

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community



November 2008

Strong Academics

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Future Voters Cast Ballots



Thank you, Fremont

Dear Fremont Community,

On Tuesday, November 4, Fremont delivered a resounding commitment to its children, its schools, and its city by endorsing the Permanent Improvement/Bond Levy.

In a very challenging economic climate, voters from every constituency in Fremont voted YES for education. As levies across the state failed in large numbers, I watched with pride and appreciation as our returns were posted, as our issue passed.

I want to express my deepest, heartfelt gratitude to each and every person who voted to support our continuing efforts to make educational excellence an unwavering goal for the children of Fremont. Thank you all for questioning, listening, analyzing, and deliberating and, then seizing the moment of opportunity and offering your support.

To the Levy Committee, volunteers and generous donors, I offer an equally special thank you. Your dedication to our campaign effort was rewarded by an electorate that was provided the information needed to make an informed decision. The Levy Committee and volunteers devoted countless hours to presenting the case for our proposal and the election result validates every hour given. Members of the Levy Committee are:

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hal and Diane Hawk | Al and Diane Gorman |
| Rob and Tracy Lytle | Robert and Stephan Carter |
| Gail DeFrance | Chris Opelt |
| Rhonda Schmidt | Charlie Rhyan |
| Kay Reiter | Alex Gorobetz |
| Joyce Huntley | Art Bucci |
| Alayna Dorobek | John Elder |
| Adam Greenslade | Laura Bryant |
| Cheryl Schell | |

With every brick placed, Fremont's new middle school will represent the supportive citizens who made the building possible. With every student who passes through that building go the people of Fremont. Thank you, again, for contributing to one more component of a foundation for success for our most precious resource - our children.

Sincerely,
Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent

Fremont City Schools District Goals

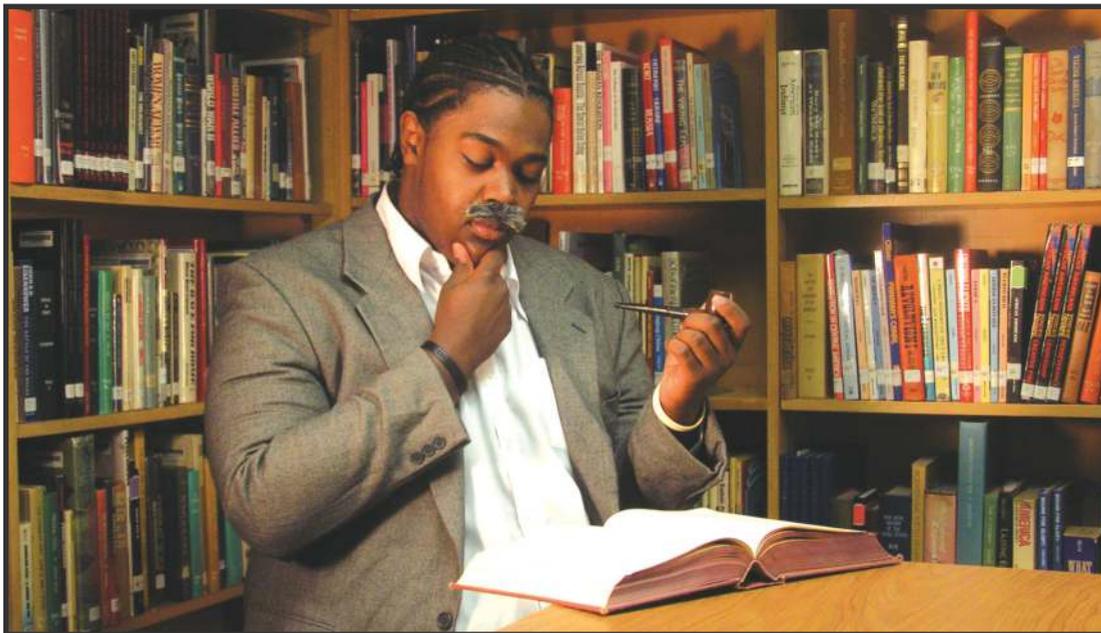
1. Increase student achievement
2. Close socio-economic, ethnic and disability gaps in student achievement
3. Build hope, trust and respect with our community

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

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

CYAN MAGENTA YELLOW BLACK PAGE #

Combining Art and Literature at Ross



AP English student Cameron Journigan poses as William Faulkner during a re-enactment in the Ross Library.

By Meghan Wonderly
Ross High journalism student

Photo by Tara Lagrou
Ross High journalism student

AP English students are pairing up with photography students in an interesting interdisciplinary assignment. This is the first time the two classes have ever worked together.

Mrs. Fisher's AP English students read *Light in August* by William Faulkner. To help them understand the different themes used in the novel, they had to convey their ideas on what the story was about to their photo partner. Partners were assigned by Mr. Heaton and Mrs. Fisher.

"This was an opportunity to cross traditional boundaries between classic literature and art. This project allows these students to mingle, when normally they do not," said Mrs. Fisher.

"It was a neat idea but a hard project to carry through," stated AP English student Erica Meek. "It's difficult to get together with the photo students."

The photographers then had to create photographs that would express their partner's thoughts on *Light in August*. Senior photographer TJ Wright commented, "It's neat to bring together two different subjects. The project is a challenge for the photographers and the AP English students."

Mr. Heaton said, "After Mrs. Fisher and I had the initial discussion about collaborating, we came up with this idea. It was the first time anything like this had been done, so it is sort of an experiment. I believe it has the potential to be a worthwhile assignment for the future because it has good learning elements for both classes."

WINTER WEATHER

We have been extremely fortunate not to have had any school delays yet, but winter is creeping in. If the district should call a two hour delay or a closing due to snow, ice, fog, etc., please listen or watch the following for closing information and/or instructions:

RADIO
WFRO

TELEVISION STATIONS
WTOL-TV 11
WTVG-ABC 13
WNWO-NBC 24

Announcements will be made as early as possible, but it can be very difficult due to the timing of the storms or conditions. We attempt to get the information out between 5:30 am- 6 am. Also, please understand that the decisions are not made lightly and school may be cancelled at the last minute. We try our best to accommodate your needs, yet the district must maintain the highest possible safety of your children as a top priority as they travel to and from school. Thank you for your patience and understanding on bad weather days!!

Literacy Centers at Hayes

Second graders at Hayes Elementary are using literacy centers to enhance their reading and writing skills. These centers are a part of the new reading series "Storytown" that was recently purchased by the district. The centers include five main components: Listening/Speaking, Reading, Writing, Word Work, and Letters/Sounds. Students are able to enjoy the freedom of navigating through the centers in a timely manner while learning. Mrs. Lozano and Mrs. Jared plan to eventually have small guided-reading groups during center time, which is when the students are ready to complete centers independently. Individual CD players have recently been added to the centers so that students may listen to stories on CD without the distraction of surrounding noises. The students will also be able to individually listen to books on their own level with the new CD players. These CD players were purchased with grant money and are a great asset to center time as well as individual student learning!



Croghan Holds Own Election

On Thursday October 30, Croghan students participated in a mock election for the presidency, in the Croghan School lobby. Students, kindergarten through sixth grade, had the choice between Barack Obama and John McCain, and also voted on the Fremont City Schools levy. There were six voting booths



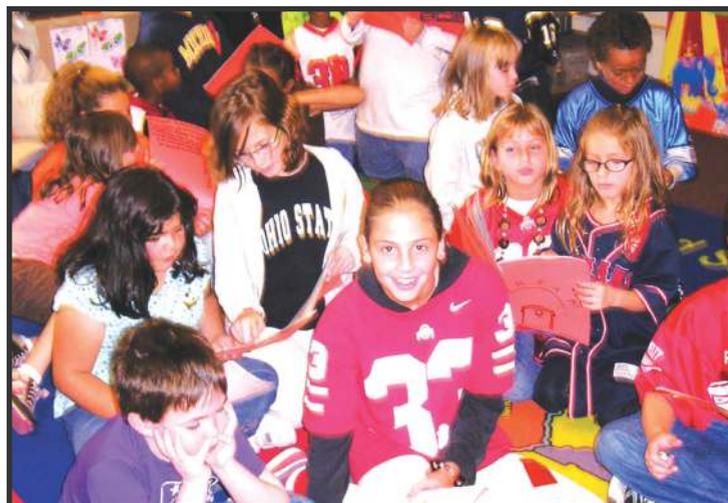
available for the students to complete their secret ballots and a ballot box for their completed ballots. Once the students completed their voting they received a voting sticker and a prize. The prizes consisted of stickers, balloons, pencils, bracelets, bookmarks, and activity books. Late on Thursday, the votes were tallied and Barack Obama won by over one hundred votes and the levy passed by a large margin.

Teaching Responsibility

Mrs. Moxley, our Guidance Counselor, has been coming into the kindergarten classes each week using different children's literature books to teach them character education. Her lessons coincide with our "Word of the Month." The word of the month for October at Lutz Elementary School is "responsibility." Teaching the children to be responsible for their own actions helps them with problem solving. Some of the things that our students are responsible for are: taking care of their bodies, picking up their toys after they are through with them, caring for a pet, making their beds, helping out at home, being quiet and listening carefully when someone is reading a book, and bring their book bags and assignments back and forth between school and home. When they do a good job with their responsibilities, they feel proud of themselves! We look forward to Mrs. Moxley's visits!



Friendships and Academics at Atkinson



On Fridays Mrs. Plihall's fifth grade class and Mrs. Snyder's second grade join together to work on Math skills. The students pair up together to create Math buddies. The fifth graders work with a second grade partner to engage in Math review games and activities. These activities focus on what the second graders have been learning about throughout the week. They concentrate on skills such as place value, identifying missing addends, and graphing. The students pair up to build conceptual knowledge and the mathematical skills necessary for successful performance in school. They are also building friendships that are caring, which support a trustworthy atmosphere where each child feels respected.

However, on Friday October 31 Mrs. Plihall's class was excited about the Harvest stories they had written and wanted to share them with their second grade Math buddies. After listening to the creative stories the second graders began writing their own stories with the help and encouragement of their fifth grade buddies. Later that day the Mrs. Snyder's second grade students engaged in an author's circle where they could share their stories. What a great way to build valuable skills and friendships across the grade levels.

An Early Start to Building Character at Washington

Kari Sibberson, Washington Elementary School's counselor works with the first grade students by sharing a book about Tattling versus Telling. Miss Sibberson used this opportunity to help students understand personal Responsibility. Responsibility, which is one of the Six Pillars of Character Program, was the word of the month for October. The other five pillars of the program, which are designed to help all elementary school students understand the importance of character, are Respect, Fairness, Citizenship, Trustworthiness and Caring. Here at Washington School character is very important and a vital part of every child's life while going through the day. Thanks to, not only Miss Sibberson, but parents, teachers and community members who model strong character everyday.



From the Ross Athletic Department

On Wednesday October 1st, the Fremont Ross Athletic Department hosted a representative from Dynamite Sports to help the student athletes, parents, principals, guidance counselors, and coaches in preparing for the college recruiting process.

The program is an educational program designed to help all student athletes and their parents who are deciding if college athletics is in their future. They learned what it takes to compete at the Division I, II, III, NAIA, and Junior College levels. They learned the process of how scholarships are earned and how difficult it is to obtain one of the few available.

This program covers four main areas; academics, athletics, marketing, and recruiting. By going to the dynamitesports.com website and putting in our information, athletes and parents will receive a vast knowledge of information to help them and their son or daughter. They can assist in knowing how to monitor the student's grades to actual conditioning exercises for all sports. This website and information will make the transition to college athletics a pleasurable experience. If anyone would like further information on Dynamite Sports, please contact the Fremont Ross Athletic Department or your child's guidance counselor.

The Fremont Ross Athletic Department would like to send out big congratulations to our Head Volleyball Coach, Bill Bonham. Coach Bonham received the Greater Buckeye Conference Coach of the Year Award in Volleyball for 2008. He was voted on by all of the league volleyball coaches. The Fremont Ross Lady Little Giants tied for second place in the GBC this year. Congratulations Coach Bonham!



Chili! Chili! Chili at Stamm!



The 40th Annual Stamm P.T.O. Chili Supper took place on Friday, October 24 before the Ross-Sandusky football game. We had our traditional chili and hot dogs with yummy desserts. We also had a theme basket raffle where each classroom made a basket full of goodies according to their theme to

be raffled off at the end of the evening.

We had over 500 in attendance. Much fun was had by all! We thank everyone who joined us that evening. We look forward to next year and making it even better for our 41st Annual Chili Supper!

Building Community

Team 8C has spent the past few weeks emphasizing the importance of community. The students have focused on our team as a community, Fremont Middle School as a community, and the city of Fremont as a community through activities, discussions, and fieldtrips. Ultimately, this emphasis should help to encourage students to treat everyone with respect.

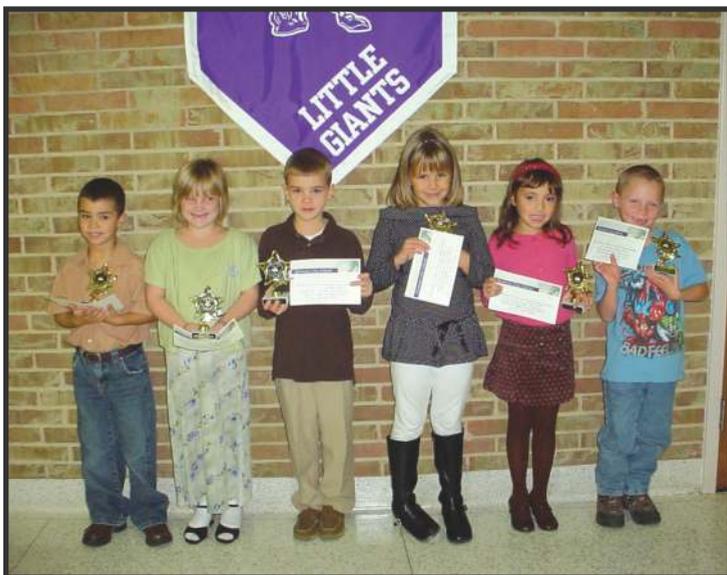
During the second week of school, we participated in the Team Building Program at Birchard Park. The students were led through a series of challenges that required teamwork to be successful. Our students learned that our team is community, a family that works together to achieve common goals. New friendships were formed and relationships were strengthened as a result of this fieldtrip.

Activities arranged during the first week of school helped to emphasize that our team is part of the Fremont Middle School community. By planning school-wide lessons on safety, formula writing, respect, two-column notes, and many other unifying concepts, the students were able to see that that we are all united within the school.

Students, as well as teachers, were given the chance to interact with members of the Fremont community during the past few weeks. The Open House held before the start of the school year, enabled us to meet the parents within the Fremont community. A presentation on internet safety allowed students to discuss important lessons with a member of the Fremont Police. Our fieldtrip to Birchard Park also built relationships between our students and the community outside the walls of our school.



Students of the Month



November 1st Grade Students of the Month: (Left to right) Connor Ratliff - Croghan; Lillian Clapp - Hayes; Brent Bliss - Lutz; Reagan Reau - Otis; Jaden Costilla - Stamm; Christopher Dyson - Washington and *missing - Kyrsten White - Atkinson

Storybook Festival at Otis

Otis Elementary celebrate Buckeye Children's Book Awards with a Storybook Festival. The event coordinated with the school's Bookfair and an evening event. Throughout the day, students were invited to dress as their favorite storybook character and bring their book along from home. Many different characters and books were represented; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Mulan, Esmeralda, 101 Dalmatians, and Abe Lincoln were a few. Otis students walked to Bethesda Care Center to parade their costumes for the residents. Both the residents and the students had a great time!



Students were also invited to join us in the afternoon on a "Storybook Land Journey". On the journey students were able to create a special treat after answering some literature trivia. Our evening event consisted of Harvesting a Good Book from the Little Boy Blue's Haystack. Children and their families were asked to return to school to visit the Bookfair and scramble through the haystack for a chance to win a free book.

Otis students, Carianne Smith and Kendra Buchele visit with Mrs. Grace Zilles while parading their costumes through Bethesda. Carianne was dressed as Pippy Longstocking and Kendra Buchele was Angelina from the Angelina Ballerina series.