

Fremont City Schools



An Update From Fremont City Schools Superintendent Mr. Jon Detwiler

Thanks to the generosity of the citizens of this community, we are deep into the construction of four new elementary schools and a new high school. Due to the warm weather during December and early January, most of the site work is completed at the elementary schools. The underground water retention systems are in place and those eliminate the safety concern of above ground retention ponds. Our construction manager will soon be able to go out for bid on the elementary schools, which are scheduled to be complete in the fall of 2020. The Board of Education has chosen to keep the names on the existing sites as they are: Atkinson, Croghan, Lutz and Otis. The image below is a rendering of what has been designed so far for the four schools. The floor plan for each school is the same, which has saved us a lot of design cost. The colors and final details are not yet decided, but this is what we have so far. We have met with the City's first responders several times along the way to maximize the safety of each building.

The Board purchased the empty American Legion building at a Sheriff's sale for the future use of our Maintenance and Technology Departments. Our Transportation Center will be moving to West State Street to allow for the building of the new high school. The new Ross High is one year behind and will be completed for the fall of 2021. Early site work there should begin in June after school is out. That building will basically sit where the current large parking lot and athletic track are located.

The future of our school system is bright indeed. The completion of this project will mean that our new middle school will be the oldest at nine years old, giving us the most up-to-date buildings in the area. It is a good time to be a Little Giant.

Jon Detwiler, Superintendent



UPCOMING FCS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Please join us at an upcoming Board of Education Meeting:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019 • 6:00 p.m. • Fremont Middle School

MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019 • 6:00 p.m. & MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019 • Fremont Middle School

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



MOON MISSION

The 5th graders at Otis researched everything they could about the moon, Space Directive 1, the Deep Space Gateway (a space station that would orbit the moon), the resources that the moon has that could be used here on Earth or for future deep space missions, and the international efforts underway to establish a near permanent presence on the moon. The 5th grade learning teams identified a problem that they wanted to work on with regards to the future Moon Mission. They then put together a project proposal, and will go through the engineering design process to develop possible solutions.

Students got a chance to visit the Glenn Research Center Plum Brook Station, which is a NASA research facility that plays a critical role in NASA's engineering design process. The students had an opportunity to present their solutions to a variety of space professionals on a video teleconference and a NASA representative who visited the school. After the students got feedback from the space professionals, they had the opportunity to modify their solutions and showcase their learning when they presented their final projects to the class.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Croghan Elementary has begun a "Breakfast Club" in the morning, Tuesday through Friday. When students arrive at 8:45, they participate in various activities related to their academics. It has become so popular students are asking if they can have Breakfast Club on Mondays as well. Students are enjoying the extra time with teachers and socializing with their friends. It is a "win-win" situation for teachers and for students.



READING BUDDIES

The Lutz Second and Fifth grade classes are building friendships and reading skills this year. Each Second grade class is pairing with a Fifth grade class to enjoy books together for a half-hour each week. The reading buddies read from a wide variety of texts that they choose so everyone is interested and engaged. The classes have fun listening and reading to each other, which is helping to increase reading fluency and confidence as well as to create a friendly link between the grades.

LEARNING TRADITIONS

At Atkinson Elementary, Kindergarten students are learning about traditions that are celebrated in the United States, such as Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. In addition, we are also learning about traditions that are celebrated in other countries, such as India. Our school has a family from India and they were very happy to teach us about “Diwali” which means the rays of light. It is a celebration known as “The Festival of Lights” and lasts for five days according to the Indian calendar - Gujarati. It is the victory over the darkness celebration. During this event, people in India pray to Lakshmi, the goddess for prosperity and happiness. Other preparations and events for this grand celebration involve: cleaning the house; making the “rangoli” outside the house; decorating the house with flowers and lights; making sweets and savorys; having family get-togethers; giving gifts to one another; receiving blessings from the elderly; lighting fireworks, and attending festivals. What a fascinating tradition!



BREAKFAST IN A BAG

A grumbling tummy is no way to start the day! At least that is what is believed at Stamm Elementary School. A new initiative has been deployed called “Breakfast in a Bag”, where students who arrive after the regular cafeteria time frame have the option to grab a bag upon their entry into school. Students are greeted by the warm smiles and welcomes of faculty and asked if they are hungry or would like a breakfast to go. The bag must consist of three components in order to be reimbursable by the State, (a juice or milk, a granola bar and an apple would be one such example). While dropping off her child one morning, the mom of Kindergartner, Damian Santiago, remarked how thrilled she was with the new practice, stating that “Damian has been choosing a breakfast bag every morning without fail, even after having one at home!” And when asked why he wanted to eat that breakfast, Damian remarked, “Because I want to grow and be strong so that I can become a police officer one day!” Whatever the reason for grabbing a breakfast on the go, students, parents and faculty have already seen the positive benefits of a little extra “food for thought!”



CHANGING LIVES ONE NOTE AT A TIME

The Mission Statement of Fremont City Schools states that “We are committed to delivering a means to live as high achieving students, high performing workforce members, as community stakeholders, and diverse individuals.”

In a world with the younger generation facing more challenges than ever before, music has become a scapegoat for so many students. It’s a part of them because “we can relate to it,” said Junior, Christasia Burns. Learning how to self-regulate and work with more drive and focus are just a few of the ways that students have attested to music helping them in and outside of the classroom. “It’s relaxing; it calms me down; it helps me focus; it’s a mood changer; it helps me be more productive.” Senior, Najwan Bell, even said that music helps him feel like he can conquer the world.

There are approximately 287 students involved in the music programs at Ross High School. Why have they continued to remain in a music program when the majority of them will not continue with music education after graduation? Junior, Sarah Widman, said that she stays because she “learns new things every single day. Some classes can be repetitive, but in music, there’s always something new to learn and there’s always something you can work on. It’s a challenge.”

The Music program within our district strives for nothing less than high achieving and high performing, as they “develop individuals who will thrive as they find their place in their local and global world,” (FCS Vision Statement). Whether it be learning to play an instrument or being part of the choir, music education is a commitment. It’s a challenge. It teaches dedication. It teaches time management. Music builds self-confidence. Music teaches discipline. Music teaches teamwork.

Irish singer-songwriter, Bono, once said, “Music can change the world because it can change people.” Students exposed to music and enrolled in our music programs are not only changing themselves but they’re changing the face of our community through creativity, confidence and discipline.





THANK YOU FROM FCS

Thank you to the following community members, businesses and organizations for donating to Fremont City Schools from November 2018 – January 2019.

Costco – Linda Hammer	Holiday Treats
Crown Battery	50 Corded Computer Mice
Rivers of Living Water	School Supplies
Journey’s Family Center.....	Monetary Donation
Steven & Sheryl Neiling.....	Boys Campus Wear Pants
Air-Eez Comfort Systems	New Hats and Mittens
Lutz Elementary PTO	Tumbling Mats
Judy Walton.....	Misc. Jewelry, Albums & Wind Chimes
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Boedecker.....	Campus Wear Items
Mrs. Karen Holman.....	School Supplies & Yarn
Mrs. Brenda Smith.....	Yarn & Knitting Needles
Kiwanis Club.....	Hot Chocolate
Russ Abke.....	40 Pumpkins
Larry Tullis.....	Monetary Donation
Onxmaps Inc.	20 Onxmap Memberships
Zink Calls	40 Duck Calls
Aaron & Sarah Decker	Ladder Ball Game Balls
Faye Eishen	Children’s Books
SCORTA	Dictionaries
Barbara Ziebold	Violins, Bows & Cases
Tom Sheasby	Beanbag Chair & Books
Brian Shupe.....	Monetary Donation
State Farm	Monetary Donation
John Calhoun	Sax Case and Clarinet Mouth Piece
Share and Care.....	Two Graphing Calculators
Walmart	Notebook Folders, Day Planners, Misc. Jewelry and Hair Ties

HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

Hayes Elementary students and staff celebrated the holiday season with a trip around the world! With passports in hand, students visited six regions of the globe to learn about cultural and holiday traditions from those different areas. Students were able to make crafts, sing songs, dance, drink hot cocoa, etc.; but most importantly, students were able to learn to appreciate the wonderful diversity of other celebrations and traditions. To highlight this year's Holiday Extravaganza, Earlene Stewart-Woodson provided an amazing and detailed lesson on Kwanzaa. As pictured, students learned about the seven principles of the Kwanzaa celebration: unity, self-determination, responsibility, cooperation, purpose, creativity, and faith. The Holiday Extravaganza is an annual event that is organized by the Hayes Staff and the Hayes Cultural Awareness Committee.



FUN ACTIVITIES

There have been a lot of great things happening at FMS this year. During the Christmas season, our 7th and 8th grade students, as well as our Make-a-Difference Club, participated in some exciting activities.

Here are highlights from a few:

Seventh grade students in Mrs. Buckley's Language Arts class learned about children's literature by reading and listening to children's Christmas books. The students learned about children's story book characters, recurring patterns in book series, and text features. Then, each of the 7th grade students went through the full writing process to publish a children's Christmas themed book. The students were first asked to use a story map to brainstorm their own children's Christmas book including characters, setting, plot, beginning, middle, end, and an author's purpose page. Students had an option to illustrate their books by hand or to use images to match their text in Google Slides. The books were then printed and bound. The three 7th grade classes invited three groups of elementary students to visit FMS on a field trip. The students were able to come and listen to the Christmas stories shared by each 7th grade author. At the end of the visit, the 7th graders shared milk and cookies with the elementary students.

In 8th grade, Mrs. Cook's 5/6 Language Arts students worked with Mrs. Robbins' class to make gingerbread houses. They also played gingerbread bingo with the students and had hot chocolate. The Make-A-Difference Club purchased books for the class and Mrs. Cook's class wrapped and presented the class with the gifts. It was a great opportunity for both classes to work together. A great time was had by everyone that day!



Fremont City Schools
500 W. State Street, Suite A
Fremont, Ohio 43420

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM



LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

FRIENDS

With the holiday season ending, the New Year beginning, and Valentine's Day coming up, why not spread the love? The students at Washington took time to reflect and teach each other what being a good friend looks like, sounds like and feels like. Each grade level worked on a little "lesson" and presented it to the rest of the school children in a schoolwide assembly one afternoon. It was a great reminder of how easy it is to be kind and show others you care.

A wise friend once told me, "Kindness costs nothing,"
and a wise 1st grader said, "Don't be a bully...be a BULLDOG!" Pass it on...



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.