

# Fremont City Schools



Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

Jan.  
2015

## A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Fremont Community:

Happy New Year and welcome to 2015!

January is School Board Recognition Month and Fremont City Schools is joining districts throughout Ohio in recognizing the significant contributions school board members make in their communities. Our school district is appreciative of the countless volunteer hours our Board members contribute by attending district-level meetings, working on committees, developing policies, and attending school events.

Our school district is very fortunate to have five very dedicated, caring individuals serving on the Fremont City Schools Board of Education. I commend our Board members for their collaborative efforts in order to make Fremont City Schools an exemplary school district for our children.

Please join me in thanking our FCS Board for their commitment to our children's education.

Sincerely,  
*Dr. Traci McCauley*  
Superintendent



*Thank you Fremont City Schools Board of Education Members for Serving our Community!*



January



Alex Gorobetz

School



Scott Miller

Board

Daniel R. Sanchez



Appreciation

Juanita Sanchez



Month

Cindy Young



## Strong Academics

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## Welcome: Acting Transportation Manager!

Welcome to Acting Transportation Manager Mark Isaacs! Mark Isaacs will serve as the district's Acting Transportation Manager and began working with the district on January 1st. Mr. Isaacs will remain with the district until a permanent Transportation Manager has been selected. Bill Burkett, the district's former Transportation Manager, recently retired after twelve years in the district. Fremont City Schools wishes Bill Burkett the best in his retirement and thanks him for his service to the district!

## Famous Americans in History Croghan 4th Graders Meet Challenge

Fourth graders at Otis Elementary are conducting short research projects in Social Studies. Each student chose a famous American in history that they would like to learn more about. Examples of some famous Americans chosen were George Washington, Thomas Edison, Harriet Tubman, Albert Einstein, Amelia Earhart and Jackie Robinson. Then, students were each given a Chromebook, a wireless device with Internet capability, to conduct their research. Each elementary school is fortunate to have at least two carts of 30 Chromebooks each. Students were also able to check out books from our library. Students researched their famous American's childhood, education, challenges, and important events in history. Their final activity for the project is to create a timeline on the American's life. Students have been practicing their timeline skills in a variety of ways for the last three months. They will then be on display in the hallway for everyone to see! Pictured left to right: Myrissa Long, Madison Polter, and Carter Rodriguez each using a Chromebook to research their famous American.



The fourth graders at Croghan have been working hard to earn their "Mission Multiplication" medals! To earn a medal they have to complete 50 multiplication problems in two ways. Either they can get all 50 correct (A+) in three minutes or less, or they can earn three A's in three minutes or less. They started this "mission" at the beginning of October, and after the first couple of students earned their medals, the rest of the fourth graders were in hot pursuit!! So far we have 33 fourth graders who have earned their medals! We also have a Multiplication Top 10 each week. The students who have all 50 correct with the fastest times can be in the Top 10! Our record time so far this year for the Top 10 is 1:02!! The students are really motivated to learn their facts and to get faster in the process! They keep track of their results on their multiplication graphs so they know what they need to do to improve for the next quiz. Keep up the good work Croghan Fourth Graders!! Students earning medals include: Sydney Aberg, Sienna Cobb, Shauna Chua, Zach Risner, Hunter Jones, Jabari Heidelberg, Christopher Jurovcik, Elliott Thomas, Aidan Wagner, Katelyn Gomez, Trinity Smith, Michael Sloan, Brooklynn Smith, Avriel Cannon, Victor Martinez, Melissa Gonzalez, Hailey Held, Jackson Smith, Evelyn Szymanowski, Samantha Wenger, Trent Harkness, Carter Payne and Frankie Navarro.

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## FMS: Christmas Around the World



Joyeux Noel!! Krismasi Njema!! Nollaig Shona Dhuit!! Did you know those phrases all say Merry Christmas? During Language Arts class, students are doing research for our Christmas Around the World projects. Each student selected a country to research and is then using the information to create a multimedia presentation. It's a great way to integrate technology into learning customs from around the globe.

Team members will be presenting their final projects to the rest of the team during our upcoming holiday celebration!

## Learning Leadership at Terra

Recently, ten junior and senior Ross High School girls, accompanied by Mrs. Joerg and Mrs. Kelly, attended the Women's Leadership Forum, offered by Terra Community College to help area young women learn how they might advance in professional leadership roles. Held at the Ronald L. Neeley Conference and Hospitality Center, the program was host to 80 young women from nine area schools and also included their chaperones, Terra faculty, and community members.

Attending from Ross High School were seniors Paige Collier, Maeve Elder, Preet Patel, and Alyssa Schwochow, and juniors Johanna Alexander, McKenna Ash, Veronika Bartson, Dominique Darr, Mia Owen and Sarai Perez

FREMONT CITY SCHOOLS is in need of Substitute Teachers, all levels (elementary, middle, high) and in all subject areas (\$95 per day). If you have a Bachelor's Degree or recently obtained your teaching license and are interested in teaching, you may be able to obtain an Ohio Substitute Teaching License. For more information visit the Ohio Dept. of Education's website <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Teaching/Educator-Licensure/Audiences/Substitute-Licensure>. Interested applicants can apply online at [www.fremontschools.net](http://www.fremontschools.net). Questions regarding the online application can be directed to Human Resources at (419) 332-6454.

The 2014-15 school year has brought us changes in the statewide assessments that are mandated by The Ohio Department of Education. These state tests measure student progress toward Ohio's New Learning Standards. Ohio's New State Tests, will assess students in math, English-Language Arts, science and social studies.

State tests include the Ohio Achievement Assessment for grade 3 reading and the Ohio Graduation Tests for students who entered grade 9 prior to July 2014. The state tests also include new tests for grades 3-8 and new high school exams. These high school exams are required for all current grade 9 students.

Ohio's New State Tests have two parts. The first is called a performance-based assessment and will begin on February 17. The performance-based assessment (PBA) will ask students to demonstrate content knowledge and provide evidence of how and why they chose their answer. The second test is called an end-of-year test (EOY). Students are required to select correct responses to questions to demonstrate how much they know on the particular subject. The EOY tests will begin in April.

Students in grades 3-5 will complete the PBA and EOY tests in a paper-pencil format. FMS and Ross students will complete these assessments in an online format utilizing district technology.

Grade 3	Ohio's New State Test - Math-PBA	Feb.- March	Grade 7	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math-PBA	Feb.- March
	OAA Reading	April		Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math-EOY	April-May
	Ohio's New State Test - Math-EOY	April-May			
Grade 4	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math/Social Studies-PBA	Feb.- March	Grade 8	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math/Science-PBA	Feb.- March
	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math/Social Studies-EOY	April-May		Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math/Science-EOY	April-May
Grade 5	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math/Science-PBA	Feb.- March	Grade 9	Ohio's New State Test- Algebra	Feb.- March
	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/ Math/Science-EOY	April-May		Physical Science	April-May
				English 9	
			Government		
			Geometry		
Grade 6	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/Math/ Social Studies-PBA	Feb.- March	Grade 10-12	Ohio's New State Test - American History	Feb.- March
	Ohio's New State Test -Reading/Math/ Social Studies-EOY	April-May		Government	April-May

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

## Students at Hayes Show Kindness



Mrs. Warga and her class at Hayes School have been practicing being kind by adding acts of kindness to their "Kindness Elf". Each day the students discuss and write down their own act of kindness toward another person. The students were given specific kindness acts. Examples of those acts were: help someone clean up, smile at 10 people in the hallway, invite someone new to play with you at recess, tell three people you love them, let someone else go first in a game, and tell someone they did a good job. In addition, the students were asked to give someone a compliment. Mason Blodgett told Jackson Swinehart that he liked his shirt. Ayden Egbert told Jermel Anderson that he was a good reader. Mrs. Warga stated that this helped the students focus during the days approaching the holiday break and improved their friendships in the classroom.

## Character is Caring

Fourth graders at Stamm Elementary demonstrated character in action this month. Our word of the month for December is 'caring.' During the holiday season and all throughout the year Stamm students discuss the importance of caring about others. The fourth graders decided to show that they care about our troops stationed overseas during the holiday season by making and sending them holiday cards full of cheer. All of the fourth graders made beautiful cards to thank and wish our troops a wonderful holiday season. Many students wrote about admiring our troops and being thankful for what they have sacrificed. In addition, students discussed other character traits that our troops demonstrate all year round such as being respectful, responsible, and safe. The holiday season is a great time of year to show that we care about others! Pictured left to right: Jaliyah Harmon, Lillian Gibbs, Bakari Scott, Jolena Flores, Kirsten Twiss.



## Working Together to Make Dreams Come True

Logan Hartman's wish is to go down a "three story slide on a boat." Disney Cruises happens to have a ship with a three story slide. His wish will become a reality this month thanks in part to the fundraising event held recently at Fremont Middle School. A basketball game between Oak Harbor Middle School staff and Fremont Middle School staff was deemed the first of two "Border Bashes". Fremont Ross graduate and Oak Harbor Middle School teacher, Kyle O'Neill, created this event after contacting the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Logan was chosen. He was selected because he lives in the area and his mother Jen Hartman teaches at the Fremont Middle School. Logan has cystic fibrosis. Cystic Fibrosis is a genetic disease that primarily affects the lungs and digestive system. An estimated 30,000 children and adults in the United States have CF. The Fremont Middle School staff whole heartedly supported this event and gladly accepted the challenge. The final score saw the Fremont Middle School staff on top with a score of 57-48. Along with the basketball game, supporters had more chances to donate by participating in raffles and purchasing snacks and tee shirts during the event. The theme of the event was evident by the slogan on the shirts, "2 teams, 1 dream, working together to make dreams come true"!



## LINK Creates Character



The LINK (Leaders Influence & Nurture Kids) has been very active this school year within Fremont City Schools and the community, creating awareness about making good choices and healthy decisions. Within Fremont City Schools, The LINK has initiated Ross School Buddies, which matches a LINK teen with an at-risk freshman to create a Big Brother/Big Sister relationship, which focuses on academics, social skills, attendance and self-esteem. Within the community, The LINK adopted six children to bring each of them a Christmas to remember. Through The LINK teens generosity, all of the children had an assortment of clothes, toys and essential items to open on Christmas morning. The LINK continues to volunteer and make a difference in the youth of Fremont. Pictured above are some LINK students who volunteered for the Sandusky County Bullying 5k Run, Walk & Roll. They are: Jared Fox, Brina Hrynciw, Paige Collier and Alyssa Schwochow.

## Investigating Different Resources

Recently the third grade at Stamm School has talked about the different types of resources; renewable, nonrenewable and reusable. We then discussed how some resources are mined from the Earth. Students made inferences about what mining does to the Earth, the environment and the habitats. Students then were given a cookie to symbolize the earth. Students had to "mine" the chocolate chips out of the cookie. We used the scientific method for our experiment. Students received the materials, asked the question "What is going to happen to the cookie or the "environment" when we mine the chips, they came up with a hypothesis, conducted the experiment, gathered/recorded our data and then wrote a conclusion.

We then talked about how this relates to real life and the mining that goes on to get the resources from the earth. Students concluded that mining resources would destroy the surrounding environment and habitats. They also concluded that any wildlife would have to relocate or would die because their homes would be destroyed and so would the food supply. Pictured: Mariah Reed



## Lutz Gives Back and Shows “Gratitude”



*Gratitude* was the word-of-the-month at Lutz School for the month of November. The students gathered canned food items for the Sandusky County Food Pantry.

With a suggestion from Mr. Straka, our wellness instructor, we challenged Stamm School to see which student body could collect the most items. We were edged out by the Stamm Tigers as they collected

823 items. Lutz School was able to collect 540 items. A traveling trophy was created for the winning school to display for the year until the next November food drive.

The real winner of the competition was, of course, the Sandusky County Food Pantry and all who use its services. A special thank you goes out to all staff and students who donated in the name of *gratitude*. Students pictured left to right: Noelle Polley, Adrienne Wightman, Kamryn Moore, Monique Kimmet, Aaron McNutt, Adam Hrynciw.

## Atkinson Helps Community

The Make a Difference Club, which is made up of students from third through fifth grades wrote letters at the beginning of the year to say how they would make a difference in our community. This year Atkinson Elementary had a pajama drive to benefit children in need in our community. Atkinson school teamed up with Scholastic Books for this event. For every pair of pajamas that were collected Scholastic donated a book to go along with the new pajamas a child will receive.



A flier was sent home and new pajamas were collected from the students in our school. We collected 47 new pairs of pajamas. This means 47 children in need, in our community will receive a new pair of pajamas and a book this holiday season. The Make a Difference Club will also be visiting the Rutherford House sharing the joys of Christmas by singing Christmas carols and delivering Christmas cards made by students of all grades. The students at Atkinson Elementary truly care about those in our community. Atkinson Elementary is a school that wants to make a difference and it is evident in the many acts of kindness that have been shown during the holiday season.

Pictured in photo (left to right) are: Madeline King, Yadhira Sigala, Stephanie Logan, Jazanay Ayers, Channing Stevenson, Lailah Heidelberg, Aubriel Garza, and Briyana Simms.

## Washington Students Love Art

The fifth grade students in Mr. Harrison’s art classes have been learning about using grids and squares to create their artwork. We explored the artwork of Chuck Close, an artist who uses a grid to make very accurate portraits of himself and others. Mr. Harrison used technology to break up a picture into smaller pieces that each student recreated and put back together with the other pieces. Students were able to use an iPad application to take their own picture and do the same process themselves.



Grids are used in math for many different reasons including plotting points and making graphs. Students learned that they can also be used to break their pictures into smaller and easier to manage pieces. As we looked at smaller pieces of a picture, it seemed easier to draw than the whole picture. We discussed how math often can inspire artworks.

Chuck Close is an artist who created very detailed large pictures of people. When he became confined to a wheelchair, he continued making his artwork but used a grid to make it easier for him to work. We discussed how he had to work very hard because of his disability and how math actually helped him make his artwork.

We used the Photobricks App to “Legoize” a picture and each student had a piece of it to recreate. They had to pay very close attention to make sure that their pieces matched and would fit back together to make the big picture. While working on their pieces, they had a chance to make their own Lego portrait with the iPad App.

The first picture is a nearly complete picture of a bulldog made by Mrs. Sachs’s 5th grade class at Washington Elementary.

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• **Mission Statement: The mission of Fremont City Schools is to develop well-educated, life-long learners prepared to be responsible, productive and respectful members of their communities.**

• **District Goals: \*Increase Student Achievement**

• **\*Close Socio-Economic, Ethnic and Disability Gaps in Student Achievement**

• **\*Build Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community**

## FCS Board Donates Property

On December 15th the Fremont City Schools Board of Education approved the transfer of the Croghan Street property that housed the former Fremont Middle School to Birchard Public Library of Sandusky County. Last year the Croghan Site subcommittee (comprised of Board of Education and Business Advisory Council members) met with organizations who expressed interest in owning the property. Those organizations included Birchard Public Library, Fremont Area Foundation and the Fort Stephenson Celebration Committee. In March 2014 the subcommittee made a recommendation to the FCS Board of Education to donate the property to the library. The district arranged a collaboration meeting with representatives of each of these organizations and the City of Fremont to discuss how the Fremont Area Foundation and the Fort Stephenson Celebration Committee would like to collaborate with the library regarding the utilization and/or development of the property. All of the organizations present expressed their desire to develop the property for the benefit of the community and to preserve the heritage of the historical site. With that in mind, the transfer agreement included the following criteria:

1. In connection with any initial development activity by the Library on the Real Estate, the Library agrees to collaborate with the District to erect a Fremont Middle School Memorial on the site of the Real Estate, with the design and location of the Memorial to be mutually agreed upon by the parties and to be consistent with the Library’s building expansion plans.
2. The Library shall consult with the Sandusky County Historical Society and the Fremont Area Foundation regarding the utilization of the Real Estate, but the Library shall make the final determination with respect to utilization of the Real Estate.
3. The Real Estate shall not be used solely as a parking lot; however, the foregoing is not intended to prohibit normal parking use in connection with the use of any building constructed on the Real Estate or in connection with other primary (non-parking) uses of the Real Estate. By way of illustration only, the use of the Real Estate as both a parking lot and a public park would not violate the foregoing restriction.
4. For so long as the Library owns the Real Estate, the Library agrees to meet with the District, at least annually, to consider and discuss how the Library can best serve the District’s students. The District, through its Superintendent or other school official, will be responsible, however, for initiating such annual or other periodic meetings.

During the Board’s closing comments, Vice President Juanita Sanchez stated, “The property belongs to the community and Birchard Public Library was chosen as the recipient because of the valuable services they provide to the community.”