

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

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April 2009

Ross Students Cheer Classmates on to State

By Brittany Wagner
Ross High journalism student

Let's Go. Let's Go. L-E-T-S G-O, Let's Go, Lady Rebels! The School of Hope Lady Rebels basketball team made it to state this season! The team traveled to New Philadelphia, Ohio looking to defeat Hamilton County on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 1:00p.m. The Lady Rebels lost the tournament with a score of New Hamilton 39 and the Lady Rebels 28.

The Lady Rebels went 10-2 this season with only two losses against Division One teams. The Lady Rebels are a Division Two team. There are nine young ladies on the team who traveled to New Philadelphia. Allison Bolen, Jordan Langley, and Meghan LeJeune are all Ross students who played in the game. Former Ross students who played in the state tournament game were Kaitlin Reed, Sarah Leeper, and Whitney Scott. The Lady Rebels played against a Division Two team in the State tournament. The Head Coach for the Lady Rebels is Rex Reed, and the Assistant Coach is Cassie Mumford, who was a former student at Ross.

The Lady Rebels were sent off with a pep rally at Ross High. The Ross cheerleaders and softball team were there to support the accomplishments of the young ladies. Yohe Rojas, a Ross wrestler who qualified for the state competition in wrestling, gave the girls some advice at the pep rally before they headed off. Yohe said, "Just go out there, and do your best. Go out there, and do what you have been doing the entire season. Leave it all on the court."

The Ross cheerleaders, Lady Rebels and many students did fun cheers at the pep rally, in hopes to pump the girls up before departing for state. Mr. Hernandez said, "I told my wife this morning that at 2:00 p.m., I have the best job in the world. I am so glad that we can come together to cheer you girls on before you go to state!"

Deb Sidell, Special Olympic Coordinator, said, "Everyone is so excited for this! The girls have learned this season that to be successful they have to come together as a team. They have also learned that it takes more than just one person to win a game. We are so proud of the girls."

Allison Bolen said, "We got off to a slow start, but we were coming back in the third quarter. There wasn't enough time though. It was fun." Fellow teammate, Jordan Langley, said, "It was cool!"

It was a wonderful experience to see everyone come together and support a team from the community. The gym was full of spirit, and the Lady Rebels were gleaming from ear to ear! Great job this season Lady Rebels, and the community is very proud of everything that you have accomplished this season!



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Alumni and Friends:

- All Ross graduates should have
- received a postcard in the
- mail. Please take a few minutes to call
- the alumni hotline and update your
- information for our new directory.

Check out the April video of
The Fremont Focus at
www.fremontschools.net
and click on the Communications tab

School Schedule Change

Due to inclement weather and school cancellations, the LAST DAY of school for the following students will be:

Seniors:	May 29 th
Mandatory Graduation Practice:	June 5 th
K-11 Students:	June 5 th

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

FMS Preparing for the OAT

Students on Eagle Team 7C have been busy working on various topics and strategies to prepare for the OAT. Each day, our students are given enriching opportunities to implement these strategies into their assigned tasks in all core areas. Our standards driven curriculum, as well as our assessment driven instruction, allows our students the chance to succeed in their classes.



The students have also been given a special opportunity to be taught by a pre-service teacher from Bowling Green State University. Mrs. Brandy Ivy brings a refreshing perspective to our students. She is energetic and has many wonderful ideas to share with our students. Your children are fortunate to have this chance to work with such an excellent pre-service teacher.

Learning Study Skills

Fourth grade students at Croghan Elementary are learning study skills with Miss Warren! Miss Warren is our school counseling intern here at Croghan, under supervision of Susan Moxley, and has been working with students on a number of topics including peer mediation, friendship, dealing with grief, and bullying. The group she is currently working with is focused on study skills, lowering test anxiety, time management, and organization.

Students in this small group learn these skills in a variety of different ways. For example, one activity is deciphering "Busy Betty's Week". Students are given a schedule of what "Betty"; a fourth grader does in a week. The students then manage her time by what NEEDS to be done and what Betty WANTS to do. After, the students then apply this concept to their own lives and learn time management skills. So far this group has been very effective.



Curriculum Corner

We're Ready for the Ohio Achievement Tests!

A primary purpose for all assessments is to focus our attention on learning while continually monitoring the academic progress that students make throughout the year. These state-designed tests begin after Spring break. As one of the ways that we measure the progress of our students, it is also one way that our district is measured against other Ohio districts. Here's the testing schedule: **April 21:** Reading grades 3-8; **April 23:** Math grades 3-8; **April 27:** Writing grades 4 & 7; Science grades 5 & 8; **April 29:** Social Studies grades 5 & 8.

Every day throughout the school year, teachers and students are working on the learning process. Teachers build many strategies into their lessons so that each child's needs are considered. Teachers use the lists of required standards and skillfully meld them into "teachable moments." Students bring anticipation to the learning environment. They want to know, "what will be new and different about today and why do I need to learn it?" Teachers strive for creativity and relevance; and they encourage our students to learn. Our teachers and students are excited and ready to show what they know!

**Nine-tenths of education
is encouragement.
-Anatole France**

International Banquet



The sixth grade students at Otis are preparing independent study projects. Each had to select a country and then research that nation.

The first assignment (shown at left by Maricela Garza) is the travel poster. Then the students will work on a travel brochure. In May, the children will make a placemat. The culminating activity is the International Banquet in which each 6th grade student dresses in the traditional costume of his/her

chosen country. On May 14, all of the students and teachers will go to Ponderosa for lunch and to give their oral presentations.

If this year is typical of the ones in the past, fun will be had by all!

Thank You Volunteers!

April is National Volunteer Month and we would like to honor all volunteers for devoting their valuable time, energy, and love to helping children in our district. The theme this year is, "Celebrating People in Action". Fremont City Schools Board of Education adopted a resolution to honor all volunteers at the April 6, 2009 Board Meeting.

Volunteers are truly one of the most valuable assets that can effect positive change and make a real difference in the lives of our students. Thank you for your tremendous contribution of time spent with our children.

**Strong
Academics + Strong
Character = Strong
Community**

Building Character through Music



The sixth grade students at Hayes Elementary have been rehearsing jazz music that they performed at the Festival of the Arts. During music class, students have been developing skills and building character traits that carry over into their everyday lives. By developing music skills such as singing and playing instruments, they also improve listening skills, literacy, coordination, cooperation and creativity. The students learn responsibility by remembering to bring their recorders to class, taking care of their instruments, as well as, practicing.

They demonstrate teamwork by working together to blend rhythm patterns with melody and harmony to create their own masterpieces.

The Festival of the Arts is an annual spring performance that showcases all of the fine arts. This year the music portion will be selections from the music revue, "Gotta Be Jazz" by John Jacobson. The sixth grade students sang two songs and then finished with a recorder feature. There was also a cup stacking demonstration from the PE class as well as an Art Gallery from the visual art classes.

Patriot's Pen Winner at Stamm



Chelsea Myers, a sixth grade student at Stamm, recently was recognized as an outstanding young spokesman of the future. Chelsea participated in The Patriot's Pen Youth Essay Competition sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. In her essay she described what honor meant to her and how we must honor our veterans in our daily living as we enjoy the freedoms they have fought and sacrificed for us. Chelsea was the only winner from the Fremont Public Schools. Congratulations Chelsea!!

FMS Update

Fanning-Howey Architects will be presenting the Program of Requirements and schematic design of our new Fremont Middle School during the May 4th Board of Education Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the David Carr Lecture Lab (1220 Cedar Street) and the May 18th Board of Education Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in Room 13 at Otis Elementary School (718 North Brush Street). Please feel free to join us at these very important meetings!

More Than Just Your Friendly Neighborhood Fireman



Cheyann Haas was the lucky winner of the "Hot Ride To School." This was a fund raiser at Washington School. The winner, Cheyann, (pictured to the left) will get full service ride provided the Lindsey Volunteer Fire Department. Cheyenne, in an LVFD fire truck, will make her way from her house to the entrance of Washington with sirens blaring.

The blaze battlin' boys of the LVFD give more than that. They brought the emergency vehicles for the students to look at and go through. They talked with students about fire safety. One of the fireman was even in full gear. They assisted with a fire drill. During Washington's Chili Festival, these men ran all of the bingo tables like a finely oiled machine. The action was hot. Bingo was called, the numbers were checked and prize bags were handed out. It is obvious; from the school visits to the bingo to the fire truck ride to school, these guys care. Not only do they care, they contribute. They contribute their time, their effort, and a little bit of themselves. That's why these guys are more than just your friendly neighborhood firemen.

Students of the Month



Left to Right - 4th grade:
Crogan - Alayna Killmer
Hayes - Zachary Baker
Atkinson - Cassandra Horn
Lutz - Alyssa Meyer
Stamm - Kimberly Hetrick
Otis - Miguel Chavez
Washington - Mattie Overmyer



Left to Right - 5th grade:
Hayes - Natalie Clapp
Lutz - Presley Moreland
Washington - Michael Showman
Otis - Lauren Federico
Crogan - Tyler Mathna
Stamm - Kayla Foes
Atkinson - Henry Nguyen

From the desk of Superintendent Dr. McCaudy

Dear Fremont Community:

Two years ago the Fremont City School District conducted a community perception survey regarding Fremont's schools. Survey respondents strongly supported the need for full-day kindergarten, indicating that they felt a full-day program would enhance the district's overall academic performance.

Educational research validates the respondents' findings. Children attending full-day kindergarten programs consistently outperform their counterparts in half-day programs nationwide. In Ohio specifically, full-day programs are necessary if children are to meet the state's challenging academic standards. Unfortunately, district budget constraints in previous years prevented Fremont from implementing a full-day kindergarten program.

This past school year the district has been researching the costs associated with full-day kindergarten programming. Recently the federal government announced that the district will be receiving stimulus funds that can only be used for initiatives that will increase student achievement.

I am very pleased to inform you that Fremont City Schools will utilize general and federal stimulus funds to offer full-day kindergarten programming at all buildings effective with the beginning of the 2009-2010 academic year.

Please review this newsletter for further information about kindergarten registration. Contact Laurie Godfrey, Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Staff Development at 419-334-5441 with any questions you may have.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and children.

Sincerely,
Dr. Traci McCaudy
Superintendent

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration is scheduled for May at each of the elementary schools. If a child will be 5 years old on or before August 1, 2009, he or she is eligible to start Kindergarten during the 2009-2010 school year.

Parents should call their school attendance area for an appointment for screening that both parent and child attend.

Please call the Office of Curriculum, Assessment and Staff Development if you have any questions, 419-334-5441.

The schedule is as follows:

Date	School	Times	Phone
May 5 and 6	Otis	9:00 A.M./10:30 A.M./1:30 P.M.	419-332-8964
May 6 and 7	Hayes	9:00 A.M./10:30 A.M./1:30 P.M.	419-332-6371
May 7 and 8	Lutz	9:00 A.M./10:30 A.M./1:30 P.M.	419-332-0091
May 11 and 12	Croghan	9:00 A.M./10:30 A.M./1:30 P.M.	419-332-1511
May 12 and 13	Atkinson	9:00 A.M./10:30 A.M./1:30 P.M.	419-332-5361
May 14 and 15	Washington	9:00 A.M./10:30 A.M./1:30 P.M.	419-665-2327
May 20, 21 and 22	Stamm	9:00 A.M./10:30 A.M./1:30 P.M.	419-332-5538

CAMPUS WEAR

On March 2, 2009, the FCS Board of Education approved a campus-wear policy for middle school students to be effective at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. Letters were mailed to all parents of current 6th and 7th grade students regarding the campus-wear guidelines. The campus-wear guidelines are also available in all elementary and middle school buildings and on the district's website: www.fremontschools.net.

Open Enrollment

The Fremont City Board of Education has adopted policies and procedures permitting students to attend a school, within our school district, other than the school in which the students and parents reside. Applications for the 2009-2010 school year will be taken beginning May 1 and continue through May 30th. Applications and copies of policies and procedures may be obtained by contacting the principal of your school of choice beginning May 1, 2009. Applications will be processed in the order they are received at the school. If you have any questions, you may call Christine Opelt, Director of Human Resources & Community Relations at (419) 334-5433.

Celebrity Readers

During the week of February 23 - 27, Atkinson Elementary students were treated to some guest readers in the library for story



time. Members of the Fremont Police Department, Fremont Fire Department as well as the Sandusky County Sheriff's Office and Cedar Point Police Department dropped by the library to read a variety of books to some very excited listeners. After reading, students had the opportunity to ask questions about being a public servant with the fire/police department. We were all very thankful for these hard-working men and women of our community to take time out of their busy schedule to show Atkinson students how important reading is to them and how much reading matters in their daily work. Guest readers include: from the Fremont Police Department: Officer Oddo (pictured above), Mrs. McKinstry, Chief Wiersma and Officer Bliss; from the Sheriff's Department, Deputy Calvillo, Deputy Bocanegra, Deputy Dummering; from the Fremont Fire Department, Mr. McMullen and Chief DeVanna and from the Cedar Point Police- Lt. Rutherford.

AEP and Lutz

Fifth graders at Lutz have been participating this year in the Sandusky County Chamber of Commerce REACH program. Lutz school has part-



nered with AEP to learn lessons about business and life skills. Mrs. Miller's and Mrs. Dehring's classes have welcomed Randall Knight (manager/electrical engineer) and Cherie Long (technician/electrical engineer) into their classrooms. Each month the students look forward to wearing their REACH t-shirts and participating in hands-on activities that teach teamwork, communication and good work habits. There is often a tasty treat to top off the class. No wonder students look forward to Mr. Knight's and Mrs. Long's visits. On May 1st, both classes will walk to the AEP offices near the school to tour the facility, examine the equipment and hear about career opportunities. A pizza lunch will be served, compliments of AEP. Thank you, Mr. Miranda of the Sandusky County Chamber of Commerce and our AEP sponsors, for encouraging us to start training today for our place in the workforce tomorrow.