

Fels Family Newsletter

Welcome to our Monthly Edition!

Welcome to the second edition of the **Fels Family** newsletter! Each month, we share key dates, celebrate student wins, and provide resources to support your child's success. It has been an incredible month of growth at Fels! Reminder, all links are **red**, please click for more information.



Focus, Relationship, Evolve, Self-awareness, Hope/Honesty

Fels Data Spotlight: STAR Assessments

Our students recently completed their Winter STAR assessments in Reading and Math. These tests provide a "snapshot" of student growth and help our teachers tailor instruction to your child's specific needs.

The Big Win	
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">23% of students scored At/Above Benchmark (highest tier) schoolwide during Winter Window in comparison to 19% during Fall Window54.2% of students scored Intensive Intervention (lowest tier) during Winter Window in comparison to 57.5% during Fall Window
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none">26.8% of students scored At/Above Benchmark (highest tier) schoolwide during Winter Window in comparison to 19.2% during Fall Window45.7% of students scored Intensive Intervention (lowest tier) during Winter Window in comparison to 47.5% during Fall Window

Next Steps:

- Have your student retrieve their STAR Data in their student portal account (*self-awareness*).

Fels Essentials

Everything you need to know about our daily operations and expectations to help your student succeed at Fels.

- **Attendance:** If your child will be absent, please FelsAttendance@Philasd.org or submit absent notes to the main
- **School Uniform:**
 - Tops: white, black, gray collared polo shirt or Fels gear
 - Bottoms: Black bottoms only, black knee-length skirts & shorts are permitted
 - Black pants NO RIPS, no ski mask
 - School spirit outfits and sports uniforms are allowed
- **Communication:** Our primary way of reaching you is through the number and email on file in SIS. We frequently add information to our [Instagram Page](#), follow us! Please ensure your contact info is up to date in SIS.

Parent & Family University (PFU)



PFU offers **free, in-person and virtual courses** designed to engage families as equal partners in learning. Sessions are led by District staff and community partners, and cover four main content pillars:

- **Student Attendance & Joy:** Supports and resources designed to increase attendance and joy in school.
- **Health & Wellness:** Supports and resources to promote physical, mental, and social-emotional health.
- **Civic Engagement:** Supports and resources to encourage community service and civic participation.
- **Financial Literacy:** Adult learning around money management and family earning potential.

All courses are **free and open to the public**, with childcare, meals, giveaways, and translation services available. Check out the options – **there's something for everyone!**

Website: philasd.org/pfu

Important Dates

FEBRUARY [Monthly Calendar](#) [Sophomore Calendar](#) [Senior Calendar](#) [Fels Athletic Calendar](#)

2nd-13th: 11th/12th Grade ACCESS Testing w/ Ms. Brown in B118 (ELs in Gen Ed Classes)

3rd: F.R.E.S.H. Recess Event

3rd-12th Student Well Being Survey

11th: 11th Grade Town Hall

12th: 10th Grade Town Hall

13th: 12th Grade Town Hall

13th: Staff Professional Development (Half Day); Three Hour Early Dismissal for Students

16th: Presidents' Day; School closed for students and staff; Administrative offices closed

17th: Lunar New Year; School closed for students and staff; Administrative offices closed

18th-20th: Alternate ACCESS Testing w/Ms. Brown in B210 (Low Inc Students)

Academic Resources & Support

Support learning at home with our core digital platforms. These tools are designed to align directly with what your child is learning in class and help them "Evolve" their skills.

- **Lexia (Literacy):** A personalized reading program that helps students build phonics, vocabulary, and comprehension skills at their own pace.
- **IXL (Math):** An interactive site that provides thousands of practice problems and immediate feedback to help students master grade-level concepts.
- **Illustrative Math Family Support Hub-** The Imagine Learning EL Education Family & Caregiver Support Hub is designed to provide valuable resources tailored to enhance every family's engagement in their student's learning journey.
- **Illustrative Math English Learners Education Family Support Hub-** The Family Support Hub is a one-stop destination for parents and guardians seeking educational resources tailored to their child's Illustrative Mathematics learning journey.

Grade Band Updates

9th Grade Academy

- Congratulations to Freshmen who are on-track! Remember, that students must pass their 4 Core Classes, plus 1 more, in order to move up to 10th grade. Any student in need of support can email Ms. Gingalewski at agingalewski@philasd.org.

10th Grade

- Any 10th grade students that are in need of support with bringing up their grades please speak with Coach Troy for support or email at tlsanders@philasd.org.

11th Grade

- The Junior Dues deadline is fast approaching; the deadline is March 27, 2026; make sure your student is paid in full. Here is the [information for parents/guardians](#).

12th Grade

- Congratulations to the Class of 2026! The deadline for Senior Dues payments was January 6, 2026. Dues are **mandatory** for ALL graduating seniors. More information can be found [here](#).

F.R.E.S.H. PBIS

Our focus on **Focus, Relationship, Evolve, Self-Awareness, and Hope/Honesty, and Focus** continues!

Students are encouraged to earn all **20 points daily** (5 points per class). Remember, those points will be the "currency" for our F.R.E.S.H. PBIS Store which opened last month! Our inventory includes snacks, daily essentials, high-end supplies, and Fels Swag (20–500 pts), plus premium apparel from Nike, Airpods & Lululemon.

- **Focus:** Tunnel Vision for Your Success
- **Relationship:** Form Meaningful Relationships
- **Evolve:** Grow 1% each day
- **Self-Awareness:** Learn Yourself!
- **Hope/Honesty:** Keep Your Hope Alive



Building Our Fels Family

We believe that when schools and families partner together, students thrive. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events:

Quarter 3 Report Card Conferences and Spring Title 1 Parent Session

Your voice is essential in your child's education. Please join us to discuss your student's progress, STAR data, and goals for the next term.

- **Thursday, April 9th** at 12:00 - 2:30pm & 4:00 - 6:00pm (Evening Session)
- **Friday, April 10th** at 12:00 - 2:30pm

Contact Us

Have questions? We are here to help!

- Front Office: 215-400-7100
- Website: <https://fels.philasd.org>
- Admin Team
 - Principal Rasper - mjrasper@philasd.org
 - AP Mahoney (9th Grade) - adanderson@philasd.org
 - AP Johnson (10th Grade) - cjohnson6@philasd.org
 - AP Bolds (11th Grade) - dbolds2@philasd.org
 - AP Ryan (12th Grade) - spryan@philasd.org

Let's continue to be BETTER THAN YESTERDAY!