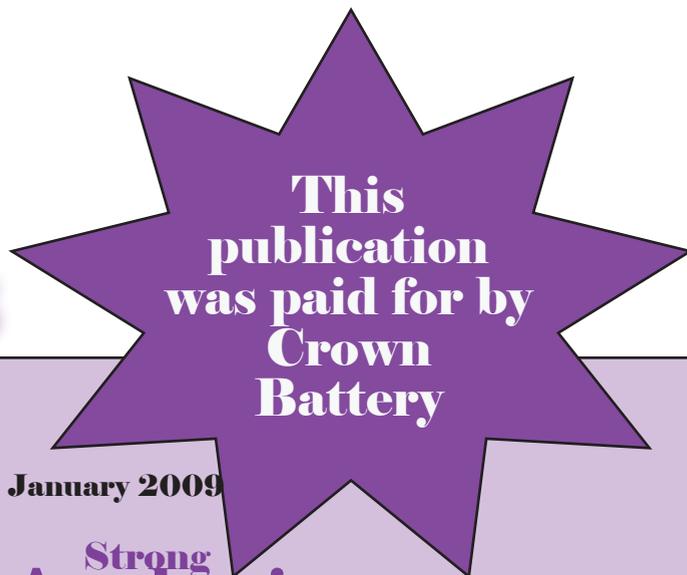


Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community



January 2009

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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**

Washington Gives to Fire Department



During the month of December the Washington Student Council decided to have a "Family Fundraiser" with a chance to win a giant Christmas stocking full of goodies. The Washington students and P.T.O. donated many items such as games, food tickets, candy, coloring books, hats & mittens, and more to fill the stocking. Washington students purchased raffle tickets during lunch for a chance to win the prize. At 25 cents a ticket, the student council earned over \$100.00. The money was presented to the Lindsey Volunteer Fire Department to help purchase some needed items. The winner of the stocking was Nick Pridemore, a 6th grade student at Washington. Thanks to everyone who donated to our cause.

Mr. Arnold commented,

"I would like to thank the members of the Washington Elementary School Student council for their efforts in supporting our community. I'm very proud of the selfless work these students have accomplished for others in their community."

"Fremont Ross Alumni & Friends"

PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT REMINDER: A representative from Harris Connect Company will soon be contacting all Ross graduates via U.S. Mail, phone, or email. It is essential that you take a moment to complete their questionnaire so that Fremont City Schools can update its alumni directory. Please note that you are not required to purchase a directory from this company if you fill out their survey. The information that Harris Connect collects will be used to help our "official" Fremont City Schools Alumni Association build and maintain communication among our alumni and friends. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me, JoLynn Krock, Fremont Ross Alumni Coordinator @ (419)334-2530 or email krockj@fremont.k12.oh.us.

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community



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Daring to Do What is Right at Otis Elementary



Otis Elementary sixth grade students recently finalized their semester long DARE course. After much instruction on the important topics of peer pressure, drugs, alcohol, and how to respond to pressure, students celebrated with an afternoon event. The sixth grade students wrote and shared essays of what was most important to them and the information they learned during the DARE course. The best essays were read aloud at graduation. All participating students enjoyed a movie and pizza to celebrate their accomplishments! In the picture, CJ Arias is presented her certificate and t-shirt by sixth grade teachers, Mr. Lamar Baker and Mrs. Tracie Dye, and Officer Roger Oddo of the Fremont Police Department.

Lollipalooza

The fifth graders at Croghan School have become entrepreneurs and started a business called Lollipalooza! To make Social Studies practical, fun, and prepare the students for the upcoming Ohio Social Studies Achievement test, the students started a lollipop business.

Mrs. Garlock wrote a business plan to direct the students in learning the economic standards required during their fifth grade year. The students applied for management positions, developed a timeline for selling their product, generated ideas by which to sell, and advertised at school.

Currently, they are following a work schedule and watching the profits being made. The lollipops change throughout the year, and their customers are always looking forward to what the Lollipalooza will be selling next. We are having a lot of fun and learning skills needed to be successful in the business world within our sweet tasting lessons!



Learning meets State Standards at F.M.S.

Mrs. Grear's 8th grade Language Arts Classes have just completed a short story unit and author study. Flashback, foreshadowing, plot, theme, setting, parallel episodes, and inference are just a few of the many academic standards found in the State of Ohio Academic Content Standards book that have been covered so far this year. These areas will be continually used again and again with additional standards added each month.

Currently, we are beginning the research portion of the Academic Content Standards. Students have been in the Library researching aquatic animals and will be incorporating all aspects of research (note taking, outlining, preparing a formal paper, bibliography/works cited pages, etc.) with this project. They will also be using their Communications Standards to present their projects.

Additionally, the classes continue each week to work on Acquisition of Vocabulary Academic Content Standards with the presence of the "ever popular" Vocabulary Packets. Our goal is to increase the student's use of academic vocabulary in all areas of instruction.

Mrs. Miller's 8th grade Language Arts – In Mrs. Miller's Language Arts class, we are focusing on writing process skills. Using memoirs as models, the students are going to write a personal narrative. We began by brainstorming memories of our past and by developing our writing skills through mini-lessons. Students will then learn and utilize research skills to find information about a person and present what they learn through one of the following: posters, essays, or power point.



Caring Builds Character at Hayes



This year at Hayes Elementary, we are focusing on a different character word each month. In December, the word was CARING. Mrs. Marcha's and Mrs. Taylor's fourth grade classes discussed what it means to be caring and decided it means being nice, helping others, respecting other people's things and feelings, and helping the environment. The students also read articles in the newspaper and found a lot of examples of people in our community doing caring things. We then asked the students to write a plan of action that would demonstrate their

ability to be caring. Here are some of their ideas:

- Charlie – shovel the driveway, so his mom can get her car out without slipping
- Max – plant trees and flowers
- Talyssa – help a sick family member
- Savanna – call a sick friend
- Hannah – say “thank you”
- Claire – stick up for someone who is being bullied
- Troyonah – visit grandma in the hospital
- Tyler – recycle
- Ruby – give toys to the Salvation Army
- Douglas – lend a pencil to someone who doesn't have one
- Jasmine – pick up litter
- Emily – try to make friends with a new student
- Zach – help Mr. Laurer, our custodian
- Ellegra – donate to charities
- Athena – help mom clean the house and help make dinner

Stamm Gives From the Heart



The Stamm Student Council is again sponsoring the “Give From the Heart” campaign for the annual food drive for the Sandusky County Food Pantry. The drive will end in February to coincide with Valentine's Day. We have encouraged the student's at Stamm to help by putting someone in need above himself or herself.

This is our 14th year doing a food drive and have averaged about 1,100 items per year. Helping others is one way the council and student's at Stamm School work in the community.

We have also helped send aid packages to third world countries this year. We at

Stamm believe that helping others is one way you can help yourself.

Ross Helps One of Their Own



Austin Overmyer is a junior at Fremont Ross and is currently serving as the Vice President of the Fremont FFA. Austin was life-flighted to St. Vincent's on December 31 with third degree burns covering most of his face and hands. Austin was burned tragically while helping his father in the family farm shop. Austin will undergo multiple surgeries to repair his injuries. The community support for Austin has been overwhelming. The Fremont FFA chapter will be

hosting a benefit dinner this spring at the county fair grounds for Austin after he is home. “The plan is to include as many FFA chapters as possible. Clyde FFA, Gibsonburg FFA and Lakota FFA have all agreed to help,” stated Mr. Dave Rapp, Austin's Agriculture Instructor and FFA Advisor. “This will be a great opportunity for students to learn about planning, organizing and citizenship, as well as compassion.”

With the help of Schiets Motorsports and the Fremont Young Farmers, which is the Fremont FFA Adult Education Group, a \$10 donation raffle has been established for Austin. The raffle will be for a new 4-wheeler. FFA members from area FFA chapters have volunteered to help with the donation raffle. The group will have Austin pull the winning ticket at his benefit dinner organized by area FFA members this spring after Austin has recovered. Mr. Rapp concluded, “Austin Overmyer is a very respectful and motivated leader of our FFA Chapter. He deserves all of the support our school and community can give.”

To make a donation to the benefit fund being established for Austin, you can contact Mr. Dave Rapp at Fremont Ross High School Agriculture Department at (419) 334-6726.

Curriculum Corner

Technology plays a large part in our students' everyday lives, and it is also a part of every new textbook we purchase. Parents, did you know you may access many of the your child's textbooks from a computer at home or at the public library? Online versions of all our new textbooks are available as well as many other study features. If you would like more information regarding online access to what your student is studying please ask your student's teacher or call the curriculum department.

Quarterly Assessments are helping teachers know more about what students are learning from their teaching practices. Already a part of the elementary curriculum, this year both FMS and Ross will use the information from these tests for focused tutoring and other programs that target the personal needs of each student.

You can contact the curriculum department at 419-334-5435 if you have any questions about textbooks or assessments.



Sign Night at Atkinson



Ms. Randolph's second grade class at Atkinson School (Loves to Sign). Three days a week Mrs. Mees the sign language interpreter provides "sign time" to the second grade class so that the children can communicate better with their hearing impaired peers.

On December 1st the second grade students demonstrated their newly learned skills to friends and family during a school performance called "Sign Night". Mrs. Stradtman, a Bowling Green instructor

and a supervisor for the sign interpreters at the North Central Ohio Education Service Center invited her students from Bowling Green to join Ms. Randolph's class during this activity. The students in Ms. Randolph's class signed four songs to an intrigued audience. After the performance small reading circles were formed which included 2 Bowling Green students and five or six second grader. While they were in their reading circles the college students read and signed stories to the second graders. They watched and listened with awe. Friends and family were encouraged to join the reading circles along with the children.

The night was very exciting and it was a great way to begin to bridge together the deaf and hearing communities.

Santa Bucks

At Lutz Elementary on Thursday December 18th, Mrs. Cullen and Ms. Manly's classrooms had their own Santa Shop. Both classes started a program in which the students earned "Santa Bucks" for using good manners, transitioning to classes independently, and reaching personal academic goals to name a few. The students were then able to use their money to buy gifts for family members at the Santa Shop. The program not only taught students the importance of good behavior at school, but also the value of money management. All of the items that were at the Santa Shop were donated from staff members, and the whole event was a huge success.

Pictured below are Mrs. Sloma, Brandon Tucker and Elijah Wimbush.



Fremont Middle School Project Update

The list below includes a brief summary of the work completed by the district this past month regarding the middle school project.

- The district negotiated a service contract with its design firm, Fanning Howey.
 - The Program of Requirements Committee continues to meet on a regular basis for the purpose of determining the number and size of classrooms, office space, gymnasium and other educational space.
 - A Design Team Committee consisting of school personnel, parents, students and community members has been developed and will begin meeting this month. Additional sub-committees will be developed as needed during the design phases.
 - The district is in the process of developing an HVAC (heating and cooling) committee. If you have knowledge and/or expertise in this area and you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Dr. Traci McCaudy at 419.334.5432.
 - The district will be interviewing commissioning agents for this project at the end of the month. The commissioning agent will work with the district and construction manager on the design and installation of the HVAC system. The Ohio School Facilities Commission requires the hiring of the commissioning agent and monies have been budgeted for this position.
 - The Core Team continues to meet monthly and committee meeting minutes are located on the district's website at www.fremont.schools.net.
 - The district sold \$9.5 million in notes on 12-23-08 to be used toward the construction project. These notes may be converted on or before Sept. 23, 2009 depending upon the Bond Market.
 - The District sold the remaining \$9.135 million in bonds on 1-14-09.
- Please feel free to contact Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent, if you have any questions at 419.334.5432 or superintendent@fremont.k12.oh.us.

From the desk of Dr. McCaudy

Dear Fremont Community,

Happy New Year and Welcome to 2009! It is hard to believe that it is January and we are starting the second semester of the school year.

The month of January has been declared by Governor Strickland and the Ohio School Boards Association as School Board Recognition Month. Fremont City Schools is joining other districts throughout Ohio to recognize the important contributions school board members make to their communities. Our school district is very fortunate to have five very dedicated and caring individuals serving on the Fremont City Schools Board of Education.

Our Board members volunteer countless hours each week attending district level meetings, working on committees, developing policies, visiting schools and attending school events. I commend our Board members for their collaborative efforts in order to make Fremont City Schools an exemplary school district for our children.

Too often we neglect to recognize the hard work of the individuals who are representing the community and providing the vision for the Ohio school districts, so please join me in thanking our FCS Board members for their commitment to our children's education. Our Board members are:

Marc Glotzbecker, President
Tim Ellenberger, Vice-President
Jim Fails
Linda Hershey
Cindy Young

Sincerely,

Dr. Traci McCaudy,
Superintendent

