

**FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**October 11, 2023**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Colin Veitch, Erik Andersen, Donna McKenna, Brian Monroe, Stephanie Pickup,

**STAFF PRESENT:** Assistant Superintendent Mark Balestracci, School Business Manager Nicole Potter, Sheri Souza

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Members of the community, parent, Tracy Higgins, & Principal Andrew Kulak

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Veitch at 6:31 pm.

Roll Call of Committee Members: Mr. Andersen, Ms. Pickup, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna, Mr. Veitch

***Approval of Minutes***

Motion to approve regular session minutes from September 27, 2023 made by Ms. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Andersen, approved with one abstention (4-0-1).

***Report of the Student Advisory Committee:***

Mr. Veitch read an update on behalf of Ms. DeCunha noting spirit days and athletic updates.

***Reports and Recommendations of the Superintendent:***

***Receive Update on Fairhaven High School AP Honor Roll Recognition:***

Mr. Balestracci introduced Mr. Kulak, Principal of Fairhaven High School (FHS). Mr. Kulak updated the committee that FHS earned a place on the College Board's AP School Honor Roll for the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Kulak explained the AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP courses and support them on a path to college success. Mr. Kulak shared a handout (attachment A) with the committee that explained the AP School Honor Roll criteria as well as a progress summary. The committee as a whole congratulated Mr. Kulak and faculty at FHS on this achievement.

***Receive Update on Fairhaven Public Schools Profile of a Learner:***

Mr. Balestracci introduced Assistant Principal and Coordinator of Teaching & Learning, Ms. Tracy Higgins. Ms. Higgins updated the group on the Profile of a Learner initiative that has been a couple of years in the making. She shared the most up to date graphics, secondary as well as elementary (Attachment B), stating they are works in progress and once complete will hang in the schools. Mr. Veitch stated this also coincides with the District's core values. The committee ensued, praising the work that is being done on the Profile of a Learner Program.

***Receive Update Fairhaven High School Boiler Room Roof:***

Mrs. Nicole Potter told the committee that the roof in the boiler room at FHS is leaking. Mrs. Potter consulted with Spencer Preservation regarding the project because this portion of the roof is part of the old building and there are tiles in the vicinity that are irreplaceable and need to be handled with care. Spencer Preservation recommended a full replacement of that roof. Estimated cost will be \$187,226. Mrs. Potter has applied to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for funding of 50% of the project, and potentially getting the balance from the Trust Fund. Capital Planning may also be another way to request the funds needed. Mr. Monroe asked when we will hear back from the CPC on a decision. Mrs. Potter has been invited to their meeting in November to discuss the project and it will be another few months before a decision is made.

***Receive Budget Update:***

Mrs. Potter informed the committee that no excess funds will be expent due to the newcomer families that have arrived in Fairhaven. Mrs. Anne Carreiro, Assistant Town Administrator of Finance, has created a reimbursement account for all monies spent. Mrs. Potter will apply for the emergency grant through DESE for \$1,000 per student. There is additional funding available through the Governor's supplemental budget for \$104 per day, per student, up to \$18,000/student. The district is actively seeking all available State and Federal funds.

***Upcoming Events:***

The next School Committee meeting will be held October 25, 2023.

***New Business:***

Motion to approve the Fairhaven High Parent Teacher Organization to apply for use of the Turf Field at Alumni Stadium made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Ms. McKenna, approved, ( 5-0).

***Questions from Individual Committee Members:***

Mr. Monroe asked if we received our NEASC accreditation. Mrs. Higgins stated we received the report, it was good. They will be reviewing it with Mrs. Kohler for a plan going forward.

Mr. Monroe also mentioned that it was brought to his attention in a non formal capacity that Acushnet may be looking for regionalization with Old Rochester Regional. Mr. Veitch stated he will attempt to reach out to the Acushnet School Committee for more information.

Mrs. Pickup expressed concerns regarding the newcomer families. She asked that the Administration send out updates regarding potential budget issues, etc. Mr. Veitch stated that they will add updates to the School Committee future agendas as needed. The committee asked if we have enough staffing and resources to accommodate the newcomers. Mr. Balestracci stated they are always evaluating what resources are needed and reaching out to various groups and organizations for assistance if we do have a need. Mr. Balestracci also confirmed that our EL staff has been phenomenal with transitioning the new students. Mrs. Pickup also asked about trauma resources for our students in dealing with new students that may have potential

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trauma and or behavioral issues. Mr. Balestracci assured Mrs. Pickup any behavioral issues and or trauma will be handled as we currently do with our students that have these particular issues. Mr. Andersen stated the Department of Child and Family Services place foster children in our District and has the utmost confidence in Fairhaven Public Schools. Mr. Veitch agreed with Mr. Andersen and stated that this is in our wheelhouse and we are good at what we do. Mrs Pickup asked if we are collaborating with other Districts who have received newcomers. Mr. Balestracci confirmed that we have consulted with Dennis Yarmouth and Bourne.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Andersen, approved, (5-0).  
Adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Sheri Souza  
Secretary to the School Committee  
Fairhaven Public Schools

Approved October 25, 2023



Andrew Kulak  
Fairhaven High School  
12 Huttleston Ave  
Fairhaven, MA 02719-3122

Dear Andrew Kulak,

Your school has earned a place on the College Board's AP<sup>®</sup> School Honor Roll for the 2022-23 school year! On behalf of everyone in the AP community, congratulations to you and your colleagues.

The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP courses and support them on the path to college success.

Research shows students who take AP courses and exams are more likely to attend college and graduate on time. The students who enter four-year colleges with credit from AP accelerate their path to graduation and build confidence for college success. And even for those who don't earn college credit, AP coursework provides early exposure to college-level work and contributes to a college-going school culture.

We know it takes a significant schoolwide effort—dedication from teachers, counselors, administrators, students, and parents—to make AP access a priority. We join you in celebrating this inspiring achievement for your community. Again, congratulations! I'm inspired by your commitment and grateful for the chance to honor your success.

Sincerely,  
Trevor Packer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Trevor Packer".

*Senior Vice President, AP and Instruction*  
College Board



# AP Score Reports for Educators

## AP School Honor Roll Progress Report - 2023

Fairhaven High School (220770)

Data Updated: July 3, 2023  
Report Run: October 10, 2023

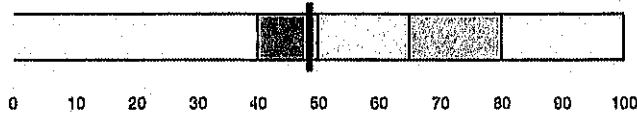
### Progress Summary

**Congratulations! Fairhaven High School has earned Bronze recognition on the 2023 AP School Honor Roll.**

**Class of 2023**

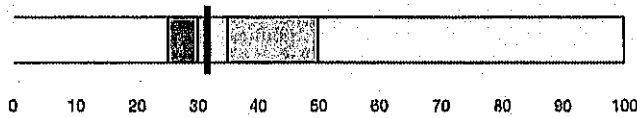
**College Culture | BRONZE**

49%



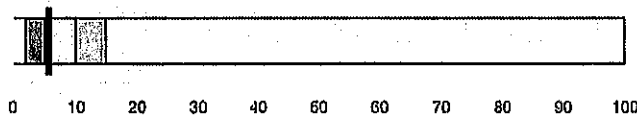
**College Credit | SILVER**

32%



**College Optimization | SILVER**

6%



**BRONZE**

**AP 2023 School Honor Roll  
Fairhaven High School**

Your school achieved all criteria to be listed on this year's AP School Honor Roll as a **Bronze** school!

For planning and goal-setting, the three criteria for **SILVER** schools are:

- Expand your school's college culture by enabling **50% of your Class of 2024** to experience 1 AP course before graduating.
- Assist with college affordability by enabling **30% of your Class of 2024** to earn college credit by earning an AP Exam score of 3.
- Optimize student's college readiness by creating opportunities for **5% of your Class of 2024** to take a total of 5 APs across their high school years, with at least 1 taken in 9th or 10th grade.

To qualify for the 2023 AP School Honor Roll, schools must meet or exceed the criteria for a given recognition level for all three metrics. This report always reflects the most recent data for your organization. Additional information about the AP School Honor Roll can be found on [AP Central](#).



# AP Score Reports for Educators


## AP School Honor Roll Progress Report - 2023

Data Updated: July 3, 2023  
Report Run: October 10, 2023

Fairhaven High School (220770)

### Honor Roll Criteria

**Congratulations! Fairhaven High School has earned Bronze recognition on the 2023 AP School Honor Roll.**  
Class of 2023

AP School Honor Roll Metrics	Bronze Criteria	Silver Criteria	Gold Criteria	Platinum Criteria	Your School	
					 <b>BRONZE</b> Your school achieved all Bronze criteria!	
College Culture	40%	50%	65%	80%	49% (84/171)	<b>Bronze</b>
College Credit	25%	30%	35%	50%	32% (54/171)	<b>Silver</b>
College Optimization	2%	5%	10%	15%	6% (11/171)	<b>Silver</b>

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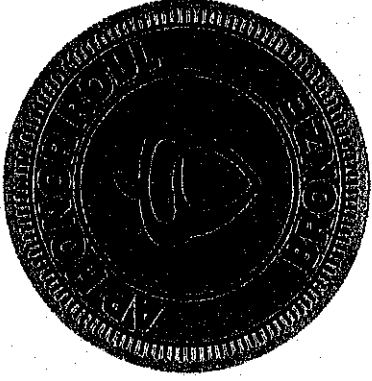
If 'N/A' is shown this means that the percentage could not be calculated as your school did not provide 12th grade enrollment data for the 2022-23 school year or it was reported as zero.

**Your School Enrollment:** The school level enrollment data was submitted by your AP Coordinator in AP Registration and Ordering and checked against federal registrar data from the National Center for Education Statistics. Your AP Coordinator should annually check that the correct data is provided in AP Registration and Ordering at the start of the school year.

**College Culture:** Percent of students in the graduating class who took an AP exam at any point in high school, regardless of score. To avoid pressure on students to take large numbers of APs, only 1 AP exam per student contributes to this indicator.

**College Credit:** Percent of students in the graduating class who scored 3+ on any AP Exam in high school. To avoid pressure on students to take large numbers of APs, only 1 AP exam score of 3 or higher, per student, contributes to this indicator.

**College Optimization:** Percent of students in the graduating class who took 5 or more AP Exams in high school, where at least 1 exam was taken in 9th or 10th grade. Because research finds that 6 or more APs do not improve college graduation rates beyond the optimal total of 5 such courses in high school, no exams beyond 5 per student contribute to this indicator. The Honor Roll also recognizes schools that encourage students earlier on their AP journeys so as not to overload them with AP courses their junior and senior years.



# Fairhaven High School

has been recognized for the

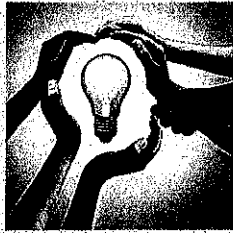
## 2023 AP<sup>®</sup> School Honor Roll

for developing an AP program that creates a college-going culture and gives students opportunities to earn college credit and to maximize their college outcomes.



# FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROFILE OF A LEARNER

## COOPERATION



When I join forces with friends or classmates to work together on something, like a project or a game.

*It's like being a great team!*

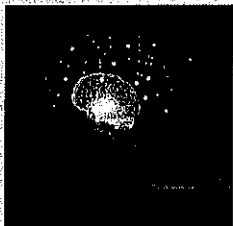
## COMMUNICATION



When I talk and share my thoughts in a clear and understandable way using different tools like drawing and writing.

*It's all about making sure the message is clear.*

## CREATIVITY



When I try new things, and stay open to different ways of doing things even when things change.

*It's about thinking outside the box.*

## CRITICAL THINKING



When I look at it closely at an idea before I say yes or no to it. When I ask lots of questions to make smart decisions.

*It's like being a detective who solves puzzles before making up their mind.*

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

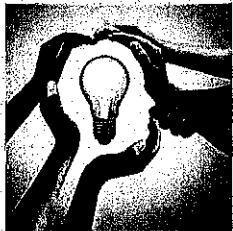


When I am a good neighbor in my town and in the world. When I use my skills and friends to let people know about important issues.

*It's all about being a helpful and caring member of our community and the world.*

# FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROFILE OF A LEARNER

## COLLABORATION



which means . . .

Uniting with a person or group around a common goal. Working in an equitable manner to bring together ideas and coordinate with others.

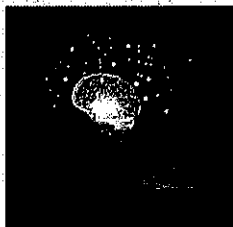
## COMMUNICATION



which means . . .

Using my voice with purpose. Expressing myself with clarity and conveying ideas/information using different tools through a medium that suits the audience.

## CREATIVITY



which means . . .

Generating creative ideas by exploring new opportunities. Staying open to more than one outcome and adapting in the face of changing conditions. Solving problems in innovative ways.

## CRITICAL THINKING



which means . . .

Analyzing an idea before accepting or rejecting it. Evaluating information from multiple perspectives to determine validity and potential bias. Questioning the assumptions of others and myself in order to make reasoned judgements.

## CIVIL ENGAGEMENT



which means . . .

Contributing to many communities local and global. Using my strengths, and relationships to raise awareness around and address public concerns. Removing barriers to provide equal access and promote the overall quality of the community.