

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

August
2013

Welcome Back from Dr. McCaudy

Dear Fremont Community,

Welcome to the 2013-2014 school year. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer! This year the District will continue its focus on improving student achievement, providing a safe and positive learning environment for our students, and strengthening our relationship with the Fremont community. In order to meet these goals the district will implement the strategies and action steps outlined in year two of the district's Strategic Plan (2012-2015). Listed below are just some of the strategies to be implemented during the 2013-2014 academic year:



- Continue to develop new curriculum guides for teachers utilizing Ohio's new learning standards and continue to purchase new textbooks per the textbook adoption calendar.
- Continue to integrate technology within the curriculum by providing professional development for teachers and purchasing additional technology tools.
- Implement Ohio's new evaluation systems for teachers, principals and the superintendent.
- Provide extended learning opportunities for select students (tutoring, intervention plans, summer programming and after-school programs).
- Implement strategies in order to achieve the following wellness goals:
 1. Reduce student alcohol and drug use at Ross High School as evidenced by pre and post survey data and discipline referrals.
 2. Increase nutrition/fitness knowledge at all grade levels as evidenced by pre and post survey data for students.
 3. Decrease student bullying/harassment and insubordination incidents at all grade levels as measured by pre and post survey data and discipline referrals.
 4. Improve district/building climate as measured by pre and post "My Voice" survey data.

The entire strategic plan is located on the District's web site. This plan is updated and presented to the Board of Education on a quarterly basis. Fremont City Schools will continue its commitment to excellence through the academic year 2013-2014 and the District sincerely appreciates the Fremont community's support of that commitment.

Sincerely,

Traci McCaudy

Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent

Strong Academics

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Strong Character

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2013-2014 School Year Information

School Calendar:

- Please check the district web site, www.fremontschools.net, for the 2013-2014 school calendar.
- The first day of school for The Vanguard Tech Center students is August 22nd.
- The first day of school for students in grades 1-12 is August 27th.

- Parents of pre-school and kindergarten students will receive opening school day information via postal mail.
- The first full day of kindergarten is August 29th.
- The first full day for pre-school is September 5th.

School Day Times:

Elementary Schools	9:15 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Fremont Middle School	7:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Ross High School	7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

For more information, check out page 2 or
go to www.fremontschools.net

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

2013-2014 School Year Information continued

School Supply Lists:

Elementary and FMS school supply lists for the 2013-2014 school year are available on the district web site, at the district office and in the school buildings.

Student Dress Code:

There are no changes to the Student Dress Code Policy for the upcoming school year. The policy is available on the district web site, at the district office and in the school buildings.

Transportation:

Bus routes will be submitted to The News-Messenger during the first ten days of August and will be published within two weeks of submission date. Please contact the Transportation Office at 419-332-7351 or visit the district's web site for bus route information.

Food Service:

Full priced lunches for the 2013-2014 school year:

Elementary	\$2.00
Fremont Middle School	\$2.25
Ross High School	\$2.50

Parents can view student meal accounts and pre-pay on-line at www.sendmoneytoschool.com. Parents can apply on-line now for free/reduced lunches at www.lunchapp.com after July 1, 2013 for the 2013-2014 school year.

Immunizations:

The 2013-2014 immunization information can be found on our web site by selecting the "Parent Information" tab on the left side of the home page and then selecting either of the "2013/2014 Immunization" tabs.

Student Identification Badges:

Students in grades 9-12 must show their student identification badges in order to attend home football games and school dances. Additionally, students eligible for drug testing must have their identification badges prior to testing. Students will receive their ID badges during their summer building orientations. High school students new to FCS may get their ID photos taken at Ross High School during their individual appointment with their counselor.

Open House/Orientation/Student Schedules:

Elementary Schools Open House

August 26th 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Fremont Middle School Orientations

Grade 6 August 13th 4:00 p.m. / 5:30 p.m. / 7:00 p.m.

Grades 7 & 8 August 14th 4:00 p.m. / 5:30 p.m. / 7:00 p.m.

Multiple Disabilities Students

August 8th 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

August 15th 4:00 p.m.

Ross High School Grade 9/New Student Orientation

August 20th 9:00 a.m. / 5:30 p.m.

Ross High School Schedule Pick-up

Grades 11 & 12 August 16th 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Grade 10 August 19th 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Ross High School Counselors are available daily beginning on August 13th.

Ross High School Open House September 5th 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Child Find: Early Intervention

Every child in this country is entitled to a free, appropriate, publication education. The law applies to handicapped children as well, regardless of the handicap, or the severity of the handicap. Please call us if you suspect your child may have a handicap. We can help – but we must first find the child.

Fremont City Schools provides comprehensive services to students with disabilities. Additionally, we work collaboratively with the "Help Me Grow" program which assists families with early identification and services for children under the age of three. We also have a collaborative agreement with the Sandusky County DD Early Childhood and School-Age programs provided through the School of Hope. Together, we work to find the right services for each child. For more information, please call the Director of Student Services at 419-334-5464.

Curriculum Corner

Changes in education continue to happen across Ohio! Fremont City Schools continues to stay current and move our teachers and students towards the goal of maintaining excellence. The district is entering another year of change as we study and align our learning to the New Learning Standards (NLS) in Math and Science for grades K-12. We will continue to refine our work with the English-Language Arts and Social Studies standards this year.

The work of embracing and implementing the New Learning Standards is important as we move towards the new statewide assessments that will begin in the 2014-15 school year. This school year will be our last year for students to begin the OAA and OGT process. Beginning in 2014-15, students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge in the NLS through a series of assessments throughout grades 3-12. These new assessments are a combination of assessments developed at the state and national levels, but all are aligned to the NLS.

We are excited about the continued challenges that are set before us with curriculum and learning. We also believe that the staff and students of FCS will continue to strive for excellence to learn and achieve!

Athletic Dept. News

Ticket Prices for Football Contests:

The Three Rivers Athletic Conference has agreed to alter ticket prices for the 2013 season. Beginning this year each TRAC school will now promote and sell pre-sell tickets. The presale ticket prices will be \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students and senior citizens. Presale tickets will be available for sale in the athletic office from Monday until noon on Friday of each week. All tickets purchased at the gate will be \$7.00.

Stadium Rules:

The start of another season of Little Giant football is quickly approaching. In order to provide the best fan experience for all, the following changes have been made for all varsity football contests and will go into effect this 2013 season:

-Admission: Middle school students will no longer be permitted to enter the game without an accompanying adult. High School students will need to produce a school issued identification card in order to enter the contest without parental supervision. High school students who fail to bring their ID cards and FMS/elementary students who are not accompanied by a parent will not be granted access to the game.

-Student Section: Middle school students will no longer be permitted to sit in the student section as was the practice in previous years. Only students in grades 9-12 along with members of the Ross High School marching band will be permitted to sit in the student section. Middle school students who attend the athletic contest should sit with their parents.

-2 minute rule: The rule which limited when students could leave the students section during the course of the event will no longer be enforced. Students who are seated in the student section of the stadium will be given the freedom to use the restroom or visit the concession stand at their discretion. If this practice is either abused or leads to further incident, it will be revoked.

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

New Fremont Middle School and Croghan Site

Last school year staff were noticing that too many floor tiles at the new middle school were “curling” and not laying correctly. Because of this, FMS Core Team members requested a comprehensive analysis of both the floor tiles and installation process. It was determined that the floor tiles were of a high quality but the installation was not completed per specifications. Last winter the District requested that all tiles be replaced and installed properly. After several months of debate the District’s request was granted and this past summer all of the floor tiles were replaced through the building at NO cost to the District.

Every year the district offers free tours of FMS and other facilities to FCS alumni. This year the following classes visited: Class of 1958 (at right) and Class of 1968.

Last school year the district asked community members via a community perception survey what they would like to see done with the Croghan Site property. The top three responses are as follows:

1. Green Space/Parks/Garden
2. Sell
3. Parking Lot

This past winter a subcommittee consisting of representatives from the FCS Board of Education and Business Advisory Council was developed for the purpose of reviewing the community perception survey results and discussing the future utilization of this property. The Croghan Site subcommittee made a recommendation to the FCS Board of Education to neither sell nor donate the property at this time. This past August the Croghan Street property was utilized for The Bicentennial of Fort Stephenson in the War of 1812. The district is currently working on a Fremont Middle/High School memorial to include the plaque honoring the British soldiers buried on the site during the War of 1812. The district will keep the community informed of any future decisions regarding the utilization of the Croghan Site property.

Welcoming FCS New Staff

We would like to welcome the following new staff members to Fremont City Schools:

Cassandra Cull
Linda Doehring
Christina French
Susan Frye
Margret Gfoeller
Marissa Hamernik
Greg Harrison
Janelle Head
Arika Hoffman
Brian Hughes
Cory Hull
Jason Karcher

Jessica Kerman
Jared King
Analee Kolbeck
Alyssa Konesko
Britanny Lejeune
Sally Manning
Gerald Phillips
Cortney Rapp
Belinda Rosenberger
Nancy Sloma
Calvin Vander Boon
Kailee Wischart



NEW FACES IN STUDENT SERVICES
From left to right: Keri Vela will be a new school psychologist. Lindsay Rellinger will join us as the new Director of Student Services and Megan Peugeot as the new Student Services Coordinator.

Gold Medal Banquet



Eighty-seven students from Fremont Ross High School were honored at the twenty-eighth annual Gold Medal Banquet on Thursday, June 20th held at the Fremont Country Club. The banquet sponsored by Croghan Colonial Bank, in conjunction with The Learning and Liberty Foundation of Fremont City Schools, honors students for the academic achievement of earning a 4.0 Grade Point Average over two semesters during the past school year.

Guest speaker for the evening was 2004 Ross graduate David Albrechta.

Three district teachers were also recognized at the banquet as Crystal Apple recipients for their enthusiasm, love of teaching, caring for children, cooperation with fellow staff members, and doing the “little extras” to provide quality educational experiences for students: Jacquelyn Fry, teacher at Lutz Elementary School, Polly Garlock, teacher at Croghan Elementary School, and Janet Myles, Librarian/Elementary Library Media Coordinator at Fremont Middle School.

Pictured above are the 2013 Senior Gold Medal Winners.



The Class of 1958 enjoyed their tour of Fremont Middle School on July 13th.

New State Report Card

Beginning in August of 2013, the state of Ohio will present information to the stakeholders of public education in a new format. This new Report Card format will include some information similar to the previous report card, but will also include information that is new to all in the state of Ohio. A Report Card will be generated for each school building, as well as the district, that will report on the academic progress of our students. These report cards will grade schools and districts with an A-F letter grade system.

The new Report Card will be phased in during the next 5 years. It will report on 6 key components: Achievement, Progress, Gap Closing, Graduation Rate, K-3 Literacy, and Prepared for Success. Each of these components is reported around key measures that contain information about student and teacher performance on statewide assessments. Information on each of these areas can be found on the Ohio Department of Education website <http://education.ohio.gov/>

Items that receive grades on the new report cards are called measures. These measures are like the subjects on students’ report cards. But instead of being graded for mathematics, science, and art like on a student report card, schools and districts will have grades for items such as academic progress (value-added), closing achievement gaps (annual measurable objectives), and graduation rates. Eight measures will be graded on the 2012-2013 report card, and one more will be added the following year (2013-2014). There will be a total of nine graded measures when the full report card is in use for the 2013-2014 school year. A tenth measure might be added in 2015-16.

Each measure is part of a component. A component includes all the measures that are related in a common category. Just like a student’s English studies include the measures reading, writing, and literature, the new report card’s Progress component includes the measures overall progress, progress by gifted students, progress by students with disabilities, and progress by the lowest performing students.

Beginning in 2014-2015, schools and districts will receive a grade for each of the six graded components. This grouping grade will be calculated based upon the grades of the measures within the component. Examples can be found at www.fremontschools.net

Facility Update

The Facilities and Operations Department has had a busy spring and summer getting ready for the new school year. A new buzz-in system was installed at each elementary school throughout the district. This system has been received with open arms, and we have received many positive comments from parents. This is just one more additional invest-



ment the district has made toward each and every child's safety in the district. Currently at Ross, installation of an IP surveillance camera system is taking place. The surveillance camera system consists of approximately 47 Toshiba cameras and wall mount brackets, two video recorders and all supplies needed to create a fully functional system. In addition, we are updating the district phone system. This update includes 130 new phones for all elementary schools, Ross and the Transportation and Maintenance Departments. The new phones include a new voicemail system. This system supports the existing system that was installed when the new FMS was constructed. During this summer, we have also purchased and installed additional bus camera systems, which now equips all district buses with cameras. Each camera has a microphone, front to rear view, rear to front view and driver stairwell view. At Ross, the students and staff will enjoy a new serving line in the cafeteria. This will allow a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables to be served. The last of the updates include twenty-two locations throughout the district receiving various amounts of new flooring. The replacement of flooring has been greatly needed.

New this summer was the "Purple and White Delights" program. The Fremont City School, Child Nutrition Department in collaboration with ProMedica and Memorial Hospital volunteers provided a free meal and activity to community children, ages 18 years and younger at the Delaware Acres site on weekdays from June 17-30th from 12:00 to 1:30pm. This program was a huge success with an average of 50 children daily. Each day they were eagerly waiting for their lunch as the large white bus pulled into the complex. An activity such as kick ball and hula hoop was also enjoyed by the children daily.

Attention Senior Citizens

All Fremont residents who are sixty-five (65) years of age, or older, are eligible for a complimentary pass to all school activities, including school plays, musical performances and athletic events. If you would like a permanent "Senior Giant" activity pass, please contact Desiree Subsara at 419-332-6454 or visit www.fremontschools.net (Communications Tab) and click on "Senior Pass" for an application and mailing instructions.

Run Walk Roll Against Bullying

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2013
FREMONT REC CENTER

Entry Fee: \$12.00 (18 and under free). Race shirts to first 100 registered.

Pre-Registration deadline: September 20, 2013

Mail to: Fremont Community Recreation Complex,
600 St. Joseph St., Fremont, Ohio 43420

Make checks payable to: City of Fremont

Race Day Fee: \$12.00. Race shirts not guaranteed.

RACE DAY

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Registration/Packet Pick Up, Fremont Recreation Center,
600 St. Joseph St., Fremont Ohio

9:00 a.m.: 5K Run/Walk/Roll course begins at the Fremont Recreation Center,
near the inland trail head.

Bullying prevention begins with you!

For more information visit: www.sanduskycountyfcfc.org

How does FCS support positive behavior?

In Fremont City Schools, we support our students' positive behavior by our expectations. Our district has three standards for student behavior: *Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful*. These three high expectations promote safety and learning for all students.

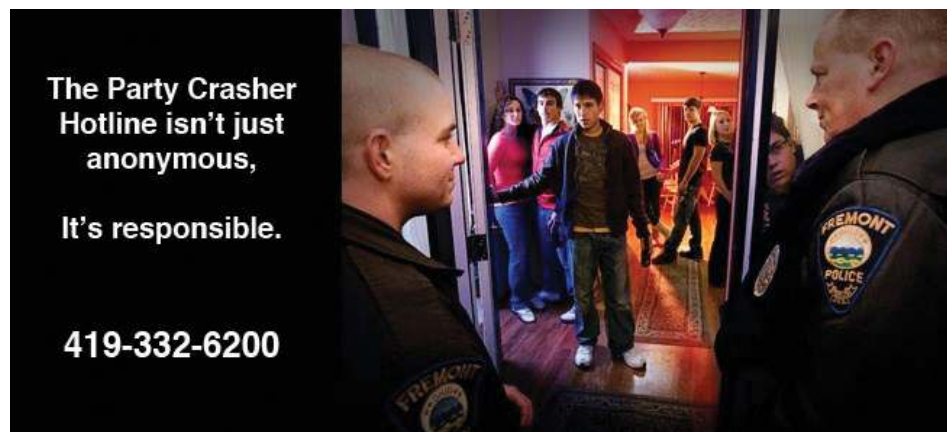
In the 2013-14 academic year, Hayes, Lutz, Otis, and Stamm will be implementing a school-wide behavior plan that helps everyone *Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful*. The school-wide plan is known as PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports). It is based on the idea that students learn best when taught clear behavior expectations when provided with predictable responses (positive and corrective).

Students will have opportunities to practice these behaviors and will receive positive feedback when they show these skills. Visual reminders, such as posters, will prompt students of the expectations.

Common questions are – Where do these three expectations apply? When are the positive behaviors expected to occur? The plan is simple: the expectations apply throughout the school all day long. This means *Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Safe* are to occur in all areas of the building (classrooms, lunchroom, restrooms, hallways, etc.), and on school property (playground and school bus). The expectations apply whenever students are in the school building or on school property. This includes class times, arrival and dismissal from school, transitions between classes, recess, lunch, and bus transportation to and from school. Every day and everywhere.

Students will be taught the expected behavior, given chances to learn and practice, and receive acknowledgements of good behavior. Examples of some behaviors that may be taught: "listen and follow adult directions, walk in the hall, return school supplies to storage spaces." Next year, parents will receive a copy of the Building Matrix. The matrix is a grid that lists the expected behaviors in each area of the school building as well as bus and playground settings. Parents can look forward to receiving news of your child/children's positive behavior!

What about the other buildings in our district? During the 2013-14 school year at Atkinson, Croghan, Washington, and Fremont Middle School, staff will be developing building plans for implementing PBIS program at a later date. Parents and students in these buildings can look forward to more information as soon as it becomes available.



The Party Crasher
Hotline isn't just
anonymous,
It's responsible.

419-332-6200

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, age or genetic information.