

# Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community



## April 29, 2010 - FMS Groundbreaking is Monumental



At far left and left to right: Johanna Alexander (6th Grade Essay Winner), Traci McCaudy and Gabriella Zuniga (4th Grade Essay Winner)  
Above: Distinguished Guests  
At left and left to right: Joell Starks (5th Grade Essay Winner), Tim Ellenberger (Board President), Alex Gorobetz (Board Member)

### Strong Academics

**Authors at Hayes...Pg. 2**

**Stamm-Pi Day...Pg. 2**

**Curriculum Corner...Pg. 2**

### Strong Character

**Basketball Jones at Washington...Pg. 3**

**Making Friends at Atkinson...Pg. 3**

**Lutz-Creating Characters...Pg. 3**

### Strong Community

**Music Matters at Otis...Pg. 4**

**Letter Writing at Croghan...Pg. 4**

**Students-of-the-Month...Pg. 4**

### Alumni News



Please visit our school website at [www.fremontschools.net](http://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](mailto:alumni@fremont.k12.oh.us)

#### STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

The new Student Dress Code policy will be implemented during the 2010-2011 school year. Each family will receive vendor information and an assortment of store catalogs that carry clothing items listed within the FCS policy prior to the end of the school year. You will find that many stores carry our dress code clothing items, so we encourage you to start your shopping as soon as possible. If you find any great deals please call us at 334.5432 and we will post the information on our website throughout the summer.

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



## 1st Graders are authors at Hayes



In January, the Hayes first grade classes began writing a book that will be published. Each child completed a written page and an illustration page. Mrs. Warga's class wrote a book entitled *If I Were the Principal* and Mrs. Wilhelm's class wrote a book entitled *We Are All Star First Graders*. There is a lot of time spent on getting these books done just the right way before they are shipped to the publisher. The class starts with brain storming on their topics. Students then begin to write using a writing web to help organize his/her thoughts. After

the webs are completed and approved by the teachers, the children began writing the rough draft. The teachers were very particular on correct spelling, punctuation and neatness. Once the rough draft, or drafts in some cases, are complete, the children got their final copy paper. This paper is the actual page that will go into the book. Once each child is finished, they then illustrate their writing. When all pages are complete, the teachers send the books off to the publisher and within a month, the class receives the finished product. In March or April, the classes host an Author's Tea and invite parents, grandparents, administration, etc. to come and unveil the books.

The classes read them to the visitors and show them the hard work that the students have done to complete the books. After the books have been read, the authors and visitors have cupcakes and juice to celebrate the First Grade Authors.

## Pi Day Celebrated at Stamm



Ms. Engles 6<sup>th</sup> grade math students recently celebrated Pi Day (as in the mathematical term, 3.14.....). During the Pi Day celebration, students traveled through six stations where they completed different activities involving the measurement of circular objects (skulls, DVDs, Frisbees, etc.), and construction of paper chains out of ten different colors where each color represented a different digit of pi (e.g., black = 1, pink = 3, etc.). After all of the stations were completed, the students enjoyed circular treats that were brought in. (Thank you to all of the parents

for sending in the treats!) A class competition was held to see who could memorize the most digits of pi. The winners were Kylie Blanchard (who memorized 40 digits) and Kit Wilson (who memorized over 100 digits of pi). These two students were awarded the honor of throwing a pie in Ms. Engle or Mrs. Ruble's face! Also, throughout the week of Pi Day students were asked to bring in canned goods to donate to the food pantry. Anthony Chua brought in over 100 individual canned goods! As his reward, Anthony was given the honor of throwing a pie at our principal, Mrs. Turner! Together, the two 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes brought in 234 canned goods which surpassed their goal of 144.5136 (3.1416 per student).

By Susann Engle

## Top 25 Students Choose Honored

By Allison Schrader  
Ross High School  
journalist

Twenty-five outstanding seniors + their most memorable teacher = stories that remind students of the days before worrying about AP tests and preparing to go off to college. This is what the Top Twenty-Five Banquet is all about, as well as recognizing the academic excellence of this year's senior class.



The top Twenty-five students are the students who have the highest accumulative grades in their class. They each select a teacher who has influenced them and prepare a speech. The student and their selected teacher are invited to a dinner banquet where the students present a speech about the teacher. The teachers who were chosen range from elementary teachers to high school teachers (to see a complete list, go to fremontschools.net).

Students and teachers alike are honored to go and be recognized for their academic excellence as well as their outstanding teaching. Alexia Eishen commented, "It was great to say thanks to Ms. Lewis and to hear from the other top students about their teachers and future plans."

Andy Leemaster also expressed his excitement for going, "It was sweet to be recognized for our hard work and the teachers that helped us be the best in our class of 2010."

The teachers were appreciative that the students recognized them as the teachers who made the greatest impact on not only how they achieved in their academic career, but made a large impact on their lives. Mr. Wright said, "It is quite an honor to be selected. To be in a room full of such talented students is an awe-inspiring experience."

Mrs. MacDowell had a similar opinion, "It is a true honor for a teacher to be invited. I only wish students were allowed to bring more than one teacher since I'm sure many influenced the student's success."

## Curriculum Corner

Curriculum resources are an important part of a teacher's toolbox to support classroom instruction. When chosen wisely, textbooks, hands-on materials, maps, globes and technology tools provide a knowledge base and learning framework, and contribute to the motivation of student learning. Fremont City Schools has invested wisely over the last several years to provide updated learning materials.

New textbooks for: Science K-12 including lab materials, Social Studies K-8, including new maps and globes for elementary classrooms, high school Social Studies courses, English Language Arts K-6, and Mathematics 7-12 are already in the hands of our teachers and students. With the purchase of new K-6 math textbooks and materials approved at the May 3 Board of Education meeting, the Fremont City School district's investment in new textbooks will be over 2 million dollars in four years! Our new K-6 math program will greet our students when they return from summer break.

Technology is a critical component in today's classrooms. Students live in a world that is dramatically more complex, and the use of technology has become inextricably woven into their daily lives. What engages this generation of learners is very different from what may have engaged previous generations. Our students do not leave the 21st century behind when they enter our schools' doors because Fremont City Schools has made a commitment to providing an atmosphere that promotes students' critical thinking, innovation, problem-solving and creativity. All of our new textbooks come with motivating and empowering tech-tools to enhance learning and to connect our students at home with learning resources including their classroom teachers. Our district has invested in SMARTboard technology. A SMARTboard is an inter-active, recordable white-board surface connected to a computer creating a powerful tool to teach and for students to demonstrate what they have learned. From less than 1% of our classrooms with a SMARTboards last spring, our district has increased that to more than 33% by summer 2010—80 classrooms! AND, our teachers are getting "SMARTer" too, because of a strong professional development plan and support system to help teachers maximize their use of technology and to continue to grow stronger in its implementation.



## Making Friends at Atkinson



In Kindergarten and First grade Title 1 this year, teachers and staff worked on building better students for Atkinson School by practicing “Good Friend Habits”. Throughout the school year in small groups, students learned to share with and take care of each other. The students read stories and poems to practice fluency, while learning “Good Friend Habits”. *Quiet Wyatt* (Brimmer) was shared and showed students when to be noisy and when

quiet is best. *Use Your Head Dear* (Aliko) helped students see why making good choices and using common sense is the best bet. Classes discussed personal responsibility when they read the books *Pigsty* (Teague) and *Mouse Mess* (Riley). These books were fun, but they also pointed out the value of possessing the “Good Friend Habits” of tidiness and organization. “Good Friend Habits” are important character traits studied and now practiced by Mrs. Logsdon’s Title 1 groups at Atkinson School.

## Creating Great Characters at Lutz



What a super second grade year our class has experienced! It has been filled with smiles as we have lived, loved and learned each day together. A character building activity that has been built into our daily schedule is our special person of the day. We have celebrated strengths as well as differences in peers that make us unique, cherished individuals and valued classmates. Our classroom community members take time to sincerely express oral and written positive qualities to one special child each day because we have learned that when we feel loved, we also strengthen our abilities to be successful academically. During this last month of school we are focusing on “What A Winner!”

each student has been during this second grade year. Every child will receive a class made book to take home stating student generated reasons why he/she will always be remembered from the 2009-2010 year at Lutz School. Feeling valued surely builds character. Great character certainly creates respectful citizens!

By Jane Stotz

## FMS Cheerleaders Rock!



Practice, practice, practice!!! That is exactly what the Fremont Middle School Cheerleading Competition Squad did every Monday and Wednesday for the entire month of February and March. All the hard work and determination paid off when the squad received a National Cheer Title in the Middle School Division at the American Cheer Power Nationals held in Columbus, Ohio, March 26-28. At the awards ceremony on Sunday, they were awarded Grand National North East Champions in the Middle School

Division. Each girl received a gold medallion and a championship jacket. The squad received a silk banner and a gold trophy, which are on display in the atrium of the Middle School! The squad consists of 7<sup>th</sup> graders: Paige Collier, Emily Guggisberg, Kylie Guhn, and Kylie Mears, and, 8<sup>th</sup> graders: Aisha Benton, Iesha Bulger, Mikeisha Ford, Allison Lagrou, Andrea Lee, Bridget Mills, Tajai Pitts, and Kennedi Weltin. The squad is coached by Rachel Gangwer and Stephanie Martin.

## Basketball Jones Scores Big When It Comes to Character



The week before the Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAAs) can be a little stressful, nerve racking, and a real confidence shaker. Washington School had just the right medicine for those ailments. This medicine was not in liquid or even in a pill. It wasn't in the form of a patch or an inhaler. This medicine came in a package a little over six feet tall and weighed over one hundred and sixty pounds. Every student at Washington took his or her medicine with a big grin, a hearty laugh, and a basketball. That's right, a basketball.

Jim “Basketball” Jones brings the medicine of laughter and fun. More importantly than those two elements, he conveys the confidence building message of “I’m important, I can and I’ll never give up!” That message comes with hand motions, too; but that’s not all. Jim shares his experience of being identified as a student with a disability. He speaks about elementary school, individuals who had helped him, and the attitude and fortitude it took for him to graduate number one from Bowling Green State University’s Business College. His genuine nature and simple-to-understand messages were inspirational, not only to the youngest kindergarten students, but the staff as well. Jim “Basketball” Jones is not only a person with outstanding character; he cultivates the seeds of strong character in everybody for whom he performs.

One of the many important phrases he shared with the student body is “Piece of Cake.” In the accompanying picture, Jim “Basketball” Jones lets the Washington students in on the big secret to the “Piece of Cake” philosophy. It’s simply a phrase that is designed to remind anyone taking a big test to break tough large problems into smaller pieces to make things easier to understand. “Piece of Cake” was the theme of Washington’s OAAs this year. Thanks to the great character of Jim “Basketball” Jones and the baking skills of PTO mom Jennifer Wagner (thanks for the great cake, also), every student taking the OAAs was given a tasty piece of cake to remember the important words he had to say. Thanks “Basketball” Jones for being a role model of outstanding character.

By: Mr. Arnold

## 2010-2011 School Year Info

- New Times for Elementary: 9:15-3:45
- Check website for calendar dates ([www.fremontschools.net](http://www.fremontschools.net))
- First day of school is August 31, 2010
- To register new students or students who have moved within the district, call 419-332-6454.
- Elementary buildings closed from June 21-August 13.
- Look for August 17th District Newsletter for more information about the 2010-2011 school year.



## Otis: Where Music Matters



Students at Otis Elementary recently performed in the Spring Festival of the Arts. Students showcased their artistic talents, their physical abilities, and their musical achievements. During the hour long program, sixth grade students demonstrated the necessary skills to reach the honor of Presidential and National Excellence in Physical Education. Artwork from a variety of students was displayed on the main bulletin board in the hallway.

Our fourth grade students rehearsed and performed a program that gave the message that music is EVERYWHERE! Students worked collaboratively to demonstrate rhythm sticks, recite poems, and sing songs. At the end of the program, students and adults alike realized that Music Matters!

## Croghan 2nd Graders Write Letters



The second graders in Mrs. Cook's and Mrs. Price's classes, at Croghan School, have been learning how to write business letters. This was a skill that we were working on with our Storytown reading series. To make this "real" to our students we brainstormed some of the business names in Fremont. We found a map of the city of Fremont and located the businesses on that map. The students chose a business that they

would like to write too. We wrote to their chosen business and asked for a response from the business.

We took it one step further, to coincide with our behavior plan, we asked the businesses if they would donate an item from their business, our end of the year auction.

To date, we have received a terrific response!! The students look forward to seeing if they have received a letter back from their business. When we hear back from them, we put a sticker on the note card next the name of the business on our map!

This has been an awesome way to teach letter writing, and to get the community involved with our students.

The students that hear back from a business will then write a "Thank you" letter if a donation was received. This is another way that we are building relationships and showing courtesy in our classroom and to our community.

### 2009 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN AWARDS EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Service Division  
1-49 Employees  
Croghan Elementary  
Hayes Elementary  
Stamm Elementary  
50-99 Employees  
Fremont Middle School  
100-199 Employees  
Fremont Ross High School

### OUTSTANDING SCHOOL EMPLOYEE CAMPAIGN AWARD

Croghan Elementary  
2009 CAMPAIGN "EXTRA MILE" AWARD

Fremont City Schools  
VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION  
Violetta Rhea  
Kathleen Nalley  
SPECIAL RECOGNITION  
Kathleen Nalley  
Violetta Rhea

## Showman Becomes an Eagle Scout



Congratulations to Michael Alan Showman, Jr. on his achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout. The rank of Eagle Scout has been viewed as one that denotes purpose, dedication, diligence, and character. Eagle Scouts carry those distinctions with honor and are admired nationwide. Showman is a senior at Fremont Ross.

## Billboard Winners Announced



Billboard contest Winners In Celebration of Earth Day: Matallyn Overmyer, 5th Grader at Washington, and Savannah Llamas, 5th Grader at Lutz. Students received a T shirt and memorative billboard plaque in addition to the full size billboard ad in the county.

## Learning and Liberty Foundation

Washington -  
Alex Terraza-Cobo  
Croghan -  
Micaela Eberhard  
Lutz - Morgan Waggoner  
Otis - Bryce LeJeune  
Hayes - Natalie Clapp  
Atkinson -  
Kamry Sawyer  
Stamm -  
Whitney Halbisen



### Mission Statement:

The mission of Fremont City Schools is to develop well-educated, lifelong 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

**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.**