

FORRESTVILLE VALLEY DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

2025-2026 School Year Implementation

5 GOAL AREAS

May 2025



Every three years the Board of Education engages in strategic planning, providing goals for students, staff and our greater school community. The following is a summary of what to expect for upcoming 2025- 2026 school year.

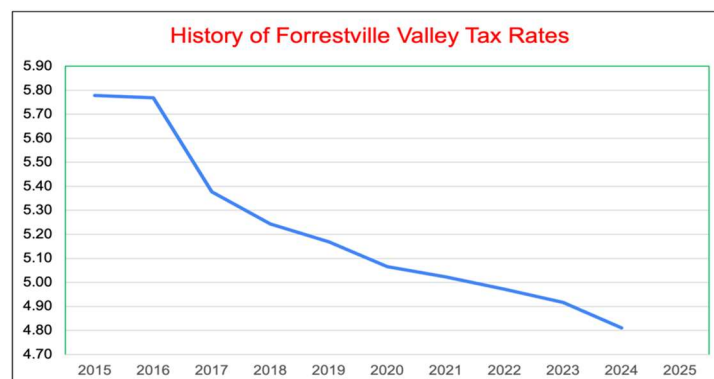
BUILDING PROJECTS & GENEROUS DONATION

For the past ten years, the District has invested approximately **\$1,000,000 annually in facility improvements**. Examples include new **science labs, band/chorus rooms and JH classroom renovations**, maintenance at all school buildings to include **HVAC upgrades, new roofs, security enhancements, pavement and flooring projects**, as well as the new construction of the **Cardinal Field Complex**. This summer **air conditioning** will be added to the **FJH gymnasium** as well as **new sound systems** in the FJSHS cafeteria and FJH gymnasium.

The district would like to acknowledge and thank **Eileen and the late Keith ‘Andy’ Anderson** for the **donation of adjacent property**. This generous donation has allowed board discussions to move from renovations and maintenance projects to construction of new buildings and additions. Three possible projects resulting from recent discussions include a **district bus garage, student-athlete weight room, and additional gym space**. The board will spend this spring/early summer reviewing plan details for these projects and determining final costs. Should the Board determine these projects are possible, building would likely take place over the next 3 years.

FINANCE REVIEW

Each December the Board of Education sets the tax rate for the next budget cycle. While the District does not control the equalized assessed values (EAV) of property, the Board **has DECREASED the TAX RATE by almost 20% in the last decade** (see graph below). Any budget necessary for construction projects above will follow the **same spending structure** of previously completed improvements. In addition, in the case of a district bus garage, **state reimbursement is allowable**. The goal is to keep **similar budget structures** year over year, creating the **least impact to the district taxpayer**.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The district will continue to strive for exemplary results and will continue with the new **Eureka2 Math** program, **IXL online intervention program**, a full design of **AP courses**, **stem programming**, **career pathways**, and **small class sizes at all grade levels**. New for the 2025-2026 school year includes **Work-Based Learning Programs** at FHS. This program allows a limited number of students to participate in jobs and explore careers in the workplace environment.

Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, the District has decided to **eliminate use of student cell phones during the school day**. This decision was determined in discussions with staff and local area districts implementing similar policies, review of the current research, as well as anticipation of future Illinois legislation. Students will be provided secure areas for cell phone storage throughout the school day, as cell phones will not be allowed during school hours. More details will be available in parent/student handbook and back to school information.

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

A variety of athletic programs will be added for the next year. These include a variety of options for **6th grades sports** expanded to include volleyball and basketball. In addition, **junior high cross country** will be offered to students grades 6-8 and high school will welcome **bass fishing** next spring.

Costa Rica Summer 2026 Service Trip! The board has once again approved a service trip to allow high school students the opportunity to serve others while also learning another culture and practicing their Spanish skills! Any high school student interested in attending this trip should see Mrs. Hill for more information.

FJSHS is currently taking nominations for the **Forreston Hall of Fame**. Nominations can be made in six categories to include: **Dedication, Extra-Curriculars, Friend of FHS, Personal Achievement, Service, and Teamwork**. Please visit FJSHS or contact the school office for more details or to receive a nomination form.

2025-2026 STUDENT REGISTRATION

The district will continue to utilize Skyward for **online registration** system as well as Efunds for all payments. There will be a LATE FEE assigned to any registration payment received after July 25th. Returning **Preschool and kindergarten registration** will begin **May 1st** and new **PreK/K students May 15th**. All **returning students** will open the **week of June 23rd** and exact date will be announced through skyward and skylert communications.

DISTRICT FACEBOOK COMING SOON!

The District is very excited to be rolling out a **new district website** which will also include a **Facebook** platform in late June. The goal is to have this new communication tool in place and released with registration. This enhanced platform will allow for greater communications from the classrooms as well as many student activities.

DISTRICT VISION:

The Forrestville Valley School District will provide effective programs of instruction, safe and well-maintained facilities, & relevant community connections to prepare all students for college/career readiness in their desired field of study through fiscally-responsible decision making.