

# Fitzgerald

## Public Schools



*...continually improving the framework  
for academic and social excellence...*

### FITZGERALD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#### DIGITAL LEARNING + TRADITIONAL OFFERINGS = EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

In Fitzgerald Public Schools, children in preschool through a student's senior year at Fitzgerald High School are engaged in an education that blends the best of digital learning with the best of traditional offerings. Our goal is to prepare each student to be successful in this global society which requires the ability to communicate effectively, problem solve efficiently, think creatively and achieve digital literacy. Instead of replacing all textbooks with all Chrome books, we have taken a thoughtful approach to blending the best of digital learning with the best of traditional offerings. The stories we have to tell will let you know how our students are doing.

A recent graduate of Fitzgerald High School was awarded the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship. Each year, only 1,000 students from across the United States earn this unique opportunity for a scholarship to a university of their choice. Gates Millennium Scholars are highly academically capable students that have demonstrated extraordinary promise. As a lifelong resident in the district, this student excelled at the Macomb Math, Science and Technology Center and was President of the FHS National Honor Society. As a Fitzgerald alumni, he has completed his first year at Michigan State University, majoring in Bio-Chemistry and with a goal to earn a medical degree.

During the 2013-2014 school year, six Fitzgerald High School female students earned recognition by placing in the Michigan Council of Women in Technology's Web Design Competition. Two of the students won first place honors in the advanced category. In this same year, a female student at FHS was one of twenty-one students statewide that earned the Breaking Traditions Award from the Michigan Department of Education for demonstrating success in a career and technical education program that is nontraditional for the gender. "At a time when there is a market-driven schools-to-jobs pipeline, it is important to recognize the efforts of these students and the programs that helped them," said State Superintendent Mike Flanagan.

These are just a few of the stories we have to tell about the best of our academic and digital successes. It is also important to tell the stories about the best of our traditional offerings.

As a result of a rigorous application and interview process, Fitzgerald High School was recently awarded more than \$20,000 for instruments by the notable Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation. "You have demonstrated an outstanding dedication to helping your music program and your students achieve their greatest potential," said National Program Director Tricia Steele. The Fitzgerald Board of Education is committed to keeping music education, visual and performing arts alive in our schools. The district has a tradition of supporting the arts in education at all levels.

Our district would like to share one final story. FPS was one of four districts in the tri-county area to be awarded the Confucius Institute Classroom Grant. This grant program is managed by Hanban (Office of Chinese Language Council International) that is governed by a council of high level members of the Chinese government. In cooperation with Wayne State University, this multi-year grant will provide more than \$50,000 in technology, books and other classroom supplies. "The district is honored to receive this award from Hanban in recognition and support of the quality of our Mandarin Chinese program at Chatterton Middle School and the partnership we have with the Jiading District in Shanghai China," said Superintendent Barbara VanSweden. These are just a few of the stories that let you know how we are doing in Fitzgerald Public Schools as we blend the best of digital learning with the best of traditional offerings. We welcome visits by interested families or learn more about us through the new web site at [www.fitz.k12.mi.us](http://www.fitz.k12.mi.us). For more information, you are encouraged to call the Superintendent, Barbara VanSweden, at 586-757-1750 at your earliest convenience.

#### BENEFITS FOR YOUR STUDENT INCLUDE

##### Fitzgerald District:

- MDE/NCA Accredited Schools
- State-of-the-Art Technology, including Wireless Access and Interactive Devices
- After School and Summer Enrichment Classes
- Accelerated Programs to Enhance Learning
- FREE Breakfast for All Students
- School-sponsored Family Activities and Parent University
- Partnerships with the Business Community, including Henry Ford Health Systems
- World Class Safe, Secure Facilities

##### Preschool and Elementary:

- Award-winning Preschool Programs Featured on PBS Television
- FREE Full Day Kindergarten for All Students
- Recognized by MDE for Rewards School Status at Schofield Elementary 2012-2013
- Weekly Enrichment in Art, Music, Physical Education, Technology, Mathematics
- After School Extra Curricular Activities
- High Quality Before/After School Childcare

##### Middle and High School:

- Chinese Language and Culture Classes, including Student Exchange Program
- FREE Competitive Sports Programs
- Award-winning Fine and Performing Arts Programs
- After School Clubs/Organizations
- Recognized by MDE for Rewards School Status at FHS two consecutive years
- FHS Named to Nationally Recognized AP Honor Roll for Advanced Placement Courses
- Variety of Specialized Programs, including the Health Science Academy
- Access to the Macomb Math, Science, Technology Center
- College Credit Opportunities, including Macomb Early College and Dual Enrollment



Fitzgerald Marching Band



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[www.fitz.k12.mi.us](http://www.fitz.k12.mi.us)