhill's Student Council has earned this national recognition…a testament to the dedication, leadership, and commitment of our students and advisors.

Inspiring a Love of Reading Through Creativity and Exploration



At Fairhill, the library is much more than a place to check out books—it is a hub of creativity, exploration, and discovery. Through innovative programs and themed events, Mrs. DeAndrea continually finds new ways to spark students' curiosity and foster a love of reading. Whether students are attending a Minecraft-themed reading party, celebrating Star Wars Day with literacy activities, or stepping back in time through the National Park Service's Traveling Trunk program, each multi-sensory experience is designed to make learning interactive, meaningful, and more fun.

Using the National Park Ranger Trunk, students explored the important role of park rangers through hands-on artifacts and immersive activities. Filled with authentic ranger uniforms and hats, including a vintage dress jacket, a life vest, as well as maps, books, and educational resources, the trunk offered a unique glimpse into the work of the National Park Service. Students participated in an interactive role-playing activity that highlighted the responsibilities of park rangers, including protecting natural resources and educating visitors about park rules and conservation. Through this engaging experience, students gained a deeper appreciation for the vital role park rangers play in preserving America's natural treasures while bringing learning to life in a fun and memorable way.

"By connecting books, history, and learning to students' interests, Mrs. DeAndrea brings stories to life while inspiring curiosity, imagination, and a lifelong love of reading."





Mrs. Dana DeAndrea Featured by Follett Content



Mrs. Dana DeAndrea, Fairhill's beloved librarian, has been recognized by Follett Content, a leading global provider of library and educational resources serving more than 86,000 schools and 45 million students worldwide. Founded in 1873, the company supplies millions of books and learning materials to schools and libraries each year.

After learning about the innovative work happening in the Fairhill Library, Follett Content invited Mrs. DeAndrea to collaborate on several professional initiatives, including a testimonial and an in-depth case study highlighting the successful gentrification of the Fairhill Library. This project showcases how organizing books by genre has made it easier and more engaging for Fairhill students to discover and access books that match their interests and reading levels.

Mrs. DeAndrea's expertise and creativity have already made such an impact that Follett is featuring her testimonial in a national marketing campaign for private and parochial schools, as well as on their website. The upcoming case study will also be published on their site in the future.

In addition, she has been invited to participate in future projects that may include leading webinars for librarians and interviewing authors for Follett Content programs and resources. We are incredibly proud of Mrs. DeAndrea for this well-deserved recognition and for continuing to inspire students, educators, and librarians far beyond the Fairhill community.

Sickler Award

The Sickler Award was presented to Karley Knott, Editor-in-Chief of the 2025–2026 Yearbook. Created in memory of Stuart Sickler '2013, the award recognizes his lasting contributions to Fairhill's journalism program.



The Fairhill Chess Club celebrated another successful year with an end-of-year awards ceremony recognizing the dedication, growth, and achievements of its members.



Elementary School

students brought literacy to life through a Reader's Theatre performance of *Little Red Riding Hood*, building fluency, expression, and confidence as they read aloud, portrayed characters, and collaborated with their classmates.



Inspired by *Balloons Over Broadway*, our 2nd–6th grade students with Grand Marshall Mrs. DeAndrea celebrated with their own Thanksgiving parade while families, staff, and classmates cheered.



Mrs. Allen and Mrs. DeAndrea led a quilling class for Ms. Sanders' 2nd/3rd graders, with parents and grandparents joining in.



Fairhill Middle School

art students brought their creativity to life through the process of designing and sculpting papier-mâché birds.





Fairhill's Middle School Theatre class entertained audiences with *The Comstock Frog*, a humorous Old West tale inspired by the silver boom of 1856.





Our 7th and 8th grade students took their classroom experience on the road as they traveled to Austin, visiting the Texas State Capitol and the Bullock Texas State History Museum.

High School

Fairhill Theatre students brought Texas history to life through a Living History Museum.





Fairhill High School Art students earned an impressive 3rd Place at the 2026 State TAPPS Art Competition in Waco.

Middle School science students explored the life cycle through a memorable visit from baby chicks.



Fairhill's Acting Troupe presented *Tattoos*, a moving story about high school students discovering the power of human connection through nursing home visits.



Leading the way was senior Angel Lopez, who earned 1st Place in Senior Portfolio, Painting, and Color Drawing, 3rd Place in On-site Competition and 4th Place in Black and White Drawing.

The *Falcon Award* recognizes the student who embodies the essence of being a Fairhill Falcon. This year's recipients are Karley Knott and David Page.



Fairhill School

16150 Preston Road
Dallas, TX 75248
fairhill.org



FOLLOW US

SAVE THE DATE 2026-2027

AUG
13 Schedule Pick Up Falcon's First Flight Meetings
17 First Day of Classes / Early Release / Welcome to the Nest Opening
27 Curriculum Night (Parents Only)

SEPT
7 Labor Day Holiday
17 North Texas Giving Day / Fairhill Fund Kick-Off
18 Moms' Visiting Day
19 Parent Social

OCT
12 Student Holiday / Staff Work Day
22 Prospective Family Preview Coffee
26 Golf Tournament
28 Parent Conference Day

NOV
13 Tip Off Night
23–27 Thanksgiving Break

DEC
18 Early Dismissal for the Winter Holiday
Dec. 21-Jan. 4 Winter Break

JAN
4 Student Holiday/Staff Workday
5 Return to School after Winter Break
18 MLK, Jr. Day Holiday
21 Prospective Family Preview Coffee
29 Dad's Visiting Day

FEB
3 Parent Conference Day
15 Presidents' Day Holiday
27 Fairhill Gala and Auction 55th Anniversary

MAR
15-19 Spring Break
26 Spring Holiday

APRIL
1 Prospective Family Preview Coffee
19-23 Green Week
22 Parent Picnic / Early Release
23 Student Holiday / Staff Workday

MAY
3–7 Teacher Appreciation Week
14 Senior Walk
21 Cap and Gown
26 Last Day of School / Early Release
27 Graduation
28 Parent Conference Day

JUNE - JULY
June 7 – July 2
Summer Program – High School

June 7 - 25
Summer Program – Elementary/Middle School

July 5 - 9
School Office Closed