



October 16, 2008

Tours of local middle school scheduled

Submitted story

Fremont City Schools has scheduled tours of the Fremont Middle School to allow members of the school community to see first hand the structural problems of the school building.

Tours will be part of open houses set for 2 p.m. Sunday and 4 p.m. Wednesday at the Middle School, at 501 Croghan St., Fremont.

The school district is seeking a 3.45-mill bond issue/permanent improvement levy to raise funds to build a new school building. These funds will be combined with \$8.8 million from the state's Exceptional Needs Program that the Ohio Schools Facilities Commission has provided for the new building.

OSFC has rated the Fremont Middle School as the No. 1 school building in the state in need of new construction. OSFC does not recommend renovating schools in the ENP.

"The fact that FMS was given the highest priority ranking for the ENP is an indication of the need to provide an alternative educational structure for the district," OSFC officials stated.

The middle school has struggled to maintain the integrity of the building for years, school officials say. Currently, there are water leaks within the walls of the building. Standing water collects on the basement and boiler room floors. There is improper ventilation in the building, especially in the kitchen area, classrooms and restrooms. In addition, there are major cracks on the walls, floors and ceiling and the foundation of the building is shifting.

All community members are invited to attend the open houses to view the building. For information, call 419-332-5569.
