

# Fremont City Schools



Feb.  
2016

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

## Join the Community Conversation About School

During the past four months, the residents of the Fremont City School District have been engaged in a frank and open community conversation about how our elementary school and high school facilities are impacting teaching and learning for our students. Thus far, community members have hosted over fifty coffee discussions with more scheduled before the end of the current school year.

Following each coffee discussion, the participants are asked to complete a feedback form. The general consensus from these discussions is that they like the idea of holding coffee discussions and want them to be continued. Many also believe our elementary buildings and high school are outdated and having a negative impact on our staff and students. While the majority is leaning toward replacing our current elementary buildings and high school, many of them say they need more detailed information before being completely comfortable moving forward. This information includes the cost of replacing versus cost of renovating our buildings.

If you haven't already done so, please join the community conversation by hosting or attending a coffee discussion. For more information, contact Superintendent, Dr. Traci McCaudy at 334-5432.

## Congratulations Ross High Speech and Debate Team



Ross High School hosted a statewide speech and debate tournament on Saturday, January 30th. There were sixteen schools present spanning Toledo to Cincinnati. A total of 271 students participated in twelve different events.

Nick Dorobek and Caleb Calvillo competed in the Public Forum Debate and earned a 5-1 record placing first place overall out of twenty team competitors. Congratulations Nick and Caleb!

## Hayes Elementary's Daily Pledge

A proud tradition at Hayes Elementary is reciting the Pledge of Allegiance on a daily basis. Recently, 25 of our students were able to say the pledge for Fox 36 TV News! In conjunction with the Hayes Presidential Center and their "Daily Pledge" program, Fox TV News came to Hayes Elementary and videotaped K-5 students. The 30 second segment that was recorded has been aired on TV several times over the last few weeks and can be accessed through Fox Toledo's website at <https://foxtoledo.revrocket.us/dp/daily-pledge-26>



## Candy Bar Bingo

Every year, second and fifth graders at Croghan Elementary look forward to playing Candy Bar Bingo together and winning their favorite candy. Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Price, and Mr. Mayle brought their second graders to the cafeteria where they sat in pairs with Mrs. Butzier's and Mrs. Diaz's fifth graders. Bingo cards featured vocabulary, and fifth graders coached the younger students to find the words as they were called, helping them sound the words out. Winners could choose from a large variety of candy bars that had been brought in by students and teachers alike. The second graders enjoyed a sense of accomplishment as they located new, challenging words, and fifth graders practiced their leadership skills, preparing them for middle school next year. By the end of the game, every student had won at least one candy bar, and fun was had by all.



## FMS: Technology Department



The eighth grade students taking semester-long technology courses at Fremont Middle School are immersed in technologies such as data collection and integration, introductory engineering programming, and 3D design/CAD production. In addition, students have access to digital still and video cameras, as well as content-specific technologies, such as Computer Aided Design, document cameras, digital audio recording, and online tools appropriate to support learning.

The technology skills are taught and developed in the context of the classroom and laboratory learning environment. The skills and standards are defined by the Ohio Department of Education and are embedded into the academic curriculum so that the students learn to use technology tools in meaningful ways. The students are able to collaborate, plan, and produce a sample product to enhance their learning, as well as solving problems by investigating, troubleshooting, and experimenting using technology resources.



### Substitute Teachers Needed



FREMONT CITY SCHOOLS is in need of Substitute Teachers, all levels (elementary, middle, high) and in all subject areas (\$105 per day). If you have a Bachelor's Degree 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 [http://www.fremontschools.net/Job\\_Opportunities.asp](http://www.fremontschools.net/Job_Opportunities.asp).

Questions regarding the online application can be directed to Human Resources at (419) 332-6454.

### Congratulations VFW Speech Contest Winners

Fremont City Schools would like to offer our congratulations to two Ross students for winning first and third place in the VFW's Voice of Democracy Speech Contest. Aubrianah Jaeger (sophomore) won first place and will advance to the district competition. Edward Dorobek (junior) won third place.

## Second Graders at Atkinson Have Been Having Fun Learning

The second grade classes at Atkinson have been teaming up and learning together. They are learning the Phonics Dance and practicing the different sounds letter "chunks" make, as well as including learning stations that focus on skills being covered in Language Arts. The second graders are finding those "hunks and chunks" in their stories and writing quite often! Students meet three times a week to do the Phonics Dance and take part in learning stations. Many students are even 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!





# 2015-16 2nd Quarter Insert



## A Window of Opportunity

On December 10, President Obama signed into law a bill which diminishes the role of the federal government in public education and returns all control of educational standards, assessment and accountability to the state and local level. The underlying assumption behind the newly signed Every Student Succeeds Act is that state and local education agencies are best positioned to make policy decisions for schools.

The big question now is what does "local control" really mean? Does it mean that Governor Kasich, the leaders of the Ohio Senate and House and the Ohio Department of Education will continue to control how education policy decisions are made and the content of those decisions? Or does it mean that education policy proposals in Ohio will be discussed by local educators, school parents and the taxpayers who are responsible for implementing these policy decisions and are footing the bill for the cost of implementing them?

To provide Ohio's citizens with a stronger voice in shaping education policy, our District is helping to lead a grassroots initiative to restore local control of our schools. With the support of the Ohio Public School Advocacy Network, our citizens can now take advantage of this window of opportunity to return control of educational standards, assessment and accountability to the local level. For more information, please contact Superintendent, Dr. Traci McCaudy at 334-5432.

## Employee Wellness Pays Off

Several years ago, Fremont City Schools decided to go to a self-funded insurance plan. Most employers, with more than 200 employees, self-insure their employee benefits. Self-insuring means that we pay all of our claims ourselves up to our stop loss amount. By self-funding, we are keeping the administrative costs of our plan much lower than if we had a fully insured plan.

As with any large employer, the biggest cost to their employee benefits is due to claims. The best way to impact our rates is to keep our claims low. Based on this, our District started a Wellness Program in 2011. Yearly health screenings are offered to District employees. The District's Health and Wellness Committee uses these results to determine areas for improving the health of our employees. The Committee then works very hard to educate our employees and give them opportunities to improve their health. Due to our continued work in this area, we have been able to keep our cost down per employee versus other schools as well as other employers of similar size. Due to the success of Fremont City Schools Plan, it has been used as a model for other districts!



## FCS Supports Local Businesses

The District hired the following local businesses for products/services from November 2015 through January 2016.

- ACE Hardware, Action Printing, Adkins Sanitation, Advanced
- Auto Parts, Advantage Ford, Associated Buyers, Auto-Tech
- Collision Center, Inc., Baker's Diversified Vehicle, Bella Cosa,
- Benchmark Prints, Bobby's Truck and Bus Repair, Burn's
- Iron & Metal, Burmeister Bay Trophy, C.A. Kustoms, C&W
- Auto Supply, Chamber of Commerce, City of Fremont, Clark
- Associates, Inc., DClark Online, Inc., Color Haven Paint
- Supply, Contractors Equipment Rental, Cookie Lady, Croghan
- Colonial Bank, Crown Battery, Decker Custom Woodworking,
- Deemer Sheet Metal, Down Thyme Café, East of Chicago,
- Economy Plumbers, Engler Printing, Famous Supply Co.,
- Flower Real Estate Holdings, Fortball Pizza Palace, Fremont
- Athletic Supply, Fremont Auto Parts, Fremont Candy &
- Cigar Co., Fremont Cycle & Fitness, Fremont Fence, Fremont
- Printing, Fremont Recreation Department, Fremont Uniform
- Shoppe, Fricker's, Gordon Lumber Co., Great Lakes Internet,
- Hasselbach Meats, Healthlink, Jimmy G's BBQ, Kroger Co.,
- Kuns Northcoast Security, Linke's Wheel Alignment, Limo-
- Scene Limo, LLC, Lions Club International, Lowe's, M LeJeune
- Enterprises, LLC, Madison Motors, Marco's Pizza, Metrotex,
- O.E. Meyer & Sons, Otto & Urban Flower Shop, Papa Murphy's,
- Phase I, ProMedica Memorial Hospital, Pizza Hut, Plaza Lanes,
- PostNet, Prairie Flowers, Rotary Club of Fremont, Root's Poultry,
- Rural King, Sabroske Electric, Sandusky County, Sandusky
- County Homeless Coalition, Sheets Supply, Sherwin Williams,
- Smith Paint & Wallpaper, Sorg Graphics, Streaker Tractor Sales,
- Subway, Terra State Community College, Tireman, Trico Glass,
- Valley Electric, Vanguard-Sentinel, WSOS, Walters' Boiler
- Works, Warner Mechanical, Westend Tire LLC, Woleslagel
- Moving and US Bank.

# Fremont City Schools Gives Back



Ross High students donating blood at the Red Cross Bloodmobile.



Atkinson Make a Difference Club spreads holiday cheer by making placemats. These were taken to the WSOS Meals on Wheels program and were handed out to seniors along with their meals.



The McElfresh family is honored at the Veterans Day assembly at Ross High.



Stamm Make a Difference Club had their annual collection of hats, gloves, and scarves for students who are in need.



Stamm Make a Difference Club collected food in the 2nd annual Stamm vs. Lutz Food Drive. Stamm won.



Ross High Leadership students saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the Veterans Day assembly.



Ross High students participated in interviews with members of the community as part of career day.

# Through Community Events



Ross High LINK students walked elementary students to school as part of the Safe Routes to School program.



Ross High Leadership students participated in the 13 ABC Pass it on Challenge.



Stamm Make a Difference Club sold paper ornaments to raise money to donate to our Community Christmas family.



Stamm Make a Difference Club held a Mitten Drive in the month of January to collect mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for those less fortunate. All items were donated to Pontifex and Sandusky Share and Care.



Ross High Key Club participated in Kiwanis Club's Peanut Day.



Ross High Key Club members rang the Salvation Army bell to assist in collecting money during the holiday season.

# Thank You From FCS

Thank you to the following community members, businesses and organizations for donating to Fremont City Schools from November 2015 through January 2016:

Donor	Donation	Recipient
13abc & Goodwill	Cash	Fremont Ross High School Leadership Class
Applebee's	60 Certificates for a Free Kid's Meal	Washington Elementary School
Bella Cosa Joe Wasserman	Wreath	FCS District Office
Bobby's Truck & Bus Repair	Cash	Fremont City Schools
Buffalo Wild Wings	Cash	Fremont Ross High School Softball
Carol Dixon	Antique Clock	Fremont City Schools
Christopher Hull Awards Foundation	Cash	Fremont Ross Athletic Department
Cindy Swartz & Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2947	Hats, Gloves & Scarves	Stamm Elementary School
Crown Battery Mfg. Co.	Cash	Fremont City Schools ACE Mentoring Program
Fremont Kiwanis Club	Hot Chocolate Packets for Safety Patrol Members	FCS Elementary Schools
Gonya-Hull Game Feed	Cash	Fremont Ross Athletic Department
Hayes PTO	Cash for Playground Equipment	Hayes Elementary School
Jimmy John's	Subs for Staff Members	Fremont Ross High School
JR Lopez	Piñata	Stamm Elementary School
Judith Hill Memorial Fund	Cash	Atkinson Elementary School
Kathy Sanders	Miscellaneous Prize Items	Fremont City Schools Title I Program
Kmart	8 Cases of Bottled Water	Washington Elementary School
Linda Camden	Coats, Hats & Gloves	Otis Elementary School
Minnie Weber	Scarves & Gloves	Stamm Elementary School
OSS Solid Waste Management District	Cash for Playground Equipment (Grant)	Hayes Elementary School
Personal D'Signs	Four Room Dividers	Fremont City Schools ACE Mentoring Program
SCORTA	Dictionaries & Thesauruses	Fremont City Schools Fourth Grade Students/Classrooms
Teen Leadership Corps	Cash	Fremont Ross High School Leadership Class
Teresa Nesbitt	Books	Otis Elementary School Library
The Cookie Lady	Cookies	Fremont Middle School
Timothy & Karen Holman	Four (4) Campus Wear Shirts	Washington Elementary School
Trinity United Methodist Church/Barb Bristley	Pants, Belts & Notepads	Otis Elementary School
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2947	Hats & Gloves	Otis Elementary School
Special thanks to Andrea Thurston who gave Tim Horton gift cards to all of the staff members who supervise Ross High School/ Fremont Middle School students during entry times in the morning!!		

## Gifted Students in FCS



This year, Fremont City Schools gifted department is working with Creek Bend Farms in Lindsey to create a hands-on, meaningful learning experience for the students. The students have visited Creek Bend twice in the fall and once in the winter with a fourth trip planned for the spring. The overarching theme for this year's project is population demographics, and to go with this theme, the 4th grade students have been studying bird population and migration patterns.

These students, along with Creek Bend staff, net birds, band each bird, and record data collected on each of the birds before releasing them back into nature. Students record data such as species, weight, wing cord, gender, age, and fat.



This information then gets entered in the national bird database where students can view the migration patterns of the birds they help band. The 4th grade students are hoping to prove their hypothesis correct as they monitor the American Goldfinch's migration and feeding habits.



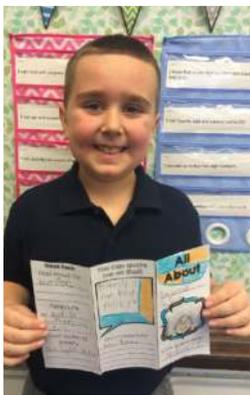
## Congratulations Girls' Swim



Congratulations to the Ross High School girls' swim team who earned first (1st) place honors in the Three Rivers Athletic Conference (TRAC). Meghan Moses was named TRAC Girls' Swimmer of the Year and her mother, Tina Moses, was named TRAC Girl's Coach of the Year.

The girls' swim team has now earned their third (3rd) championship in the five-year history of the TRAC.

## Second Grade at Lutz



Second grade students at Lutz Elementary have been learning about biographies. Both classes read biographies and then used the information to make timelines. One project included making trifold brochures in which they condensed the biography into its key informational points. Other activities included scientific observations and related projects using direction following skills. Some of the people studied included Snowflake Bentley, Neil Armstrong, Sally Ride, and Helen Keller.

## Thinking Big at Otis

Students in the gifted program at Otis Elementary School are using Chrome Books to do career planning. Each student chose a career that he or she would like to pursue. With the guidance of their teacher, Cindy Durell, they determined what they would need to start their own business. After researching furniture, office supplies, and the cost of labor, students will calculate the initial start-up cost of their business venture.



## Renewable and Nonrenewable Resources

Stamm Elementary students in third grade have been learning about natural resources. They learned the definitions of renewable and nonrenewable resources, as well as examples of each. They then started talking about where they get the resources they use. In some cases, resources come from plants or animals. In other cases, people have to mine to get the resources we use. They then began exploring what mining is and how mining impacts the environment. They completed the "Cookie Mining" experiment. Students had to use a toothpick to "mine" out the chocolate chips in cookies. The students discovered that it was difficult to get out full chocolate chips from the cookie without destroying the cookie. Students inferred what happens to the earth when they mine out resources based on what happened to their cookie. Most third graders agreed that we need to conserve our resources as much as possible. Students worked with partners and used their books to come up with ways to conserve resources. The lesson learned is that when resources are conserved, mining is not needed as much; therefore the environment, animal habitats and nonrenewable resources can be saved.





## Staff Spotlights

### Nick Chaney - Custodian - Ross



#### Why did you choose Fremont City Schools?

From administration to colleagues, I've been welcomed to Fremont City Schools in such a warm and respectful manner. This is one of the many reasons I selected Fremont City Schools. We are people centered. It's not often in a big school district you get to know people so personally. Our Superintendent, Dr. McCaudy, and Director of Facilities and Operations, Tom Anway, have created a cornerstone of success with clear vision and a bright forecast, both academically and fiscally. I chose to be part of the success plan.

#### How does your current position help students in the district?

Not only do my day-to-day responsibilities help students by providing clean quarters for academic success, I get the opportunity to have one-on-one interactions with the students, which I really enjoy. I have the chance to mentor, speak candidly to the students, and provide sincere and kind words of guidance and leadership when the opportunity presents itself.

#### What are some traits/skills you possess that help you with your position?

I have been fortunate to grow up shadowing my father who has been director of buildings and grounds for a few school districts for nearly three decades. I began learning the skills necessary in my field of work at a young age. I have nearly a combined ten years of previous experience in another school system and hospital custodial work. Beyond that, I have been formally trained and certified in heating and cooling systems along with pool and spa operations. My ability to stay calm while several large events take place simultaneously and properly prioritize have been my biggest assets.

### Dana Hanson - 5th Grade Teacher - Stamm

#### Why did you choose Fremont City Schools?

I have lived just outside of Fremont all of my life. It is a great community with hometown values. Fremont City Schools believes in providing students with the best education and successful community members. I am excited to be a part of this community as a teacher.

#### What is your philosophy in the classroom?

I believe that engaging lessons that are student centered provide my students with the best learning experience. It is my belief that I need to be flexible and continuously evolving to meet the needs of my students.

#### What new ideas are you implementing this year?

I really enjoy working with my fellow fifth grade teachers and intervention specialist. We collaborate often to ensure we provide the best experience for all students. As a team we implemented a binder system to help each student improve organizational skills. I have also implemented a free writing journal to incorporate writing into social studies and science.



#### 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

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.