

# Fremont City Schools



Oct.  
2015

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

## Supreme Court of Ohio Comes to Fremont

On September 16, 2015, Sandusky County students heard three cases argued before the Ohio Supreme Court at Fremont Ross High School. This visitation from the Ohio Supreme Court is part of the Supreme Court's Off-Site Court program which takes place two times each year.

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor and Justices Paul E. Pfeifer, Terrence O'Donnell, Judith Ann Lanzinger, Sharon L. Kennedy, Judith L. French and William M. O'Neill heard oral arguments regarding cases State v. V.M.D., Clayton v. Ohio Board of Nursing and State v. Leak.

"Part of our mission as an institution is to educate the public about the court system," stated Chief Justice O'Connor. "By conducting oral arguments in communities across Ohio, students have the opportunity to observe the court in action and how the judicial branch works."

Besides the host school, Fremont Ross High School, the following schools participated: Bellevue, Clyde, Gibsonburg, Harvest Baptist Temple, Lakota, Margaretta, Old Fort, St. Joseph Central Catholic, Temple Christian, Woodmore and Vanguard-Sentinel Career & Technology Centers.

Prior to the oral hearings, students and teachers received curriculum materials including summaries of the specific cases to be argued. Attorneys from the Sandusky County Bar Association worked with the teachers at each participating school to explain the judicial system and to review case materials.

Caleb Calvillo, Ross High School Junior, stated the following about the hearings, "I was surprised by the way the Justices sort of attacked both sides. You could tell they don't take a stance at all. They try to keep their opinions out of it."

Students from both Fremont Ross and Old Fort High Schools were able to participate in a Question & Answer session with the Justices prior to the oral hearings.

Fremont Ross High School Principal Gracy Lloyd stated, "This has been a wonderful learning experience for all of the students in Sandusky County and we are honored to have been selected as the host site for this event."

Fremont City Schools wishes to extend their appreciation to the following for their contributions and assistance in organizing this event for the students of Sandusky County:

- Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor and Justices Paul E. Pfeifer, Terrence O'Donnell, Judith Ann Lanzinger, Sharon L. Kennedy, Judith L. French and William M. O'Neill
- Ohio Supreme Court Staff Members William B. Crawford, Jr., Jay Wuebbold and Sara Stiffler
- Ohio Channel Staff Members
- Sandusky County Superintendents, Principals and Teachers
- Brock Kimmet, Common Pleas Court Administrator
- Judge Brad Smith, Sandusky County Juvenile/Probate Court
- Sandusky County Bar Association and Education Attorney Volunteers
- Judge Barbara Ansted, Sandusky County Common Pleas
- Judge Tom Aigler, Bellevue Municipal Court, Judge John Dewey, Sandusky County Common Pleas, Judge Mary Beth Fiser, Woodville County Court, Judge Robert Hart, Fremont Municipal Court, and Judge John Kolesar, Clyde County Court.
- Fremont Police Department
- Sandusky County Sheriff's Department
- Ohio State Highway Patrol



## FMS Team Capital Off to a Great Start!



Team Capital has had a wonderful start to the 2015-2016 school year! Along with the academics, the teachers have been installing a system to help build positive character traits in each of our students.

Unique to Team Capital is a punch-card reward system for displays of "good behavior." Each student carries around a punch card. When one of the teachers catches a Team Capital student doing something right, or displaying/modeling the type of behaviors that make a young person great, we use a special hole-punch to knock out one of their C's (The card is filled with blue C's—for "Capital"). When a student fills up their card, they can turn it in for an opportunity to participate in the Team Capital Plinko Board, pictured above, (like you've seen on The Price Is Right) for a variety of small rewards.

"I think the punch cards are really good," said Marizza Cortez, "because they can instantly show you how you're being good in class."

Of course, Team Capital is also using the school-wide PBIS program to build character within the student body. The first week of participants were announced on Friday, September 18th, and Team Capital students Melinda LaCourse, Elijah Franks, and Brynn Ruppert were chosen to use the Team Capital Plinko Board. Great job students!

Finally, the students participated in a team-building program run by the Fremont Rec Center to help come together and develop a sense of community among Team Capital. Many of the students had a great time.



## Kindergarten Dances Their Way Through the Alphabet

Have you heard of the Phonics Dance? Croghan Kindergarten students have! The phonics dance includes all styles of learning; visual, auditory, kinesthetic and tactile. The students learn a short chant/rhyme, sound and movement (dance) to accompany each letter of the alphabet. If you are a parent, grandparent, cousin or friend of a Croghan Kindergarten student be sure to ask him/her about it. Did you know the Croghan Principal even knows the Phonics Dance?



## Respect - Responsibility - Safety

These are three words we hear at Stamm Elementary on a daily basis as we continue to utilize the PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) throughout our school. For us, PBIS means positive consequences and rewards for choices made. Students are able to take responsibility for their actions through a clip system that encourages them to earn rewards while monitoring their own choices. Many exciting awards are in place building-wide such as Pizza with the Principal, weekly raffles, and a traveling mascot for the classrooms. Another exciting component of PBIS in our building is weekly class meetings. This time together allows each class to build a safe, responsible, and respectful



learning environment through different team building activities. In Mrs. Almroth's fifth grade class, students were challenged in a team building activity to build the highest, free standing tower out of a specific amount of spaghetti and marshmallows. This activity not only encouraged team work and critical thinking, but fun as well. The students look forward to such activities on a weekly basis and enjoy the motivating PBIS components throughout the building each school day.



## RTI In Action at Otis



At Otis School, we had our AIMSweb Benchmark testing in Reading and Math recently. AIMSweb is a universal screening, progress monitoring, and data management system that supports Response to Intervention (RTI) and tiered instruction.

It provides useful data to teachers to help them set Reading and Math goals for individual students. The benchmarks are given at the beginning of the year, in winter, and then in the spring. Staff members use this data to see which students are at-risk and need further help in improving or attaining certain skills to help their Reading and Math skills. Students will be progress-monitored to measure whether the interventions used were successful. From there, data informs our next steps in regards to the intervention process. This tool is critical in informing us about student achievement, deficits, and in giving perspective to how well our students are performing in Reading and Math as compared to other students their age both locally and nationally. We are fortunate to have such a valuable system in place for our students.

## Washington Student's Green Thumb

Washington Elementary student, Jessica Grove, poses with the 14 pound cabbage she grew over the summer for the Bonnie Plants Cabbage Program. Jessica was the winner from Mrs. Markwith's 3rd grade class for planting, tending to, and harvesting her own mega-cabbage plant. When asked her favorite part about growing her cabbage plant, Jessica said, "I planted my cabbage in my grandma and grandpa's garden. I enjoyed visiting my grandparents while taking care of my cabbage. It was the first thing I ever planted." Other participants included Blake Bender and C.J. Fisher, growing 11.5 and 6 pound cabbages, respectively. For more information on the free 3rd Grade Cabbage Program, visit [www.bonniecabbageprogram.com](http://www.bonniecabbageprogram.com).



## Lutz's Hungry Inchworm

Lutz is keeping a close eye on our hungry inchworm, and hoping he can get to the apple by the end of the year. Once again this year, Lutz Students are participating in a reading challenge. All students are reading at home and completing weekly or monthly reading logs. In our front foyer, we are displaying our progress. In order for the inchworm to get to his apple, we need to read a total of 500,000 minutes. In addition to keeping track of the total minutes read, we are also tracking individual students' progress. Once a student logs 1,000 minutes, he or she will get a small inchworm with their name on it to display on the bulletin board. We hope you can stop by Lutz and watch the inchworm "inch" his way to the apple during the year and see all the students who have helped him move.



## Little Giant Pathway at Atkinson

Atkinson is kicking off the Little Giant Pathway program by encouraging students to discuss, draw and write about what they want to be when they grow up. Pictured are some first grade students that are serious about their future careers. They have a variety of plans for themselves including being farmers, teachers, veterinarians, ball players and even a doctor!

This year Fremont City Schools is implementing a program district-wide that will encourage our students to explore, investigate and plan for future success in the world of work. It is called the Little Giant Pathway and the responsibilities are shared with all stakeholders: parents, students, and staff. To begin this program each student was asked to draw a picture on the cover of the booklet that will be used to monitor their plan on



a yearly basis. The Little Giant Pathway is unique to each student.

The District objective is for students to become familiar with college and careers through learning that connects classroom instruction to their future. Ohio's Learning Standards bring this to light in our classrooms through career connections in the Social Studies curriculum. Learning about college and careers helps students plan their futures.

# Staff Spotlights

## Craig Yeast - Teacher - Ross High



### Why did you choose Fremont?

I chose Fremont because I felt it was a great place to raise a family. Fremont has a very similar feel and look that reminded my wife and myself of where we both grew up. The other reason is based on Fremont having a football program that has been built on the backs of the many great players that have graced the hallways and its storied gridiron. The competition that comes with the conference that we play in allows for numerous opportunities for me to help and encourage young men to attend college.

### What is your philosophy on the field?

My philosophy on the field is pretty simple. Be Tough... Be Disciplined... Have a great Attitude... Work Hard... I think all these principles apply to life in general. My main goal is to give young men the opportunity to be successful without expecting everything to be handed to them. Put in the work, never stay down, hold yourself and those around you to a high standard, and always strive to be great!

### What is your philosophy in the classroom?

In the classroom, I believe that every student has the ability to achieve at their highest level. I feel as an educator it is my responsibility to do everything possible to ensure that every student that I come in contact with has the opportunity to fulfill their individual sense of accomplishment academically. My ultimate goal is to make sure I do my part to prepare students for college and career readiness.

## Josh Matz - Principal - Hayes Elementary



### Why did you choose Fremont?

Fremont is a district that is truly going in the right direction educationally, financially, and has the support of this community. That is an amazing combination! Throughout my life and career I have tried to be a productive member of any team that I have been on, but I also look to continue my learning and growth as well. Fremont was a perfect fit of joining a district that I can learn from as well as hopefully be a contributing leader in.

### What is your philosophy on education?

My educational philosophy has always centered on a quote that I saw years ago: "Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise, risking more than others think is safe, dreaming more than others think is practical, and expecting more than others think is possible." With that quote in mind, I try on a daily basis to have a student-centered approach that empowers students to be the best they can be. In order for students to be their best, we as a staff, need to support and challenge our students through our caring actions, high expectations, and inspiring them to make improvement each day. At Hayes Elementary students will quickly learn that they are learners, they are leaders, and they are loved every step of the way.

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

In my short time here at Hayes Elementary, it is clear that this school has many educationally sound practices and has a dedicated staff working for the best of all students. My role, and what I hope to implement, is to focus on the efficiency in the existing programs and then supporting the staff on how to obtain the learning goals that have been set. Over my years as a principal I have realized that a school is at its best when I am a servant-leader. My role is to serve the students, staff, and community by leading the building in the most efficient and effective manner that results in high student achievement.

## A Little Giant Thank You to the Class of '65!



The Ross class of '65 toured the halls of Ross High School. Thanks again for your generous donation of the statue of Roscoe, located in front of the high school!

### 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

## Hispanic History Month Celebrations



Pictured Above: Manuel Gutierrez III reading to both 2nd grade classes at Hayes Elementary. Gutierrez, an Instructor for Ohio Operating Engineers Local 18, reads the bilingual book *What Big Machines do*.

Pictured Below: We have been celebrating Hispanic Heritage month at Otis. Several different activities, including an assembly presentation from Ross's Hispanic Heritage Club, are taking place over the next two weeks to continue celebrating the Hispanic ancestry of so many of our Otis students.



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.