



Fox West



Top Story!

Welcome Back 7th Graders!

- What they did on there Washington D.C. Trip!

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Fox West
Academy!



8th grader talks on Meeting the President!

News



foxwestnews



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Letter From



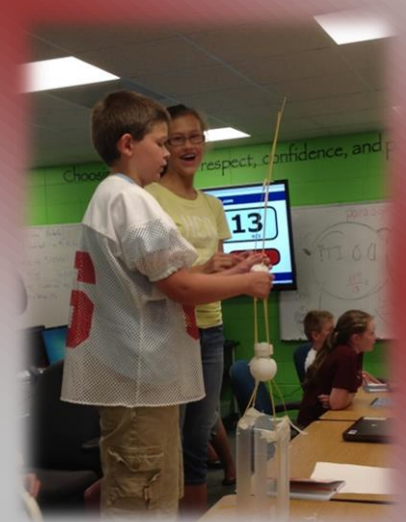
Hi, my name is Carson Buss and I am the editor for the magazine Fox West News. I got inspiration to make this magazine because I am in the school Fox West Academy and I thought it would be a fun idea to make a magazine on the school. In this magazine you will see different memories and just fun stories and advertisements. This is just the beginning for the memories and things we do in Fox West and is not even close to all of them. You will find a few articles in here on different places we have visited such as Washington D.C.—which actually the 8th graders now went last year and the 7th graders this year went there this year. Another place the sixth graders went to was Wolf Ridge which was the first time 6th graders went on a trip with just their grade at Fox West. There is an article in here which is on the blackout that occurred the first year of Fox West which was on the second day of school, I don't want to give too much away so you will have to see for yourself, in the article. Fox West Academy's line is choosing to lead with respect, confidence and passion. So if you didn't already know we are a project and technology based charter school. You would most likely find us on our computers learning new things to create on different websites, but we don't just do this, for example, we do different science experiments also—which you will see in an advertisement in the magazine. Here we

The Editor



learn to be a leader and take charge at our learning. I have been enrolled in Fox West Academy since 6th grade and I cannot even express how much I learned here and how much it has changed my life. I am now a 8th grader and this is currently my last year at Fox West and I will be going on to high school next year. This year my class is going to Florida which ironically we are leaving on my birthday. I can't express how excited I am for the trip. We have done so many projects here and I have done so many I can't even count on my fingers all of them I have done here. One of my all-time favorite ones was when my friend, Breylin—which is a very good singer—we made a music video for her and I got to video tape and even take pictures of her for her very own album, the album didn't turn out how we wanted it to but it was still a very good project and album overall.

Another one I did was last year and we teamed up with a commercial making group and they helped us make a commercial for Fox West. You might not have thought it would take that long to make a commercial but let me tell you it took a very long time making the



video, even though it was only a minute long. I wish I could stay in Fox West for all my high school years as well, but unfortunately I can't. It will be very sad to say goodbye to this place cause of all the new people, memories and friends I have made here but I hope you enjoy this magazine and I look forward to your reviews!:)

From, You're Editor: Carson Buss



Hello! I am a longtime fan of your magazine! I feel it is a very well written magazine that needs more recognition. Although the magazine is fantastic, I feel it needs to have more interviews of the actual students. Or look inside a student's typical day at school so we can see what it is really like to go to school at Fox West Academy.

Fan, Anna Gorski



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Hi, I'm Kennedy and I read an article from the last issue of Fox West News, about the 7th graders of Fox West Academy going on a trip to Washington D.C. I attended that trip and agree that preparing for it was chaotic! I thought I would update you on how the journey went from a participant's point of view. Preparation consisted of writing an essay on a venue that we would be visiting in D.C. We also learned and study metro routes which we would be using as our transportation throughout the trip. Our whole class waited weeks to go on our expedition. We all packed our suitcases with items on a list we received and went over our itinerary. We stayed in a house and were separated into rooms. Right away there was drama with the room agreements. After we settled in, sleeping was an issue (as it was for most nights). As we went to different monuments, museums, and more, we presented our essays. Every day we walked miles to get to places, leaving us exhausted. We all carried around backpacks filled with our snacks, lunches, and other items. Every day we learned so much about our leaders, history, and more. I had so much fun with my classmates and the experience was great. Overall, there were ups and downs, but so much was learned.

From,

Kennedy

7th grade

Fox West Academy



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Are you tired of doing science work sheets? Do you wish you can do more hands on experiments? Well I have the perfect solution for you! FOX WEST ACADEMY SCIENCE CLASS! This class isn't just a regular class; we do experiments, online learning, inventing, team work and much more! Join us today and be taught like a pro!

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My D.C. Trip By: Lauren Stae

Many people don't have the opportunity to go to Washington D.C.; our nation's capital. But, my seventh grade class and I had the opportunity. We visited it for four days. We did many things while we were there. The first night that we got there, we just got settled into our house and ordered domino's pizza for dinner. We then went to bed at 10:00 P.M.



House, you had to go through a metal detector. Makenna always beeped when she went through any metal detectors because of her belt. When we were in the white house, you could only see a few rooms. The only rooms that you were allowed to see were the rooms with colored names; (green room, blue room, red room, etc.) Once we were done seeing the rooms in the

White House, we headed over the National Mall; "Park" to go eat lunch. For lunch we had sandwiches, chips, an orange, and a juice box. When we finished lunch, we walked to the Vietnam War Memorial where Marissa did her report. The final thing that we did that day was the Washington Monument. Once we were finished with that, it was dark. We still had a few more things to do. We walked over to the WWII Memorial where Nolan did his report. We had one final thing to do after the WWII Memorial. Visit the Korean War Memorial. We then walked back to the house. We had nachos for dinner. They were good. After dinner, we got to stay up until 10:30 P.M.-ish.

Day One (SATURDAY)

I woke up at 6:30 A.M. and got dressed for the day. We had scrambled eggs, waffles and toast for breakfast. We had to go on the metro to get to where we wanted to go. Some



of the kids had trouble with their metro cards; we were a little bit behind

schedule after that.

The first thing we did was go to Ford's Theater. There we listened to Anna's report on it. After Anna did her report, we walked to the Old Post Office where Kat and Alec shared their reports.

Once they finished their reports, we went to White House. It took forever to get into the White House because the line was so long. Since there is high security at the White



Day Two (SUNDAY)

I woke up at 6:00 A.M. because I had to make breakfast. We had cereal, toast, and orange juice. After breakfast we had the option of either going to church or going on a "tour" of D.C.

I chose the tour. The four people go to see the outside of the

supreme court, outside of the library of congress, and also got to walk around the back side of the Capital Building. We stopped at a small lake to eat lunch. We had peanut butter and strawberry jelly sandwiches, chips, go-gurt, an orange/apple, and a juice box for lunch. While we were eating lunch, Rosalie shared her report on the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial. After lunch, we walked over to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, where Makenna did her report. It was really cool. There was a ginormous statue of him. We went to the then to the holocaust museum. Sadly, we couldn't see the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial. We only got to see it from a distance. After the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, we got to choose a Smithsonian to go to. I chose the museum of natural history. There was a bunch of cool things there. There was the hope diamond, a dinosaur room; there were ginormous skeleton, and there was a wildlife room. When we were finished with everything on our agenda, we walked back to the house. Mrs. Koenecke has a friend that lives in D.C. Mrs. Koenecke also had the key to the house. Since we couldn't get into the house to make dinner, we got had the option of going to Panda Express, Chipotle, or Five Guys. I chose Panda Express. I had the orange chicken and fried rice. When we finished eating dinner, we walked back to the house. Tonight was movie night! We were watching Night at the Museum 2, Battle



of the Smithsonian's. When we were about half an hour into the movie, we got a knock at the door. It was the land lord. He said that he had gotten a complaint about noise. We thought that we had the whole entire house. We actually didn't. The people below us called and complained that they didn't get any sleep last night because we were too noisy. Because of that, we couldn't finish the movie. We had to go straight to our rooms. Lights out at 10:30 P.M.

Day Three (MONDAY)

I woke up at 6:30 A.M. For breakfast, I had cheese and egg on an English muffin. It wasn't my favorite breakfast. After breakfast we went to the Arlington National Cemetery where I did my report. We all got to ring the freedom bell. It was really loud. We got to the cemetery a little bit later than we planned, so we missed the president's speech. We did get to see the changing of the guard. It was really cool. We almost met the president. We got mob scanned and our bags checked just in case he would come by. The 7th grade class last year got to meet him. After we saw the changing of the guard, we went and saw J.F.K.'s Tomb and the eternal flame. The eternal flame was really cool. In my opinion, the changing of the guard was the best thing that was at the cemetery. After lunch, we went to the 9/11 memorial. There were these benches with little "pools" of water under them. They were all full of leaves,

so a lot of us helped clean out the "pools". When we were finished at the 9/11 memorial, we got to hose what Smithsonian we wanted to go to. This time, I went to the National Zoo. We were only there for a little bit. Once we were by the otters, Makenna, Alyssa, and Kennedy ran off. We got "locked in" to the zoo. It was really scary. This police officer came by and told us that the zoo was closed. He also said that he saw three girls wandering the zoo. When we finally got out of the zoo, we walked home. Tonight's dinner was tacos. This was the best dinner, in my opinion. After dinner, it was time to go to our rooms. I fell asleep at about 10:00 P.M.



everything going on in other rooms. The capital building was the last thing that was did that day. We were very behind schedule. We had to run to the metro to get back to the house so that we could get our luggage. We then took the metro to the airport. We got to the airport at about 5:00 P.M. It was time to eat dinner. I decided to have a sub. I was all ready to order when they said that they only took cash. I didn't have any cash left. I then asked Mrs. Koenecke for some money. She gave me five dollars. That wasn't enough money. I had to ask Mrs. McHugh for about two dollars. I ordered and got my food. We then waited about 30 minutes until the plane landed and allowed us to board. We were on the plane for about 20 minutes until we took off. We landed at 10:30. I got home at 11:30 P.M. - 12:00 A.M.

Day Four (TUESDAY)

Today was our last day in D.C. We still had a bunch of things to do. The first thing that we did on Tuesday was our "tour" of the Bureau and Engraving and Printing. We missed our tour by about 10 minutes. After the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, was Reid Ribble's office. We were then walked to the Capital Building with two of Reid Ribble's interns. The capital was really cool. There were so many cool things, that I lost count. One of my favorite things at the capital was the whispering spot. It was one spot in the capital that allowed you to hear almost



Overall, the trip was great. I would love to go there again. I hope the 7th graders next year can go to D.C. like my class and have as much fun as I did.

Wolf Ridge By: Siri Claybaugh

I couldn't wait to get to Wolf Ridge, but it took many hours to get there. Something happened the first night and it changed my trip.

When we got to Wolf Ridge all of us got settled in and went to dinner. After dinner my group went to a ropes course. It was dark and snowy. We had to put on the safety gear that they had, and then I was ready to go on the course. When I got on the ropes course, I was scared. I started the ropes course by walking on a wooden bridge. Then I completed the obstacles of the course, including the zip line.

When I went on the course a second time I felt more confident in myself because it was my second time. I kind of slid on the snowy planks part of the wooden bridge and then fell. I felt like I hit something hard and ended up hanging off the edge. I thought it cut a little hole in my pants. I could not see a lot of blood. I put a band aid on the hole in my pants to make sure it was okay.



When I was getting ready for bed I had my mom look at my cut and then she had other people look at it. They were worried about if I needed stitches. We ended up go to the ER on a school bus.

I fell asleep on the bus to the ER. The ER visit started ok, they gave me snacks. Their cookies were not very good. Next I got numb in my leg by my shin. After that, I got! 5 stitches on the big cut and needed one more. The doctor put the last stitch in without a numbing shot. The ER visit wasn't all good because the shots and stitches hurt a lot. Luckily, I slept on the way back.

I couldn't go on any hikes at Wolf Ridge, I couldn't climb the rock wall,

BUT IT WAS FUN ANYWAY!!



Science



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2012-2013

Washington D.C. Trip

You might be wondering what I'm doing walking around Washington D.C. with my friends on this hot of a day. Actually I do have a reason why I'm here today. You'll never believe who I just met, and why I'm recording this on my iPod instead of my camera.

Let me tell you this story from the beginning. I could tell you the short story but instead I'm going to tell you the thing from the moment I woke up this morning.

I was suddenly awake by my alarm and realized I had over slept, but I wasn't alone. Almost everyone else had also slept too long. This caused a large commotion during breakfast and every one was trying to do everything faster than usual.

This wasn't the only problem we had on our hands. We also had no electricity. Due to the power outage Mr. Hall had to stay back to try to get the power back on. If you think that's the end of it then you are terribly mistaken my friend.

During the rush we missed our bus. After fifteen minutes of waiting, the next bus finally came, and brought us to the train station. The train ride into the city was nice and short.

Once we arrived at our stop we did some sightseeing before we arrived at Arlington

cemetery. The line to enter was probably one of the longest lines I had ever seen to this day. Most likely due to the fact that it was Veterans' Day.

After about forty-five minutes of waiting, we arrived at the shuttle and lugged ourselves onboard. Then on the way to the drop-off point the shuttle stopped at an intersection. We waited for the shuttle to pull forward, but after 3 minutes it still hadn't moved an inch. Then someone pointed out a black SUV driving down the road. I didn't think it was anything unusual about it until I saw the two black limos that were following it.

I was looking at the presidential motorcade. Nobody knew which limo the president was in, but it still felt like I had met the president in person. Once the motorcade had passed the bus lurched back to life and



continued on its way to the drop-off point.

Once we were dropped off we headed toward the eternal flame. Personally I thought that this was quite boring. After that our class walked over to the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. That was a little

more interesting. A soldier yelled at some kids that were sitting in the plaza.

Finally we were walking along the path on the way out of the cemetery. When I stopped to take a picture to send to my mom. Suddenly someone bumped my arm, and I dropped my camera. Instead of falling and staying in one spot my camera decided it was going to go full out Kamikaze on the



sewer, and dove right in.

After going around to several buses asking for a crowbar. The secret service came over and helped take off the sewer cap so we could grab the camera. So now you know why I'm recording this with my iPod.

That process took almost an hour to complete, but finally we continued on our way to the exit, and yet again we saw the motorcade. This time we were able to follow the motorcade, and that was exactly what we did.

Once we caught up to the motorcade we noticed there was a large crowd gathered in the cemetery. Before we could join the crowd we were put through a metal

detector and patted down. Finally I made my way to front of the crowd and saw the president I said hello and shook his hand. A lot of people also shook Mrs. Obama's hand, but I didn't think it was worth the wait.

After every one shook their hands we headed over to a different area that was about 100 yards away from the rest of the crowd. Once there we took a few photos and said thank you before we left.

After we left we ate lunch, and got back on the train to head back to the house, that now had power.

I am Caleb Derga-Prinz and this story is not fictional, but is 100 percent the truth. We really did have a lot of bad things happen to us that day, but I guarantee that none of us will ever forget the great things that happened that fateful day. This just goes to show that even if you're having a bad day it can get better.

Fox West Academy

is a fun and educational, project based learning school.



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**FWA is a great learning
experience!**

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ONE OF MY FAVORITE MEMORIES OF FOX WEST WAS THE POWER OUTAGE ON THE SECOND DAY OF SCHOOL WHEN I WAS IN 6TH GRADE. THAT DAY THERE WAS A TORNADO WATCH. WE WERE CHECKING OUT BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY, WHEN ALL OF THE SUDDEN, THE POWER WENT OUT. WE WERE HIDING UNDER THE COMPUTER DESKS IN THE LIBRARY BEFORE WE WERE MOVED TO THE GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION ROOM, BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID OF THE GLASS BREAKING AND CUTTING US.

THE ROOM WAS REALLY SMALL, SO ALL SEVENTEEN OF US PLUS MR. HALL AND MRS. VAN DALEN HAD TOO. AFTER AN HOUR THE TEACHERS DETERMINED THAT IT WAS SAFE TO RETURN TO FOX WEST. THEN WE HAD TO GO UNDER THE DESKS AGAIN IN THE 6TH AND 7TH GRADE ROOM (NOW SYNERGY CENTRAL). THE REST OF FOX WEST WAS ALREADY IN FOX WEST, SO WE WERE PUT IN THE CORNER. AFTER A LITTLE WHILE, ELLIE STARTED TO FREAK OUT A BIT. WE GOT HER TO SETTLE DOWN, BUT SHE SEEMED ON EDGE FOR THE REST OF THE DAY. WE HAD TO SIT FOR AN HOUR AND A HALF, BUT WE WERE FINALLY ABLE TO GET UP AND WALK AROUND.

MR. HALL SET UP HIS IPAD SO THAT WE COULD WATCH A MOVIE. IT WAS A MOVIE ABOUT AN ALLIGATOR HUNTER IN FLORIDA. SCHOOL WAS LET OUT EARLY THAT DAY.

THANKFULLY THEY COUNTED THAT DAY AS A FULL DAY. THE TORNADOES NEVER TOUCHED THE GROUND. WHEN I ARRIVED AT MY HOUSE, THERE WAS LEAVES AND BRUSH ALL OVER MY YARD AND EVERYBODY ELSE'S IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD.

I THOUGHT THAT THAT STORM WAS BAD. THAT WAS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE TORNADOES THAT CAME

THROUGH THE AREA THE SUMMER OF 2013. IF YOU ASK ANYONE, THEY'LL SAY THAT THE STORM WAS ONE OF THE WORST STORMS THAT CAME THROUGH HORTONVILLE. EVERYONE THAT I ASKED SAID THAT THE STORM WOKE THEM UP. I MUST HAVE BEEN THE ONLY ONE THAT SLEPT THROUGH THE WHOLE THING. WHEN I WOKE UP MY PARENT TOLD ME ABOUT THE WHOLE THING MY DAD EVEN WALKED OUTSIDE BECAUSE HE DIDN'T KNOW THAT IT WAS THAT BAD. THE SIRENS NEVER WENT OFF. NOTHING HAPPENED TO OUR HOUSE OR OUR NEIGHBORS' HOUSES THANKFULLY.

THE NEIGHBOR TO OUR LET HAD AN EMPTY LOT NEXT TO THEM FULL OF WHITE OAK TREES. THE WHOLE LOT WAS CLEARED BY THE STORM. THE TREES WERE REALLY BIG TOO. AMAZINGLY, NONE OF THE TREES HIT THEIR HOUSE. THE NEIGHBORS ON OUR LEFT ALSO HAD SOME BIG TREES IN THEIR YARD. A TREE FELL IN THEIR BACKYARD COMING REALLY CLOSE TO HITTING A BRAND NEW PLAY SET THAT THEY JUST BOUGHT. THE FUNNIEST THING ABOUT IT WAS THAT THEY MOVED IN A WEEK BEFORE THE TORNADOES CAME. THE OTHER TREE THAT FELL, FELL ON THE DRIVEWAY ALMOST HITTING THE MOM'S CAR. THERE WAS ALSO A PLUM TREE THAT WAS IN THEIR FRONT YARD THAT CURVED DOWN AND TOUCHED THE GROUND, THE WIND WAS SO STRONG. THE WORST PART WAS DOWNTOWN HORTONVILLE AND THE CHURCH IN NEW LONDON THAT WAS DEMOLISHED. THERE WERE A LOT OF BUILDINGS DOWNTOWN THAT LOST THEIR ROOFS AND WINDOWS BLEW OUT DURING THE STORM.

- BRADY HALVERSON

Fox West Academy Technology By:
Christopher Lamers

In Fox West Academy we use technology on a daily basis. Technology is one of those things that we can't live without at FWA. Without it, our classes don't operate because everything is completed online in either various computer programs or on websites such as Google.com or Aleks.com for math. I personally am a geek; I use my tablet and computer for truly everything in the school, from virtual notebooks to simulators.

It's amazing what technology can do for us in the 21st century. It's pretty awesome. I love it here at FWA; between the technology and project based learning environment, it's truly a lot of fun learning here. You could ask any student here and you would have a 95% chance at a student saying this is their favorite school compared to regular middle school. Not that this school is necessarily better, its just different although it might be better for some people because of their personal learning style.

Here at FWA: we use lots of different forms of technology, from tablets and computers, to cameras and data loggers. The teachers use projectors to display the homework and or curriculum for everyone to see. They also put that information on the website for all of us to see at home and when not in the classroom.

The teachers are also very accommodating to how you display or portray what you have learned. You can create tri-folds, videos, models, websites, and much more. Some

projects have a certain form, but others its up to you. I like making videos and tri-folds. They are the most fun to make, but that's my personal opinion. Yours might be a little or a lot different.



The First Day By: Jaden Lohff

"Mom, I feel better, so i think i can go to school today!" i said. The first week of school i was sick, so today is my first day at FWA! "Are you sure, Jaden?" said mom. "Yea!"

"Bye mom!" "Bye i hope you have a good day!" Suddenly i started freaking out because it was a new school and i didn't know anybody. Ok, this will be a lot of fun, i thought to myself as i walked in.

Everyone was staring at me! At least i knew six people. Well, that's not a lot, at all. Then one girl came up to me and said, "Hi i'm Drew, I'm very energetic, I'm super crazy, if you don't want to be my friend that's ok! But I will still bother you anyway!" "Ok...."

For math i started an account on a website called ALEKS. It is a nice way for me to learn. In reading we read a book called The Tale of Desperaux.

During the day, people were walking around wear signs on their backs that said whistle if you think im cute! Only the teachers whistled. It was weird!

At lunch i sat by Drew, Mika, Hailey, and Mikayla. I already knew Mikayla but we never really talked. Mikayla is nice. So are the other girls. For lunch we had pizza. it was disgusting. School lunches are never good. I didn't feel good after lunch. After lunch I had choir. We sang from these song books. I guess I had a few kids in my choir class that are in FWA.

In project block they introduced a project called project lead the way. We go on this one download on the computer and make shapes and 3D stuff. It's fun. They said we might get a 3D printer so we can print stuff from it. I am going to make a bowl.

Since my first day was a Friday, we played a game at the end of the day. It was where you ran up a hill and found certain markers. It's fun and hard. But hey, I got to color kind of.

And that was my very first day in FWA! It was fun, but it was a long first day. Like I said, everybody was weird.

Fox West Academy By: Amelia Coker

I joined FWA in 6 grade and I absolutely loved it. When I lived in Chicago I went to a school just like FWA but it was for younger kids (preschool through 3rd grade) and that is how I started school and how I learned. That is how I started school so when I moved to Wisconsin (first grade) It was hard for me to learn because I wasn't used to the learning. So when I heard about FWA I was so excited I was jumping up and down.

FWA is a project based learning school so we have a lot of projects and a lot of responsibilities. Currently we are working on making a magazines and writing articles for our class mates. This project is really fun and shows all of us students, that we can't slack on work. We have deadlines and we need to have that article finished by that date.

Fox West Academy students are sometimes called "Charter Rats". People who aren't in FWA don't really understand how we learn and that we have a different schedule and we have more "freedom".

When I was in FWA there were only 60 students aloud. I didn't even think about how FWA would be in 20 years. Now; 20 years later; there are 3 FWA schools all allowing 100 people in each. FWA has come so far I am so excited for Jenni Koenecke, Greg Hall, and Dan Lundstrom. They got FWA so far, they need to be awarded! On Friday night I took them all out to eat at Olive Garden and I had so much fun! Mrs. Koenecke hasn't changed much! She still has her strong personality and I have a feeling that it isn't going to go away anytime soon!

In 2015 FWA won the School of the Year Award. It was a great honor. I was in 7 grade when we received that award and all of Fox West was treated to a "fun day" where we did meaningful activities but it was really fun!

FWA focuses on leadership. Therefore we had a class called Essential Skills. We learned the 7 habits of leadership; which include: Being Proactive, Begin with the end in mind, Put first things first, think win-win, Think first to understand then to be understood, Synergize, and sharpen the saw.

Charter schools are a different type of learning that focuses on a certain topic. For example; Project Base, Reading, Interactive, etc. If you or your child is really enjoys any of these, trying a charter school may not be a bad idea.

When I was in FWA we didn't have the technology we do today. We also had less room. FWA expanded outward in 2020; the year I graduated high school; so instead of having 2 rooms, we had 3. Some people think that that is too much space, but really it works quite well. We all have a little space to call ours and they got to personalize it however they wanted to.

Last but not least, FWA changed my life. All the teachers and students were so amazing and it helped my learning experience so much. If it wasn't for FWA i probably won't be where I am right now, Head Director of the Charter Schools of America.