

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community



Important Opening Day Info

Dear Fremont Community,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. This year the district will remain focused on improving student achievement, providing a safe and positive learning experience for our students, and strengthening our relationship with the Fremont community.

If you share our desire for quality schools, I encourage you to join me in a continued effort to increase collaboration and build faith and trust within the community. I have listed a number of committees that are comprised of Fremont's stakeholders and are currently operating within the district. If you are interested in engaging in problem-identifying and problem-solving activities and you would like to join a committee, please communicate that fact to me in writing. Please be certain to include your name, address and phone number so that I may contact you promptly. The committees are Operations; Communications/Public Relations; Curriculum Quality Control Council; Finance/Audit; and Policy.

Lastly, I have included information that you may find helpful for the upcoming school year. Thank you and I look forward to working with you and your children this school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Traci McCauley

First Day of School

-The first day of school in grades 1-12 is September 1, 2009.

-Parents of PK and kindergarten students will receive opening school day information via postal mail.

-The first day of school for Vanguard Career Center-Technology Center students is August 24th.

School Building Times

Elementary Schools: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

FMS: 7:45 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Ross H.S.: 7:50 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Open House/Orientation/Student Schedules

Elementary Schools – Open House for all elementary schools is August 31, 2009. Atkinson, Croghan, Hayes, Lutz, and Otis begin at 6:00 p.m.: Stamm and Washington begin at 6:30 p.m.

Fremont Middle School – 7th and 8th grade Orientation will be on August 19, 2009 at the following times:

Teams 7C & 8C: 3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Teams 7B & 8B: 5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Teams 7A & 8A: 6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Ross High School – Students may pick up schedules on August 24th & 25th from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Administrators and counselors will be available to address questions and/or concerns. Open House: September 8th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Undergrad Picture Day is September 8th beginning at 7:50 a.m. with picture retakes scheduled for October 13th.

Transportation

Bus routes will be submitted to *The News-Messenger* the first week of August and will be published within two weeks of that date. Please contact the Transportation Office at 419.332.7351 if you have any questions.

Food Service

Full priced lunches for the 2009-2010 school year are:

Ross H.S. \$2.50 FMS \$2.25

Elementary \$2.00 Breakfast \$1.25

Parents can prepay online at www.lunchdeposit.com

Strong Academics

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Strong Character

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Strong Community

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New Students

Welcome! Any families new to the district may contact 419.334.5436 to schedule a registration appointment.

Campus Wear:

On March 2, 2009 the FCS Board of Education approved a campus-wear policy for the middle school to be effective this year. Campus-wear Guidelines are available at the Administration Office, 1226 Cedar Street, or at FMS, 501 Croghan Street. You may also view the guidelines on the district's website at www.fremontschools.net

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

Big Changes at FMS

The Middle School will be holding its Orientation/Open House on Wednesday, August 19, 2009. After a brief discussion on areas such as: safety, general building procedures, schedules, lockers, policies, etc., parents and students will be able to walk through the building. You will be able to follow your schedule, locating all of your rooms, and try your locker combination. School personnel will be on hand to answer any of your questions.

Tables will be set up to give you information on various procedures and groups, including lunch pre-pays, busing/transportation, and our Parent/Teacher Organization. We encourage you to participate in the PTO. We appreciate parents' involvement in their child's education process.

Each household should be receiving a letter the week before the Orientation letting you know your child's assigned time to be here. If you cannot make it on August 19, the Middle School will be open from 7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., August 20 – August 31. You are free to come in to pick up schedules and tour the building. Just stop in the main office upon your arrival. We are looking forward to the 2009/2010 school year!

Getting to know

FMS Assistant Principal Christine Oravets



FMS is pleased to have Christine Oravets on staff this year. She has been an educator for 22 years. She attended Ohio University and received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education in 1987 and completed all her teaching in Cleveland. In her first year, she taught in the first grade and then moved to the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades for the remaining years as a teacher. During her tenure, she taught every curriculum except Physical Education.

In 2006, she earned her Master's Degree from Ursuline College and received her administrative license from the Ohio Department of Education. Oravets became principal at St. Louis School in Cleveland Heights, but the school was closed after her first year as principal. She was principal at St. Joseph

Elementary School in Fremont from 2007-2009.

Oravets lives in Sheffield Lake with her husband of 19 years. They have a son, Brad, who is a senior at Elyria Catholic High School, and they also have a dog named Darby.

For fun, she loves to attend Brad's hockey and baseball games and also enjoys reading, scrapbooking, and going to the movies.

Getting to know

FMS Dean of Students Laramie Spurlock



Fremont Middle School would like to introduce Mr. Laramie Spurlock as the new Dean of Students. Mr. Spurlock is married with two daughters. He has a master's degree in educational administration from Grand Canyon University and a teaching degree from Bowling Green State University.

Mr. Spurlock has been a very successful teacher and coach for the past seven years. He was previously the head wrestling coach, head cross-country coach, assistant track coach and assistant soccer coach at Bowsher High School in Toledo, OH.

Mr. Spurlock is very excited to start working with all of the parents, students, staff and administrators at Fremont Middle School. We look forward to an exciting 2009-2010 school year.

Stamm Welcomes New Staff



Stamm students and parents will be greeted this fall by some new faces. Leading the helm will be a new principal, Shannon Turner (far left). Shannon was a third grade teacher in Bellevue City Schools and most recently served as the Head Teacher. Laura Bryant (left), a familiar face in Fremont City Schools, will be serving as the assistant principal at Stamm. Laura has career experiences including, Summer Migrant Program Director,

Kindergarten and 2nd grade teacher, Math interventionist, and she even helped write curriculum for the district as a Teacher on Special Assignment. Together, Shannon and Laura will foster positive relationships with staff, students, and parents.

Stamm will also have three new classroom teachers this fall. Kyle Hintze, a Fremont resident, 8th grade boys basketball coach, and former gifted teacher will be a third grade teacher. In the fourth grade, Jena Schulz will be joining the teaching team. Jena is a recent Magna Cum Laude graduate of University of Toledo and has spent a great deal of time working for the Boys and Girls Club of America in Toledo. Finally, Susann Engle will be teaching 6th grade at Stamm. Susann's specialty is Math, and she has experience teaching in South Carolina where she earned the title "Rookie Teacher of the Year" in a district with over 20,000 students. The staff at Stamm is eager to get started and look forward to an exceptionally great school year.

Check out the Summer video of The Fremont Focus at www.fremontschools.net and click on the Communications Tab. The summer features include: 2009 graduation, Class of 1934 class reunion, Gr 5-8 student of the month, Title I family night, Gold Medal Banquet and the FMS Campus Wear fashion show.

Curriculum Corner

Over the summer while students get a break away from the routine, teachers get busy honing their skills. This summer Fremont teachers participated in many professional development opportunities at the district to help them better utilize their teaching resources. Elementary teachers together with elementary principals attended additional training to learn how our StoryTown reading textbook materials are designed to help students learn to read at their instructional level. This training included how to use each of the many resources available for students who may need more help. Kindergarten teachers spent three days together preparing for our first year of district-wide full day kindergarten. Also, math teachers in grades seven through high school were introduced to their new textbooks and including all the technology components that provide teaching aides.

Students will return this fall to new textbooks for seventh and eighth grade math, Algebra I and Algebra II, Integrated III, Geometry, Pre-calculus and Calculus. Elementary students will have new Music books. High school science classes in Physics, Chemistry, Physical Science and Intro to Physics will also receive new textbooks. When new textbooks are selected, teachers spend a great deal of time reviewing a variety of choices. The selection of all our textbooks is based on the standards that our students need to know and be able to do. Teachers also use other criteria to evaluate textbooks such as how the books develop the concepts, at what level of complexity, how assessments are aligned to state texts and how student misconceptions can be overcome during the learning cycle. Our new textbooks come with online student additions that students can access either at home or at the library.

Graduation at Ross



Fremont Ross Alumni & Friends Update

Our partners, Harris Connect, have recently finished collecting alumni data for our new 2009 Fremont Ross Alumni Directory. The tentative scheduled release of this book is October 2009. We would like to thank all of our alumni and friends who supported our efforts by calling and updating their personal information with Harris Connect. The information collected and provided to us by this company will help us to further develop and expand our alumni association; so that you will be better able to stay connected with your former classmates and friends. In the near future, please look for exciting information on how you can become an official member of our Fremont Ross Alumni & Friends Association. Let's keep our Little Giant Pride Alive!

FMS Students of the Month



Valerie Bixler - 7C
Allison Ackerman - 7B
Lukas Green - 7A
Heather Lochotzki-8A
Missing from Photo:
8th graders
Kalee Roryster
Carly Swartz

Facility Rentals Available

It is the policy of Fremont City Schools to offer facility rentals for all school owned property. Many groups have used our facilities, for such events as college classes, recognition ceremonies, and community athletic events. The process to rent is as follows:

- For any building rental (classrooms, Little Theater) contact the building principal to complete the Request for Use of School Building form. The building principal must authorize and sign.
- For any athletic facility, contact Mr. Art Bucci, Athletic Director, at Ross High School. Complete the Request for Use of School Building form. Mr. Bucci must authorize and sign.
- All request forms will be forwarded to Dr. Kimberly Theller, Director of Facilities and Operations, for approval.
- A Permit for Use of School Facilities will then be issued detailing all rental and custodial fees.

ALL RENTERS MUST provide a certificate of insurance showing no less than \$500,000 single limit of liability to include premise, operations, products and completed operations.

Costs to renters may vary based on facility, contracted personnel, etc. A copy of the Fremont City Schools Facility Rental Guide may be found on the district website www.fremontschools.net under the facilities link. The Request for Use of School Building form is located under this link and may be printed off for renters to complete. Please submit to respective building principal or Mr. Bucci for signatures.

A note from Art Bucci, Athletic Director

I would like to share with you some helpful information for the 2009-10 school year and sports seasons.

Parents who are good sports are positive role models within our school and community at large. A good sport knows that the athletic competition builds character and shapes lifetime attitudes. You, in turn, can help by showing our students that by being a good sportsperson helps build integrity, fairness, and respect.

Your display of good sportsmanship will show the most positive things about you and our community; and hopefully, reminding us all that in the end, sport is meant to be fun! As a parent/guardian at our school, your sportsmanship goals should include:

- Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances;
- Refraining from engaging in all types of disrespectful behavior, specifically taunting, trash talk, and other forms of intimidation;
- Educating other parents and fans to understand the rules of the game and the value of sportsmanship.

Reminder: For entry into any 2009-10 extra-curricular events, all students (grades 7-12) must show their School ID's to attend. Please plan on carrying this with you so there will be no problems.

We hope the upcoming seasons are a rewarding one for you!

Attention Seniors

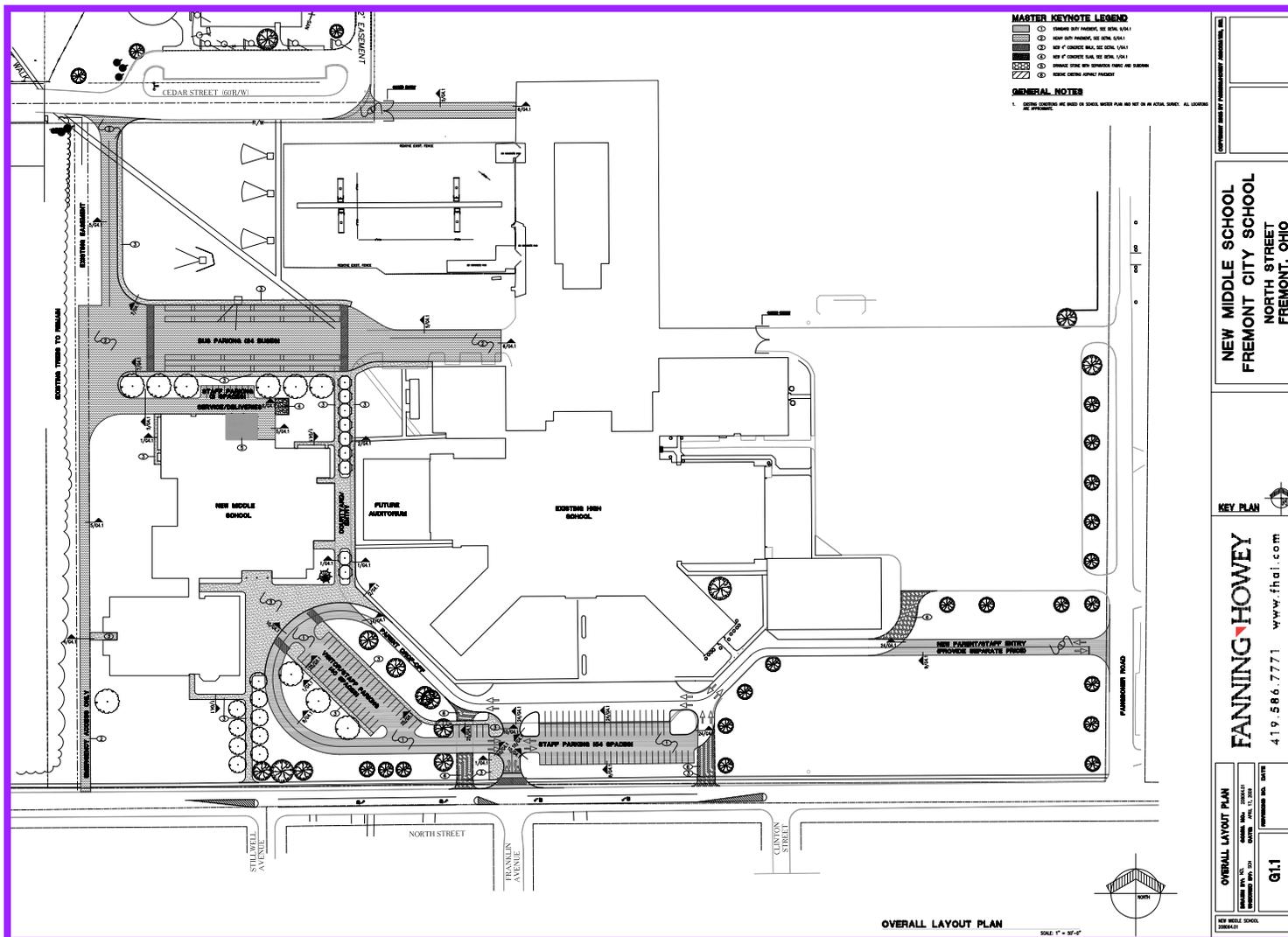
Remember to schedule your senior portrait with **Dumminger Photography**, so it may be submitted to the yearbook staff by the **November 25th deadline**. If you would like to have your photo taken during the school day on **September 25th**, you may sign up in the main office. You may choose to have other personal pictures done by another photographer; however, the yearbook staff will only accept your senior portrait from Dumminger's. No exceptions!

The dress code for your senior yearbook photo will be as follows: Men must wear a dress shirt and tie; Women must wear a dress shirt with sleeves. If you have any questions, please contact the main office at 419-332-8221.

FMS Project Update

This summer many community members and district personnel have been working diligently on the FMS project. The list below highlights the FMS project work completed during the past three months:

- Fanning-Howey architects met with teachers of grades 6-8 for the purpose of designing their classroom space.
- The FCS Board of Education approved the schematic design for the new middle school at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 15th.
- The Interior Design sub-committee met with Fanning-Howey architects on June 17th for the purpose of selecting flooring, paint colors, and gymnasium design.
- The district hired Kusmer and Associates, Inc. to complete the surveying services for the FMS project site.
- The following sub-committees were developed and met with Fanning-Howey to discuss specific areas of the new building:
 - o Technology sub-committee
 - o Plumbing sub-committee
 - o Kitchen Design sub-committee
 - o Mechanical sub-committee
 - o Electrical sub-committee
- An environmental site assessment and additional soil borings were completed on the new FMS site.
- Traffic Engineering Services, Inc. was hired to complete a comprehensive traffic study for the entire North Street complex (Ross High School, new FMS, Transportation complex, athletic sites, etc.)
- The district interviewed Maintenance Plan Advisors on July 17th and the Board of Education will act upon the hiring of a firm at the August 20th Board of Education meeting. Hiring of a Maintenance Plan Advisor is required by the Ohio School Facilities Commission.
- Please visit the district's website at www.fremontschools.net for additional information on the new middle school. A draft FMS site plan is also included for your review within this newsletter.



The Fremont City School District will not discriminate nor tolerate harassment in its educational programs or activities for any reason, including on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, military status, sexual orientation or ancestry. Additionally, it will not discriminate in its employment policies nor practices.