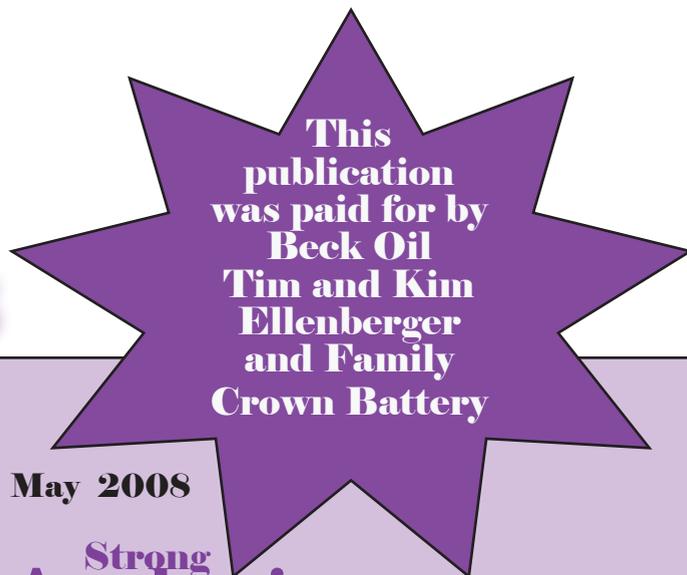


Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community



May 2008

Strong Academics

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Fremont City Schools District Goals

1. Increase student achievement
2. Close socio-economic, ethnic and disability gaps in student achievement
3. Build hope, trust and respect with our community

Learn more about Fremont City Schools at ... www.fremontschools.net

Top 25 Honored at Ross

It is quite an honor to be in the top 8% of your graduating class. On April 30, 2008 the top 25 seniors met at Crystal Arbors to be honored and honor the faculty who inspired them most.

After a delicious meal the intellectually endowed students introduced their mentors and explained what exactly made them revere the teacher most.

"Being in the top 25 of my class helped me get in to the Ohio State University," stated Courtney Kozak.

Mr. John Elder- Courtney Kozak and Ambre Dziczek
 Mr. Steve Oberst- Phillip Weickert and Matt Misciasci
 Mrs. Renee Bissett- Dustin Krohn
 Mrs. Beth Muffler- Amanda Glasby
 Mr. Mark Gedeon- Stacey Donaldson and Rachel Miller
 Mrs. Brenda Fisher- Brandon Hord
 Mr. Jeff Wright- Roashaye Bulger and Ginger McAllister
 Ms. Catherine Lewis- Stephanie Walther
 Mr. Jeff Heaton- Robyn Edgar and Kristen Brooker
 Mrs. Melissa Frizzell-Joerg- Kyle Snyder
 Mr. Mike Gilbert- Ryan Damman and Stephanie Stout
 Mr. Floyd Collins- Dan Horn
 Mr. Mark King- Bobby Gipe
 Ms. Tina Gibson- Brittany Bowman
 Ms. Lyne Walby- Jessica Spriggs and Emma Ellenberger
 Mrs. Bette Kaltenbach- Britta Barron
 Mrs. Debbie Cheek- Kristen Mills
 Mrs. Tracy Lytle- Jessica Ickes



Above: The top of the tops!
 Below: Stacey Donaldson honors Mr. Gedeon.



Written by Meghan Wonderly
 Ross High journalist

These seniors graduate with the accolade they deserve for working hard and keeping their grades point average high.

FCS Diversity Celebration



The district's first Diversity Celebration, co-sponsored by Fremont City Schools and Terra Community College, entitled "Building a Family of Champions" was held on Saturday, April 19th, at Terra Community College. Approximately 125 teachers, administrators, parents, community members, and students heard national consultant, Mychal Wynn, share district student achievement and other related data along with research-based strategies that will help improve the culture of the school district. Conference participants worked with building

administrators all afternoon for the purpose of developing school culture improvement plans. Torrie Ruiz, Ross High School student, thanked everyone for attending this Saturday conference and thanked Principal Walker and her teachers for providing her with tutorials and the necessary encouragement that later prepared her for PSEO classes at Terra. Community member, Rev. Charlotte Evans, remarked "The building principals left the workshop with strategies that can be started next year and hopefully, over time, we will see even higher student achievement for our students and an increased number of graduating students attending college."

A special thank you is extended to the FCS Minority Achievement Council for organizing the event. Members of the committee are: Brenda Bilal, Sandra Corfman, Julie Didelot, Rev. Charlotte Evans, Dr. Gayle Jackson, Dallas Leake, Nora MacDowell, Dr. Traci McCaudy, Juanita Sanchez, and Bonnie Weaver.

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

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Power of the Pen

Written by
Ariel Shuey
Ross High journalist

POP goes the winner and the winner goes POP! Power of the Pen (or POP) is an interscholastic program that focuses on seventh and eighth grade writers. At the Fremont Middle School, eighth grader Meghan Buchele's has her writing is headed to state! Her essay will compete against 7500 others at state level.

The writing prompts an often be really rough. Buchele commented, "There were a lot of prompts some were about life experiences. Others gave you a word and you had to write a story about that word. On one, my word was frozen."

A writer's work is always reflective of their personal lives. Who they are as a person, who they hang out with and admire, and what they stand for. Meghan's family is a huge influence in her writings. "I write about my sister Kendra a lot," Buchele stated. She also mentioned that her family inspires her to be the best she can be in other areas not just in writing.

Although only in eighth grade Meghan has her sights set on the future. Her eyes are currently set on becoming a writer. This ambitious young lady has everything that the city of Fremont takes pride in. Enthusiasm, inspiration, and optimism are just some of those worthy traits.



Story Time



The Student Council at Atkinson School held a special day on April 30th. It was "Storybook Character Day." All students were invited to come to school dressed as their favorite storybook character. After lunch, students in costume were called to the gymnasium for a "best dressed" contest. Winners from each grade were awarded with gift certificates to shop at the school Book Fair during the week of May 4 - 8.

Some of the "characters" that showed up at Atkinson were Harry Potter, Snow White and Winnie the Pooh. The Student Council is hosting Grandparents Day on May 14th and a 6th grade dance on June 9th.



Lutz Econ



The 16th annual Econ Fair at Lutz School was held Tuesday, March 18. This event was part of then economics unit in Social Studies for the 5th grade classes of Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Dehring. Students studied the freeenterprise economic system and then demonstrated their understanding of new terms and concepts by developing their own businesses and making products to market to Lutz School consumers. Some of the products offered for sale were beaded key chains, homemade dog biscuits, patriotic pins, kool-aid play dough, magnets, decorated water bottles, pictures frames, and balloon animals. Working through the process of keeping track of expenses, hiring employees, figuring out a reasonable price, advertising and creating displays, and determining profit or loss was an eye-opening

experience for the boys and girls. The Lutz consumers spent generously and walked away with an assortment of kid-friendly products. The 5th grade producers ended the day with a new appreciation for what it takes to run a profitable business. One fifth grader said, "It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to run a business. It is very stressful!" Students will hopefully save their profits from their business ventures to partially finance their field trip to Put-N-Bay later in May... the reward for many hours of good work!

Important Info

SCHOOL CALENDAR CHANGE

June 10th: Last day of school for students at Ross H.S., Atkinson, Hayes, Lutz, Otis, Stamm and Washington. All students (including FMS and Croghan) will attend school on June 10th during the following times:
 Ross H.S. 7:50 - 12:00
 FMS 7:45 - 12:00
 All Elementary Buildings 9:00 - 1:00
 **There will be no P.M. kindergarten on June 10th.

June 11th: Last day of school for students at FMS and Croghan **only!** Students will attend on June 11th during the following times:
 FMS 7:45 - 12:00
 Croghan 9:00 - 1:00
 **There will be no P.M. kindergarten at Croghan on June 11th!

OGT/OAT Test Results

The Ohio Department of Education will provide building reports on student testing for the high school OGT by May 22, and for grades 3-8 OAT by June 15. Parent reports will be sent to the district during the summer months.

These reports will be distributed in the fall.

Learning Culture

Otis Elementary recently enjoyed learning about the Native American culture. We were treated to a visit from Chief Soft Shell Turtle by Bethesda Care Center. Residents from Bethesda joined Otis students as the Native American chief shared information about cultural dress, customs, and beliefs. Chief Soft Shell Turtle danced and played various flutes. He also played a drum made from a turtle shell. Students and elders participated in a Buffalo song by playing instruments and singing with Chief Soft Shell Turtle.



This program was just one of the many activities shared by Otis Elementary and Bethesda Care Center throughout the year. We have held picnics in the yard, shared Valentines, honored our Veterans, and written letters back and forth. On May 16, 2008 we will have our annual Peace Rally in the lawn between the school and Bethesda. We invite the public to join us!

Survivor at FMS Greatness in Good Students

Team 8C is ending the year in style. They have chosen a theme for fourth quarter titled, "Survivor Kalahari," based on the popular reality TV show, Survivor. Each teacher on the team picked a tribe name and students on the team are encouraged to participate in various tropical themed dress days each week. Teachers also participate in Immunity Challenges each week to keep the students engaged in the theme. Also, students nominate their own Tribe Members of the Week based on good work ethic and citizenship.



This theme, and all it entails, is used to promote academic excellence, good citizenship, and team unity among the students. The final challenge is to be eligible for the team trip to Kalahari Water Park at the end of the quarter. The students that meet the demands of the challenge will earn the trip and most definitely end the year with memories they will not soon forget.

The Lindsey Lions understand what Albert Einstein meant when he was quoted as saying, "Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it." In education we sometimes get caught up in the pure academics of school. But, when you stop and think about it, academics, at least at the elementary school level, is so much more than the numbers and letters and land formations and the weather cycle. "Academics" is school in total, the big picture.



Pictured above from left to right: Andi Ramirez, Hannah Sterling, Heaven Bassett, Kortni Joseph, Nick Arnold and Tate Schiets; missing from picture is Jazmine Arguelles.

On the evening of Monday, April 28th at the end of all of the student's academic

testing, seven Washington Elementary School students were recognized for more than just what they know. At Ole' Zims Wagon Shed, the Lindsey Chapter of the Lions Club recognized one student from each grade level, kindergarten through sixth grade, for being GOOD students. These students, selected by their classroom teachers, were chosen because of the criteria set forth by Mr. Derry, a former teacher and Lions Club member. To be a GOOD student, one must attend school on a regular basis, complete all homework, be prepared for tests, show an interest in learning, be a good listener in class, show respect to everyone, displays good citizenship on a daily basis and show acts of caring to others in difficult situations. Almost any teacher would tell you these qualities in a student are really what make the most of academics. A big "Thank You" goes out to Mr. Glenn Baker, President of the Lindsey Lions, the Lions Club Members, the Washington PTO, as well as the Staff at Washington School. Additionally, a huge congratulation goes out to not only Kortni, Tate, Jazmine, Nick, Heaven, Andi and Hannah, the GOOD students, but also to their parents. I am sure that their lifelong attempt to acquire knowledge and their perseverance will deliver them to their heart's destination.



Walking Club

Croghan finished another year of walking club. The top class was Mr. Harmon's 4th grade class. They walked 136 miles and were rewarded with a trip to the Rec Center to ice skate.

The top ten walkers will receive a medallion, a certificate, and a playground ball. The first place walker will also get a trophy. The top ten walkers were: 1) Sarai Perez 2) Allison Miller 3) Jessica Slick 4) Micaela Eberhard and Andrew Earnhart (tie), 6) Marissa Miller and Kaitlynn Kieffer (tie), 8) Angeles Jimenez, 9) Alec Carnicom, and 10) Celina Kimmet.

We would like to thank the Kiwanis Club for financially supporting the walking club. Also, thanks to the Fremont Recreation Center and Fremont Athletic Supply for special deals and discounts for prize items.



Note from Mr. Bucci, AD

As the school year comes to a close, I want to congratulate the Class of 2008 and wish them well. As for our returning student athletes, new 9th graders and incoming 7th graders, I want to give you some important information. Summer conditioning information can be picked up in 2 different locations; the Fremont Ross Athletic Department or the Fremont Middle School main office. If you have any questions on the different fall sports available or questions about summer conditioning, please contact the Athletic Department at 419-332-6462. Also, here are the fall sports head coaches and their home phone numbers where they can be reached for additional information or answer any question you or your athlete may have.

Football: Derek Kidwell – 419.332.6411

Golf: Nick Rider – 419.618.2802

Volleyball: Bill Bonham – 419.983.1315

Cross Country: Cathy Esposito – 419.483.4824

Girls Tennis: Lisa Wolfe – 419.332.7597

Boys Soccer: Jeff Pendry – 419.944.6995

Girls Soccer: Otto Gonzalez – contact the Athletic Department

Football begins: July 31st

Fall Sports begin: August 4th

I hope all of you have a safe and restful summer. We will see you in the fall!

Go Little Giants.....

Art Bucci

Athletic Director



Mural at Stamm



Stamm School takes a lot of pride in its students and its staff. The Parent Teacher Organization felt that it was time to make the school look like it feels and has made it a priority to 'dress' the ol' school up a bit. What better place to start than with the hub of the school: the Gymnasium!

With the financial backing of the PTO to paint the murals in the gym, and after the PTO received three estimates to paint the foundation, the PTO went with All Star Improvements to paint the base

coating on the wall in preparation for a local artist, Beth Sage, to do her thing. All Star Improvements donated all of their time for the betterment of the school and Sherwin Williams donated most of the paint. Just with the base coat, we saw such an improvement!

We had a contest with the Stamm staff and students to see who could come up with the best idea for what the murals should look like in the gym. Our school nurse, Mrs. Long, came up with the winning idea: the four seasons.

Beth Sage, from Huron, began painting the murals in April. She started with Spring and now has Summer done as well. We are excited about being in the auditorium for assemblies and for lunch now. When we all get together, we will feel even better about ourselves and our school because of the colorful setting. We are looking forward to spreading the color to the hallways someday. We hope everyone attends our 40th Annual Chili Supper in the Fall to see the finished product!

ATTENTION

All Fremont Ross High School Alumni

An Alumni Association is in the works and we need your help!

We are looking for the following:

- ◆ Reunion Class programs or class list
- ◆ Anyone interested in being a part of the FIRST Alumni Association Committee

Our goal is to compile information on each graduating class. We will use this information to connect and engage alumni throughout the United States with not only the great things happening at their alma mater, but it will also be a way to share great news about the happenings of our former students at Ross High School. Please forward alumni information and questions to Larry Jackson at 212 N. Sixth Street or call him at (419) 332-6379 or email him at littlegiantspa@yahoo.com. Please drop off Reunion Class programs or class lists to the administration office at 1220 Cedar Street.

Grob Gives



Pictured in front row: Heather Roca, Jasmyn Sammons and back row: Cassie Wolesslagel, Tonya Heilman

Sixth grade students at Hayes Elementary are extremely fortunate. They get to travel around the world due to the volunteer efforts of Mr. Ray Grob. Every Tuesday afternoon for 17 weeks, Mr. Grob shares his lectures and slides about the various places he has visited all over the world.

Mr. Grob used to host the radio program, "Outdoors with Ray and Jane Grob", which told about these travels. He also presented his lectures and slides as part of assembly programs to area schools. After his retirement, he stopped the school assembly presentations. Due to his friendship with Mr. Ben Hickey, former sixth grade teacher at Hayes, Mr. Grob has volunteered to come in and share his programs only at Hayes for the past 16 years.

Mr. Grob is also a ham radio operator. He used to help students study to get their ham radio license. Several students took advantage of this and obtained their license. Hayes was the only school in the district with its own licensed ham radio station. Much of this equipment was donated by Mr. Grob and the local club.

It is a testament to Mr. Grob's well-planned presentations that the students look forward each week to his visits. Indeed, this quiet man, with nothing more than a few slides and some lectures, in this age of fast-paced videos and electronics, has become one of the highlights each year for the sixth graders at Hayes. We are fortunate to have, and appreciate much, volunteers such as Mr. Ray Grob!

Ohio School Facilities Commission

Facts about the Ohio School Facilities Commission:

- Established in 1997, the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) administers the state's K-12 public school construction program.
- The OSFC helps school districts fund, plan, design and build or renovate school buildings and offers funding to districts in a prioritized order based on property value.
- For fiscal year 2008, Fremont City Schools was ranked #411 out of 612 Ohio school districts.
- Currently, the OSFC will fund 32% of the total costs of Fremont's school construction project, and the OSFC is developing a facilities master plan for Fremont City Schools.
- The district is currently NOT eligible for a district-wide K-12 comprehensive construction project. The district was informed by the OSFC that it may be eligible for funding in approximately five years. Recently, the OSFC informed the district that funding may now be available for Fremont City Schools as early as two years due to the OSFC receiving additional monies from the tobacco law suit settlement.

Facts about the OSFC Exceptional Needs Program:

- The Exceptional Needs Program (ENP) provides facilities assistance to school districts whose buildings pose health and safety risks for their students due to building condition or overcrowding.
- The ENP is designed to identify buildings from among eligible applicants that have the most severe facility problems. ENP will co-fund a master plan that provides classroom facilities for a selected applicant building.
- Fremont City Schools made application for an ENP in order to replace Fremont Middle School with a new building.
- The OSFC will contact the district in May regarding the application status of the ENP.
- The OSFC will fund 32% of the total cost of a new middle school.

Facts about Fremont Middle School:

(These facts are outlined in the ENP application and confirmed by the OSFC)

- The original building was constructed in 1891 with additions built in 1909 and 1923.
- The building foundation is shifting and major cracks are visible in the walls, floors and ceilings.
- Water leaks occur within the inside of the walls from old, cracked drainage pipes. Standing water collects on the basement and boiler room floors.
- The steam pipe heating system is old and leaking; the heating system is not energy and cost efficient.
- Many interior classrooms, restrooms, locker rooms and the kitchen area do not have windows or proper ventilation.
- The chimney is disintegrating.
- Classrooms do not have the proper electricity for technology upgrades and science laboratories.
- Although permanent improvement monies have been spent on repairs, carpet and paint at Fremont Middle School, major problems still exist. The OSFC has conducted a variety of audits during the application process and the OSFC has determined that it would be most cost efficient to build a new middle school instead of renovating the current building.
- It should be noted that although the building has many structural problems and damage due to old age, The Sandusky County Health Department has determined that the building is "safe" for our students and staff.
- If you have any questions regarding the OSFC, please contact Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent at 334.5432. Additional information regarding the status of the OSFC project will be forthcoming.