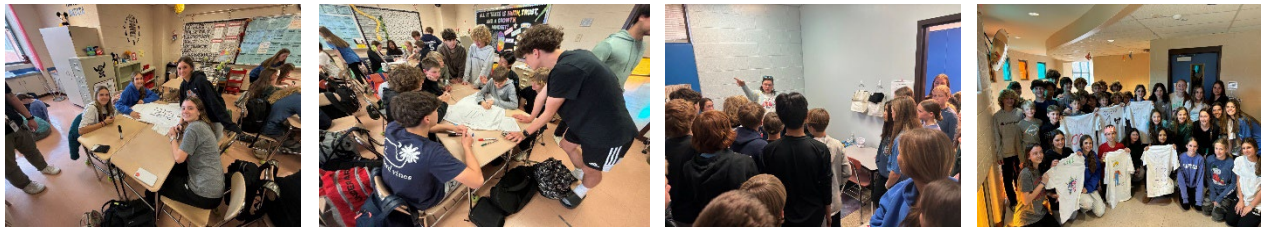


Athletes in Action

Connecting – Fallston Middle School

“All the coaches of FMS soccer recognize the importance of our role in supporting our players' growth both on the field and in school. We will work our hardest this season to foster a soccer family in which our players are role models on the field and in the classroom!” – Coach Pravlitsa



Prior to the start of the middle school spring soccer season, the growth of our student-athletes was already being nurtured by the coaches who committed to creating opportunities for students to grow as individuals not just athletes. The Fallston Middle School coaching staff for the boy’s team (Coach Ivaldi and Coach Haselhoff) and girl’s teams (Coach Pravlitsa and Coach Morlock) utilized one of their practices to have the student-athletes tour the STRIVE classroom and learn all about the students within the program. STRIVE is a specialized program for students with significant communication needs. Most of the students are non-verbal and use communication devices.

Coach Pravlitsa explains, “We know that our athletes are in a unique position to serve as role models and leaders within FMS, and we wanted to make sure we supported our athletes in finding ways to serve as positive leaders within our school. We had discussions with our athletes about the importance of showing kindness to others and the value behind being inclusive of others. We couldn’t have been prouder or more impressed with our athletes. They all showed tremendous respect, asked valuable questions, and participated in our conversations in a productive manner.”

This team bonding and character education opportunity wrapped up with the teams creating “VIP fan” t-shirts for the students in STRIVE to wear to support the teams representing Fallston Middle School this season.