

# Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

Nov.  
2012

## Fremont City Schools Earns an "Excellent" Rating on Report Card



"Excellence can only be achieved if every person with a stake in the effort contributes to the best of their individual and collective abilities.

Fremont City Schools has achieved an Excellent rating by the State of Ohio because its Board of Education, my Leadership Team, our dedicated, skilled teachers, the district's fine support staff, Fremont's involved parents and this city's committed community have all joined me in a unified effort to accept nothing less than outstanding performances.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all. Excellent work students. Well done Fremont."

*Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent*

## Thank You FREMONT!



FCS Renewal Income Tax Levy Committee. Left to right: Don Nalley, Shantel Laird, Gregg Gallagher, Heidi Gallagher, Traci McCaudy, Barb Moran, Pam Kindle, Maricela Chavez, Scott Miller and Gregg Gerber. Not shown: Christine Opelt, Brent Parker, Erin Parker, Kalee Royster, Rhonda Schmidt and John Zimmerman.

Dear Fremont Community,

I express my sincere appreciation to the Fremont Community for its support of the Renewal Income Tax Levy. Once again, Fremont has demonstrated its commitment to excellence in education for each of its children. The promise of a quality education can only be kept when a partnership exists between citizens and their school district. Fremont City Schools is grateful to the residents in Fremont who have expressed their confidence in us with their vote. Additionally, I wish to thank the FCS Renewal Income Tax Levy Committee and the staff, students, parents and community members who assisted with the levy campaign.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent*

### Strong Academics

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## Congratulations to Louis Guardiola

**He made it to the State Cross Country**

**Meet where he finished 44th**

**with a time of 16:04.33.**

**He is the son**

**of David and Judy Guardiola.**

## Lessons from the Farm



On October 11<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Warga's and Mrs. Buckley's first grade classes from Hayes Elementary went on an all-day field trip to the Country Lane Tree Farm in Genoa. During this trip, the students were able to participate in activities on a working agricultural and animal farm to further their understanding about living things and their basic needs. The students actually milked a real cow and held baby chicks in the hen house. They were also able to feed deer, pigs, goats, llamas, alpacas, donkeys, and sheep. Additionally, they viewed bee hives and a huge wasp's nest. It was quite a treat for the students to walk along side chickens and roosters all day, especially since they were currently reading a story at school about a rooster named Rick. Instead of just reading "cock-a-doodle-doo"...they got to hear it! At the end of the day, the children went on a wagon ride to the pumpkin patch and picked their very own pumpkin. It was an educational experience they will never forget! Submitted by-Jill Warga  
Pictured: Megan Evans in Mrs. Warga's room enjoying holding a baby chick.

## Stamm: Pumpkin Patch Math

Stamm first graders are using pumpkin shaped candy as manipulatives to help them master the concepts of addition and subtraction. After hearing a story from Miss Rudd about how pumpkins grow, the students plant their own pumpkin patch and just like that (with the opening of a bag of candy), the pumpkins are ready to be picked! Each student receives the same number of pumpkin candies from the teacher for their patch. The students then write two math stories about their patch. One math story is an addition problem, the other a subtraction problem, once they have written their story and their number sentence the students use their candy to help them find the answer. To complete the project the students draw a Fall scene and color the correct number of pumpkins for each math story. The pictures and math stories are then collected and turned into a class book. This book is then shared with the class and put on display for parents during conferences. And of course, when the problems are all answered correctly the students get to eat their pumpkins. Submitted by: Erica Rudd  
Pictured: Aryia Lather



## Help From an Expert

In the ongoing battle to fill out college applications, Ross seniors have an ally, his name is Mr. Orshoski. Mr. O is a College Access Advisor who works for Terra and has come to Ross to Mrs. Kelly and the seniors put the college wheels in motion. He is a retired educator of 35 years; former administrator, principal and superintendent of Bettsville schools. It is safe to say Mr. O is no stranger to the school system and has plenty of knowledge and experience. He is at Ross to help students with all of their college needs which includes registering for the ACT, filling out applications, applying for scholarships and more.

So far he said, "I love Ross; it is bigger than any school I have been associated with. The teachers, activities and students are phenomenal!"

Mr. O's 5 tip for seniors

1. Get prepared academically
2. Make the most of your high school career
3. Pursue your dreams
4. Persist
5. Find something you love to do

Mr. Orshoski can be found on Monday and Tuesdays in room 46A at Ross. Make sure to stop in and make an appointment.

## Giant Step Award Winners

Fremont City Schools honored seven of its employees Monday night through its Giant S'ep Award recognition program. The awards are based on principles of leadership, motivation and dedication.

Giant Step winners pictured left to right: Front row-Shirley LaBonte, Barb McNutt, Renee Moreno; Back row Vickie Swaisgood, Ann Roth, Jen Abdoo, Patti Knipp

\*\*\*Nomination forms are available at the individual buildings and on the intranet.



## Provisions of NCLB

On May 29, 2012, the United States Department of Education granted the Ohio Department of Education a waiver of several provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). The purpose of this letter is to explain how parts of the ESEA Flexibility waiver under Title I, Part A of NCLB relate to your child's education.

### Notice to Parents

Under Title I, Part A of NCLB, districts were required to notify parents if any of their schools or the district itself were identified for Improvement. **This provision has been waived, and districts are no longer required to send a letter out to notify parents of School or District Improvement status.**

### Public School Choice

Under Title I, Part A of NCLB, districts were required to offer students attending schools identified to be in Improvement status the opportunity to attend another public school not so identified. Districts were required to provide transportation to the transfer school. **This provision has been waived, and districts are no longer required to offer this option.**

Students taking the Public School Choice option during the 2011-12 school year are allowed to remain in the transfer school until they complete the highest grade in that school. However the district is no longer responsible for providing the transportation. **Fremont City Schools will continue to provide transportation to the transfer school for the 2012-13 school year only. Beginning in the 2013-14 school year, Fremont City School will not provide transportation for students who are attending another school under Public School Choice.**

### Supplemental Educational Services

Under Title I, Part A of NCLB, districts were required to offer students attending schools identified for Improvement, Year 2 and higher the opportunity to receive Supplemental Educational Services (SES), free tutoring services using external providers.

**This provision has been waived, and districts no longer are required to offer SES. In the place of SES, districts are required to set aside 20% to expand learning time. As a result of the ESEA Flexibility Waiver, Fremont City Schools will provide focused intervention to students K-12 in all of our buildings. This focused intervention will vary in each building, but will provide students with additional assistance in reading and math.**

Additional information concerning Ohio's ESEA Flexibility waiver application and other waiver provisions can be found on the ODE and USDE websites. If you have further questions, you may contact Denise Hirt, Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Staff Development, at 419-334-5435 or [hirt@fremont.k12.oh.us](mailto:hirt@fremont.k12.oh.us)

**View video clips of our Fremont City Schools students...**

## Learning and Dancing at Atkinson



The second grade classes at Atkinson have been very busy learning and having fun! We have been teaming up within our building as a whole grade level. We are learning the Phonics Dance and practicing the different sounds letter “chunks” make, as well as including learning stations that focus on skills we are covering in Language Arts. The second graders are finding those “hunks and chunks” in their stories and writing quite often! We meet three times a week to do the

Phonics Dance and learning stations. We have heard that the kids are practicing the Phonics Dance chants with younger brothers and sisters at home! Our second graders have been working very hard making good choices and being a terrific team during our learning activities. They join together to play learning games, cooperate, and continue to respect each other. We will continue to expand our learning in fun, meaningful ways and share our learning with those around us! Pictured: students from Mrs. Kimball’s class work on an activity together. Submitted by: Mrs. Kimball, Mrs. Snyder and Mrs. Weiker.

## Positive Behavior Intervention

Most students will succeed when a positive school culture is promoted, when students are taught behavioral expectations in all areas of their school, when they are given corrective feedback if they do make mistakes, and when their academic engagement time is maximized. Beginning in January, we are piloting a program called Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) at Hayes, Otis and Lutz elementary schools.

The PBIS approach to school-wide behavior management is research based and designed to drastically reduce discipline problems while improving academic performance among all students. Through district and school based leadership teams, Fremont City Schools will help to establish 3-5 positive school-wide behavioral expectations for each school, procedures for teaching the expectations, and methods for encouraging and strengthening student demonstration of our expectations. The focus is Preventive, Teaching-oriented, and Positive.

Through the collaborative efforts of our Parent Mentor, Kay Konwiczka, and the Student Services Department, we have secured grant funding from our Region I State Support Team to provide parent training, and will have access to school based behavior coaches. Our coaches will consult with staff in each building on a bi-weekly basis to ensure *all students* acquire the ability to successfully navigate the social aspects of their school!

## Washington’s Leadership Team

I would like to introduce to you the Washington Elementary Leadership Team! Fifth-Graders: President—Isaac Smith, Kortini Joseph, Alyssah Simmons and Victoria Humberger and Fourth-Graders Julia Davis and Paige Willer. These students were chosen at the end of the 2011-2012 school year because of their exemplary character. They hold a special leadership role with in the building. Each day begins as they DJ dance music for the entire student body in the gym. They then follow a rotating schedule in leading the Pledge of Allegiance and reading announcements. As the year progresses they will have additional responsibilities associated with Make-a-Difference Club events. It makes me proud that they represent the Washington Elementary Community. Submitted by: Bridget Smith



## Character and Colorful Socks at Lutz for Red Ribbon Week

Every year during October Lutz Elementary students show character by celebrating National Red Ribbon Week. Fremont City Schools celebrated Red Ribbon Week October 22<sup>nd</sup> – October 26<sup>th</sup>. Red Ribbon Week was founded by Enrique Camarena who was killed working as a DEA agent undercover in Guadalajara, Mexico. It became a national campaign in 1988 promoting making safe and healthy drug free choices. Students at Lutz showed their support by participating in many Red Ribbon Week activities including dress up days, grade level contests, daily announcements, and watching a Red Ribbon Skit performed by Fremont Ross High School students on Eagle TV. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, several Lutz Elementary students attended the Red Ribbon Spooktacular event at Terra Community College to show their support of Red Ribbon Week. These students are “socking out” drugs. Submitted by Kari Hatfield (Counselor) Students pictured left to right: Jocelyn Hines, Jenna Ollom, Juelz Garcia, Cali Weiler



## Alumni Feature

### Little Giant Alumni on FCS staff

**Abby (Gilbert) Markwith**-Teaching at my alma mater is important to me because I’m able to give back to the school system and community that gave so much to me.

**Susan (Kittle) King**-The Fremont City Schools are rich in tradition and have been an important part of my life. I attended Fremont Schools from kindergarten through high school. It not only gave me a quality education but allowed me to make lasting friendships through participating in clubs and sports. I now feel privileged by working in the same schools I attended. I continue to feel pride every time I wear purple and white. I would not be the person that I am today without the support and inspiration I received from my former teachers. Fremont City Schools is not just a place but a way of life for me.

**Rob Stotz**-FCS is important to me because it gave me the foundation to be successful in all aspects of my life.

**Mindy (Markwith) Miller**-Being born and raised on Purple Pride, I have a deep love for Fremont City Schools. I am honored to be a product of this great district and I am even more proud as a teacher of FCS to be able to give back to future alum as my fine teachers did for me so many years ago. Thank you all for keeping the pride alive. This has been and always will be an “Excellent”-rated establishment.

**Bridget (Wettrich) Smith**-Fremont City Schools is a diverse school district that has prepared me for success in the real world. My school experience with academics, student leadership, marching band, theatre and friendships have made an everlasting impact.

**Lisa (Meek) Zimmerman**-I truly love coming to school each day, and I love when graduates come up to me and thank me for helping them along the way of getting their diploma. I can say that I like impacting the lives of young people. I have been around many places, and I work with the best staff ever.

**Sandy (Hunt) Werling**-FCS is important to me as an alumni because every day our most precious and important part of Fremont walks through the doors of our schools. They represent the future. Our students have the opportunity to be educated in a district that is rated excellent, and that is supported by our community as evidenced by our recent passage of the levy. In Fremont, we care about our children and their future, and I am proud to be a past graduate and blessed to be a part of the future.

## All-Star Grandfriends at Otis



The theme of Otis Elementary School's annual "Grandfriends Day" was "Otis Grandfriends are All-Stars!" Approximately 150 All-Star Grandfriends, which included grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, neighbors and parents of students, participated in the event. Grandfriends spent a portion of the day with their favorite Otis Elementary student(s) by participating in several activities. The celebration

began with Grandfriends visiting their student's classroom and eating lunch together in the cafeteria. After shopping at the school book fair, students accompanied their Grandfriends to the courtyard for pictures. Grandfriends and students said their good-byes after recess on the playground. It was a memorable day for students and their Grandfriends alike. Submitted by: Cindy Garn

## Transition Resource Fair

Fremont City Schools in conjunction with the Pathways 2 Employment program is hosting a Resource Fair on November 19, 2012, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Fremont Ross High School in the school cafeteria. The resource fair is geared towards transition aged youth who will soon be leaving high school, and their parents.

A variety of area businesses and agencies will be available to provide information regarding their respective areas. Our goal is allow you to obtain valuable information about local community services, programs, and supports that are available to students after they graduate from high school. Information that will be provided includes (but is not limited to) eligibility requirements, supports offered through the various agencies, various programs that are offered, as well as topics ranging from banking to housing to job opportunities in our community.

A list of agencies/businesses/service providers will be made available by November 13th and can be found in the main office at Fremont Ross High School. This event is being held during the scheduled parent/teacher conferences at Fremont Ross High School. Please feel free to stop down to the cafeteria in between conferences! We look forward to seeing you at the Resource Fair on November 19th.

## Cub Scouting in Fremont

Join in the fun, join Cub Scouting in Fremont! In Cub Scouting, boys and their families have fun and adventure in a program that builds character and instills values. Cub Scouting embraces the values of citizenship, compassion, cooperation, courage, faith, health and fitness, honesty, perseverance, positive attitude, resourcefulness, respect, and responsibility. These values come to boys in all parts of the Cub Scout program – all while they're having a great time with their friends and families.

For more information about joining scouting locally, please visit [eaglebaydistrict.org](http://eaglebaydistrict.org) or [facebook.com/eaglebaydistrict](https://www.facebook.com/eaglebaydistrict) or contact Joel Moszkowicz at 419-392-2764 or [Joel.Moszkowicz@scouting.org](mailto:Joel.Moszkowicz@scouting.org).



## Autism Awareness at FMS



In an effort to build stronger community ties within our school, Team Bearcats embraced the Student Council sponsored Disability Awareness Day and turned it into a Disability Awareness Week. The Bearcats were asked to learn more about Autism. A special presentation was given by Bearcat Teacher Amy Herr whose son has Autism along with a Bearcat student. Students found it interesting to learn that several of their teammates have siblings who suffer with Autism as well. The students wore the unique puzzle piece ribbons that represent those who suffer with this disability. They also received multi-colored puzzle piece stickers that they placed on their planners or binders where they can be reminded daily of how this disability affects others. Students collected coins and will be painting small pumpkins to raffle off at lunch to be able to make a donation to the Will Kinzer Foundation for Autism Research. Fifty-five pumpkins were graciously donated by Rimelspach Farms for this event.

## Croghan is "Spook" tacular

Croghan School is pleased to have won the attendance prize for the Red Ribbon "Spook" Tacular for our second year.

Our students and their families had great times Tuesday, October 23, 2012, at the Red Ribbon "Spook" Tacular, which was presented by Prevention Partnership and Terra Community College! Mrs. Overstreet, our Professional School Counselor, is part of Prevention Partnership, which is a community collaboration formed in 1999 following the award of a Drug-Free Community Coalition Grant through the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties. The Mission of this group is "to embrace a collaborative and coordinated approach towards community action to reduce the number of youth and adults who engage in substance abuse and other risky behavior in Sandusky County."

The highlight event each year is the Red Ribbon "Spook" Tacular! Thanks to generous donations from Terra Community College, Memorial Hospital, The Sandusky County Health Department, Prevention Partnership, Crown Battery, and The Sandusky County Sheriffs' Department, our students have a safe fun place to "show off" their Halloween costumes, as they receive free candy, cookies, popcorn, cotton candy, and punch. During the event, our students were caught enjoying drug and alcohol prevention games and activities. They even picked up some free drug-prevention giveaways! Some of this year's favorites were the bounce house, face painting, and caramel apples-decorated and eaten by each designer!



**Fremont City Schools does not discriminate nor tolerate harassment in its employment opportunities, educational programs or activities for any reason including on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, military status, ancestry, sexual orientation, age or genetic information.**