



September 2016



**CITY OF FERRIS  
NEWS**

In this issue: It is time to go back to school so read about what to expect this school year!



**Reminders**

**New Water Rates**

Water rates were last increased seven years ago and Council recently approved an increase. That increase will go into effect as of September 24, 2016.

**Labor Day 2016**

Please be advised that all City of Ferris offices will be closed in observance of Labor Day on September 5, 2016.

**Ferris ISD: Empowering Students Since 1909**

Welcome to Ferris Independent School District, home of the mighty Yellowjackets! Our school takes great pride in serving over 2,500 students across 5 campuses. As Ferris continues to grow, we persistently gain brilliant students and valuable educators that allow us to bring about new and exciting changes; promoting life-long learning, core values and opportunity. This year, Ferris High School (FHS) will further develop our Career and

Technology Education department (CTE) by incorporating the fields of Health Science and Criminal Justice as a result of persistent demand for medical professionals and law-enforcement officials. These two new fields offer challenging, yet gratifying education and career opportunities for the future. Student success and participation rates, in various career and technology fields, are improving at an outstanding pace. This year a full class



[www.ferristexas.gov](http://www.ferristexas.gov)



will be offered to students interested in computer programming and the Java programming language. These courses will prepare students for in-demand, challenging careers in the programming field. In addition, students will be able to earn foreign language credit by taking this course.

Students will also have an opportunity to study Robotics and Automation, which will propel them to new intellectual levels and encourage participation in the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) robotics competition. The FTC program teaches "Gracious Professionalism and "Coopertition" (cooperation and competition). These principals promote healthy learning and competition, while treating one another with respect and kindness.



The program encapsulates a perfect blend of knowledge, competition, empathy, and teamwork.

This summer, Ferris Intermediate and Ferris Junior High installed Smart Labs, which promotes science, technology, engineering and mathematics (S.T.E.M). In Smart Labs, students apply technology to create projects of their own imagination and design. Each project allows students to build academic connections, explore robotics, coding, websites, video broadcasts, circuitry, digital structures, and many other exciting, as well as challeng-

ing, opportunities. Collaboration, problem-solving and time management are key components for success in the SmartLab. Ferris ISD is proud to be the only district in the area to offer this opportunity for students in grades 4 through 8.

Our mission pushes the envelope even further, as this year we will incorporate a One to One Learning Initiative. This means that every student, grades 6-12, will be given a Chromebook to take home. Students may



message their teacher for help and are able to work on group projects with other students. Even if the student does not have internet access at home, they will be able to download and complete assignments on their personal device. Teachers will be able to utilize all resources to help students better understand assignments and concepts from school or home. Discussion, collaboration, instruction, and support will all be instantly accessible to teachers and students. We believe in order for our student's to excel in today's society, they must be able to utilize multiple platforms of technology. As a district, our priority is to equip our students with 21st century skills to achieve future success!

Join the Ferris ISD family today! Like us on Facebook and Twitter to stay up with current events and exciting changes coming to our district! For more information, visit our website at [www.ferrisisd.org](http://www.ferrisisd.org) or contact us at 972-544-3858.

## Mayor's Message

FISD is back in session!

Adults and kids have both been eagerly anticipating this day! Be sure to remain attentive to school zones, do not text while driving, and be aware of kids walking or being dropped off.

Also, City Offices will be closed for Labor Day!



## upcoming events

**Sep 5 :: City Offices Closed for Labor Day**

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**Sep 6 :: Special City Council Meeting at 6:00 pm**

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**Sept 12 :: Special City Council Meeting at 6:00 pm**

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**Oct 3:: City Council Meeting at 6:00 pm**

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**Oct 4 :: National Night Out at Mutz Park from 5:30 to 8:30 pm**