

Fremont City Schools



Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

Dear Fremont Community:

Happy New Year and welcome to 2017!

January is School Board Recognition Month and Fremont City Schools is joining districts throughout Ohio in recognizing the significant contributions school board members make in their communities. Our school district is appreciative of the countless volunteer hours our Board members contribute by attending district-level meetings, working on committees, developing policies, and attending school events.

Our school district is very fortunate to have five very dedicated, caring individuals serving on the Fremont City Schools Board of Education. I commend our Board Members for their collaborative efforts in order to make Fremont City Schools an exemplary school district for our children.

Please join me in thanking our FCS Board for their commitment to our children's education.

Sincerely,

Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent

Welcome New Board of Education Member

Fremont City Schools welcomes Thomas Price to the Board of Education. Mr. Price is co-owner of The Cookie Lady, Inc. and his wife, Tia, is a second grade teacher at Croghan Elementary School. They have two children enrolled in Fremont City Schools.

Mr. Price replaces former Board Member, Scott Miller, who resigned due to his new position as a Sandusky County Commissioner. We welcome Tom to Fremont City Schools and thank Scott Miller for his service as a Board Member.

**School Boards:
Leading the way for Education**

Jolene Chapman

Alex Gorobetz

Maria D. Garza

Shantel Laird

Thomas Price

Thank you Board of Education Members!

School Board Recognition Month
January 2017

UPCOMING FCS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Please join us at an upcoming Board of Education Meeting:

February 6, 2017 • 5:30 p.m • Fremont Middle School

February 21, 2017 • 5:30 p.m • Fremont Middle School

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

Learners, Leaders and Loved



You may have noticed the sign at Hayes Elementary that reads, “Our students are Learners, Leaders, and Loved.” During the fall conferences, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students all had a chance to showcase their leadership skills of what they had learned as they led the conference. Students were in charge of all aspects of the conference as they were truly responsible and accountable for their work over the last few months. The students were responsible for inviting and introducing their parents to their teacher, reviewing their past work and setting future goals. 4th grade student Chad Fox reviews his schedule with his mom before presenting his work samples and data folder.

Young Gentlemen



The After School Program at Fremont Middle School has started teacher-led groups. Teachers were asked to choose an activity that they enjoy or are passionate about to share with a small group of students for a 5 week period on Tuesdays. One of our teacher-led groups is a “Gentleman’s Group.” Nick Doehr is teaching young men important life lessons. The first lesson was how to tie a tie. They were very excited, quick learners, and were anxious to demonstrate what they learned. They are looking forward to what Mr. Doehr has in store for them!

Making Music!

The fourth grade students at Otis School are working very hard learning to play the soprano recorder. These instruments have been a staple in the world of elementary music for many years. Believe it or not, these instruments, originally made of wood, were very popular over 900 years ago.

Today, we still use recorders to help students learn to read the notes of the treble clef staff as well as perform instrumentally what they are reading. This process is designed to help students prepare for band, orchestra and choir at the middle school and high school levels. This is where many of our Little Giant musicians got their start! This little instrument sparked just enough interest to convince students that the world of music was definitely something they wanted to pursue. I look forward to the future success of these young musicians.



Croghan's Third Graders Are Going Places!

The halls are looking extra festive in Croghan's 3rd grade hallway with a little international flair tied in. Students are having a "snowball" learning about holidays around the world and our hallway is adorned with snowmen representing various countries. Each day, students are given plane tickets to "fly" to various countries and are even able to view what it would look like from the airplane on the SMART Board!

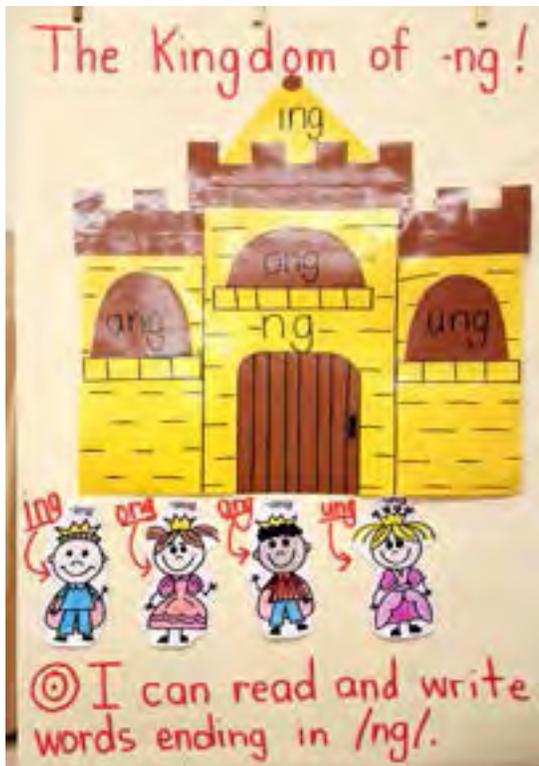
Pairs of students have chosen a specific country and are researching that country's holiday traditions. They are incorporating their research into a PowerPoint presentation that they will be sharing with the other third graders on a specially designated day. In addition to presenting and viewing the other third graders' presentations, they will be able to experience some authentic cuisine from the various countries being explored.

In closing, the third graders would like to say: Joyeux Noel! Feliz Navidad! Buon Natale! Frohe Weihnachten! Merry Christmas!



The Kingdom of "NG"

First graders at Atkinson have recently spent some time in the Kingdom of NG. While learning how to read and write words that end in -ng, students met some royalty in the kingdom. They learned about King ING, Queen ONG, Prince ANG, and Princess UNG. Each member of the Kingdom of NG makes a different sound because of the vowel that is in front of ng. Students learned a phonics dance chant to help them remember what each member says and also made crowns for the royalty they wanted to pretend they were. Students decorated the crown with words which had the same sound as the member of the kingdom they chose.



Learning to read and understanding all of the different sounds that help us to read can be a daunting task. The first grade teachers at Atkinson have discovered through training with Phonics First, an Orton Gillingham phonics approach, that using numerous senses help students to retain the sounds they see in words and help students become better decoders, which leads to better readers. We have implemented this approach in our teaching by incorporating, songs, movements, finger tap spelling, and sensory learning of word wall words. These



are activities where students are touching, hearing, feeling, smelling, and at times, tasting to help them learn. The main goal is to use activities where students are taking part in their learning.



LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Great Books Foster Lively Discussions

Junior Great Books (JGB) centers on the idea of using shared inquiry discussions to promote critical thinking and comprehension. It provides the students with the skills to dissect, find meaning, and explore new ideas and information found in their readings. To do this, the students read the story multiple times, each time with a set task to aid in better comprehension. The task varies depending on the story.

The students are then asked an interpretive question - a question with more than one PLAUSIBLE answer that is not found directly in the text. They are to answer the question citing evidence that makes sense to them.

Lastly, the teacher hosts a discussion where the students answer the interpretive question and multiple other cluster questions. (The teacher's role is simply to ask students to clarify their answer and facilitate cluster questions - no hand raising and no direct answering to the teacher...they just keep the discussion going using good manners). The cluster questions all focus on finding evidence from the text that makes sense to them, that may aid them in finding a better or different answer to the initial interpretive question.

The discussion ends up looking a little like a debate, where students can agree or disagree as long as they have sound reasoning for explaining their answer. A lot of their discussions end up being quite profound, and they often wind up changing their initial ideas about the story, or adding to them, based on the conversation with their peers.

The students focus one story at a time, but each story is connected to an overarching theme. In this instance, the students were wrapping up our theme of trust. They had read three stories that exemplified this in different ways. They had their three discussions. To make text to text connections and comparisons, the students were given the task to analyze the characters from all three stories. Their job was to find ways the characters demonstrated trust. This included things the characters said and did (actions and words). Once they found their examples, they were asked to create a "Super Character" of trust. They put together their super character by giving him actions and words that would demonstrate trust just like the characters from our story.



Addalyn Calhoun and Brenah Parker, grade 3 Lutz students in the Gifted and Talented Program.



2016 - 2017

2nd Quarter Insert



Modified Master Facilities Plan

Since September of 2015, residents of the Fremont City Schools District have been engaged in an open community conversation about school facilities. The conversations were designed to discuss the current conditions of the school facilities; the impact the conditions of those facilities has on teaching and learning; and the suggestions for addressing the deteriorating and outdated infrastructures.

The educational problems being generated by our current school facilities include lack of classroom technology due to inadequate electrical capacity, insufficient space for effective teaching and learning, hot and cold classroom temperatures that interrupt classroom instruction and health and safety issues due to poor ventilation, moisture and mold.

Based on the feedback from the community conversations, a Master Facilities Plan was developed and a 4.99 mill bond levy was placed on the General Election ballot. On November 8, 2016, the majority of voters rejected the bond levy. As a result, the poor conditions of the schools still exist and must be addressed by taking other actions.

After the election, the Fremont City Schools Board of Education sent a letter to every household in the community asking what they liked about the November 2016 Master Facilities Plan and what changes they would like the Board of Education to consider. Listed below is a summary of the recent survey results:

- More than half of survey responders (51%) stated they would support the November 2016 Master Facilities Plan.
- One out of three residents said that the November 2016 Master Facilities Plan included too many elementary buildings.
- There is widespread community support for eliminating the Washington site as a location for a new elementary building.
- Many residents also asked the Board of Education to eliminate some of the other costs to make the new Master Facilities Plan more cost effective.

On December 19, 2016, the Board of Education approved a modified Master Facilities Plan to place on the May 2, 2017 ballot. The proposed plan includes new elementary buildings at the Atkinson, Croghan, Lutz and Otis sites and a new Ross High School that includes an auditorium to accommodate the District's performing arts courses and extracurricular programming.

Based on the recent survey results, the District eliminated the new elementary building at Washington and the additional classroom space in all buildings. Simply put, the District will reduce the current number of elementary buildings from seven schools to four schools and taxpayers will not be asked to provide monies for extra space within the new buildings.

The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission will fund 49% of the total cost for the new elementary schools and Ross High School.

Additional information about the upcoming bond levy will be shared in the near future.

Fremont City Schools' Students and



Breaking f



The Sweet Feeling That Comes From Giving Back

A group of third, fourth, and fifth grade students at Lutz are learning to pay it forward this season and remembering that 'Tis The Season for giving. Many of the adults here at Lutz have made a difference in these student's lives over the years and they are giving back with homemade hot chocolate. The students in Ms. Lawrence's classroom actively make recipes once a week and this helps to engage them with reading as well as integrating daily living skills. The goal this particular week was to read and to follow the recipe to make crock pot hot chocolate, measure the temperature, and create cups filled with love. They then delivered the hot chocolate to their special Lutz adults like little elves and offered whipped cream or marshmallows.

NHS members take a break after ra citizens in the community through W Dylan Smith, Nate Mayle, Jacob Paxs are Mary Miller and Charlie Clark.



Middle School Youth Asset Team Earns and Gives!

The Youth Asset Team at FMS purchased gifts for Toys for Tots with the money they earned in a fundraiser!



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Inc. - Fremont
Masonry Serv
Flowers, Rota
County Board
College, Tire
Walters' Boile

Staff Give Back To The Community

from Raking



raking leaves this fall for several senior SOS. Members pictures left to right are [unclear], and Brianna Goodwin. Not pictured



A Warm Feeling From Giving

FCS District Office donated sweat shirts, sweat pants, gloves and flip flops to the Liberty Center. They also donated \$300 to help with daily costs.

The District hired the following local businesses for products/services

• October through December, 2016 •

are, Action Printing, Adkins Sanitation, Amerigas, Associated Buyers, B & Ballville EZ Shop, Bearing Distributors, Inc., Bel-Aire Cleaners, Bella Cosa, prints, Burkett Industries, Burmeister Bay Trophy, Bobby's Truck and Bus Repair, C&W Auto Supply, C.A. Kustoms, Crystal Arbors Catering, Celek Brothers factors, City of Fremont, Clark Associates, Inc., Color Haven Paint & Supply ctors Equipment Rental, Croghan Colonial Bank, Crown Battery, Crystal Arbors ark Online, Dollar Tree, Domino's Pizza, East of Chicago, Engler Printing, Famous Fastenal Company, Fortball Pizza Palace, Fremont Athletic Supply, Fremont Auto Parts, Fremont Candy & Fremont Cycle & Fitness, Fremont Fence, Fremont Floor Covering, Fremont UBO, Fremont Uniform Shoppe, ber Co., Healthlink, Hilty Office Supply, Jimmy G's BBQ, JMK Custom Creations, Kiwanis Club of Fremont, any, Kuns Northcoast Security, Liberty Center, Linke's Wheel Alignment, Little Caesars, Lowe's Company t, Madison Motors, McCormack Painting, Metrotex Textile Rental LLC, Nickel Paint & Supply, Northwestern ice, Otto & Urban Flower Shop, Papa Murphy's, Phaze I, The Party Starts Here, Post Net, Postmaster, Prairie ry Club of Fremont, Root's Poultry, Rural King, Sabroske Electric, Sandusky County Sanitary Engineer, Sandusky d of DD, Sandusky County Sheriff's Office, Sheets Supply, Sherwin Williams Paint, Terra State Community man, Trico Glass, U*New Tent Rental, Universal Farms LLC, Vanguard-Sentinel CTC, Vantage Athletics LLC, r Works, Westend Tire LLC, Whitey's Diner, Wilhelm Auto Parts, Woleslagel Moving, and WSOS.



THANK YOU FROM FREMONT CITY SCHOOLS

Thank You to the following community members, businesses and organizations for donating to Fremont City Schools from October through December 2016.

Hal & Diane Hawk	Cash for Payment of Charter Bus	Fremont Ross Athletic Department
Jen Bair	Cash	Fremont Ross High School
Roni Bliss	Misc. Campus Wear Items	Atkinson Elementary School
Croghan PTO	Cash towards purchase of Chromebooks & Cart	Croghan Elementary School
Palacio Maya Mexican Restaurant	Mexican Bread	Croghan Elementary School
Palacio Maya Mexican Restaurant	Lunch for Staff	Croghan Elementary School
Crown Battery Mfg Co	Cash	Fremont Ross Speech & Debate Team
Shetzer Insurance Agency	Cash	Fremont Middle School Magazine Fundraiser
Sandusky County Health Department	Playground Balls	Fremont City Schools Elementary Buildings
Rotary Club of Fremont	Books	Atkinson, Stamm & Washington Elementary Schools
Davis-Besse Rebecca Favro	100 Binders & Binder Clips	Lutz Elementary School
Otis PTO	Cash towards purchase of Mini iPads	Otis Elementary School
JR Lopez	Pinata	Stamm Elementary School
Kmart	8 cases of Bottled Water	Washington Elementary School
Christopher Hull Wards Foundation	Cash	Fremont Ross Athletic Department
Linda Camden	Coats, Hats & Gloves	Otis Elementary School
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2947	Hats & Gloves	Otis Elementary School
Bella Cosa Joe Wasserman	Wreath	Fremont City Schools District Office
SCORFA	Dictionaries & Thesauruses	Fremont City Schools Fourth Grade Students/Classrooms
Jimmy John's	Subs for Staff Members	Fremont Ross High School
Elabe & Goodwill	Cash	Fremont Ross High School Leadership Class
Judith Hill Memorial Fund	Cash	Atkinson Elementary School



Dr. Traci L. McCaudy
Superintendent
Amelia R. Gioffredo
Treasurer

Dr. Traci McCaudy To Retire July 31, 2017

Dr. Traci McCaudy, Superintendent of Fremont City Schools, will retire at the end of her current contract after eleven years of dedicated and successful service to the parents and children of Fremont, Ohio. Her final day as Superintendent will be July 31, 2017.

Alex Gorobetz, President of the Fremont Board of Education, praised McCaudy's leadership, work ethic and dedication to Fremont. "Dr. McCaudy's tenure as Superintendent of Fremont City Schools has been extraordinary. Inheriting a district which was in a constant state of "fiscal caution," Dr. McCaudy implemented many cost saving measures and difficult staff reductions, which resulted in financial solvency over an eleven year period of time, even in the face of numerous funding reductions from the state. Much of the savings has been subsequently invested in classroom instruction, resulting in much improved technological opportunities for students as well as up-to-date materials and curricula. She also implemented many school safety measures, drug prevention programs, a sensible dress code for students, many diverse learning opportunities for students and reasonable accountability standards for students and staff. During Dr. McCaudy's tenure, the district built a new middle school and achieved an "excellent" performance rating from the Ohio Department of Education. Dr. McCaudy made Fremont City Schools an integral part of the Fremont community, and her work and tireless efforts will be sorely missed."

Fremont City Schools has received state-wide recognition for its accomplishments during Dr. McCaudy's work in Fremont, including Certificates of Commendation on three occasions from the Ohio Department of Education and the Chamber of Commerce of Sandusky County Health and Wellness Award. Personally, she has been presented the prestigious Betsy M. Cowles Women in Leadership Award from the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and a Certificate of Recognition from the Ohio State Board of Education for receiving that award. She also earned the Northwest Region "Who's Who Excellence Award for Outstanding Leaders" from the Ohio School Boards Association.

Dr. McCaudy has been a featured presenter at state and regional conferences and serves on several state committees, including the BASA State Policy Committee, the State Superintendent's Advisory Committee and the Ohio Public School Advocacy Network Leadership Team.

She is also a member of the Fremont Rotary Club, co-chairs the Fremont Rotary STRIVE Program and serves on the Rotary Literacy Committee. McCaudy also is a member of Health Partners of Sandusky County and Sandusky County's Family and Children First Council. She is a past trustee of the Sandusky County Chamber of Commerce and actively participates in many local events and initiatives.

Dr. McCaudy's 31 year career in public education includes positions as an Intervention Specialist, Lead Teacher, Assistant Principal, Elementary and Middle School Building Principal, Executive Director of Strategic Planning and Programming and Superintendent of Schools.