

# Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

April  
2014

## Calamity Day Update

As of March 31, 2014, schools have been closed due to inclement weather fourteen (14) days this school year. The State of Ohio currently allows districts to use five (5) calamity days without penalty. Recently, legislators approved an additional four (4) days for this year only, and the district is utilizing "blizzard bags" which gives us an extra three (3) days. Simply put, the district will now need to make up two (2) days due to inclement weather. Our revised last day of school information is listed below.

Please note that if there are any additional inclement weather days, this calendar will need to be revised again.

### Last Day of School Information

#### Fremont City Schools

Seniors: May 28, 2014      Mandatory Graduation Practice: May 30, 2014  
Grades K-11: June 3, 2014  
Preschool: June 3, 2014

#### Vanguard-Sentinel Career & Technology Centers

Students will make up days on April 21, May 29 and May 30, 2014.  
The last day of school for VSCTC students is May 30, 2014.

Sincerely,

*Traci McCaudy*

Dr. Traci McCaudy  
Superintendent

**Start Talking!**   
*Building a Drug-Free Future*



Sponsored by The Link  
(Leaders Influence & Nurture Kids)

On Tuesday, April 22, 2014, ALL parents, students and community members are invited to attend Parents360 Rx at Fremont Middle School from 7-8p. Parents360 Rx is a program designed to share information to parents and other concerned citizens about the real dangers of medicine abuse and the actions that can be taken to prevent and respond to it. Everyone who attends will be able to watch and discuss a video called 'Parents360: Rx' that was created by The Partnership at Drugfree.org. Please mark your calendars to attend this informational program!

### Strong Academics

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**Class Reunion? If your Ross  
graduating class will be having a  
reunion this summer and you are  
interested in a tour of any school  
district facilities,  
please contact the  
Superintendent's Office  
at 419-334-5432.**

**Strong  
Academics + Strong  
Character = Strong  
Community**

## Team Terra at FMS

Academics are an important area we strive to succeed in. Team Terra regularly sets incentives for students who are excelling academically. This trimester, our incentive was a "Recess Reward". Students with no failing grades and no missing work were allowed to participate. The recess reward was given to eligible students during their Giant Time. Students brought music, played basketball, and talked with their peers. Those that did not complete the requirements remained in the classroom to finish missing work or to correct assignments.



Team Terra believes that academic success is essential to the success of our students' lives. We provide incentives and other rewards to encourage student achievement. Many of our students have grown tremendously since last year. Some of them have even commented proudly on their achievements. While our students work for trimester rewards, the teachers on Team Terra enjoy watching the repercussions, such as self-confidence, independence, and pride that seem to come as a result of their successes. For this reason, academic growth will continue to be one of our team's goals this year. With academic achievement comes personal growth and responsibility that our students will use for the remainder of their lives.



A collaborative effort between local business agencies, county parks, hospitals, the health department, schools and recreation centers to create a healthier Sandusky County.

In April the **GO** program will begin throughout the county. After determining the need for a collaborative effort to combat obesity and increase the overall wellness of the county, local organizations have come together to create a movement for movement. Over 15,000 participation cards will be going out to children at area schools. The participation cards will have instructions on how to participate along with a punch card. There are 10 spots to receive a punch by participating in a local health and wellness activity. Once the card is complete, the participant will then turn it in at a participating location for a chance to win 1 of **50 prizes**.

Although the cards are going out through the schools, this program is open for everyone and anyone of all ages. Seniors and adults are encouraged to participate as well and can receive their punch card at a participating location. Participate as a family or create some friendly competition in your office. For more information please call 419-334-5906, email [mbauman@fremontohio.org](mailto:mbauman@fremontohio.org) or visit <http://alwayschoosehealth.com/>.

## Reciprocal Teaching at Otis

What strategies do you use to comprehend text? Ask third graders in Mrs. Lozano's Title I program and they will tell you they have learned four important strategies: predict, ask questions, clarify, and summarize. These four strategies help students monitor their reading comprehension. According to the creators of reciprocal teaching, Palincsar and Brown (1986), this powerful teaching technique is especially effective when incorporated as an intervention for struggling readers. During literature circles, students take on the roles of the predictor, questioner, clarifier, and summarizer as they construct together the meaning of a text while deepening their understanding of the four strategies. How do the students feel about reciprocal teaching? "It helps me to remember what I read" and "It's a fun way to learn because we use props" and "We get to talk about what we read!" Pictured left to right: Cayden Wood, Gabe Elder, Alexis Burmeister and Ashton Lehmann Submitted by: Melba Lozano



## The Croghan Academy Earns an A+



The Fremont City Schools adopted The Common Core State Standards to raise the bar for what K-12 students need to learn to better prepare them for college and careers. Croghan School has provided the opportunity for all students to learn and practice the tools they will need to succeed in mastering these standards by providing specialized small group tutoring in the Croghan Academy. Croghan School was very fortunate to secure Brenda Fritz, a top-notch teacher, for the 2013-2014 Croghan Academy. The Focus Academy students enjoy the opportunity to work in small groups and succeed in the goals they have set. Parents and teachers alike have commented about the results of the quality learning that takes place daily at Croghan Elementary School! **CROGHAN JETS SOAR TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS!** Fourth Graders Pictured with Brenda Fritz: Front: Noah Bork and Isaac Garza Back: Braynan Gonzalez and Sanaa Conley Submitted by: Linda Overstreet

## Think about Eligibility...NOW

As students enter into the final grading period of the 2013-2014 school year, it is important to remember the academic success or shortcomings experienced during this time will directly impact a child's athletic eligibility for the Fall of 2014. In order for a current high school student to maintain their athletic eligibility through the summer, they will need to carry and pass a minimum of 5 ½ credit courses.

In addition, each student will need to carry a 1.5 GPA for the fourth grading period as well as receive no more than one failing grade. Students at the middle school will be required to maintain a 1.5 GPA during their final trimester as well as receiving passing grades in five of their classes.

It is also important to remember for all students, in both the high school as well middle school, the final grading period will determine their eligibility for the fall – summer school work does not count towards a student's athletic eligibility.

**View video clips of our Fremont City Schools students...**

## Athletic Signings



Many Fremont Ross Seniors are continuing on their legacy in college.

Senior, Louis Guardiola signed his letter of intent to Toledo University for their cross country team (pictured at left with his parents).

Jared Ballenger, a senior thrower for the men's track team has committed to throw for The Ohio State University. Jared has broken many school records and has competed at the state meet. Earlier in the year, Jared placed second at the indoor state competition.

Senior wrestler, Peyton Geary, has signed with Wheeling Jesuit in West Virginia. Peyton went to state as a junior and finished in third place in his weight class for the conference this year. He also finished his Ross wrestling career with over 100 victories.

Megan Hawk, a swimmer for the girls swim team, committed to swim for John Carol

for the next four years. Megan was a part of back to back TRAC championship team for the girls swim team. She also competed at this year's state swim meet.

"It's exciting. They are starting a whole new chapter in their lives. They are very committed, academically and athletically. The sky's the limit for them, and they will represent our community and school very well," Fremont Ross Athletic Director Chad Berndt said. Written by: Andy Mapus, Fremont Ross journalism student

## Stepping Into Character at Stamm

Once again this year at Stamm Elementary, the fifth graders had the opportunity to "walk in someone else's shoes" as they chose a famous African American to study and portray in the annual Wax Museum. On March 7<sup>th</sup> the students stepped into character to portray their person of study for visitors like their fellow Stamm students, parents, and community members. This project not only took the students through the research and writing process, but allowed them to learn about the life characteristics and qualities that made their person a positive influence on American history. Our project began with a visit to Birchard Public Library where research skills and tips for using the library and its website were discussed. For some, this field trip was a first-time experience learning about the wonderful resources available at the public library. Throughout the writing process, the students learned about how to use index cards for note-taking, and how to outline their information for their rough drafts. We also discussed the importance of revising and editing to make sure their information was presented clearly. Many of the students showed an improvement in work ethic as they worked to meet the deadlines given for the writing process. Next, the students had to "step" into character and craft a speech from first person point of view to perform at the museum. Many students found that they had built confidence and self-esteem as they took notes and then memorized their speech to practice in front of the class before taking on their new personality on March 7<sup>th</sup>. As fifth graders, they have had an opportunity to experience public speaking and feel successful in their new "shoes". Submitted by: Nichole Almroth



## Students of the Month

In an effort to recognize young boys and girls who are positive influences for their classmates and community, The Learning and Liberty Foundation of Fremont City Schools and Old Fort Bank are pleased to announce their 2014 fourth and fifth grade student of the month winners.

### Fourth Grade

Pictured left to right: Front: Reva Myers, daughter of Danielle Young, Otis Elementary; Nicholas Pearson, son of Doug and Maribeth Pearson, Croghan Elementary;

Lethi Molina, daughter of George and Tammy Molina, Stamm Elementary  
Back: Erin Burrier, daughter of Kristen Taylor/Gilmore Burrier, Atkinson Elementary; Skylar Fisher, daughter of Jeff and Doris Fisher, Hayes Elementary; Alayna Pemberton, daughter of Joe and Carey Pemberton, Lutz Elementary Not pictured: Dean Hetrick, son of Chris and Heather Hetrick, Washington Elementary



### Fifth Grade

Pictured left to right: Front: Marizza Cortez, daughter of Angelica Cortez, Otis Elementary; Emmalee Crispin, daughter of Kristen Tyree, Atkinson Elementary; Rachel Haitonic, daughter of Amy Haitonic, Hayes Elementary Back: Marcela Perez, daughter of Jose and Lucia Perez, Lutz Elementary; Rebecca Jahns, daughter of Eric and Tammy Jahns, Washington Elementary; Jeremiah Hill, son of Brandi Trautman, Croghan Elementary; Idella Herbst, daughter of Marie Herbst, Stamm Elementary



## Character Counts at Hayes

Hayes Elementary students know character counts! Every month teachers nominate students who have demonstrated good character to be Star Cubs at Hayes Elementary. Star Cubs are kids who have been caught practicing the character word of the month in their classroom. The Star Cubs have their picture taken and put up on the main bulletin board in the hallway. A postcard is mailed home recognizing their star quality behavior and a parent letter with a pencil is sent home to acknowledge their good choices. As of March, over 125 kids have been nominated at Hayes! Pictured are first grade students; front row, left to right: Dominic Palomo and Laylan Massie. Back row, left to right: Kenadie Patch, Nisiela Garcia and Katie Berger. Other students awarded this month are 2<sup>nd</sup> graders: Kayliyah Peyton and Taniessya Keyes; 3<sup>rd</sup> graders: Israel Martinez, Chakara Lopez, Katelyn Otiz, Holly Mong, Kamri Sanchez and Max Ortiz; 4<sup>th</sup> graders: Evelyn Roa and Alana Smith and 5<sup>th</sup> graders: NaLynn Damschroder and Yulma Toledo.



## Welcome Interim Treasurer, Jim Estle

Jim Estle will serve as the district's Interim Treasurer and began working with the district on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Estle will remain with the district until the FCS Board of Education selects a permanent Treasurer. David Chambers, the district's former Treasurer, took a position as Treasurer with Medina City Schools. Fremont City Schools wishes Mr. Chambers the best with his new school district and thanks him for his service to the district.

Visit [www.fremontschools.net](http://www.fremontschools.net) and Click on Communications

## Washington Chili Festival

Washington Elementary School's 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Festival Fundraiser was a huge success again this year, thanks to our community members, area businesses, Washington PTO, families, students, and staff. Third grade students wrote and mailed letters to 26 local businesses, asking if they were able to donate to the fundraiser, and then waited excitedly for the response postcards to arrive. Many businesses included personalized notes to the students with their donations, putting lots of smiles on the young faces. This collaborative community effort helped raise funds to continue to provide many quality extras to the students' educational experience at Washington Elementary. Sandi Bowen, owner of Sandi's Village Café in Lindsey, hands 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, Amarah Longoria, her donation for the festival.



## Atkinson Learns about Fremont



The kindergarteners in Mrs. Durell's class have been working hard learning about our place in the Fremont community. Our goal is to understand that individuals have shared responsibilities toward the achievement of common goals in homes, schools and the community.

During our community unit we have made charts showing the jobs we do at home, school and around our neighborhood to help make Fremont a nicer place to live. The students were excited that even as a kindergartener they had a responsibility to keep their community clean and safe. We

continue to talk about jobs we can have as we grow older to help our neighborhoods and friends.

We were fortunate that during our community unit Mr. Cook, from Fremont Memorial Hospital, came and read/sang with us the book *The Neighborhood Sing-Along* by Nina Crews. The students loved singing songs like: Take Me Out to the Ballgame, If You're Happy and You Know It, The Wheels on the Bus and I've Been Working on the Railroad. We will continue learning about our community and look forward to other community members coming to tell us about their jobs in our community and perhaps to read us their favorite book too. Pictured: Mr. Cook reading to Mrs. Durell's Kindergarten class.

## Lutz Students Really Make a Difference

Lutz Elementary students love helping their community. The Make a Difference Club is currently making flowers to send to a local nursing home or hospital to help brighten someone's day. This year, we donated over 1,000 food items to the food pantry, bought Christmas presents for a local family, raised money for the American Heart Association, donated hats and scarves to those in need, made blankets for the Liberty Center, made Veteran's Day cards for our local veterans, made snowmen card holders and sang carols for residents at Parkview Care Center and made Christmas cards for area shut-ins. The Lutz Make a Difference Club also collects pop tabs for the Shrine Hospitals. If you have any pop tabs that you would like to donate, please contact our office. The students at Lutz take pride in their community and love helping others. Pictured left to right are fifth graders: Brynn Ruppert, Madison Gallagher and Joseph Lee



## Safe Routes to Schools:

### A Partnership between the City of Fremont and Fremont City Schools

The Safe Routes to Schools grant application has been submitted to the Ohio Department of Transportation. If funded, Fremont will receive approximately \$400,000 for additional sidewalks, school zone beacons, speed feedback signs, pedestrian crossing signage with countdown times and newly painted crosswalks around the Atkinson, Croghan, Hayes, Otis, Stamm and FMS school communities. Additionally, all students in grades K-8 will be provided additional bicycle/walking safety programming and recreational opportunities. The goal of the Safe Routes to Schools program is to create ways for children to travel safely to and from their schools. Additionally, the program aims to increase the physical activity of its children, thus improving the overall wellness of students as well as staff and community members. Thank you to the FCS Board of Education, Fremont City Council and Mayor Ellis for supporting this program. A special thank you to the Safe Routes to School Committee members for developing the School Travel Plan and preparing the grant applications: Tom Anway, Bill Burkett, Maricela Chavez, David Cope, Tim Cullen, John Davoli, Shana Donaldson, Tucker Frederickson, Joan Gamble, Ruth Gegorski, Stacey Gibson, Steve Gruner, Rebecca Holland, Bob Kusmer, Mae Dell Leake, Dr. Traci McCaudy, Rick Myers, Don Nalley, Rev. Daniel Orr, Denise Reiter, Sara Sherick, Drew Solander, Dan Waggoner, Chief Tim Wiersma, Erica Williams and Ann Wise.



## EARTH DAY LITTER PICK-UP AT THE CFNP

### CELEBRATE EARTH DAY THROUGH SERVICE

Join the Christy Farm Nature Preserve Board of Trustees, Eagle Bay District Boy Scouts, and Fremont City School District as they assist in picking up litter on the Christy Farm Nature Preserve and surrounding area.



SATURDAY,  
APRIL 26, 2014  
AT 9:30 AM

FREE LUNCH

FREE TREE

Meet at the CFNP  
Barn at 9:30 AM

WINTER IS OVER,  
GET OUTSIDE!

THECHRISTY FARM  
NATURE PRESERVE  
1900 Old Oak Harbor Rd.  
Fremont, Ohio  
(Behind Victory Church)

ChristyFarmNaturePreserve.org

