

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

News about the Fremont Middle School Project

During the month of February the FCS Board of Education approved the construction document phase of the FMS project. The Board of Education plans to vote on the prime contractors on April 5th during the regularly scheduled Board meeting. Did you know the following facts about the FMS project?



- The new FMS will be approximately 126,000 square feet.
- The new building will house students in grades 6-8.
- The wing facing North Street will have three stories (one story for each grade level).
- Each floor will house three core teaching teams of students and each team will have its own classrooms, restrooms, lockers and extended learning area.
- The gymnasium has an 84' x 50' regulation size court that allows for two teaching courts with a divider curtain. The gymnasium will seat 650 guests.
- The cafeteria will seat 450 and houses an 1800 square foot stage.
- The average classroom size is 810 square feet.
- A traffic study was completed and recommendations were considered by the traffic subcommittee comprised of school personnel, city officials, police officers, community members and Fanning-Howey architects.
- The traffic subcommittee created a safe plan for dropping off/picking up students and parking for buses, staff, students and visitors for both the new middle school and existing high school.
- The new FMS will have a comprehensive security system that includes cameras and outside door "buzz-in" systems.
- The HVAC committee selected chilled beam which is an energy cost-efficient low-maintenance HVAC system.
- The new FMS is currently ranked as a platinum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building.
- The building will be completed during the 2011-2012 school year.

For more information please contact Dr. McCaudy at 419.334.5432 or visit the district's website.

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

On February 22, 2010, the Fremont City Schools Board of Education approved a new dress code policy for students in grades K-12 to be effective at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. Letters were mailed to all parents of students currently in grades K-11. The new dress code policy is also available in all school offices and on the district's website: www.fremontschools.net.



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Alumni News

Please visit our school website at www.fremontschools.net to register for our new Online Community alumni database. Click on the alumni tab and the register link, once you are registered you will have access to update your online directory profile, view your personalized MyPage area including a sampling of recent class notes posted, and to add your own class/reunion notes.

While registering you will also have the opportunity to update your information with clubs/athletics you were involved in while at Ross. We now have a Facebook page, please join us.

If you have any reunion information you would like posted on the district website, please email us at alumni@fremont.k12.oh.us



Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

Acappella Academics at Washington



On Friday, February 5th, the students at Washington Elementary School were treated to a lesson of a different nature. The BGSU Ensemble, part of the university's music program, presented a Black History Timeline in song. It was not simply history through song. Colorfully narrated pieces were interwoven with short choreographed performances, historical accounts, and beautifully strong voices that captivat-

ed even the youngest audience members. Dressed all in black and using very few props, the vocalists – all who are students at Bowling Green State University – transformed the Washington gymnasium into a plantation, a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, a Detroit radio station in the 1950's, and a stage spotlighting Marvin Gaye. The morning's lesson did not end with the melodious performance.

At the conclusion of the acting, dancing, and singing, each of the performers discussed their current educational coursework and the degree they are working toward. The BGSU students, who ranged from juniors in an undergraduate program to those who will complete their Master's Degree this May, shared their dream jobs or careers. With the talent displayed and goals of becoming a History teacher, an opera singer, a music teacher, and a vocal coach for inner-city youth, everyone can learn from the lessons of history, passion, and of the journey through life these individuals share from their hearts.

Curriculum Corner

Music In Our Schools Month

The National Association for Music Education has designated March as **Music In Our Schools Month**. The study of music contributes to young people's development through heightened skills in listening, reading, self-expression and creativity. Music education in our schools includes a broad range of types of music and active musical experiences. On February 13, Fremont Ross High School competed in the Ohio Music Educators Association District Two Solo and Ensemble Event. Our district was well represented with fifteen students in the orchestra, five solos and three ensembles. The high school students were rated either superior or excellent. Students begin to develop their musical abilities early. All of Fremont City Schools' music teachers contribute to their education and we appreciate their talents that they share with our students.

Youth Art Month

The study of art contributes to young people's development of self-esteem, appreciation of the work of others, self-expression, cooperation with others, and learning skills. Fremont City Schools supports a strong curriculum in art which includes a broad range of types of art and active art experiences. The Ohio Art Education Association has designated March as **Youth Art Month**. In celebration a Youthful Arts Gala has been planned for March 21 at the Fremont Recreation Center featuring elementary students reading poems, playing the recorder and displayed artwork. On March 27 at 5:00, the Bethesda Arts Council is sponsoring Broth Bowl & Bid Banquet feature a nature themed ceramic bowl auction. Contact Ellen Shawl at Ross High for further details. It is with appreciation to our art teachers that we honor them in March.

Atkinson Learns with Love

On Friday, February 12, 2010, the first-graders at Atkinson Elementary School had more to celebrate than Valentine's Day. In the afternoon all of the first grade students gathered in the cafeteria for the wedding ceremony of letters Q and U. Students from each of the three classes shared a part as attendants in the wedding. The vows were said as Q and U promised to stand side by side and make words together with the /qu/ sound. Following the ceremony, gifts made by each of the first grade classes were presented to Mr. Q and Mrs. U. Mrs. Yoder's class made a "QU" guest book with all of the "qu" words, Mrs. Buckley's class made cards from the "qu" words and included a quarter in each card, and Mrs. Davlin's class made a quilt using "qu" words on each quilt block. The students also celebrated with phonics dancing to a "Letter Blends" and "Compound Words" song and cut and ate a specially decorated "QU" wedding cake.



In the first grade classrooms at Atkinson, we have been using the "Phonics Dance" to chant many of the common letter combinations such as: qu, or, sh, th, wh, ch, ing, ed, ang, ong, ar, ir, er, and ur. By doing so this gives the students a song in their head to remember the sounds each letter combination makes. Knowing the sounds that certain letters make when they are paired together will help the student's better sound out words they are unsure of when reading.

By: Mrs. Buckley, Mrs. Davlin and Mrs. Yoder

Valentines+Math= Lutz Success



The fourth graders in Mr. Jarrett and Mrs. Madell's classes at Lutz Elementary recently used the Valentines' Day holiday as an opportunity to have some fun with their math skills. They were each given a box of candy hearts to practice some math skills they have learned this year. The students used them to estimate and to measure. They classified them in many different ways, and then used their groups of colored hearts to make

graphs. Finally, as a culminating activity they were able to enjoy eating them.

By: Rod Jarrett and Julie Madell

Open Enrollment

Beginning April 1, 2010 and continuing through April 30, 2010 we will be accepting open enrollment applications for the 2010-2011 school year. If you live outside of Fremont and wish to enroll your child/children in Fremont City Schools please contact any school for an application or call 419-334-5436. Once the application is completed return to Fremont Board of Education office at 1220 Cedar Street, Suite A. If you have any questions about Open Enrollment contact Christine Opelt at 419-334-5433.

FMS Helps Those in Need

The Fremont Middle School family has been working hard to help those less fortunate as well as those who are dealing with certain health issues.

So far this year, the students have helped out the Food Pantry by having two different food drives. The Easter Seals benefited from the sale of the Happy Harvest Coupon booklets in the fall. At Christmas time, Toys for Tots saw boxes of toys brought in, as well as cash to purchase toys, for the Marines to use for families

going through tough times. Cystic Fibrosis saw that the Middle School has a heart with the "Have a Heart – Buy a Heart" Campaign.

Most recently, a paper drive to benefit the Liberty Center was held. Students were being asked to bring in paper products to be donated to the shelter.

The students will be getting a math lesson during the month of March when they see just how quickly that change adds up when donating to help out the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society during the Pennies for Patients Campaign.

Way to go Fremont Middle School students! Your generosity towards helping others is exceptional!



Danielle Osborn and Reghan Hinline pose with the items collected.

Otis welcomes counseling intern

There has been a new face, Miss Fillmore a student counseling intern from Bowling Green State University, at Otis elementary school since January. Miss Fillmore has been getting to know the students by assisting the school counselor Mrs. Hatfield. She is also teaching Cooperation and Anti-Bullying lessons to all grades and is conducting organizational skills groups for 5th and 6th graders. Her main focus is collecting data from the bully surveys that she passed out to the 4th and 5th graders in order to come up with some helpful intervention ideas.

Positive Choices: A Good First Step Begins with "Second Step"

The Guidance Department is working within our schools to provide proactive supports so each student can build positive friendships and avoid bullying.

The Second Step program has been implemented in Kindergarten classes at Hayes, Lutz and Otis Elementary Schools this year and will be used in each elementary building next year. The school counselor makes weekly visits teaching the Second Step lessons using puppets, photo discussion cards and music that are part of the program materials. Some of the puppets include Impulsive Puppy and Slow Down Snail who help the students learn how to make friends with others. The Second Step Program is based on a foundation of empathy, impulse control, problem-solving and emotions management. The overall goal is to promote good character, create a caring classroom with mutual respect and foster self-motivation. The guidance counselors are involved with other activities from K- 12 which will be shared in future articles on this topic.

Character Counts at Croghan

The Lunch Bunch was implemented this year at Croghan School in an effort to show hospitality to the Croghan Community. Over 160 parents, grandparents, and friends of students visited our school during the lunch hours of 11:15- 1pm. The family members were able to purchase or bring lunch for the student and enjoy time with them during the lunch hours. After each lunch period students were able to visit the book fair and/or have recess with the guests. The event turned out to be a great success! Please join us next year for the "Lunch Bunch" at Croghan School; the more the merrier!



NAACP Oratorical Contest Winners

Twenty one students in grades 1-12 participated in the NAACP annual Oratorical Contest on February 18, 2010. Thank you to everyone that both organized and participated in the contest. The winners of each division are listed below:

Primary Division: First-Elizabeth Halbisen; Second-Reagan Reau; Third-Rayin Jordan
Elementary Division: First-Shawndrae Koch; Second-Berlin Swaisgood; Third-Aiyana Longoria

Intermediate Division: First-Riara Holland (tie) and Paige Turner (tie); Second-Ally Guyton; Third-Sarai Perez

Middle School Division: First-Marquis Crawford

High School Division: First-Malcolm Leake



Stamm Thanks Volunteers

Martha Hall is one of many volunteers at Stamm. Martha volunteers her time almost every Monday morning with first grade students. She listens to students read, helps with special projects, makes word ring cards, works with students who need a little more help with math or handwriting or any other task that the first grade teachers give her. We have other volunteers who do things such as listen to students read, read to students, make crocheted bookworm book marks for each first grader, and one who comes dressed in character as Zero the Hero for the 100th Day of school. We at Stamm School thank all of the community members who support our students, teachers and school.



By Susan Myers
1st grade teacher

Hayes-Small Group Intervention

Small intervention groups are utilized at Hayes Elementary in order to intervene early and give students immediate and necessary intervention in language arts. Hayes has a Schoolwide Title I program allowing any of the students to receive Title I intervention. Students are evaluated using a variety of tests from the current reading series, as well as the OAA test, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment-Language test throughout the year to help determine which students need intervention. The Title teachers use the Strategic Intervention portion of the reading series during the small group or one-on-one sessions, and sometimes provide in-class intervention during teacher-directed whole class lessons. Intervention progress is monitored and documented so that students move in and out of the focused groups when adequate progress is made. Currently students in kindergarten through third grade receive Title I intervention. Hopefully through these measures we will be producing not only proficient readers, but children who appreciate literature and LOVE to read!



Safety is a Top Priority



One of the values of Fremont City Schools is to assure for the safety of each and every one of our students. This priority is evident in the many safety trainings conducted throughout the year among the grade levels. For example, the Fremont Police Department collaborates with the district to provide DARE training to all of our sixth grade students. Recently, all elementary students were exposed to ice safety training that was provided by the Coast Guard. A comprehensive safety training program will be expanded for future trainings, such as Stranger Danger, Bike Safety, and Railroad Safety. As necessary trainings become evident, those too will be integrated into the district safety calendar.

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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

Learning and Liberty Foundation Students-of-the-Month

3rd Grade
(pictured left to right)
Atkinson -
MaKennah Fitzgerald
Otis - Emily Morris
Lutz - Taivon Agnew
Hayes -
Deshea Pettiford
Croghan - David Boda
Stamm - Chloe Roosen
Washington -
Dennis Pence, Jr.



4th Grade
(pictured left to right):
Hayes - Noah Massie
Atkinson -
Charlotte Whitney
Washington -
Alyssa Fuller
Lutz - Hannah Kelly
Croghan -
Janna Sutton
Otis - Nathan Willis
Stamm -
Ashley Dodson



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.