

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

May
2014

Top 25 Students at Ross Honor Teachers



The following seniors honored their most influential educator at an end-of-the-year banquet. The students are listed in alphabetical order, along with the honored educator.

Jonathan Alexander- Catherine Lewis; Allison Ackerman- Joan Wensinger; Valerie Bixler- Ellen Shawl; Kelly Bondra- Bradley Scherzer; Brantleigh Bunting- John Elder; Caleb Costilla- John Elder; David Detwiler- Catherine Lewis; Jacob Earnhart- Steve Oberst; Aubrey Fox- Mike Gilbert; Jack Gedeon- Mark Gedeon; Cira Hill- Brenda Widman; Catherine Hofacker- Heidi Gallagher; Kelsey Ivy- Mike Gilbert; Hunter Jaramillo- Tracie Dye; Shelby Kluck; Alison Lagrou- Mark Gedeon; Kyle Lamlie- Barb McNutt; Cory Montgomery- Joe Zam; Mike Muffler- Travis Bates; Alison Ou- Mike Gilbert; Katarina Whisler- Linda Schalk; McKenna Willis- Beth Muffler; Alexis Winters- Linda Schalk; Emily Woughter- Lyne Walby

End of the Year Info

- Results from the Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAA) for students in grades 3-8 will be mailed home after July 9, 2014.
- Students in grades 9-12 must show their student identification badges in order to attend all extra-curricular activities. Students will receive their ID badges during their summer building orientations. High school students new to FCS may get their ID photos taken during registration at the district office.

Last School Day Information

Grade Level	Last Day of School	School Times
Seniors	<u>Last Day:</u> Wednesday, May 28 th (<i>Vanguard/Tech Center Last Day: May 16th</i>)	
	<u>Exams:</u> May 23 rd , 27 th & 28 th	Exam Schedule
	<u>Mandatory Graduation Practice:</u> May 30 th	9:00 - 12:00
Ross High School (grades 9-11) Fremont Middle School (grades 6-8) All Elementary Buildings (Preschool and grades K-5)	Tuesday, June 3 rd	Regular Schedule

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Class Reunion? If your Ross graduating class will be having a reunion this summer, and you are interested in a tour of any school district facilities, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 419-334-5432.

2014 Summer School information is located on the main page of the district web site at www.fremontschools.net

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

What Does it Take to be on the Honor Roll at Hayes?

What does it take to be on the honor roll during the school year? This question was recently posed to several students at Hayes School and here is what they had to say: Fifth graders Braedyn Price and Trinity Welch agreed that studying and doing your homework are very important. Braedyn went on to add, "You need to do your best on tests and the best part of being on the honor roll is showing my parents. It makes them happy." While Trinity says, "I study. My mom tests me on things I need to study. The best part of getting on the honor roll is getting the ribbon and people congratulating you on doing a good job." When speaking with third grader, Kamri Sanchez, she added, "When I go home with a "B", my dad tells me to work harder for an "A". I feel happy when I get good grades." Fourth grader Jaren Nofzinger says, "When I get home, I sit down and do my homework. If I have a sport, I eat dinner and start on homework right away." After speaking to these honor roll students, the reward of studying and doing your homework is not only good grades but the sense of feeling proud and making others proud of us, too!



Stamm's First Grade Celebrates Earth Day

The first grade classes at Stamm School are celebrating Earth Day by learning ways they can help the Earth. The students were read stories about recycling and litter prevention and were then asked to write how they can help the Earth. They came up with many ideas about what they can do at school and at home to help keep our Earth clean and safe. The students were excited to share their Earth Day projects with their families and to encourage people to help! The Stamm Make a Difference Club also did their part to celebrate and help keep our Earth clean by spending a half hour after school picking up litter around Stamm School. Submitted by: Erica Rudd



The Importance of Reading

The ability to read is the foundation of learning. Research shows that children who are not reading at a third grade level by the end of grade three are more likely to struggle in subjects in the older grades. Fremont City Schools is committed to supporting our children to provide a strong academic foundation.

Ohio's new Third Grade Reading Guarantee directs schools to identify which students in kindergarten through grade three are having trouble reading and provide extra reading help right away. The goal is to get these boys and girls caught up in reading as soon as possible. Studies show that children who are behind in reading at the end of grade three will have a hard time in all subjects in the fourth grade and beyond.

Under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, Fremont City Schools will determine at the start of each year how well each child in kindergarten through grade three is reading. We will then create a special reading plan for each child who is behind. Parents are an important part of the plan and the school will reach out to you to be a part of the Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plan (RIMP). Teachers who are experienced in teaching reading will work with these students.

If you have a son or daughter who still struggles with reading at the end of the grade three, we will talk with you about keeping the child in third grade until he or she catches up. If your child is retained in grade three for reading instruction, they may still be able to complete fourth-grade work in other subjects.

There are special rules about the guarantee that can help children who are still learning English and children who have disabilities. Read more about the Third Grade Reading Guarantee at www.fremontschools.net under the Curriculum page, www.education.ohio.gov or talk to your child's principal for more details.

Athletic Update

The end of the school year is a time of transition; seniors are transitioning for the next chapter of their lives, while the rest of us begin preparing for another school year. So as we transition into the summer months, I would like to encourage all of our students in both the middle school and high school to stay active and to consider participating in one of our many summer conditioning programs. All program information can be obtained in either the Ross Athletic Office or the main office of the Middle School. If you should have any questions pertaining to the conditioning programs, please contact the Athletic Department at 419.334.5424.

Memorial Hospital will once again be offering sports physicals to students who will be entering grades 7-12. The physicals will be performed on Wednesday, June 11 at the Physical Medicine Department located on the campus of Fremont Memorial Hospital from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Each athlete will need to call 419.334.6630 to schedule an appointment.

2014-2015 School Year Information

School Calendar:

- Please check the web site for the 2014-2015 school calendar. The first day of school for students in grades 1-12 is August 26, 2014.

School Times:

- The school times for the 2014-2015 school year are as follows:

Elementary Schools	9:15-3:45
Fremont Middle School	7:45-2:45
Ross High School	7:30-2:30

School Supply Lists:

- Elementary and FMS school supply lists for the 2014-2015 school year are available on the district web site or you may call the district office at (419) 332-6454.

Student Dress Code:

- Corduroy, as an acceptable fabric for pants, shorts, skirts and jumpers is an addition to the Student Dress Code Policy for the 2014-2015 school year. The dress code policy is available for pick-up at the district office and in all school offices. In addition, the policy can be found in all Student Handbooks and on the district's web site: www.fremontschools.net. For any questions and/or concerns regarding this policy, please call the Superintendent's Office at 419-334-5432.

Immunizations:

- Students entering seventh grade are required to have a Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) booster prior to the first day of school. Please contact the Sandusky County Health Department (419-334-6367) or your family physician to schedule an appointment. You must take your child's immunization record with you to the appointment. If you need a copy of your child's record, please contact your school nurse prior to the end of the school year.

Additional Information:

- Please look for our August 12, 2014 newsletter for more information about the 2014-2015 school year and/or visit our web site.

Summer Office Hours:

- **Elementary Schools:** 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
All offices will close beginning on June 11th and reopen August 12th. (Summer school buildings are open but regular school staff will not be present.)
- **Ross High School and Fremont Middle School** are open 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. all summer, Monday through Friday.
- The **District Office** located at 500 W. State Street is open all summer and office hours are 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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

Atkinson Makes a Difference



The Atkinson Make-a-Difference Club recently sponsored a service project to help the Sandusky County Humane Society. During the first two weeks of April, students donated supplies to help the humane society take care of homeless animals in our county. "I think it is important to help the needy animals in our community," stated Kaitlyn and Jordan.

Pictured left to right are 4th graders Faith Beaver, Jami Ivy, Kaitlyn Fisher

and Jordan Fisher who are helping pack up donations for the Sandusky County Humane Society. Submitted by Atkinson 4th grade teachers: Mrs. Strayer, Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Ysasi

Washington: Spreading the Love



The Washington Elementary Make-a-Difference Club met after school on Tuesday, April 15th to prepare some spring cheer to spread among local nursing homes. Forty-one students put their creativity to work as they made spring and Easter cards to give to nursing home residents who may not get frequent visitors. First-grader, Mark Geiger said that it gives him a good feeling inside knowing that he can help cheer someone up. Some other community activities the Make-a-Difference Club has sponsored this year include: Grandfriends' Day, leaf raking and Christmas caroling. Advisors, Stephanie Hetrick and Evilia Sandoval delivered the cards to Valley View Health Care, Parkview Care Center and Elmwood Assisted Living.

In the photo at left: Fifth-grader Bryanna Schermerhorn puts the finishing touches on a "Happy Spring" card.

Students of the Month

Fremont City Schools named the following as April 2014

Students of the Month:

Pictured left to right:

Front Row: Lexi Keegan, Lillie Swinehart and Alexis Prenzlin

Back Row: Ellen Stover, Olivia DeRodes, Paige Scranton, Heidi Martinez and William Warnecke

Not Pictured: Riana Miller and Jonathan Thayer



Did You Know?

1. Did you know that the entire FCS staff collected \$8054 for the United Way Campaign and our students collected \$2925?
2. Did you know that the new middle school was experiencing numerous roof leaks this winter caused by ice in the scupper boxes? The architect, Fanning Howey, and roofing contractor, CRM, Inc., are working on the necessary repairs at no cost to the district. The district will do its due diligence by making sure this problem is resolved in a quality and timely manner.
3. Did you know that the district hired the following local businesses for products/services during the third quarter?

B & W Welding, Baker's Diversified Vehicle, Ballville EZ Shop, BDI, Chud's, Inc., Clark Associates, Inc., Damschroder Construction, Deemer Sheet Metal, Fremont Batting Range, Fremont Community Theatre, Jake's Auto Services, Inc., Memorial Health Care Systems, Nickel Paint & Supply, O.E. Meyer & Sons, Prairie Flowers, Streaker Tractor Sales, Sunrise Cooperative and Warner Mechanical.

Thank you!

Thank you to the Sandusky County Sheriff's Department for their help in assisting the district with the student drug search at Ross High School on April 10th. A special thank you is extended to Deputy McGrady for soliciting help from the following law enforcement agencies that also helped with the locker/vehicle search: Fremont Police Department, Tiffin Police Department, Perkins Township Police Department, Toledo Police Department, Perrysburg Township Police Department, Waterville Police Department, Port Clinton Police Department and Woodville Police Department.

Lutz Has Heart

The difference between hearing and listening is covered with the students in a resource room at Lutz Elementary School. The students learn the behaviors that are important to have effective listening, which leads to showing appropriate social skills and good character. A unit was taught on "Whole Body Listening." Whole Body Listening is a holistic approach to listening. A person should not just use their ears when listening, but they should also use their eyes, mouth, hands, feet, brain, and heart. When the students are taught to listen with their heart, they show the speaker that they care about what they are saying. The students were given direct instruction, along with plenty of modeling, and role-playing to encourage them to use this approach in the classroom.

Each day throughout the unit, the students enjoyed playing the game, "The Hokey Pokey" when the lessons were over, which they now relate to listening by putting their "whole body in" when listening to a teacher or speaker. When asked where else they can show the good character trait of listening in other settings, among many replies, one student said, "In church." while another student said, "I can use whole body listening when I'm listening at home." The students are able to self-regulate and identify how well they are listening to a teacher or speaker by using a rubric. The rubric helps them to identify which level they are on. After identifying which level they are on, they are able to tell if they are showing the good character trait of being an exceptional listener.



Opelt Honored by OSBA

Christine Opelt, Director of Human Resources & Community Relations, received the "Who's Who Excellence Award for Outstanding Leadership" on March 26th at the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Northwest Region Spring Conference. Mrs. Opelt was nominated for this award by Dr. Traci McCaudy.



Croghan Appreciates Volunteers

The education of our students takes a community effort. Croghan School encourages parents, guardians and other members of our community to share their time, knowledge and abilities with our students, either regularly or on a one-time basis. We are happy that so many community members have offered their volunteer services to assist our students this year. With the support of volunteers the opportunity to meet the individual needs of each child is greatly increased.

This is Suzanne Darr's fourth year providing her special touch of loving kindness for Lori Nossaman's first graders. Every student has the opportunity for one-on-one time with Mrs. Darr as they practice reading word skills. Some students benefit from additional time with her as they read stories and review skills together. Suzanne reminisced a little about how touching it was earlier this year when three of her former students broke line to give her hugs!

We thank our community volunteers for enriching the educational program and strengthening our schools' relationships with homes, private institutions, and businesses. Submitted by: Linda Overstreet Pictured with Suzanne Darr is first grader, Avaya Bates



Otis: Ensuring Safe School Community

The fifth grade students at Otis are once again keeping their school community safe by serving on Safety Patrol. The Safety Patrol team has been hard at work all year using the skills they were taught to serve and protect their fellow classmates. Safety Patrol has helped these students build leadership skills that they can use in the future. The team was trained last Spring by last year's fifth grade students. This Spring it will be our current team's job to train our interested fourth grade students. The fourth graders learn valuable skills that will allow them to step right into this important role at the start of next school year. Otis is still looking for that special patrol person who will win the Safety Patrol Person of the Year at the annual Otis Awards Ceremony. Otis is very lucky to have a group of responsible students who are able to keep their school community safe throughout the school year. Submitted by: Rob Stotz Pictured Left to Right: Zachary Salinas and Peyton Montgomery



Giant Step Award Winners



Fremont City Schools honored twelve of its employees recently through its Giant Step Award recognition program. The awards are based on principles of leadership, motivation and dedication. Pictured left to right: Front Row: Mary Jo Rodriguez, Billi Pickerel and Maricela Chavez. Back Row: Robin Welch, Charles Mettler, Keri Vela, Desiree Subbara, Kourtney Jared, Rick Myers and Laura Bryant Not Pictured: Linda Long and Lynn Quick

Christy Farm Nature Preserve and Black Swamp Conservancy

Fremont City Schools recently formed a partnership with the Christy Farm Nature Preserve and Black Swamp Conservancy for the purpose of creating an Environmental Studies program for district students. Pictured front row: Garrett Schneider, Daniel Gerwin and Alerik Scully; back row: Rob Krain, Alex Gorobetz and Joe Albrechta



Donating Love



Team OU would like to show appreciation to Mrs. Speck. She had 14 inches of her hair cut off and donated it to Locks of Love. The following is the mission statement for Locks of Love. "Locks of Love is a public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children in the United States and Canada under age 21 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis. They meet a unique need for children by using donated hair to create the highest quality hair prosthetics. Most of the children helped by Locks of Love have lost their hair due to a medical condition called alopecia areata, which has no known cause or cure. The prostheses they provide help to restore their self-esteem and their confidence, enabling them to face the world and their peers."

Throughout the year, Team OU has worked to teach their students about doing for others and giving back. Team OU is proud of not only walking the walk but talking the talk as well! Way to go Mrs. Speck. We are all very proud of you!

Over 50 people consisting of parents, boy scouts, girl scouts, neighbors, and high school students showed up to help pick up trash at the Christy Farm Preserve on April 24. They collected eight 55 gallon drums of trash (half of which were taken to the recycling). Pictured at right are Ross Leadership students from right to left: Peighton Collier, Brianna Frost, Dylan Jagodzinski, Connor Martin, Lorenzo Zamora and Ana Mejia.



Football Season Ticket Holders

The athletic department will once again be offering season tickets for the 2014 football season. Letters will be sent home to current season ticket holders sometime in late May. Anyone who has not purchased season tickets before but would like to do so is asked to contact the Ross Athletic Department at (419) 334-5424 for availability. The athletic office will remain open throughout the summer. Office hours will be Monday-Friday 7:00 - 3:30.