

# Fremont City Schools

Build Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community



Benjamin Banneker, portrayed by 5th grader Tyrel Parker, came to life.

## Role Models come to life

For the sixth consecutive year, Atkinson fifth grade students recently held an *African American Wax Museum*. This event was held on Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup>. Over 60 community members visited the "museum" in addition to the 350 students and teachers in the building.

The project began over a month ago by each 5<sup>th</sup> grader choosing a famous African American. The first step was to research the life and history of the person and compose a written report. Information from the report was taken to develop oral speeches. Each student was required to find a costume, bring a prop, and memorize their oral speech about their famous person.

On the big day, all of the 5<sup>th</sup> graders were assigned a location in the gym. Visitors entered the "museum" and had to push the button on the table in front of each student to hear the oral speeches in true Wax Museum style. The knowledge that was shared by these fifth graders about famous African Americans was phenomenal!

## 11 Ross Swimmers to State

A unprecedented number of swimmers were sent to state this winter; records were broken, and personal bests were established. Held in Canton, the pool was crowded with roaring parents and friends supporting the swimmers.

Swimming in individual events; in the 50 free, Jacque Fate placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in prelims and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the championship finals with a time of 23.74, placing 11<sup>th</sup> in the 100 free prelims. Jessica Ickes placed 14<sup>th</sup> in consolation finals with a time of 53.47, and Taylor Waggoner placed 13<sup>th</sup> in both prelims and consolation finals in the 100 fly with a final time of 58.72. In the men's 50 free Lincoln Fahrback placed 1<sup>st</sup> in prelims and 2<sup>nd</sup> in championship finals with a time of 20.82, he also placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 100 free prelims and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in finals with a time of 45.88. All four individual swimmers had astonishing swims, podium or not. Having the opportunity to go to state is a great accomplishment.

Placing 4<sup>th</sup> in both prelims and championship finals, Fremont's Lady Giants were dominate in the 200 free relay with a time of 1:37.88. Ickes, Waggoner, Courtney Gabel, and Fate all had splits under 26 seconds. Moving up three spots from prelims to consolation finals in the 400 free relay, the girls' placed 13<sup>th</sup> with a time of 3:40.25.

Also swimming at state were: Christy Meggitt, Jordan Beck, Dexter Foos, Gerritt Knutzen, Kyle Wasserman and Erick White. For some swimmers this was their fourth and final year to swim at state and to others it was their first: however, Fremont Ross is not only proud of these thirteen individuals for their accomplishments in the pool, but as pointed out by Mr. Art Bucci, athletic director, this team holds the highest team GPA at Ross. The boys' team average is 3.2, and the girls' average is 3.3. In or out of the pool, they are fabulous.



Swim Captain Lincoln Fahrback addresses the crowd at Swim Send-Off at Ross.

March 2008

### Strong Academics

**FMS displays art...Pg. 2**

**Grandmas are busy reading...Pg. 2**

**Kindergarten Registration...Pg. 2**

### Strong Character

**Characters with Character...Pg. 3**

**Children in Action...Pg. 3**

**Life Skills at Hayes...Pg. 3**

### Strong Community

**Letter from Dr. McCaudy...Pg. 4**

**Treasurer's Letter...Pg. 4**

**Wax Museum Pictures...Pg. 4**

### Fremont City Schools District Goals

- 1. Increase student achievement**
- 2. Close socio-economic, ethnic and disability gaps in student achievement**
- 3. Build hope, trust and respect with our community**

Learn more about  
**Fremont City Schools at ...**  
[www.fremontschools.net](http://www.fremontschools.net)

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



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## FMS Art on Display

Many budding artists have to wait years before they see their artwork on display, but that is not the case for some 7<sup>th</sup> graders in Elizabeth Dennings' and Ketal Patel's classes. Students' mixed media artwork will be on display for the public to view at DaVinci's Gallery in Downtown Fremont this March in honor of Youth Art Month. A reception for the student artists and their parents will be held March 20<sup>th</sup>. Local judges will be selecting a winner from the entries, and the winning student's work will be framed and matted by DaVinci's Gallery. Most of the students' artwork will continue to be on display into the beginning of April.

The theme of the show is *Looking Through a Window*, and when the public goes to DaVinci's to view this local talent, it will be them who will be looking through a window at the future artists of America.



Art by Emily Kerns

## Links of Love at Lutz

How terrific it feels to receive compliments from your classmates! Second grade students of Jane Stotz at Lutz Elementary School send "Links of Love" to one student in their classroom each day to let them know just how special they are! Every child writes a statement or exclamatory sentence with a positive message on a large paper link. Then, Mrs. Stotz staples all of the links together to make a huge chain that hangs in the room for the remainder of the day. At the end of the day, the recipient of the messages takes the completed chain home to share with his/her family. It has certainly been an effective way to build self confidence because each child is able to enjoy loving, caring comments from his/her peers! The "Links of Love" also help us build a strong community within our classroom!



## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration begins April 1. It is important for parents of all children who are eligible for kindergarten this fall, age five by September 1, 2008, to call the school in their area of residence to set a time for kindergarten screening and registration.

When attending the registration, parents must bring the following records: Birth certificate, proof of residence, immunization records and custody papers if applicable.

Please call the school nearest you before March 21.

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| Atkinson:   | 419-334-5443 |
| Croghan:    | 419-334-5444 |
| Hayes:      | 419-334-5445 |
| Lutz:       | 419-334-5446 |
| Otis:       | 419-334-5447 |
| Stamm:      | 419-334-5449 |
| Washington: | 419-665-2242 |

## Croghan Loves Grandma Readers

These special senior citizens, known affectionately as "Grandma Readers", come into our classrooms on Mondays and Tuesdays with very diligent hearts and a yearning to help children become better readers. We are very lucky to have these ladies, Mrs. Jean Clarke, Mrs. Betty Quackenbush, and Mrs. Shirley Schuster helping out in our classrooms. Five students get to spend a half an hour each with their "grandma reader" reading and retelling leveled books. These ladies are more than just another adult to read with, they are adults that take a genuine interest in the children and care about reading with children.

"Grandma Readers" don't just stop with the current second grade students; they are also concerned about previous students. These ladies are always wanting updates and asking questions about how former students are doing in 3rd grade.

The love and concern these ladies have for our children is truly "priceless".

## No to Bullying!

Fremont Middle School has started an anti-bullying campaign. The principals have been conducting lessons with the students on what bullying is and how to prevent it. Team 8A has joined the bandwagon. They are studying propaganda in their Language Arts class: what it is, the different types, and powerful it can be. They have decided to test out the theory that propaganda can change peoples' views by creating anti-bullying posters to be hung up around the school.

The students have created fabulous posters complete with bullying facts and statistics. In the words of Clay Barron, "Think bullying is cool? Well only 30% of teens are involved. Why put yourself in the minority? The campaign is bound to be a success!!!"

## Lutz Jumps for Heart!





## Healthy Kids at Otis!

Otis Elementary has been chosen as a recipient of the Action for Healthy Kids, PE Equipment Grant through the Anthem Foundation. Our appreciation goes to Clara Kline, school nurse, and Michelle Morris, Physical Education teacher, for their dedication and ambition to write the grant. Our school has benefited from the grant by receiving numerous balls, storage bags, tennis balls, and jump ropes. The students are very excited to beginning using these new materials which are being shared between PE classes and recess.

Action for Kids is an organization sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield to raise awareness and concern about childhood obesity. They saw a need for healthy and fun activities for kids. The students of Otis are regularly reminded about good habits and exercise is being modeled by the staff participating in the Otis Walking Club.



## Life Skills

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Hayes Elementary have been participating in Life Skills classes taught by Rebecca Holland from the Sandusky County Health Department. During the eight week program the students have learned how to avoid drugs and alcohol, deal with peer pressure and stress relieving techniques.

Recently, in Mrs. Ronni Taylor's Language Arts class, the students researched and wrote reports about famous Ohioans. The project taught them how inventors, former presidents, athletes and even movie stars have influenced Ohio's history.

In January the Sandusky County Retired Teachers Association (SCRTA) generously donated new dictionaries to the 4<sup>th</sup> grades. We have been enjoying them very much. Thanks SCRTA!

## Characters with Character



Anne Arnold, PTO mom, helps teach character by role modeling excellent characteristics.

Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (10<sup>th</sup> ed.) defines **character** as 'ethical traits marking and often individualizing a person, group or nation'. It also defines **character** as 'a person marked by notable or conspicuous traits'. We in the Fremont City School system are very fortunate to have a great number of characters with character. One would only have to stop by a Washington PTO meeting one Tuesday evening during the first week of the month to observe these individuals of markedly strong ethical traits.

Washington Elementary School's PTO recently held its Annual Chili Festival. The Chili Festival was hugely successful this year due, in no small part, to our hard-working characters with character. Washington PTO members have repeatedly displayed the type of character that makes a difference in the lives of children. Devoted, caring and unwavering are only a few of the strong character traits students of Washington witness when they see these volunteers. In today's world, people of upstanding character, like those members of

the Washington Elementary School PTO, are the individuals who influence the impressionable young minds of our students. These parents who have their own lives, families, concerns and issues, sacrifice their precious time to invest themselves into the lives of others. Now that is a display of *ethical traits marking and often individualizing this group* of volunteers. Well done, and thank you, you **Characters with characters**.

## Jumping with Heart for the Heart

Stamm Physical Education classes celebrated the National Heart month of February by participating in their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Jump Rope for Heart event. Stamm raised \$1506.83 this year totaling \$6411.06 in three years. Donations raised during Jump Rope for Heart help fund research to fight heart disease and also support the American Heart Association's public and professional education programs. Heart disease is the no. 1 killer in America and stroke is no. 3.

Jump Rope for Heart is a program that promotes physical fitness and heart health through the fun activity of jumping rope. It is co-sponsored by the American Heart Association and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. These events are held at schools nationwide and not only help students learn about the benefits of regular physical activity and heart health, but also raise funds to support vital heart and stroke research as well as educational programs. Jump Rope for Heart is a fun event that helps our children to understand the importance of community service and physical activity while helping save lives.

Do you know that the average heart beats 100,000 times each day? One of the best ways to take care of your heart is to make exercise a regular part of your everyday life. Jump Rope for Heart teaches students how exercise benefits the heart and shows students that volunteering can be fun and beneficial to the whole community. They learn how they can make a difference by providing important community service and having a great time at this fun-filled event.



## Wax Museum



5th grade Wax museum presenters from Atkinson from left to right:  
Cynthia Moreno, MacKayla Postlewhait and Robert Joerg

## Silent Art Auction

This year the art department has continued the tradition begun in 2005 by collaborating our talents to create an artwork for a **Silent Auction**. As a department comprised of visual artists who each have their individual style, we have decided to create this piece using an image of new **Don Paul Stadium**. All nine-art instructors, using only black, white, purple, and red paint painted each panel indicating the personal style of each artist, reflecting the spirit of the **Little Giants** and **Crimson Streaks**.

With the profit received from this silent auction we plan to establish a fund to supplement art supplies for existing school art budget. The painting is on display at Croghan Colonial Bank currently.

Bids can be placed by calling **Robin Mohr** at the Fremont Ross Finance Office **419-334-5426** or e-mail [mohrr@fremont.k12.oh.us](mailto:mohrr@fremont.k12.oh.us). **Bidding will end Monday April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008** at the Fremont Ross Spring Art show. The bidding is currently at \$350. We look forward to exhibiting this piece and hope with a wide circulation and support among the faculty, administration, parents, and community we will continue this event in the Fremont City Schools Art Department.



## Letter from the Treasurer

Hello, my name is David Chambers. I was selected by the members of the Fremont Board of Education to be the treasurer of the school district starting January. I have been a treasurer in the State of Ohio for over four years and an assistant treasurer four years prior. I have worked in large school districts with 12,000 students and small districts with 1,600 students. Prior to my working with schools, I worked for the Cuyahoga County Auditors Office.

As treasurer, I am responsible to the Board for all matters in the district relating to finances. In the business world, this is known as the Chief Financial Officer. To be effective, I must be able to communicate. Communication with board members, administrators, support staff and teachers leads to a transparent operation of the treasurer's office. This communication provides input that makes the treasurer's office function more efficiently and effectively for the school district.

Because I believe communication is essential to the successful management of the district finances, I stated to the members of the Board of Education upon one interview that I maintain an open door policy, in which anyone can walk in and communicate their concerns. As treasurer, I have never closed my door.

With this in mind, I invite you to call, write, or stop by my office if you have questions regarding the finances of the Fremont City School District. I or one of my staff will be happy to provide you with answers to your questions.

## From the desk of Dr. McCaudy

Dear Fremont Community,

On Tuesday, March 4, Fremont voters overwhelmingly voted FOR the Fremont City School District's renewal levy. With their votes, Fremont's citizens also renewed a commitment to the children of their city and to the future of those children and the city itself.

On behalf of the entire Levy Committee, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every voter who braved terrible weather to go vote FOR the renewal levy. Your vote is an endorsement of the efforts that we make every day to provide a quality educational experience for every child in our district. Your vote is an indication of confidence in the manner in which we manage the tax dollars we receive. Your vote is a gift to every child seeking the education that will assure him/her a pathway to life success.

Your vote is also a message to us. When we keep you informed: you are able to make an informed decision. When we are transparent in our plans for the revenue a levy provides: we earn your trust. When we provide the results we promise: you respond. When we invite your participation: you become a partner. Thank you, Fremont, for your support.

I would also like to extend my most sincere appreciation to the hard-working Levy Committee that met and planned for countless hours to assure that our message was communicated well to the public. These individuals volunteered significant energy and expertise to the levy campaign. Without them, an organized and informative effort would not have been possible. Members of the committee are:

Joe Albrechta, Chairperson  
Don Nalley, Asst. Chairperson  
Gail DeFrance, Treasurer  
John Elder

Juanita Sanchez  
Charlie Schwochow  
Solomon Woodson  
Cindy Young

Mike Gabel  
Hal Hawk  
Christine Opelt  
Rhonda Schmidt

The Fremont City School District continues to expect excellence in all of its efforts. We urge all of Fremont's citizens to join us in those efforts. Together, we can meet any challenge, overcome any obstacle, and succeed in all endeavors. Together we can – and will.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Traci McCaudy