

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

Feb.
2014

Fremont Rotary/STRIVE Program



STRIVE (Students Taking Renewed Interest in the Value of Education) is a program sponsored by the Rotary Club of Fremont and implemented in conjunction with Ross High School staff. Rotarians work with select seniors who want to improve their school performance and set goals for the future. These students receive mentoring from Rotarians, and meet monthly at Ross High School with Rotarians, who arrange programs on a variety of topics related to school success and career planning. At the January STRIVE meeting, students utilized computers to access Career Exploration software provided by Terra Community College. At left: Student Carl Spears works with his mentor, Rotarian Ralph Oxley, to explore potential careers and complete his college applications.

Did You Know?

1. Did you know that Dr. McCaudy, Mrs. Frye and Ross students Robert Joerg, Riara Holland, Toni Laird and Reghan Hiline were invited to share the district's student wellness plan to the Lorain County Health Coalition on January 29th? The Lorain County school districts were very impressed with the district's plan and strategies being implemented to improve the overall wellness of our students.
2. Did you know that new exhaust fans were installed in the Ross High School gymnasium in order to circulate the air and cool the area?
3. Did you know that the district hired the following local businesses for products/services during the second quarter?
AJ's Heavenly Pizza, Adkins Fence, Adkins Sanitation, Applebee's, Associated Buyers, Beck Suppliers, Chick's Canvas, Clark Associates, Inc., Deemer Roofing & Sheet Metal, Great Lakes Internet, Contractors Equipment Rental, Croghan Colonial Bank, Crown Battery, Donna Valentine, Dollar Tree, Dumminger Photo, Famous Supply Co., Fastenal Company, Fremont Uniform Shoppe, Flower Real Estate Holdings, Fortball Pizza Palace, Fremont Auto Parts, Fremont Candy & Cigar Co., City of Fremont Utilities, Fremont Printing, Kiwanis, Kroger Co., Lotycz & Sons, Lowe's, Kun's Northcoast Security, Marco's Pizza, Memorial Hospital, O.E. Meyer & Sons, Mosser Construction, The News Messenger, Nickel Paint & Supply, Otto & Urban Flower Shop, Papa Murphy's, Phaze I, Plaza Lanes, Prairie Flowers, The Party Starts Here, R&R Identification, Rural King, Sabroske Electric, Sandusky County, Sorg Graphics, Subway, Swim Rite Pools, Tireman, Top Notch Cheer, Universal Farms, Vanguard-Sentinel/Tech Center, Willey's Radiator & Towing LLC, St. Joseph Central Catholic School and Sandusky County Positive People.

Ivan Jacobo of Fremont Earned the Eagle Scout Award

Ivan Jacobo, of Fremont, has earned the Eagle Scout Award, the highest advancement award the Boy Scouts of America offers. He was recognized in a ceremony Feb. 8, after the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Ann Church. Jacobo is a member of Erie Shores Council Troop 339 and is one of about 4 percent of Boy Scouts who attain the Eagle rank. Each must earn 21 merit badges and successfully complete a community, church or synagogue-related service project. Jacobo chose to make four toddler tables for the teaching and mentoring communities' migrant and seasonal Head Start program in Fremont, under the direction of Anita Cortez. Jacobo has achieved all the ranks in Cubs Scouts and the honors of the Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei while in Cub Scout Troop 309. Also in Troop 339, with Scout Master Dennis Seltzer, Jacobo was patrol leader and chaplain aide and is in the Order of the Arrow. Jacobo has participated in several Camp Frontier adventures at Pioneer Scout Reservation and a Northern Tier High Adventure at Boundary Waters in Ely, Minn. Jacobo is a member of St. Ann Church and is active in Fremont Ross varsity boys soccer and the Fremont United Indoor Boys High School Soccer League. He is a senior at Fremont Ross high school and plans to enter the military after graduation.

He is the son of Serafin and Monica Jacobo, of Fremont; and the grandson of Alberto Jacobo and Isdria Valdez de Jacobo, of Dalton Ga.; and Margarita Valle and the late Ramiro S. Valle, of Fremont.



Strong Academics

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Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

Gifted Education Project



The Gifted program uses the “Envision” curriculum by Melanie L. Bondy. “Envision” uses projects that are real-world based that will help inspire and challenge the students involved. They allow for freedom of choice and creative expression.

These students are working on the project called Knowledge Quest. This project covers an in-depth “quest for knowledge” on a topic of the students’ interest, and allows the students to thoroughly analyze their topic of interest. This will be an opportunity for students

to engage their curiosity, research new information, and report their findings. During this project, the students create a semantic map to guide their research and note taking. They record a list of websites and write a bibliography of the sources used. From this, the students compose and conduct a survey and classify the results. The findings from their research are then reported in a newspaper format. Additionally, the students design a game and create an illustration that predicts the future of their topic. The student work culminates in a project exhibit that includes a portfolio of the information and activities, as well as a presentation explaining their project components and what they learned.

The gifted students at some of the elementary schools are doing a similar project titled Fitness Pursuit, while the components of their project are different, they will also display and share all of their work through a project exhibit and presentation near the end of the school year.

Curriculum Corner Spring Testing Schedule

It is almost that time of year again! When we begin to look forward to spring weather, we also begin to look forward to the opportunity of Spring Statewide Assessments. Students in grades 3-10 will have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of State standards and curriculum.

Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) Grades 10-12

March 10 – Reading

March 11 – Math

March 12 – Writing

March 13 – Science

March 14 – Social Studies

Ohio Achievement Assessments Grades 3-8

April 29 – Reading – Grades 3, 5, 6

April 30 – Reading – Grades 4, 7

May 1 – Math – Grades 3, 5

Reading – Grade 8

May 2 – Math – Grades 4, 6

May 6 – Science – Grade 5

Math – Grade 7

May 7 – Math – Grade 8

May 8 – Science – Grade 8

We wish all of our students the very best! Remember to take your time and take the opportunity to SHOW YOUR KNOWLEDGE!

Reading with Mr. Wetzel



First and second grade students at Stamm Elementary have the privilege of having a volunteer reading to them every month. Mr. Ron Wetzel comes to Stamm each month to read and share with the entire first and second grade classrooms. Mr. Wetzel has been volunteering his time with the Stamm students for the past few years. Mr. Wetzel volunteers his time at Stamm simply because he loves to read to the children. He loves to see the students smile! Mr. Wetzel reads each class a story and then talks to the children about the importance of reading. He encourages them to always do their homework and then go get a book and read it.

Before leaving the classroom, Mr. Wetzel always asks the children if they remember his important word. Respect! He reminds the students how important it is to respect their teacher as well as how important it is for them

to be able to read. The students love listening to his stories and sharing their connections to his books. We thank Mr. Wetzel for his continued dedication to our Stamm students and Fremont City Schools.

Inclement Weather Days

Dear Fremont Community,

As you are aware, it has been a very challenging winter. As of February 10th, I have closed school due to inclement weather eleven (11) days so far this winter. The State of Ohio currently allows districts to use five (5) calamity days without penalty. Any school days missed beyond five (5) days must be made up during a time designated by a local Board of Education. As of today, Fremont City Schools will need to make up six (6) days at the end of the school year. There is pending legislation that would allow districts additional days, but this has not yet been approved. I will provide you with additional information about this legislation in the near future.

Please know that delaying the start of school or cancelling school due to inclement weather is always based on the safety of students. Several weather conditions are considered when deciding whether or not to delay/close school. Some of these conditions include:

- Road conditions
- Weather forecast
- Temperature and wind chill
- Current amount of snow and projected snowfall amounts
- Conditions of school parking lots and sidewalks

Additionally, I consult with other area superintendents and often law enforcement officials are contacted.

The AlertNow messaging system is utilized to announce school delays and cancellations. School delays and cancellations are also announced on the following stations:

Radio: WFRO (Eagle 99) and Clear Channel local stations

Television: WTOL Channel 11, WTVG Channel 13 and WNWO Channel 24

Announcements will be made as early as possible but this may not always be possible due to the timing of the storms or conditions. Again, the safety of our children is a top priority and road and weather conditions are checked thoroughly before a decision is made to delay/cancel or keep schools open for a particular day. Be safe and stay warm.

Sincerely,

Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent

Atkinson: Building Character

Molding yourself into a person who is of good character or someone who has good character traits is important throughout your life. How others see you or think of you is the basis on which your character is built.

Be trustworthy. This means being honest and reliable. Do not deceive, cheat, do what you say you will.

Be respectful. Be considerate of others. Be tolerant and accepting of differences. Follow the Golden Rule.

Be responsible. Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes. Set a good example for others by doing what you are supposed to do.

Be fair. Play by the rules. Listen to others. Treat everyone fairly.

Be caring. Be compassionate and kind. Help people when they need it. Forgive others and express gratitude.

Be a good citizen. Cooperate, be a good neighbor, obey laws and rules. Volunteer, respect authority and protect the environment. Make your school and community a better place to be.

Other students, teachers, parents, neighbors, and community members look up to and respect those who thrive to be students/people of good character. We should all be working toward that goal in our lives no matter what age we are. It makes our world a better place to live.

Pictured in the photo from left to right are: Trenton Ward, Yadhira Sigala and Rayin Jordan.



Character Counts at Lutz Elementary

Our 4th grade students work a great deal on building positive character traits. Some of the character traits we have discussed and built into ourselves are RESPONSIBILITY, KINDNESS, COOPERATION, and COMPASSION. As an elementary, we build character traits through our school-wide PBIS program. We model and practice positive choices in all areas of our school, both in and out of the classroom. There is a great deal of terrific things going on at Lutz. Of course, the kids enjoy our monthly PBIS assembly where students are randomly acknowledged for the excellent character traits they exemplified throughout the month. Mr. Jarrett's 4th grade class practices proper hallway behaviors.



ACE/STRIVE Mentoring Programs



ACE (Assisting Children to Excel) and Rotary STRIVE (Students Taking Renewed Interest in the Value of Education) are thankful for their mentors!

January is National Mentoring Month and Fremont City Schools applaud and thank our community mentors who take time from their schedules to mentor students at Ross High School.

Workshops are offered to assist seniors with career planning and college and financial aid applications.

"Lunch Bunch" workshops are offered each month for students and mentors. Students engage in activities that are designed to encourage academic success and assist with establishing career goals.

There are approximately 60 students in the program. In the first quarter, 17 students achieved honor roll status and most students improved their grades and attendance. Last year 20 seniors continued their education and former students have returned to Ross to share their college and mentoring experience. Two ACE students are giving back to our community by becoming mentors. The 2014 National Mentoring Month theme is: "Be Someone Who Matters to Someone Who Matters." Mentoring Works.

Thanks to our local United Way contributions that help make this valuable resource available for our youth. For more information you may contact: Mrs. Violetta Rhea at (419) 332 - 4453 or E-mail: rhev@fremontschools.net. Pictured above: Tiranee Brunett and her ACE mentor Cheryl Cotter

Washington Caring Carolers

Washington Elementary students brought some Christmas cheer to the residents of Lindsey. On December 20th the entire school went caroling through town. Students sang all the classic songs as residents joined in to celebrate the season. Although it started to rain, the kids sang beautifully and the annual event was enjoyed by everyone. When the fourth grade students were asked about their favorite part, they said, "It was fun watching the excitement on people's faces as we sang!" It was definitely a time to be cherished by all.



Learning about Common Good

Mrs. Spurlock's third grade class has been learning about solving issues for the common good, not just for personal gain. This lesson follows Third Grade Common Core Government Standard 10- Individuals make the community a better place by solving problems in a way that promotes the common good.

Students worked in cooperative learning groups to solve classroom problems. The next day Mrs. Spurlock's students brainstormed in their learning groups about ways to make the school a better place. The students then chose one of the ideas to write about.

Gigi Shanahan wrote about forming a club to clean up the school playground. She noticed that sometimes there is garbage lying around and would like to help the school by getting students to clean the playground during recess. Gigi took this one step further and went to asked permission from the principal to begin her idea. While speaking with the principal, Gigi shared many of her ideas for making Hayes School a better place. What started out as a Social Studies lesson turned into a real life character building lesson!

Athletic Update

1) Louis Guardiola signed his national letter of intent to run Cross Country at the University of Toledo on Wednesday, February 6th at 12:00. The signing took place in the Hall of Fame room.

2) The wrestling program finished 3rd in the TRAC wrestling championship. Individual champions from Ross were: Trayvion Scott (113lbs), Bailey Mezinger (126 lbs) and Trey Grine (145 lbs). Coach Mezinger was named Coach of the Year by the TRAC, while Trey Grine was named this year's Most Valuable Wrestler.

3) The girls' swim team won the sectional meet, and Coach Tina Moses was named Women's Coach of the Year by the TRAC.

Croghan's Character Carries Over into the Community



Character Counts Week, January 27th-31st, was a very special week for Croghan School students and staff as they celebrated the good character they have been building all year. Croghan's students have been learning different skills to help them get along with each other and make good choices, not only in school, but in our community. Students are striving to better show empathy and respect for others daily by thinking about others' perspectives and using active listening. They are also developing

increased self-control and responsibility by handling strong emotions the right way and solving problems using a tool called "STEP". During Character Counts Week, Croghan was filled with the colors of character! Hallways were decorated with the colors that are associated with each character trait, and many students and staff wore the color for the character trait of the day. There were daily announcements and lessons to remind us that our character counts everywhere all the time! Croghan's students have worked hard to make their classrooms and our communities better places by being more polite and fair to everyone. Pictured from left to right: Alyssa Batey, Willow Reeves, Vanessa Levario, Michael Lather, and Thomas Gluth

Otis and Bethesda Partnership

Otis Elementary School's Make-A-Difference Club has been busy this year with their partnership at Bethesda Care Center. Once a month, students go to Bethesda and spend time with their "grandfriends" playing games, sharing stories, making crafts, or performing skits. At Halloween, students dressed in their Halloween costumes and paraded through the facility before meeting with their grandfriends. In December, the club accompanied the Otis Elementary School choir and sang Christmas carols with the residents. February is always celebrated with a Valentine's Day party and the crowning of a Valentine's king and queen. Otis has a long-standing partnership with Bethesda that began many years ago. Both the students and residents still enjoy the experience today, and we are proud to carry on this special tradition. Students pictured: Adrianna Sebastian, Mersadies Throckmorton, Alejandro Bonilla and Jamarion Glover Submitted by: Cindy Garn



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FMS and Vanguard = Learning Together



The definition of the word community is a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. Team Ashland learned all about how to better themselves as students in order to better their community.

Team Ashland visited The Vanguard Tech Center and learned about all the different programs that they offer to help students achieve their educational goals and help create a better community. Students from The Vanguard Tech Center led tours and activities to help students understand the different courses offered to students.

Like people in a community need to work together, so did our students at Vanguard. Students were led in many team building activities such as stacking cups and naming the different parts of an engine.

Team Ashland had a great time at The Vanguard Tech Center learning how to work together as a team like a community.

Students of the Month

Pictured left to right: Front Row: Haley Henderson, daughter of Steven & Julie Henderson, Lutz Elementary; Aiyah Jones, daughter of Manoah & Ayanna Jones, Hayes Elementary; Back Row: Alexandria Bishop, daughter of Wendy Bishop, Atkinson Elementary; Jaden Leal, son of Jennifer Wyss, Croghan Elementary; Kylie Barickman, daughter of David & Candi Barickman, Otis Elementary; Mylah Williams, daughter of Michael & Erica Williams, Stamm Elementary; Cesar Lopez, son of Sergio Lopez & Crystal Naus, Washington Elementary



Friends of Ross



In 1991, Principal Ernie Jones implemented a new honor at Fremont Ross High School. He wanted to recognize individuals who were making "Giant" contributions. That honor was named "Friends of Ross" and remains in place today.

The criteria for the award include, but are not limited to: Little Giant contributions in all things Fremont Ross, years of service within the school, outstanding partnership with Fremont City Schools, an "It Takes More to Be a Little Giant" attitude and a visual presence in the

community, while also being an advocate for Fremont City Schools. The 2013-2014 honorees are from left to right: Tom & Nancicarol Woleslagel and Diane & Hal Hawk