

Fremont City Schools



Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

District Report Card 2015-2016

Dear Fremont Community,

The Ohio Department of Education recently released the District's report card from the 2015-2016 academic year.

For the past several years, the Board of Education and I have expressed concerns to the Ohio Department of Education and legislators about this new accountability system including the amount of testing our students are required to take on an annual basis. This is the third consecutive year that students were tested on new content with new assessments making it difficult to compare data and use that information for school improvement planning purposes.

Furthermore, the criteria for earning grades on several report card components are confusing and in some cases an unfair measurement of reporting student data. As Superintendent of Fremont City Schools, I believe in the highest standards and in a fair State accountability system. The current system is not a thorough and balanced approach to grading school districts, and therefore, not an accurate depiction of the overall strength of our school district.

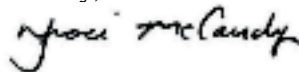
My concerns are shared by many Superintendents, Boards of Education, educational organizations, legislators, parents and students. The recently passed Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is currently seeking feedback from Ohio public school stakeholders regarding the future accountability system. Please take the time to visit the Ohio Department of Education website and complete the ESSA survey to ensure a more comprehensive, complete and equitable approach for evaluating school districts.

I am very proud of the work the staff and students are doing in Fremont City Schools. I am very proud of the vast number of volunteers and community partners who work tirelessly in our schools helping our children. We are always striving to do better and we aspire to meet the highest standards.

It is time to celebrate the accomplishments of our students and staff. We will be sharing an annual report later this fall that will include the successes happening in our schools.

If you wish to view the District and or building report cards, please visit the FCS website at www.fremontschools.net. When you do so, please consider the thoughts that I have shared with you in this letter.

Sincerely,



Dr. Traci L. McCaudy Superintendent of Schools

UPCOMING FCS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Please join us at an October Board of Education Meeting:

October 3, 2016 Fremont Middle School 5:30 p.m. • **District Report Card Presentation**

October 17, 2016 Fremont Middle School 5:30 p.m.

Please visit the FCS web site, www.fremontschools.net, for a complete list of meetings, meeting minutes and other pertinent information.

The following press release was issued by OSBA following the Ohio Department of Education's release of the state report cards.

COLUMBUS - Today's release of the Ohio Department of Education state report cards is causing concern in school districts across the state because many of this year's scores are lower than in prior years. Even though schools are seeing local improvement on many fronts, the results were not unexpected since students are being judged against new, higher state standards.

OSBA supports accountability and welcomes the opportunity to learn how students are progressing and where improvement is needed. At the same time, there are concerns about 2016 being the third year in a row with different tests and varying standards. Districts need adequate time to properly prepare for such transitions.

School board members and administrators have expressed legitimate concerns about the report card methodology and measures. They're also concerned that the report card tells only part of the story.

"To truly gauge progress, it's important to take a holistic look at student and district achievement," said OSBA President Eric K. Germann, a school board member at Lincolnview Local Schools and Vantage Career Center in Van Wert County. "The report card is just one component. Many other factors, including job, college and military placement, scholarships awarded, the arts and community service must be part of the overall picture of student success."

The recently passed Every Student Succeeds Act provides a welcome opportunity for the Ohio Department of Education and state legislature to review and reconsider report cards and measures. OSBA looks forward to working with them to ensure that assessment is fair, equitable and consistent and reporting is clear and concise.

The association also urges the education department to reach out to local school boards to help them better interpret and use the results to improve student achievement and help their communities better understand the report cards. OSBA stands ready to support the department in that effort and will work with local boards to increase their understanding of the data and share that knowledge with their communities.

In its 61 st year, the Ohio School Boards Association leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.

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Teachers Go Back To School Early

Primary teachers from across the district returned to learning on August 1st. Select interventionists, Title I, kindergarten, first and second grade teachers traveled to Tiffin for a three-day training on the Phonics First Program, which will be piloted this year by the district. Phonics First is an accredited multisensory structured language program based on the principles of Orton-Gillingham methodology. Research shows that students are more likely to remember content when more than one of the five senses is alerted during learning. The program is designed to deliver explicit phonics instruction systematically using a combination of visual, auditory and movement-based strategies.



The program, originally designed as an intervention resource for at-risk learners, has proven to be successful for all students. FCS looks for the Phonics First program to be a nice addition to the quality resources already being used for Reading instruction across the district.

FREMONT CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPORTS LOCAL BUSINESSES

The District hired the following local businesses for products/services during April – August, 2016.

ACE Hardware, Action Printing, Adkins Sanitation, Advanced Auto Parts, American Red Cross, Amerigas, Anderson's Farm Center, Anjulina's Catering & Banquet Hall, Associated Buyers, Automatic Fire Protection Systems, Inc., B & W Welding, Baker's Diversified Vehicle, Ballville EZ Shop, Beck Suppliers, Bel-Aire Cleaners, Bella Cosa, Benchmark Prints, Burkett Industries, Burn's Iron & Metal, Burmeister Bay Trophy, C.A. Kustoms, C&W Auto Supply, Celek Brothers Mason Contract, Century Equipment, Chamber of Commerce, City of Fremont, Clark Associates, Inc., Color Haven Paint & Supply LLC, Computer Man, Contractors Equipment Rental, Costume Holiday House, Croghan Colonial Bank, Crown Battery, Dairy Queen West, Inc., D Clark Online, Inc., Damschroder Roofing, Inc., Dollar Tree, Dominos Pizza, Dorothy Kern Cancer Center, Down Thyme Café LLC, Downtown Fremont, Dumminger Photo, East of Chicago, Economy Plumbers, El Aguila Bakery, Engler Printing, Everyday Productions, Famous Supply Co., Fastenal Company, Flower Real Estate Holdings, Fortball Pizza Palace, Foster Auto Body, Inc., Frederick's Monuments Inc., Fremont Athletic Supply, Fremont Auto Parts, Fremont Candy & Cigar Co., Fremont City Board of Education, Fremont Cycle & Fitness, Fremont Community Theatre, Fremont Fence, Fremont UBO,



Fremont Uniform Shoppe, Fremont Recreation Department, Fremont Water Blasting, Gordon Lumber Company, Great Lakes Internet & Computer LLC, Hasselbach Meats, Healthlink, Hilty Office Supply, JMK Custom Creations, Jimmy John's, JMK Custom Creations, Joseph Wise Fine Clocks, Journey's Family Amusement Center, Judy Donnan, Ken Kiser Sound, Kroger Co., Kiwanis Club of Fremont, Kuns Northcoast Security, Linke's Wheel Alignment, Lions Club International, Little Caesars, Lowery Glass & Drywall, Lowe's, Madison Motors, Marco's Pizza, McCormack Painting, McMillan Signs, Metrotex Textile Rental LLC, North Town Storage, O.E. Meyer & Sons, Nickel Paint & Supply, Otto & Urban Flower Shop, P.T. Storage, Painters Supply, Papa Murphy's, Phaze I, The Party Starts Here, ProMedica Memorial Hospital, Plaza Lanes, PostNet, Prairie Flowers, R & R Identification, Rotary Club of Fremont, Root's Poultry, Rural King, Sabroske Electric, Sandusky County, SCPP High School Living Awards, Inc., Sheets Supply, Sherwin Williams Paint, Sorg Graphics, Subway, Sunrise Cooperative, Terra State Community College, The Party Starts Here, Tireman, Top Notch Cheer, Trico Glass, U New Tent Rental, United Way of Sandusky County, Universal Farms LLC, Vanguard-Sentinel, Vanguard Tech Center, WSOS, Walters' Boiler Works, Wang's Buffet, Warner Mechanical, Weickert Insurance, Willie's Sales & Service, Wolesslagel Moving and Ziebold String Instrument & Repair.

Building Open Houses/Tours

Fremont City Schools has scheduled Open Houses/Tours of the elementary buildings and Ross High School for the purpose of sharing information about the Bond Levy and touring the facilities.

The Open Houses/Tours are scheduled as follows:

Lutz Elementary School	October 4, 2016	5:00 p.m.
Ross High School	October 8, 2016	4:00 p.m.
Croghan Elementary School	October 10, 2016	6:30 p.m.
Otis Elementary School	October 13, 2016	6:00 p.m.
Stamm Elementary School	October 18, 2016	6:00 p.m.
Hayes Elementary School	October 24, 2016	6:00 p.m.
Atkinson Elementary School	October 25, 2016	5:00 p.m.

For more information regarding the Open Houses/Tours please call 419-334-5432.

Our Students' Thoughts



Recently, Peightyn Linton, a Lutz student, described the perfect school. According to Peightyn, she would like a new gymnasium. She would also like to have a cafeteria with different selections of food. Peightyn also thought that having a security system for students that might struggle going to school would be helpful. She also thought that the morning announcements and the

Otis fifth grader Isaiah Walker, son of Crystal Walker, would build a school with bigger classrooms and have large windows. He would like different selections of food. Isaiah would like new technology in the building. He would build a gym with nice floors. He also thought that cameras should be on the inside and outside of the doors for safety along with new strong doors. Lastly, Isaiah

What We Have Now



Small, dark, crowded libraries



A gym that is a lunchroom



High maintenance buildings with high operating costs

What We Could Have



Light & inviting libraries



New, modern lunchrooms



Low maintenance, energy efficient buildings

School second grader in Mrs. Villarreal classroom and daughter of Bryleigh Linton, shared her ideas on building a new school, if she could build a new school, it should have large classrooms and the cafeteria that is separate from the main cafeteria to have tables like a restaurant, air conditioning to make things cooler, a nice bike rack and playground. Computers for all the students to access their school books and read from would be good. Peightyn was thinking of going up and down stairs by adding ramps and elevators for them. And, of course, Peightyn enjoys watching Eagle TV for sports. She would like each classroom to have bigger televisions!

Isaiah would like to see a nice cafeteria with a food court for students to eat, basketball hoops, a baseball field and add some new playground equipment. Isaiah thought that a new school would add air conditioning because it is hard to think when it gets hot.



What We Have Now

What We Could Have



Technology that does not work due to a lack of electrical capacity



Technology needed to be college/career ready upon graduation



Outdated operating systems



Efficient, reliable heating & cooling



Restrooms that exceeded their lifespans



Updated restrooms that reduce water usage

THANK YOU FROM FREMONT CITY SCHOOLS

Thank You to the following community members, businesses and organizations for donating to Fremont City Schools from April through August 2016.

Fremont Ross Class of 1966	Playground Toys	Hayes Elementary School
William Myers	Playground Toys	Hayes Elementary School
Heads in Need	4 Full90 Protective Headgear	Fremont Ross High School Soccer
Fraternal Order of Police Col. George Croghan Lodge No. 35	Cash	Fremont Ross High School Speech & Debate Team
Lowe's	5 Bags of Potting Mix	Atkinson Elementary School
Patricia Smith	Assorted Office Supplies & Construction Paper	Otis Elementary School
Gonya-Hull Game Feed/Chris Hull Awards Foundation	Cash	Fremont Ross Athletic Department
Anonymous Donor	3 Basketball Nets	Croghan Elementary School
Wendy's	Jr. Frosty's	Croghan Elementary School
Sophia Ratliff	8 Books	Otis Elementary School Library
Wendy's	Free Frosty Coupons	Stamm Elementary School
Tricia Gebauer	Misc. Campus Wear Items	Fremont City Schools
Buffalo Wild Wings	Gift Certificates	FCS Watch D.O.G.S. Program
Fricker's	Gift Certificates	FCS Watch D.O.G.S. Program
GNC	Misc. Products	FCS Watch D.O.G.S. Program
Taco Bell	Food Items	FCS Watch D.O.G.S. Program
Shelli Beck	Four Pairs of Football Cleats & Duffle Bag	Fremont Ross High School Football
The Cookie Lady	Cookies	Fremont Middle School
East Side Dairy Queen	Dairy Queen Gift Cards	Atkinson Elementary School
McDonald's	McDonald's Coupons	Hayes Elementary School
Ohio Association of Foodbanks	Walmart Gift Card	FCS Child Nutrition Department
Luke Humbard/The Humbard Family	McDonald's Apple Pies	Lutz Elementary School

Fremont Ross High School Implements Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, PBIS, is being implemented at Ross High School. PBIS is a program designed to improve the climate and behavioral expectations of our building. Students will be actively encouraged to take responsibility for their actions, and teachers will use research-based interventions to help reinforce positive behaviors among our students. This program will improve social interactions, ultimately providing a better environment in which the best learning may occur. The cornerstone of the program is focused on the expectations that students need to be respectful; responsible; safe; and “more”. The PBIS committee at Ross is comprised of administrators and faculty members. This committee has worked to train the

entire faculty on being proactive in recognizing what students are doing to positively impact and change the building’s climate. The committee continues to incorporate incentives and rewards for students who are modeling exemplary behavior. All students have the opportunity to take part in the program. PBIS has proven to lower problematic behavior, increase academic performance, improve the perception of safety within the building, reduce bullying, improve social-emotional competence, increase teacher effectiveness, and increase positive school climate and culture. The PBIS program began at Ross during the 2015-2016 school year. Ross staff and students will continue to dedicate themselves to PBIS initiatives to create a positive and safe school climate ideal for academic success.



Fremont City Schools
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Washington GO



Because there are several changes to the Washington Elementary staff for the 2016-17 school year, the group participated in a team building activity during the opening staff meeting. The staff was randomly paired up and went on a search for Pokemon characters similar to the new *Pokemon Go!* craze that is currently taking place. These characters included conversation starters as well as reflective questions regarding professional growth, increasing student achievement, and instructional strategies. The staff was encouraged to use those prompts to hold thoughtful conversations about their vision for the new school year.

Pokemon characters were placed all over the school, annex, grounds, and throughout the Village of Lindsey, allowing pairs to meet and greet community members as well as enhancing the professional conversation between themselves. The group had 45 minutes to find all the Pokemon characters they could before returning to the staff meeting. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity that allowed them to have fun while building rapport with each other for the new school year.



Fremont City Schools Got Off To A Great Start!



Fremont City Schools Board policy of nondiscrimination extends to students, staff, job applicants, the general public and individuals with whom it does business and applies to race, color, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, age, disability, military status or genetic information.