



Absence Procedure .....Pg. 2

AlertNow information .....Pg. 3

Arrival / Dismissal Procedures.....Pg. 2

Birchard Library Programs.....Pg. 4

Disaster Drills .....Pg. 3

Fees .....Pg. 2

Healthy Kids Tips.....Pg. 4

P.T.O. News .....Pg. 3

Parent Expectation Meetings .....Pg. 4

Picture Day.....Pg. 4

## Principal’s Perspective--

Welcome Back! We are off to another exciting school year. I hope your summer was enjoyable and filled with great highlights and memories. Our staff has worked very hard to prepare for another exciting school year. Each classroom reflects the importance of academics and student achievement. Our first week was AWESOME and I am sure that will continue throughout the year. I am very please to say that Atkinson is an EFFECTIVE school. The students and teachers worked very hard to achieve that rating through the Ohio Department of Education reflecting the scores of the Ohio Achievement Assessment.

We have a couple new faces among our staff this year. I would like to welcome the following teachers to our school:

- Mrs. Christina McBride, First Grade
- Mrs. Stacie Lowery, Fourth Grade
- Mr. Brian Scherzer, Art
- Mrs. Michelle Morris, Physical Education
- Ms. Meghan Michaels– Physical Education
- Mrs. Sandy Kimmel-6th grade Intervention Specialist.
- Mrs. Elizabeth Dennings– 6th grade– Art
- Mr. Thomas Buckley-6th grade Physical education



The Fremont City School District will not discriminate nor tolerate harassment in its educational programs or activities for any reason, including on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, military status, sexual orientation or ancestry. Additionally, it will not discriminate in its employment policies nor practices.

### DISTRICT 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

1. INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
2. CLOSE SOCIO-ECONOMIC, ETHNIC AND DISABILITY GAPS IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
3. BUILD HOPE, TRUST AND RESPECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Please read through the newsletter. The information will be helpful for a smooth transition to a start of a new school year and to keep you informed of our schools protocol. See page two for school arrival and dismissal procedures. There are a few other things I would like to emphasize:

**Entering the school:** Parents and visitors must sign in at the office and get a visitors badge at all times when entering the school to visit a classroom. We ask that you do not walk your child to their rooms in the morning; we are encouraging independence for our students. We also ask that you wait outside the building at dismissal time to pick-up your child. This is to ensure the safety of all students.

**Arrival of Students:** Students are not to be on the school premises before 8:45 a.m. There is absolutely no supervision until that time.

**Dismissal:** When it is raining outside students being picked up will be inside the gym area. You must come to the back of the gym area by the playground to pick up your child. Please do not use the front door.

**Teacher Visits:** We ask that you call the school to make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher or to visit the classroom. Many times in the morning the teachers are preparing for the day and it can be difficult to ensure that you receive the attention that you deserve.

If at any time you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call our office at 419-332-5361.

Yours in education,

Mrs. McNulty

**TIPS FOR ARRIVAL AND PICK-UP AT ATKINSON**

**ARRIVAL**

Students should not arrival to school before **9:00**. Students who eat breakfast may come into the cafeteria at **8:40**. All other students should be on the playground. No students should be entering the building before **8:40** unless they are eating breakfast.

**DISMISSAL**

Dismissal time for students who get picked up by car is **3:35 p.m.** It is important that we utilize Collinwood as a one-way street and exit on Pennsylvania St. Please pull up to the curb in front of the school. We will escort your child to you. Do not leave your car unattended as we would like the traffic to flow smoothly along the curb. We will **NOT** release any children to parents parked in the street. This is for your child's safety. Please be patient as we take a few extra minutes to ensure their safety. All walkers and bus riders are dismissed at **3:45 p.m.** Also, to be in compliance with state law, all cars and busses parked near our schools must not have motors running for more than five minutes while dropping off or picking up students. Your cooperation is appreciated.



**Entering the Building**

Upon entering the building, please stop in the office, sign in and take a visitors badge. Before you leave, please sign out and return the visitor badge. This is an important part of our security plan.

**Parent Waiting Area**

One area in the building has been established for parents to wait for their children. This area is in front of the glass showcase inside of the front entrance. This will help to eliminate traffic in the hallways and maintain a secure building for our students. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**SCHOOL FEES**

For all elementary students are **\$35.00**  
 Payments can be made in the school office  
 Make checks payable to:  
*Fremont City Schools*



**ABSENCES AND LEAVING EARLY**

School hours are from 9:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. There is a strong correlation between good school attendance and academic success. Please make every effort to make sure your child is in attendance regularly to receive the full benefit of school. Students will be considered tardy/late to school if they are not in their classroom at 9:15. If you know your child will be out of school due to illness or any type of absence, please call the office at 419-332-5361 before 9:30 a.m. Anyone picking up or dropping off a student during school hours needs to sign them in/out in the office. A note from the custodial parent needs to be sent to school in the morning if the child will be leaving during school hours.

## Disaster Drills



The safety of each and every one of the students and staff attending Fremont City Schools is a top priority each and every day. Each building principal is required to assemble a safety team made up of building staff that meets on a regular basis to discuss safety issues affecting the building, such as locking doors and windows, drill schedules, or lockdown procedures. Each school year, the buildings are to conduct a fire drill for every month of attendance, a tornado drill in September and during each month of tornado season (March through May), and a safety drill (lockdown) each month of the school year. The September fire drill must be conducted within the first ten days of each new school year. A bomb threat drill must also be conducted in September and April. All buildings are required to conduct a building evacuation drill on an annual basis, if not more. During these drills, all students and staff walk to their designated evacuation site and simulate how students will be safely supervised and held until parents or guardians can sign for their release. Evacuations would only occur in situations when building occupancy would be of high risk, such as a bomb threat or chemical spill. It is the goal of Fremont City Schools to keep all students in school everyday focused on academics, but if and when emergencies occur, each building staff will be ready to protect all students. We appreciate the cooperation of all parents and guardians in understanding the need for drill practice and reinforcing the district safety procedures. For further details or if you have any questions about any of the safety drills, please contact your building principal(s).

### PTO News ....

PTO would like to welcome all returning and new families back from summer vacation. We have lots of exciting things planned throughout the school year, so be sure to read the newsletters & flyers and don't miss out. Our officers have changed this year:



Mrs. Beth Kidwell—President

Mrs. Jodi Laird—Vice President

Mrs. Dawn Horn—Treasurer

Tuesday Oct. 4, 2011, will be our next PTO meeting in the school library at 6:00 p.m. We encourage and welcome all parents/guardians to come and be a part!

The Fall Fundraiser will start on September 9th and runs through September 26th.

The profits from this and ALL PTO events go towards fieldtrips, assemblies, fitness awards, walking club, Donuts for Dads, Muffins for Moms, Safety Patrol Pizza party, Honors reception & awards, take home folders and much more.

### AlertNow SYSTEM

Keeping parents informed is a top priority of Fremont City Schools. *AlertNow* is an online service allowing Fremont City Schools to contact parents when school is cancelled, for 2-hour delays, rescheduled athletic events, or other important information. Forms are available in the office if you need to update your phone information. You can be alerted through voice messages, email and/or text messages.




**BUILDING HOPE, TRUST & RESPECT WITH THE COMMUNITY**

**TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR KIDS HEALTHY**

- ◆ Teach your children to wash their hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub. You can set a good example by doing this yourself.
- ◆ Teach your children not to share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils, and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues. Covering up their coughs or sneezes using the elbow, arm or sleeve instead of the hand when a tissue is unavailable.
- ◆ Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. Symptoms of the flu include fever, cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- ◆ Keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.

Please call me with any questions, Connie Close RN your school nurse 419-217-4070



**AKINSON SCHOOL PICTURE DAY**

School Picture Day at Atkinson is scheduled for Friday, September 9th. **Students must wear their school uniforms for picture day.** Watch for flyers and ordering envelopes to come home. Payment is required at the time portraits are taken. OSP Photography will be taking our portraits this year.

**Parent Expectation Meeting Dates**  
**Held in your child's classroom**  
 Meetings last approx. 1/2 hour

Thursday, September 29 at 4:30 p.m.	Kindergarten
Tuesday, September 27 at 4:30 p.m.	First Grade
Monday, September 12 at 4:00 p.m.	Second Grade
Tuesday, September 13 at 4:30 p.m.	Third Grade
Monday, September 19 at 5:30 p.m.	Fourth Grade
Thursday, September 15 at 4:30 p.m.	Fifth Grade
Monday, September 12 at 4:30 p.m.	Sixth Grade

**LEGO Club**  
 Kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 10:00 – 11:30 am

Birchard Public Library's LEGO Club will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month during the school year. Bring your imaginations and we'll supply the LEGOS.

*A different theme will be chosen each month.  
 One LEGO creation will be selected each month for display.*

**First two meetings**  
 September 10<sup>th</sup> & October 8<sup>th</sup>

Please call 419-334-7101 ext. 209 to register  
 Or Register online at:  
[www.birchard.lib.oh.us](http://www.birchard.lib.oh.us)

**Pizza & Pages Club**  
 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
 4:00-4:45 p.m.

*An after school book club, featuring good books and good eats, will meet once a month October through April.*

**Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
 Pizza & Pages starts again  
 Books are available upon registration and may be picked up at the children's department.

Please call 419-334-7101 ext. 209 to register  
 Or Register online at:  
[www.birchard.lib.oh.us](http://www.birchard.lib.oh.us)