

Fremont City Schools



Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

March 2015

FCS: Educating for the Future

What do attending Harvard, patenting a medical invention, singing at the White House, playing professional football, and running an international business have in common? All of these accomplishments have been achieved by Fremont City Schools' alumni. FCS is rich in tradition reaching from its strong academics to its outstanding music and athletic programs. Students are encouraged to get involved in one or more of the 65 student clubs and activities that are offered.



Caring educators provide lessons in an engaging manner supported by research-based instructional practices. Technology is used daily and is continually being updated to provide students with the skills they will need to succeed.

We are looking for students to carry on the rich traditions for which Fremont City is known, starting with our Kindergarten Round Up! We are currently taking appointments and registering future Little Giants. If you have a child, grandchild, niece or nephew who will be 5 years of age by August 1, 2015, they are eligible to attend kindergarten in the 2015-2016 school year. Registration packets are ready for pick up at the District Office located at 500 W. State Street or packets can be printed off our web site at www.fremontschools.net/StudentRegistration. Once the packet is completed, call 419-334-5441 for an appointment to complete the registration process. Important items to bring with you to your appointment are your child's birth certificate, immunization records, court custody papers (if applicable), and proof of residency (such as lease or rental agreement, recent utility bill, tax bill, paycheck stub, insurance, bank statement, etc.).

We are also taking open enrollment applications. Applications and copies of policies and procedures may be obtained by contacting the principal of your school of choice beginning **March 1, 2015** or downloaded from the District web site at www.fremontschools.net and click on Student Registration.

Inter-district applications are for students who **do not** reside in the Fremont City Schools District but would like to attend Fremont City Schools. **Intra-district applications (elementary only)** are for students who reside within Fremont City Schools District and would like to attend an elementary school of their choosing. Applications will be processed in the order they are received at the school. If you have any questions, you may call Susan King, Director of Human Resources & Community Relations at (419) 334-5433. **Applications received after the March 31, 2015 deadline will not be considered for approval or denial until August 16, 2015.** Pictured above, left to right: Gage Mata, Tayziye Pugh, Julissa Joaquin Toledo, Logan Wensinger and Josephine Garner. Pictured below, left to right: D' Rossi Gallaway, Hayden Lehmann, James West, Jr. and Derrick Jones



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FCS Announces New Transportation Manager

Fremont City Schools is excited to welcome Mr. Justin Eilrich! Justin will be the new Transportation Manager. Prior to accepting his new position with us, Justin was employed for about 15 years with United Parcel Service. The last 10 years as its Fremont UPS Center Supervisor. Justin resides in Fremont with his wife, Randi, and their daughter, Ava. Justin will begin his employment on March 16, 2015. Please join us in welcoming Justin to the Fremont City Schools family!

Washington Students are Out of This World

Mrs. Sachs' fifth grade students at Washington Elementary are working on a solar system project. As they research they are learning about the cycles and patterns of motion between the Earth and sun and how they are predictable. Students are working collaboratively to make a poster to demonstrate their research findings. When the students have finished making their project they will share with a presentation. They have learned many interesting things about the moon's orbit, Earth's rotation, and what causes the seasons. Pictured left to right: Tye Norts and Tricia Saam.



Atkinson Accepts the Challenge



The fifth grade students at Atkinson have been working hard to prepare for Ohio's New State Tests in Math, Reading and Science. This first test is a performance-based assessment. Students have been practicing providing evidence of how and why they chose their answer. We have been working on study skills in Reading, especially identifying the main idea and details that support our thinking. In Math, the students must solve problems, show their work and be able to explain each step in the process. Finally, for Science, the fifth graders will use the Scientific Method to guide their think-

ing. These are all skills that the students will continue to use throughout their schooling and in their chosen careers.

Pictured (from left to right): Tristan King, Dashani Pinell, Jamy Ivy, Mariah Upton, Jonnie Laird, Tye Gilpin, Darren Hicks and LaBronze Barnett.

Lutz: Focus on Fluency

Fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy and proper expression. During the second semester, the first grade classes at Lutz Elementary are focusing on fluency. The students have many opportunities during Station Time to practice fluency. The students participate in Buddy Reading, Big Book, Poetry, Classroom Library and Readers' Theater stations each week. Community volunteers also work with the students for extra fluency practice. This semester, students are using nightly fluency folders which quickly show families how repeated reading will greatly increase the fluency rate. The ease of fluent reading increases the student's ability to understand a text, in turn, promoting a heightened enjoyment of reading. Pictured left to right: Standing: Aniah Meza, Julius Morrisette, Sophia Klos and Landon Barnett; Seated: Sheila Nord and Brenah Parker; Lying on the floor: Mirajah Tate and Andrew Wang.



Curriculum Corner

In education we use two very important words: curriculum and instruction. Curriculum is defined as the knowledge, skills, attitudes and the processes to be taught and learned at the appropriate levels/areas or courses in the district's schools. The Fremont City Schools' curriculum provides instruction in courses required by statute and Ohio Department of Education regulations. Curriculum is divided into many different aspects; including what is WRITTEN, TAUGHT and TESTED. In short, curriculum is WHAT is written that our teachers are asked to follow, what is taught to our students and what students are tested over to make sure we are on track for academic success.

Instruction includes the planning, preparing and delivery of the curriculum in an engaging manner for our students. There are best practices that are supported by research. Fremont City Schools teachers continually receive professional development to stay current with instructional strategies that will convey the content in the most meaningful way.

In order to continually move students in the direction of mastery of the curriculum, it is important to regularly assess students. In Fremont City Schools we assess students using an informal "check in" process. This allows our teachers to know if the students are learning the material at the level that they need to learn it and also allows our teachers a "check in" to make sure they are teaching in a manner that students are gaining knowledge. These frequent "check ins" sometimes look like a test or quiz. They may also look like a presentation or a project. Regardless of the teacher's choice in the assessment, it provides the teacher with information to know if the students are understanding and moving towards mastery. If students are not showing understanding, teachers can then reteach or review the material.

The State of Ohio also allows students the chance to show their knowledge of curriculum on statewide assessments. Students are currently participating in statewide tests in English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. The tests began on February 17th and will continue through March 16th. The second round of testing will begin on April 13, 2015. These tests help us know how our students are measuring up against other students in their same grade levels across the state and country.

Celebrating Black History



Students learned about the civil rights movement and some important people who helped make the movement possible including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks. Students read biographies and non-fiction text on important figures during the civil rights era. Students then discussed some quotes that were said during this time and what these quotes mean. We discussed the struggles that took place and the peaceful boycotts and marches that were led

by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Students were then given a famous quote and they had to illustrate the meaning behind the quote. The pictures will be put together with the quotes and hung on the wall in the third grade hallway to create a Voices of Freedom quilt. Pictured left to right: Hannah Rios and Katy House-Lantt.

2014 Giant Step Award Winners



Fremont City Schools honored nine of its employees at the Board of Education meeting through its Giant Step Award recognition program. The awards are based on principles of leadership, motivation and dedication. Pictured Left to Right Front Row: Juanita Gutierrez, Gina Reed and Pam Kerns. Pictured Left to Right Back Row: Kim Bemis, Joy Hassen, Cory Hull and Casey Fisher. Not pictured: Faye Eishen and David Saller.

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

FMS: Learning Communication Skills



Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth. Sarah makes fun of Joey's family. Joey is insulted and angry. They begin arguing loudly at one another until Sarah storms off with tears in her eyes and Joey punches his locker.

Scenes such as these happen every day. At school, at work and at home, our daily interactions require constant practice of communication

skills. Today's reality TV, sitcoms and YouTube do little to provide an effective model for our children to learn how to respectfully and assertively respond to life's unexpected challenges. Second Step is a school guidance program that helps kids practice effective communication skills in all kinds of life situations.

Team Ashland students have practiced empathy by viewing frustrations from another's point of view, by considering the other person's experiences, feelings and needs. They have practiced not jumping to conclusions and being assertive by respectfully disagreeing to speak up for their own ideas in a calm way. These skills help students in the classroom, especially during small group and cooperative learning activities. Opportunities to work together to solve problems relate directly to skills needed in the workforce today. Students discover they want to tackle the problem from different angles; some find they have more expertise than others and need to bring each member of the group on board; work may need to be broken down into tasks to be assigned to each member of the team. The content of your child's classes is important, but so are the hidden leadership and social skills they are gaining through regular practice.

The next time you witness conflict on your favorite family show or witness it standing in line while running errands, point out and demonstrate to your child positive reactions that show empathy and respectful communication. Praise them when you see your kids calmly decide who will complete which chores, or show empathy to a sibling who's having a rough day. You are your child's first teacher, and Team Ashland teachers are working with you to reinforce accountability and interpersonal skills as they grow and mature throughout FMS! Pictured above: Drake Severs, Marcus Henderson, Melinda LaCourse and Ellyson Stotz.

Students of the Month

The following students were recognized as The Learning and Liberty Foundation Students of the Month at the Board of Education Meeting on Monday, March 2, 2015.



January Students of the Month - Third Grade

Pictured left to right: Brianna Kimmet, Allie Keller, Xander Louiselle, Maria Johnson and Zachary McDaniels. Not Pictured: Emma Gutierrez and Mariah Ramirez



February Students of the Month - Fourth Grade

Pictured left to right: Bronson Palm, Denysse Gonzalez, Jackson Smith, and Kendyl Kidwell. Not Pictured: Kayla Gore, Arianna Scott and Brianna Boskovich



March Students of the Month - Fifth Grade

Pictured left to right: Front: Jamy Ivy, Kalyn Collins and Haylee Quaintance. Back: Makenna Englund, Charnez Thomas, Noah Wiezorek and Kaitlyn Luc

Celebrate Good Character with Croghan

Croghan's students have been learning different skills to help them get along with each other and make good decisions. Thirteen students, kindergarten through 5th grade, have been honored as Students of the Month each month since September for striving to be kids with good character. Families proudly display lawn signs for this honor, and students' names are listed in the Croghan Newsletter with a group photo. These students are again commended for demonstrating good character during a *pizza with the principal* gathering.

January 26th-30th was a very special week for the Croghan School students and staff as they all celebrated good character during the annual Character Counts Week. During Character Counts Week, Croghan was filled with the colors and sounds of character! There were announcements and lessons to remind us that our character counts everywhere all the time! Hallways were decorated with the colors that are associated with each character trait, and most students and staff wore the color for the character trait of the day. It was no surprise that our very talented art teacher, Greg Harrison, won the door decorating contests for both Croghan and Washington Schools. The photo above does not capture the entire piece; the Emerald City is included as well. Croghan's students continue to work hard to make their classrooms and our communities better places by being more respectful, responsible and safe. Pictured from left to right with Art Teacher, Greg Harrison: Shariell Haywood, Jelissa Sims and Elijah Simms.



Basketball Shapes Good Character at Otis



Whether you are big or small, Otis students love to come out and play ball. Three years ago, Otis started a tradition that has become very popular among many students. The tradition is a basketball game known as "Knock Out!" In the game of Knockout, students stand in a single-file line and two people shoot the ball at the basketball hoop. The goal is for the second player in line to make his/her basket before the person in front of them, thus "knocking them out" of the game. This continues until all players have been eliminated and there is just one person left. The one left standing at the end becomes the champion of the day for their grade level. They are awarded a trophy they get to keep until the next game is played. This game is not only a friendly competition among the students in various grades, but it teaches the students sportsmanship and responsibility, while also encouraging the sports etiquette

of an organized game. It also helps make the most of so many inside recesses over this cold winter. Pictured: First Grader, Cayden Rodriguez.

2014 Master Teacher Recognition



Fremont City Schools honored Sandra Stout of Hayes Elementary for being awarded the Master Teacher designation. Teachers that complete and are awarded Master Teacher designation will be eligible for a Senior Professional Educator License through the Ohio Department of Education. Master Teachers demonstrate excellence inside and outside of the classroom through consistent leadership and focused collaboration to maximize student learning. A Master Teacher strives for distinguished teaching and continued professional growth as specified by Standards for Ohio Educators.

Visit www.fremontschools.net and Click on Communications

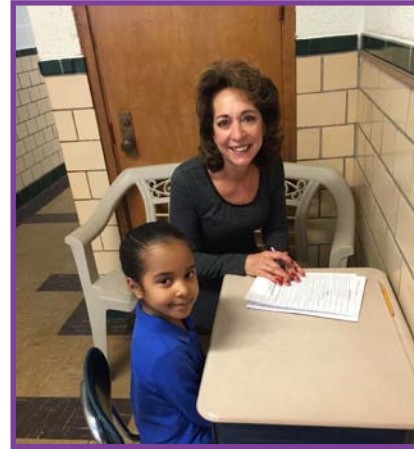
Internet Safety



A news poll released by Netmums revealed some shocking statistics. The survey showed that 25% of children get away with pretending to be older to get an account online. One in twenty children admitted to arranging a secret meeting with someone they met online. 29% of parents let their kids use the internet without any restrictions or supervision. These are alarming statistics. Recently, Fremont City Schools had Student Resource Officer (SRO) Belinda Rosenberger

lead an internet safety presentation for students at Ross High School. During her presentation, Officer Rosenberger stressed how easy it is for a person to pretend that he/she is someone else on the internet. She also discussed the importance of not sharing personal information and never to arrange meetings with someone they meet online.

Hayes Volunteers Help Students



At Hayes Elementary School, we are blessed with many community and family members who are involved in our classrooms by volunteering time to help students. Mrs. Tina Melchiori is pictured at left with Ariana Hinojosa-Williams; they are working on counting skills in kindergarten. Mrs. Melchiori comes to volunteer once a week in Mrs. Vanderveen's classroom. Many of Hayes' volunteers come to school more than twice a week to help students in all grade levels. We are so thrilled with all the community and family support that we have at Hayes Elementary School.

Fremont Rotary Four-Way Test Speech Contest

This year, the Fremont Rotary Club hosted a Four-Way Speech Contest for Ross High School students in grades 9-12. Participants had to prepare a speech regarding an important issue in our everyday relationships with the content centering on applying the Rotary Four-Way Test. The Rotary Four-Way Test asks the questions of "Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build good will and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?"



Five Ross students participated in the speech contest at the Rotary Meeting held on March 2, 2015. Congratulations to Sarai Perez for being awarded top honors! Sarai received a \$300 monetary prize and will now compete in the District Rotary competition where she has the chance to win additional monies. Dominique Darr earned second place honors and \$200 and Carissa Krauss received third place and \$100. Alexis Bryan and Alejandra Montez also participated.

Congratulations to our Ross student participants and good luck to Sarai in the District competition!

Stuffed Animal Drive

The Teen Leadership Corps Class at Fremont Ross cares very deeply about firefighters, their families and the community that they serve. In January of 2014, two Toledo firefighters (Steven Machcinski and Jamie Dickman) were killed in the line of duty. One of them, Jamie Dickman, had local ties. His wife had previously taught in the District and his brother-in-law teaches music at Fremont City Schools. The Fremont Ross TLC class held a stuffed animal drive on February 20th to give to local agencies for children involved in an accident or fire. Over 250 animals were collected.



The class also honored five local heroes. On January 31st, they recognized the efforts of five young men from the opposing team, Port Clinton High School. These young men recently put themselves in danger's way to save others. They drove past a fire in a local residential home. The home housed physically and mentally disabled people. They brought two women to safety. At Fremont Ross, we appreciate the courage and bravery that these young men have shown. We created a special award called the "Fast Break Award" to acknowledge their quick thinking and fast feet. We awarded Matt Paeth, Adrian Hall, Darius Daniels, Skyler Cook and Brendan Zeitzheim with special recognition and each received a huge cookie that said "Our hero".

2014 Excellence in Education Award Winners for STRIVE work

Pictured Left to Right: Charlene Wilhelm, Violetta Rhea, Cassandra Anderson, Jim Marquette, Chris Kelly and Mandi Miller



Fremont City Schools honored several people through its Excellence in Education recognition program for their involvement in the Fremont Rotary STRIVE program. Not Pictured: Michele Beck, Greg Edinger, Michelle Fairbanks, Bob Moyer, Chasity O'Neill, Dr. Ralph Oxley, Patti Powers, Angelica Rinehart, Dr. Randy Wurts, Patty Dummering and Ashley Miklovic-Inbody.



Pictured Left to Right: Doug Beck, Cheryl Cotter, Dr. Jerome Webster and Scott Lang

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, transgender identity, age or genetic information.