

Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

FMS Project News

FMS Project News-Prime Contracts and Bid Requirements

The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) states that school districts must bid General Trades, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), Plumbing and Electrical as separate prime contracts. Additionally, our construction manager and Core Team members recommended that Food Service, Fire Suppression and Roofing be bid as separate contracts. Because of these guidelines and recommendations, the district plans to bid the following prime contracts in February 2010:

- General Trades
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Roofing
- Fire Suppression
- Food Service
- HVAC

The district is required to follow all ORC and Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) guidelines when determining who will receive contracts. Listed below are the bid evaluation guidelines that will be utilized by the district:

- The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder as determined in the discretion of the Board of Education with the approval of the OSFC or all bids may be rejected in accordance with applicable law;
- Whether the bidder's bid responds to the contract documents in all material aspects and contains no irregularities or deviations from the contract documents that would affect the amount of the bid or otherwise give the bidder a competitive advantage;
- References required by law;
- The experience of the bidder;
- The financial condition of the bidder;
- The conduct and performance of the bidder in previous contracts;
- The facilities of the bidder;
- The management skills of the bidder;
- The bidder's ability to execute the contract properly, including past performance of the bidder and the subcontractors that the bidder proposes to use on the project.
- A bidder's compliance with the Encouraging Diversity, Growth and Equity (EDGE) participation goals or the requirement to make a good faith effort to locate and engage the services of EDGE business enterprises in connection with the project.
- Whether a finding for recovery has been issued by the Auditor of State for the bidder and that finding is unresolved.

The construction manager shall obtain from the lowest bidder and such other bidders as the construction manager determines to be appropriate, any information appropriate to the consideration of factors showing responsibility, including without limitation the following:

- Overall experience of the bidder, including number of years in business under present and former business names;
- Complete listing of all ongoing and completed public and private construction projects of the bidder in the last three years, including the nature and value of each contract and a name/address/phone number for each owner;
- Complete listing of any public or private construction projects for which the bidder has been declared in default; also, any EPA, OSHA or other regulating entity issues or citations in the last ten (10) years;
- Certified financial statement and bank references;
- Description of relevant facilities of the bidder;
- Description of the management experience of the bidder's project manager(s) and superintendent(s);
- Complete list of major subcontractors with an estimated contract value of \$250,000 or more, which the bidder proposes to employ on the project.

The district, through the construction manager, will meet with each low bidder to conduct a thorough review to verify that the bidder has included all specified work in its bid amount and has the resources and personnel to complete the work. The construction manager, with the architect, will make recommendations to the FCS Board of Education on contract awards.

The district will make contract awards by formal action at a Board of Education meeting. For additional information about contracts and bidding procedures, please contact Touchstone CPM Construction Manager Chris Moore at 419-228-7272.

Pictured at right: The district hosted a Contractors' Open House for local vendors on December 3rd.

**Jan.
2010**

Strong Academics

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

The Polar Express Stops at Otis



Otis Elementary kindergarten students in Ms. Allicock's classroom spent some learning time with the Polar Express. After hearing the story, they visited the library. Mrs. Thompson recreated the Polar Express including hot cocoa, bells, and train seats. Students continued the train activities in the classroom while

reading another story and comparing and contrasting the two stories that were introduced. When asked, the children loved being called to the "train" by the conductor, Mrs. Thompson.

Curriculum Corner

KinderAcademies and First Grade Parent Academies Reach Out to Parents

Here is what parents are saying about the new Fremont Parent Academies...

"It helps me to know what will be expected of my kindergartener – things have changed a lot over the years!" Stamm kindergarten parent

"I think it's a great idea! I wish they would have done this when my third grader was in first grade!" Ila Durwald – Croghan first grade parent

"My son will have fun playing the new game we made while learning at the same time. Mrs. Weiker does a great job!" Kelli Overmyer – Stamm first grade parent

In the pictures, (left) Lutz first grader Amanda Wiedle helps her mom, Holly, stuff pancakes for her vocabulary game during a First Grade Parent Academy session at Birchard Library and (right) Kelli Overmyer works hard at Stamm creating the activity for her son, Chase.



First Grade Parent Academies are being presented to parents of first graders across the district by Mrs. Patricia Weiker, Primary Literacy Coach and parents of kindergarteners are provided with KinderAcademy opportunities by Mrs. Bonnie Weaver, ESL/Parent Involvement Coordinator. Both academies offer information and activities to aid parents in helping their children practice skills at home.

Meetings are held at various times and locations around Fremont. Any parent of a first grader or kindergartener is welcome to attend any of their offered academy meetings, regardless of their students' home school.

Academy information is sent home with the students and can also be found on the FCSD website. For additional information, questions or suggestions please contact Mrs. Patricia Weiker at 419-332-4394 or weikerp@fremont.k12.oh.us or Mrs. Bonnie Weaver at 419-332-4394 or weaverb@fremont.k12.oh.us.

Pepperdine Waves at FMS

The Pepperdine Waves, Team 7-2, have been working hard academically this year. In math, we have just finished a unit about probability. Using number cubes, spinners, and coins, we have figured theoretical and experimental probabilities for many different types of experiments. We will learn to apply what we have learned about probabilities to statistics. Graphs and tables will be the main focus.

In the second quarter in science, we have been studying physical science. We have looked at how matter has chemical and physical properties and how it can undergo chemical and physical changes. We have also looked at the Law of Conservation of Matter. We will be studying energy, seven different forms of energy and how energy is converted from one form to another.

Ancient Civilizations of Egypt, India and China were the focus for social studies this quarter. We have studied their governments, religions, achievements and systems of labor. We will also be studying Islam.

In language arts, we just finished Greek and Latin roots and affixes and elements of mythology. We will start reading our first of two novels called M.C. Higgins, the Great. It's about a young man from the foothills of Southeastern Ohio.



Speaking for Public Schools School Board Recognition Month January 2010



Dr. McCaudy thanks Jim Fails for his years of service to FCS.



Some members of The Ross Choir singing for the Board.

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.

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



Croghan Leaps into Reading

It's all about frogs, everywhere you look. Especially, during Reading. Why? Just ask any first grader at Croghan Elementary and they can tell you why...the Frog Party at the end of each nine weeks!

In an effort to increase individual student achievement in Reading; the first grade team decided to leap into the new school year with an incentive program designed to meet the individual needs of each student, while gaining momentum with the district's new StoryTown Reading Series.

When hopping into good books, students will need to know many new words in first grade. An alternative to flash cards, the students were given a frog-word ring containing both, StoryTown, and review, vocabulary words. The program's goal being, leaping through the pond of fifty vocabulary words (acquisition of vocabulary) each nine weeks and landing on a lily pad ticket to the Frog Party. Those students meeting the goal of fifty words mastered by the end of the first nine weeks celebrated with a "Leap into Reading" celebration in which they received a Frog-Word Award and were treated to frog cupcakes and punch. The first grade classrooms shared a combined student success rate of 94%! Many students have already earned their ticket to the next celebration, as well. This program's success is possible, first and foremost, by the endless determination and bright minds of the first grade students, families dedicated to the education of their child(ren), along with, tutoring intervention activities of retired, Croghan Elementary teacher, Mr. Bob Eckert, who so graciously returns each week and volunteers many hours in the first grade classrooms, and Mrs. Marilyn Missler, who also assists with the organization and intervention for this program.

Lutz: In the Spirit of Christmas



Lutz 6th grade students have been listening to A Christmas Carol and identifying elements of literature such as setting, characterization, plot, and theme. The students have been learning about story elements in their Storytown series. In the "Spirit of Christmas" the students wanted to share holiday cheer with others in the community. They chose to

create cards with inspirational messages and send them to nursing home residents.

Lutz School has also served as a drop off site this year for The Toys for Tots campaign. It's been very rewarding for the students to see the sharing spirit of Lutz as toys have been donated. Christmas has been the "Season of Giving."

FREMONT CITY SCHOOLS - SUPPORT UNITED WAY

Thanks to FCS students and staff for their generosity during the 2009 United Way Campaign. The FCS administrators, teachers and staff donated \$7,687; Ross High School students donated \$720; and the elementary students donated \$3,700 during their Pennies for Pounds student campaign. In total, the district donated \$12,107 for United Way! Thanks Fremont City Schools!

Caring With Cards at Stamm

By Amanda Ruble
6th grade teacher

The word of the month at Stamm Elementary for December is CARING. To demonstrate this theme, students in the 6th grade wrote notes in Christmas cards to be sent to troops serving overseas. Students included a short greeting and pictures in the cards. These letters will be included in care packages to be mailed by the Blue Star Mothers organization to troop currently serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. We hope this small gesture will show our appreciation for the sacrifices these men and women make on a daily basis.



ACE at Ross Hosts Speaker

By Gabby Workman
Ross High journalist

Get Off Your....ATTITUDE! GOYA! It is what you need to get through!

As an author, motivational speaker, columnist and media personality, Bruce Boguski has learned the skill and the trade of helping individual students become so much more than they have ever anticipated for themselves.

Bruce did not just wake up one morning and say to himself "I think I'm going to change a life." No, he woke up paralyzed and told himself that he never wanted to see someone be helpless because of their situation no matter how extreme. When Bruce left the hospital six months after his accident with the knowledge from his doctors that he would never walk again, he knew that there had to be a way to make himself useless. He struggled for nearly two years to regain the ability to walk and when he did, he went on to do extraordinary things.

Mr. Boguski met with the ACE mentoring program in December, along with all the mentors and some students who were personally invited. He addressed that living in the 'now; is the only time that you need to know. Mr. Boguski follows this saying so well that his watch has no face in it, just the band and frame!

Winner's Edge is a service to all types of pupils. Salespeople, students, teachers etc. have all learned from Mr. Boguski's personal story. Mr. Boguski travels to different environments and talks to various groups of people about overcoming the hardships that come your way. He likes to share the techniques and the skills that he has acquired over the years to make sure that other people can 'shine'.

"I live by my standards. I set my goals high so that students can look at me and follow what I do!" said Boguski.

It is remarkable the amount of hope and inspiration that was given to the ACE mentoring and guest students. Mr. Boguski truly reached out and showed everyone that it does not matter where you come from, it is all about where you are going. You can learn more about Mr. Boguski and Winner's Edge at thewinnersedge.cc!!

ACE Mentoring Program (Assisting Children to Excel)

ACE Mentoring Program is a school based career mentoring program at Ross High. Caring adults from the community volunteer to be matched with students and meet with them during the school day. They share their career experience with their students and assist them in achieving personal, academic and career exploration goals. Mentor/ mentee matches are based on individual profiles, which includes family/cultural backgrounds, and/or personal and career interests. Mentors and students agree to meet or communicate with each other weekly, throughout the school year if possible. "We honor all of our mentors for the work they do each day and especially in January, which is National Mentor Appreciation Month across the USA."

Ongoing training and support is provided for mentors and student mentee throughout the school year. For more information you may contact the ACE program coordinator, Mrs. Violetta Rhea 419) 332-4453

“Come Learn with Us” at Atkinson

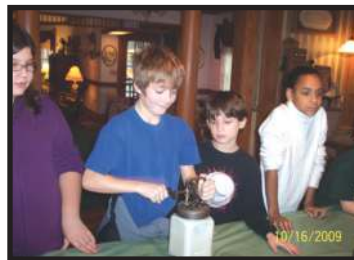


The Third Grade classes at Atkinson Elementary school recently welcomed parents and other adults to their classes for their monthly learning program. Each child has the opportunity to invite a parent, grandparent, or other adult to come to their classroom to learn first hand what their child is learning in class. They have the opportunity to ask questions and pick up tips on how to help their child with third grade skills.

“Come Learn with Us” meets the first Friday of each month from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Hayes Utilizes Community

Hayes fourth graders have been experiencing and learning from all of the wonderful people and resources that their community has to offer. In September, the fourth grade classes traveled to the Sandusky County Fairgrounds for a day of “Exploring Your Backyard.” There they learned about caring for the environment and injured wildlife at Back to the Wild. Also, students learned about how our water is treated and cleaned. Students learned about local wetlands, pet horses and pigs from local farms, and even ran relay races that taught them about recycling.



In October, another great Sandusky County resource, The Old Garden House, was the setting for more fun for fourth grade learning. Ms. Grace Sidell welcomed students to her home for a day of coffee grinding, butter churning and clothes washing “the old fashioned way”. Students had a wonderful time cleaning towels using the washboard and wringer. Students also churned their own butter, which they later spread on fry bread with some sprinkled sugar on top. Yum! As always, Ms. Grace provided fun activities, interesting facts, and lots of patience.

The students and teachers of Hayes Elementary are lucky to have a community so rich with learning opportunities. Thank you, Fremont!

Learning and Liberty Foundation Students-of-the-Month - December



Second Grade
Students-of-the-Month
pictured left to right:

Atkinson-Chasity Gilbert
Lutz-Ethan Taylor
Croghan-Matthew Scherer
Otis-Vivvyanna Esquivel
Hayes-Kameron Armentrout
Washington-Kortini Joseph
Stamm - Modesta Anguiano

Washington Helps Make Better Bedtimes for Children in Need

By Sydney Zoller and
Mrs. Markwith-3rd grade
student/teacher team



Since it’s almost winter and getting cold outside, our school, Washington Elementary, decided to collect pajamas for children around the world. My class, Mrs. Markwith’s 3rd grade, liked the idea of collecting pajamas for those in need, so we invited everyone in the school to participate. With the support of everyone at Washington, our school collected a total of 67 pairs of pajamas! These pajamas are on their way to foster homes, orphanages, and group homes around the world. My teacher heard about this program through Scholastic book clubs, and it’s called The Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive. Scholastic is pairing each of our pajamas with a brand new book for these children! Our pajamas had to be sent to New York, so we were very lucky that our PTO agreed to pay the postage! The picture is of my class on the last day of the Pajama Drive with the pajamas that were donated. We also got to wear our pajamas to school that day to celebrate Washington’s donations!

We hope the kids will enjoy their pajamas and have many comfy bedtimes in the future. Children and adults could learn from this, and start planning to do something good like we did. It doesn’t matter how you look or talk, it matters how big your heart is.

Campus Wear Meeting

You are cordially invited to attend a special Board of Education meeting on Monday, January 25th, at 6:00 p.m. in the W. David Carr Lecture Lab at 1220 Cedar Street.

At this Board meeting the Campus Wear Committee plans to share the proposed K-12 campus wear policy for next school year and get feedback about the draft policy from the Board and guests attending the meeting. Please contact Dr. McCaudy at 419.334.5432 if you have any questions.

District Goals:

- *Increase Student Achievement
- *Close Socio-Economic, Ethnic and Disability Gaps in Student Achievement
- *Build Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

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.

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.