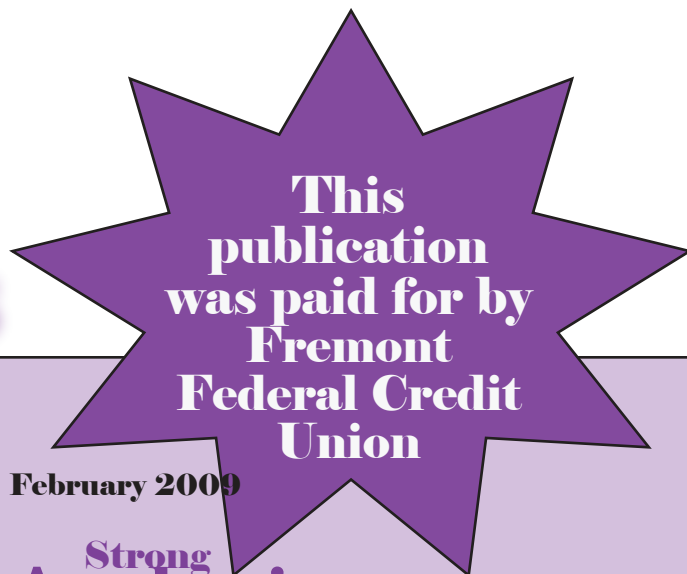


Fremont City Schools

Building Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community



February 2009

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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**

Ross Student attends Inauguration



By Brittany Wagner
Ross High journalism student

Imagine being surrounded by 1.4 million people, all coming together to watch history in the making. Carly Nevarez, sophomore, was one of the 1.4 million who were able to see the inauguration of the 44th President, Barack Obama.

Carly was nominated by a teacher a few years back to go on trips with an organization called People to People. People to People is an organization that was founded by Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956. Eisenhower said, "I have long believed, as have many before

me, that peaceful relations between nations require mutual respect between individuals." The mission of People to People is to provide imaginative responses to the world's need for peace.

Carly has been invited to go on many trips with the People to People organization, and she had the chance to experience other educational trips before. She has gone to places like France, Italy, England, and Ireland, just to name a few. Early in 2008, she was asked to go to the inauguration, and she accepted. Carly said, "When I found out that I could go to the inauguration, I became more interested in the election. I think I did have an interest in politics before I went, because I wanted to learn about the election, and I wanted to know what was going on. I think during the next election, I will be more involved and have more of an interest for what is going on."

Nevarez left for the nation's capital on Saturday January 17, 2009, and returned home on Thursday, January 22. She stayed in the Hyatt Hotel in Virginia, and she shared a hotel room with girls from California and Alabama. "I met a lot of cool people. There were people from all over the country and from six different countries. When I went on the other trips, I was mainly with people from Ohio, but with this trip, I met people from all over the country. It was really cool," Carly said.

On Tuesday, Nevarez's day started very early. "We had to get up at 2:30 a.m. and leave the hotel by 3:00 a.m. By the time we got to our spot, it was about 4:00 a.m., and it was very cold! The day was very long, and we were just waiting for all of the activities to begin," Nevarez said. During the inauguration, the teens were fairly close to where the speeches were going on. Carly even got to see Obama, and she thought that was a very cool experience.

According to Nevarez, the environment around the event was very pleasant and safe. There were no protests in the immediate area, but there were some in the city. "I really enjoyed the trip, and it was cool to witness history. I really enjoyed his speech, and I have a lot more respect for him now that I heard him speak. He (Obama) covered every base in his speech. If I could ask Obama one question, I would just ask him what it is like to be President, and if I could sleep in the Lincoln bedroom, because I really want to!" Carly enjoyed her time in Washington, but she does not have a desire to go to another inauguration because it was freezing outside!

"Fremont Ross Alumni & Friends" Update

PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT MESSAGE! Beginning in April 2009, A representative from Harris Connect Company will be attempting to contact all Ross graduates by U.S. mail requesting you to complete a questionnaire. We ask that you please take a moment to complete and return it, so that Fremont City Schools can update its alumni directory. Please note that you are not required to purchase a directory from this company if you fill out their survey. The information that Harris Connect collects will be used to help our "official" Fremont City Schools Alumni Association build and maintain communication among our alumni and friends. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me, JoLynn Krock, Fremont Ross Alumni Coordinator @ krockj@fremont.k12.oh.us.

Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community

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REACH for your future at Hayes

This year the Hayes Elementary 5th grade classes have been taking part in the REACH program offered by the Chamber of Commerce of Sandusky County. REACH, a career education program for Sandusky County's youth, is designed to introduce elementary school students to the "world of work." The project's goal is to combine the efforts of the schools and businesses to assist in providing schools with better prepared



students and businesses with better prepared workers. Consultants from the business community come into our classrooms for one class period a month and introduce students to their companies and "the world of work" in general. Lessons include exploring the world of work, jobs that match talents and interests, habits and attitudes that make good workers, equal opportunity, teamwork and interdependence, communication, making decisions, and technology.

Tutoring at Stamm



Since the beginning of November, Mrs. Christina McBride, a graduate of Fremont City Schools and Bowling Green State University, has been working with the fifth and sixth grade students of Stamm Elementary on targeted Reading and Math lessons. As a focused tutor, she alternates her days between Mr. Barbour's Math classroom and Mrs. Ruble's Language Arts classroom. During her time in the math classroom, she takes small groups of fifth and sixth grade students and administers sample Ohio Achievement Test practice questions. Based on how well the students answer the sample questions, she then creates and teaches small mini lessons to refresh specific math skills that may appear on the achievement test in April. In between giving sample achievement test questions, Mrs. McBride also tutors students in math skills currently being taught by Mr. Barbour and assists students with homework and other focused skills with flexible groups of students.

When she is in the Language Arts classroom, Mrs. McBride works specifically with the sixth grade classes. She tutors students by taking small groups and teaching miniature lessons based on skills currently being taught in the classroom. Practicing these skills individually is also helping to prepare the students for the upcoming achievement test. Some of the areas she has been focusing on include comprehension, identifying main ideas and details, and writing skills.

It is so important to meet the students where they are and to move them forward on skill at a time. By keeping the groups flexible, the groups change according to the skills that need to be highlighted. This will increase the students' chances of being successful with acquiring the skills they need for the upcoming tests that will be taken at the end of April.

Building a Community of Readers at FMS



Team 8A along with all the other teams at FMS are building a community of readers. In an effort to increase motivation for reading, the team teachers along with Mr. Walker created a school wide reading motivation program. As students read new books, they are asked to fill out mini-book reports that are turned into the office. The office keeps track of the number of books each team reads and displays the data on the second floor window above the atrium. At the end of the quarter, the team that reads the greatest number of books will receive an ice cream social for their team. Ultimately, our goal is to increase the amount of reading, to increase the amount of learning, because students who read together learn together!!!!

Curriculum Corner

DID YOU KNOW that our teacher professional development days are designed using Ohio Standards?

While teachers use academic standards to design their lessons, there are also standards that ensure that our staff is getting *high quality* professional development. These PD days may vary from workshops that provide teaching strategies to collaboration time where teachers work together to interpret data for lesson planning, but they all are built around these basic standards: *high quality professional development* is purposeful, structured and continuous over time. It is informed by multiple sources of data, and is collaborative with varied learning experiences to refine or enhance a teacher's skills and knowledge. It is evaluated by its impact on professional practice and achievement of all students. Our PD days are over for this year, but our teachers continually seek out *high quality professional development* to hone their skills to be the best they can be for our students. We appreciate their dedication to the art of teaching!

Hoops for Heart at Lutz



Jeff Straka, P.E. teacher at Lutz and Stamm, has had the privilege to take part in American Heart Association's Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart campaigns the last three years. One thing Jeff has consistently been amazed by is the number of students whose lives have been affected by a family member's struggle with heart disease or stroke. As a Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart facilitator, Jeff is able to pass out paper hearts to participating students on which they can write the name of someone they know who has battled these destructive diseases.

More than once, Jeff has watched his gym wall fill with hearts, inscribed with the names of grandparents, parents, siblings, and friends. As students

go into their community to collect pledges for Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart, they often realize that others have also known someone with heart disease. Then, as the students return to school for Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart day activities, they are reminded by the hearts on the wall and the pledges on their sheet that the work that they are doing is not only building their physical strength but building the strength of programs that fight heart disease.

The Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart campaign in the Fremont City School District is coming up soon, and I expect to see our students' character grow as they raise money and awareness about the dangers of heart disease.

A Hero at Washington

It has been said that people are a lot like tea bags; you don't know what they are made of until they are in hot water. Well, Logan Reese, a first grader in Mrs. Quillen class at Washington school is definitely a strong cup of tea. This first grader displayed a cool head, solid courage and the strong character of a fine young man. If you didn't know already, Logan took matters into his own hands a few weeks ago when his grandmother fell and seriously injured her leg. He called 911, and he waited on the phone with the dispatcher and coolly did what he had to do in that crisis situation.

Many times we, as adults, look for role models of character on a professional football field or in the actions of an actor on the silver screen or even towards some high-ranking political officials, but if we kneel down and look around, we can find huge examples of character who are barely three and half foot tall; examples like Logan. Way to go, kiddo! Washington School is very proud of you.



Atkinson Kindergartners have Real Role Models

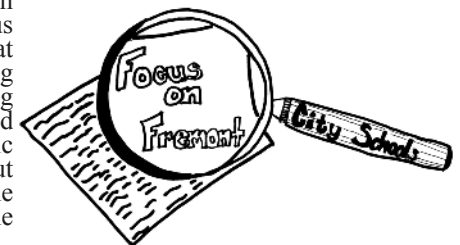


Sixth grade students at Atkinson Elementary give up their recess time to help with afternoon kindergartners in Mrs. Heilman's room. The six graders which include Reghan Hinline, Karli Hinline, Marquel Harris, Jersey Speer and Brett Bowman. They take turns assisting kindergartners in their afternoon routine. They lend a hand with small group work and center time. They also help individual students that need that extra personal time. The sixth grade students also help with clerical activities such as attendance, making word cards and cutting out art projects. The kindergartners look forward to that special time of the day with the sixth graders. They are great role models.

Fremont City Schools and United Way Campaign 2008

Thanks to the Fremont City Schools staff for their generous donation of \$5,463.00 to the United Way of Sandusky County. Thank you to all of the students for participating in the Student United Way Campaign Drive at all elementary schools, Fremont Middle School, and Ross High School.

The Fremont City Schools Communication Committee is proud to announce our first Fremont Focus Show that aired on Time Warner Cable February 3, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Each month we will be producing a 30 min. video with the help of Dan Henning featuring different school activities. This month features included Washington Elementary, Ross Concert and Symphonic Band, Ross High student, Carly Nevarez, interview about her trip to Washington D.C. to view the inauguration and the elementary student of the month. Fremont Focus will air the first Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.



Strong Academics + Strong Character = Strong Community



Helping others at Croghan



Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get, and we make a life by what we give." Generosity is being willing to give and share your things, time, and talent with others. You don't expect something in return. You're willing to make sacrifices for others because you want to. At Croghan, we believe generosity can be contagious. If you're kind and considerate and share your time and talents with others, then others will want to do the same. There are plenty of opportunities to be generous at home, such as helping a younger brother or sister, allowing a family member to borrow something of yours or even volunteering to clean out the garage.

As a community service event during this month of February, Croghan Elementary School would like to practice being generous with our giving. We will be collecting paper goods for the food pantry. Our very own students will deliver our donations.

Students of the Month



December Students: (pictured left to right): Joshua Bork-Croghan; Gillian Gallagher-Stamm; Tiavonna Keckler-Hayes; Jordan Relford-Lutz; Jasmine Mercado-Otis; Chloe Duquette-Washington and not present Savannah Mitchell-Atkinson

From the desk of Dr. McCaudy

Fremont Middle School Project Update

What is a Commissioning Agent?

It requires a systematic approach to review, verify, and document that the specified components and systems have been designed, installed, properly started up, and functionally tested to proper operation of equipment through all modes and conditions including seasonal systems tests. The process begins at the start of the design phase and extends through the project completion, closeout and warranty reviews. Commissioning is not intended to replace or eliminate any requirements or responsibilities for reviews, inspections, or other quality control measures by any other firm, organization, or party. Designers, contractors, construction managers and project managers maintain their obligations as a function of their roles and responsibilities.

The OSFC requires OSFC project districts to hire a commissioning agent and monies have been allocated for this service. Last week the district interviewed three Ohio School Facilities (OSFC) pre-qualified firms for the commissioning work at the new middle school. The Board of Education will act upon the hiring of the commissioning agent at the next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting.

The scope of the commissioning work performed includes the following areas:

- mechanical and heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems
- building automation and environmental controls systems
- electrical systems
- classroom acoustics
- chiller system and cooling tower exterior noise review
- domestic hot water and rain water recovery systems
- lightning
- review and verification of contractor-facility staff training
- review CM's air quality management plan for project

It will be very beneficial to the district to hire a commissioning firm at this time so that the commissioning agents can be involved in the design phases of the middle school.



January Students: (pictured left to right): Victoria Miller-Atkinson; Hailea Hatlay-Croghan; Zamara Tucker-Stamm; Anastasia Reidenbach-Hayes; William Taylor-Lutz; Michelle Hang-Otis; Isaac Fraley-Washington

Attendance Breakfast



Otis Elementary recently celebrated Perfect Attendance for the second quarter. 65 students were invited to join us for donuts and juice. Students receive Perfect Attendance when they have no tardies or absences during the quarter. Kindergartener Jared Adkins enjoyed his donut and juice with his mom,

Amanda, and sister Ava.

Attendance is monitored daily at Otis. We recognize the grade level with the best overall attendance each month. The winning grade level receives an Otis Cardinal banner to proudly hang on their class door. Students are recognized quarterly with donuts and juice. Even the staff is recognized monthly. All staff members who receive perfect attendance for the month are invited to a special breakfast hosted by the principal. This encourages everyone to be at school to do their best work everyday!