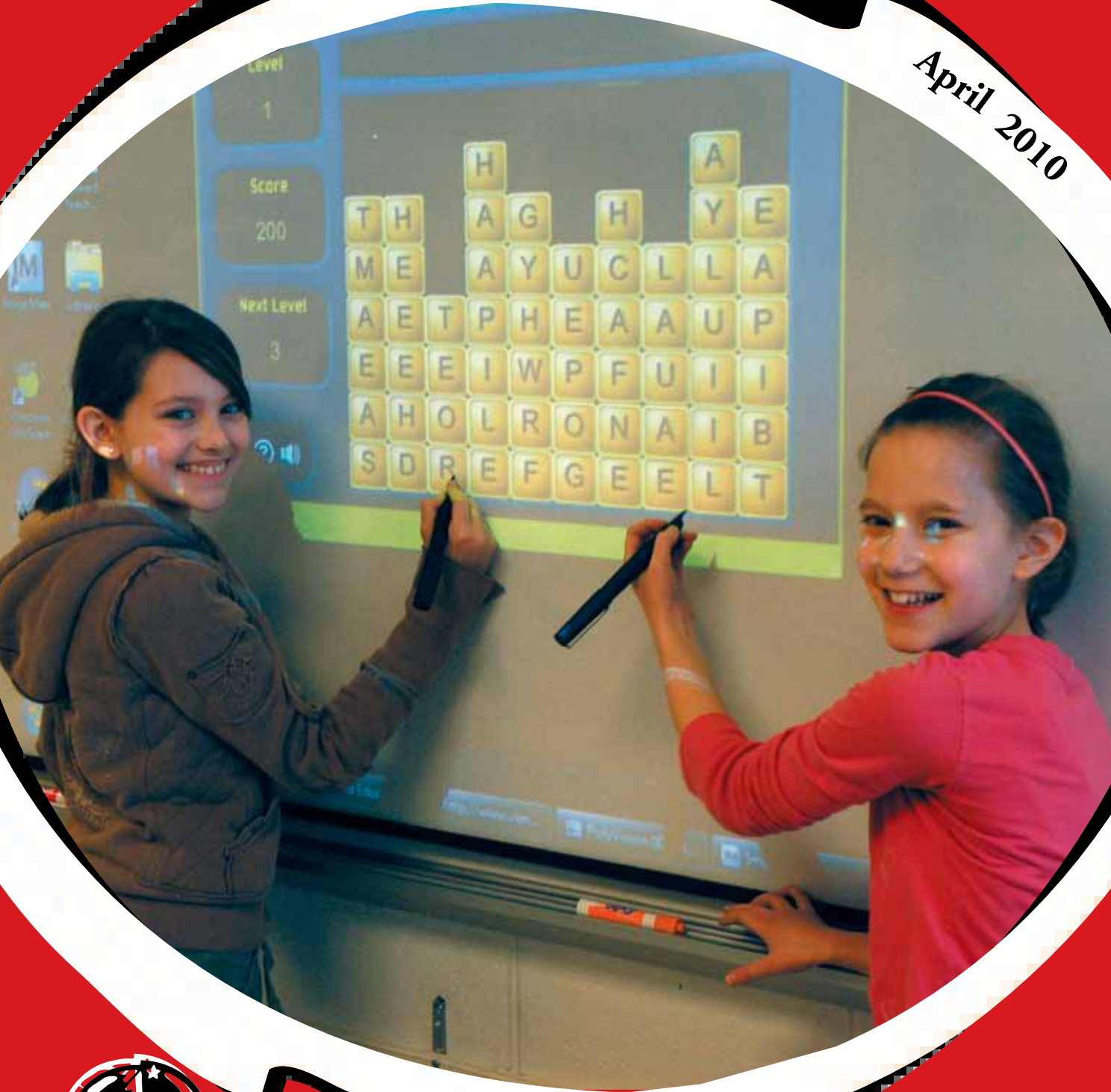


SchoolMatters

<http://www.fremont.net>

April 2010



A Publication of Fremont Public Schools

Administration

I want to thank the Fremont community for the support and courtesy you have shown me. I am looking forward to our continued partnership.



The Work before Us

The Fremont Public Schools Board of Education recently voted to retain me as Superintendent of Fremont Public Schools.

The Board expressed its desire to maintain the school district's administrative team during construction of the new high school. The Board also made note of several other important issues facing the district and the school community, including:

- Repurposing the existing high school
- Working with Muskegon Community College officials to bring appropriate and timely MCC classes and programs to the community
- Staying in step with NCRESA to ensure our students continue to have strong, viable career and technical education programs
- Partnering with the other public school districts in Ne-waygo County as we discuss our mutual concerns over public school funding

I am pleased to be asked to stay as Superintendent. I believe deeply in our educational team and in the improvements in our kids' educations that these endeavors will bring. At the same time, I will do everything I can to help address the challenges and the changes facing our educational programs.

Exploring Classroom Technology

A technology in-service day was hosted for Fremont teachers on March 9 and was another critical step in our process of evaluating the best way to bring new learning technology into our classrooms.

Several of our teachers had been working on the "Research and Development" phase. They had been trying out new learning models and "test driving" different technology brands in learning labs and in their individual classrooms.

We now have in place four technology-rich LearnLabs - one at Daisybrook, the middle school, the high school, and one at Quest High School. We also have pockets of classrooms in these buildings with new technology being utilized and tested as I write. The goal: to discover which of these technologies can best enhance learning for our kids.

Along the way, the teachers in these rooms are also learning. They are discovering how to make best use of these tools and how to shift from the classroom of the 80s to something that can really stimulate critical thinking and problem-solving and prepare our students for today's world.

Lead technology teachers are in place in each of our buildings. They include: (Pine Street) Kathy Korstange; (Pathfinder) Ryan Ransom, Susan Delia and Rebecca Miller; (Daisybrook) Cheryl Hanna, Chris Matthews and Sean Henry; (FMS) Leslie Hamilton, Wendy St. Peter, Brian Welch and Scott Breuker; (FHS) Sarah Bahorski and Kay Brennan; and (Quest) Topher Hansen and Jason Collins.

Our plan is to have in place at each building the proper technology for that age group's learning. As students progress through the grades, the learning labs in that building will adapt to their higher level thinking and learning skills.

You gave us an incredible gift when passing the bonds last year. We are now doing our part to test the tools our teachers will need to help our kids acquire the 21st Century skills they need to be productive in their world.

Education and the New Economy

One question I am often asked is, “How can we build a new high school when money keeps getting tighter?”

My answer, “How can we not?!”

We need to provide our children with the best education possible in order to prepare them for the world – a world that is dramatically different than the world of 1926 when the current high school was built. The children of today will require dramatically different skills and a dramatically different education.

Continued...



On the Cover

Pictured here, students are shown using an ēno board, an interactive whiteboard that allows teachers and students to use multimedia together in the classroom. Combining the old dry-erase whiteboard with a completely wireless stylus and computer, FMS Teacher Mrs. Hamilton and her students have the ability to interact both with traditional media, as well as familiar programs like Microsoft PowerPoint or a web browser. For more information on this technology, refer to page 22.

District Contacts

| | | |
|---|-------|----------|
| Administration | (231) | 924-2350 |
| Pine Street Primary | (231) | 924-3530 |
| Pathfinder | (231) | 924-7230 |
| Daisy Brook | (231) | 924-4380 |
| FMS | (231) | 924-0230 |
| FHS | (231) | 924-5300 |
| Quest High School | (231) | 924-0470 |
| Packers' Pride Childcare & Preschool | (231) | 924-7435 |
| Recreation Department | (231) | 924-3750 |
| Maintenance | (231) | 924-8829 |
| Transportation | (231) | 924-4390 |
| Food Services | (231) | 924-8160 |
| Technology | (231) | 924-8190 |

School Closings & Delays

To inquire about school closings, delays, or other school emergency situations, please call (231) 924-7317.

In This Edition...

| | |
|--|----|
| Administration | 2 |
| Pine Street Primary | 8 |
| Daisy Brook | 12 |
| FMS | 14 |
| FHS | 19 |
| Quest High School | 27 |
| Packers' Pride Childcare & Preschool | 30 |
| Recreation Department | 31 |

As a community, you understood this need and gave us an invaluable gift by passing bonds for both a new high school and new technology for our other schools. These wonderful gifts do have some restrictions, however. The bond money can only be used for the construction and to purchase the technology. By law, it cannot be used for operations, salaries, school buses, textbooks, supplies, or athletic equipment.

We are doing everything possible to ensure the new high school is developed with low-cost design and maintenance concepts, including renewable energy and other efficiencies, to limit its ongoing costs – saving our operational funds wherever possible.

The money we can use for operations comes from our state aid package, which has been in disarray for some time now. We will be making further cuts in our operational budget for next year due to yet another decline in our state aid payment and increases in our costs for retirement benefits and health insurance. Current projections for the 2010-11 school year include...

State aid cut \$268 (in addition to \$165 last year)
Retirement costs - up 2.47% or \$300,000
Health insurance increases – from 15% to 18% or \$300,000
Projected reduction (Operation budget) - \$1.7 million

Last month, we laid off 35 teachers in what has become an annual rite of spring for Fremont and many school districts across the state. These “pink slips” are a cautionary step until we know more about the state’s finances. This year, 83 percent of Michigan school districts are issuing layoff notices.

It is more likely that up to 10 Fremont teachers could actually be laid off come next fall. Notices to so many, when so few actually will be laid off, are a necessary part of our contract with the teachers’ union. The process of teachers bumping for jobs is based on seniority and instructional certifications, and this process takes time. Also, by contract, we can only initiate this process once each year.

Last year, when our fall enrollment numbers came in, we were able to recall every one of our teachers. We hope this will be the case later this year, but we must prepare now for the unknown.

In the meantime, we have fashioned an organizational model that runs lean and efficiently. We have trimmed more than \$7 million from our operating costs over the past several years. Fremont’s administrative costs, at 23 percent, are among the lowest in the state.

Many of our employee groups – food service, support staff, bus drivers, and administrators - have acknowledged these new realities and accepted wage freezes. We are negotiating now with our teacher union.

Our point, as always, is to provide the best education possible, at the leanest cost, while continually exploring ways to return value for your tax dollar.

It’s What’s on the Inside that Counts

I remember my parents saying that I shouldn’t judge by outward appearances - that it’s what’s inside that counts. Well, I’m pleased to say that our new high school will, by all outward appearances, be a wonderful fit for our community.

On January 25, the Fremont Public Schools Board of Education agreed, formally approving the building’s design and cost estimates and authorizing the next step – preparing documents in advance of seeking bids for the construction phase.

The new high school will have clean, pleasing lines and make excellent use of natural light from the many bays of windows opening into classrooms, the media center, and entranceways. The building will be placed on the property in a way that blends in with the natural beauty of the wetlands, and with a minimal impact on the environment.

Yet, we know that it’s what takes place on the inside that counts...

The main student entrance - facing northeast - leads into the building’s second story. This entry will be a secure area with offices for the principal, guidance counselor, community education, athletics, and the school store. Access to the rest of the building will be through secured doors.

Beyond these offices, the second floor also houses classrooms, the cafeteria, and the upper level of the gymnasium, which features a walking track. The first floor will include more classrooms - including nine LearnLabs - the media center, the lower level of the gymnasium, and an auxiliary gym.

Classrooms will be flooded with natural light from the many bays of windows. Students in south-facing classrooms will have views of the natural pond and wetlands.

Physical education classes will use the main and auxiliary gyms. The main gym offers pull-out seating for 1,500, with a concession area in the lobby and locker rooms for varsity and junior varsity teams. The auxiliary gym will have seating for 200, making it a useful site for smaller events and practices.

As our new high school continues to take shape, we look forward with great expectation to not only the sleek lines and bay windows, but to the technology and curriculum, as well. After all, it's what's on the inside that counts.

-Jim Hieftje, FPS Superintendent
(231) 924-2350



Green Update

As we approach the spring and summer seasons, we look forward to “Energy Conservation.” After all, this is the time when we can start turning back the heat and saving on lighting – all without affecting the comfort of our students.

Our schools have applied for the Michigan Green Schools Program again this year. Staff and students are working diligently recycling and doing worthwhile projects for the environment.

Fremont Public Schools is not only Student Centered, Learning Focused, and World Ready, but is focused on protecting our environment as well!

WORLD-READY

IT'S A SHRINKING, COMPETITIVE WORLD.
WE WANT FREMONT STUDENTS TO BE READY.



OUR STUDENTS PURSUE THEIR STUDIES IN TECHNOLOGY-RICH CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS THAT EMPHASIZE CRITICAL THINKING, COLLABORATION, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING.

STUDENTS HERE ALSO HAVE BROAD OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE THEIR WORLD BEYOND ACADEMICS, WITH GENEROUS OFFERINGS IN THE ARTS AND ATHLETICS, EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES.

FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STUDENT-CENTERED | LEARNING-FOCUSED
WORLD-READY

For information, please visit www.fremont.net, or call 231-924-2350.



Where Do We Go From Here?

Recent word from the State has included a myriad of proposals and projected cost increases, leaving districts across the state preparing for possible reductions, while remaining unsure of the final picture.

Below are some extracts – along with local information - from Michael M. Adamczyk, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services for Troy School District and President of MSBO...

The Governor has proposed a myriad of reforms to help the School Aid Fund and, indirectly, ORS. Her proposal would increase the retirement contribution for Basic and MIP members by 3.0 percent and by 0.9 percent for MIP plus members. Her tax structuring reforms would generate an additional \$554.3 million for the School Aid Fund. Absent this reform, schools would be subject to an additional cut of \$268 per pupil. This is in addition to the \$165 cut this year and the reduction in 31a – At Risk funds.

Although this is not specifically part of the Governor's proposal, we have been informed that the retirement rate will increase next year from 16.94 percent to 19.41 percent. To put this in perspective, this equates to a \$131.20 per pupil cost to Fremont Public Schools. It is just not possible to balance your budget when one is faced with these revenue cuts and increased costs without making major budget reductions. Another part of the Governor's reform proposals is Executive Directive 2010-11, which requires the Office of the State Employer and the Department of Management and Budget to take necessary action to open the state's health care systems for enrollment by any school district, county, city, village, or township employee.

Section 11d. of the Governor's proposal calls for the implementation of a Consolidation of Services Plan. No later than March 1 of 2011, every district must calculate on a per pupil basis the cost for providing purchasing, payroll, financial accounting, facilities maintenance, pupil transportation and maintenance, human resources, technology and student information

services systems, and food services. The ISD must also calculate on a per pupil basis its costs for performing the same services. If the ISD's per pupil cost is lower, the local district must enter into a service consolidation agreement to be effective no later than July 1, 2011. Failure to do so will subject the local district to a penalty of 1 percent of its foundation allowance times the number of pupils.

The Senate has released a number of bills for the 2010-11 school year. Senate Bills 1046 and 1047 and SJR P would require public employees to pay 20 percent of their health care premiums. For any district with 1,000 or more students, Senate Bill 1073 would limit administration costs to no more than 28 percent of the budget. Senate Bill 1074 would require public schools to seek competitive bids for custodial, food, and transportation services. SJR U would reduce pay for all public employees by 5 percent with no increases for three years.

The House is currently reviewing a series of reform proposals so there is not much information to share, but House Bill 5682 would limit a school superintendent's salary to no more than the salary of the state superintendent. The State Budget Office indicated that the 2010-11 School Aid Budget is a continuation budget and that it would remain that way for the next four years.

The Citizen's Research Council recently issued a report entitled, "The Fiscal Year 2011 Executive Budget: Déjà Vu all Over Again." The report reaches a few interesting but gloomy conclusions. Among the conclusions is that the Michigan economy will continue to struggle over the next 24 months and that policymakers will continue to face the same long-term problems they have faced for years. The report goes on to state that, "the FY 2011 budget presents yet another opportunity for the state's elected officials to begin the process of correcting the near-decade long problem," but without further sources of budget resources, such as the recent federal ARRA funding, "the solutions available to policymakers to achieve long-term, lasting balance in FY 2011 are limited to cutting and eliminating programs or raising taxes." The issues facing our legislators are daunting. It is our job to keep them informed, and to make them aware of the effects of the proposals on our budgets. The future of Michigan's 1.5 million students depends on us.

-Bing Hanson, Director of Financial Services

School Matters – Going Digital

As the State of Michigan continues to struggle with balancing its budget and providing a clear picture for K-12 education, we at Fremont Public Schools are evaluating our budget and continuing to operate more efficiently wherever possible. Our goal, as we have so fully embraced these past several years, is to make the necessary reductions, while impacting the classroom as little as possible.

I feel we have done an excellent job at this. We have reduced our operating budget by millions during the last several years, while still continuing to enhance our students' day-to-day learning. We have been able to accomplish this by working together as a team – administration, staff, and community.

Unfortunately, this task is not yet complete. We continue to face uncertain times as the future of state aid remains unsure. With this uncertainty in mind, we are preparing ourselves by again reviewing the budget and trimming wherever possible.

One of the areas being evaluated is the district communication budget. We value the importance of communication and understand it is critical to the success of our district and our students. Our goal is to continue communicating with our staff, students, parents and community members but to do so in a more cost-effective manner.

School Matters, the district newsletter, is our primary form of communication. It is through School Matters that 73 percent of community members receive the entirety of their district news. Because of this, it is our goal to continue to keep this line of communication open while reducing production costs by incorporating the newsletter with the district's website.

Our plan is to print four editions of School Matters annually, with the alternate months' news being covered in the same format but available through the district's web site. This will allow you to receive district news and updates on a regular basis, as well as continue to keep up on the amazing things our students do each and every day. This plan will also allow us to continue to communicate with those who may not be comfortable visiting the web site by making four of the editions available in print. This change will allow us to actually increase communication, while saving valuable funds on print and postage.

The April edition of School Matters will be our first issue available on-line only. This edition will be available as of April 15. The June edition will be available both in print and on-line.

For on-line editions, visit www.fremont.net, follow the links, and continue to check back regularly for more up-to-date district news – check in, check up, stay informed.

Fremont Public Schools Board of Education

2010 Meetings

| 2010 | |
|----------------|---------|
| April 19 | May 24 |
| April 26 (TBD) | June 14 |
| May 10 | June 28 |



All meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of the month unless otherwise noted. Meetings will be held in the Board room at the Administration Building located at 220 W. Pine Street, Fremont, MI. All changes are posted at the administration building and on the district web site.

Special Recognition Awarded to Pathfinder Student

At the January 25 Fremont Public Schools Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Hieftje presented the Fremont Public Schools' Special Recognition Award to Mark, a third-grade student from Pathfinder Elementary.

Mark was chosen to receive this award because of his positive characteristics. Mark's parents are James and Yvonne. His teachers are Judy Chandonnet and Jolyn Kempf.



Packer Pride Day of Service

Fremont High School is organizing a community-wide day of service called Packer Pride Day. Packer Pride Day is scheduled for April 22, 2010, with a rain date scheduled for April 23, 2010. Our goal is to provide community service and to teach the students of Fremont High School the importance of giving back to their community and to society in general.

As a school, we would like to take a morning and help clean-up, fix-up, and give back to the community of Fremont. Students and staff members will come to your home or business to lend a helping hand. Jobs we can do include, but are not limited to: raking yards, planting flowers/trees, painting, cleaning up outside areas, breaking down boxes, sorting materials, helping around the farm, etc.

If you, someone you know, or your company/business are interested in being a part of Packer Pride Day, or would like more information, please contact Tressa Wenk at twenk@fremont.net or (231) 924-7309 as soon as possible. The sooner you show interest in being involved, the quicker we can guarantee service.

We look forward to serving you!

Michigan Department
of Community Health
MDCH
Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor
Janet Olszewski, Director

New Communicable Disease Rules 2010-2011 School Reporting Year

BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2010

**Required for all children entering kindergarten, all 6th grade students,
and all children changing school districts:**

- Two doses of varicella (Var) vaccine or history of chickenpox disease

**Required for all children 11 - 18 years of age who are
changing school districts or who are enrolled in 6th grade:**

- One dose of meningococcal (MCV4 OR MPSV4) vaccine
- One dose of tetanus/diphtheria/acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine
(if 5 years have passed since last dose of
tetanus/diphtheria vaccine - DTaP, Td or DT)

Pine Street Primary Center

March Around and Read

On Friday, March 5, Pine Street kindergarten students marched around the school and celebrated reading. The students enjoyed some classic children's literature and had activities and a cake, which featured a family of ducks.

After hearing *The Runaway Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown, the children made boats and sailed them. They also watched Don Freeman's timeless story about *Corduroy*, a stuffed bear who is missing a button. The students sewed on their own buttons and dressed their own bear in overalls.

The final classic book the kindergarteners explored was *Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey. The students made their own masks and became ducklings for a few minutes.



If you have never read these wonderful books, please check them out to read with your young learners.

Bringing Stories to Life

Another way Pine Street Primary students celebrated reading this month was by seeing their favorite stories come to life.

Pine Street Primary teachers and staff acted out well-known children's stories, including: *Three Little Pigs*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* and *Little Red Riding Hood*.

The students loved seeing adults acting silly and enjoyed their beloved stories presented in a new way! The staff had fun, as well!



Give the Gift of Reading

Our Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for Monday, April 26, through Thursday, April 29. We're thrilled to offer this educational experience to our students. This year's theme is "The Reading Diner."

We invite your entire family to participate by visiting us during Book Fair week. You and your child will get the chance to purchase bestsellers, award winners, picture books, and other great items. The Book Fair will be open during the parent/teacher conferences in the evening.

We also invite you to support the "Give the Gift of Reading" program at the Book Fair. The teachers have identified books they would love to have for their classroom libraries. Students may purchase these books at the Fair as gifts for their teachers. Each book purchased will include a gift donation bookplate from the giving student.

We look forward to seeing you during the Book Fair, and thank you in advance for supporting this important reading event to get books in the hands of students. Mostly, thank you for believing in books and in the importance of reading!

Book Fair Hours

April 26 & April 27 - 3:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

April 28 & April 29 - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Getting Ready for the 21st Century

There are many skills that our kindergarten students are learning to prepare them for life. Besides learning the basics of behavior, reading, writing, and math, Pine Street Primary Center students are getting an opportunity to try out some new technology.

In many classrooms, the students have access to computers for educational games, and some use the computers to write. While being supervised by Nancy Wilkinson, Colton wrote a 'how to' paper about using the computer for writing. He wrote...

"Win I am on the kipoer I now wut to dow. Trn the kipoer un and then I trn the monar on. I klik un the dubw. I tup my name and then I put the dat. I push enter and then I srt rotng. I klik the X and klik the red."

(When I am on the computer, I know what to do. I turn the computer on and then I turn the monitor on. I click on the 'W.' I type my name and then I put the date. I push 'enter' and then I start writing. I click the 'x.' I click the red.)

Other technological equipment is being tried out, as well. For a couple of weeks, Mrs. Hawes' and Mrs. Korstange's students had the chance to try a 'Smart Table.' Groups of students matched letters and pictures and ordered numbers using their fingers as computer mice.

A document camera has been installed in one classroom. Using this, lessons and story books may be viewed on a wide screen for improved clarity and sharing. There is also a microphone system that allows students to hear better and spend less time trying to make sense of what the teacher has said while moving around the room. When reading stories or answering questions, the students' voices may also be amplified.

One of the classrooms is also getting a first chance to use an interactive whiteboard. With this technology, students can see what a penny looks like magnified 100x, find the words to 'America the Beautiful,' practice reading on a large screen, which is better suited to their development, and have fun doing number searches, making patterns and more! It is like having a large computer with multiple uses and educational games – all at their finger tips!

Various classrooms in Fremont are experimenting with the best technology in order to offer our students the finest and most up-to-date education available. Kindergarteners are not left out. They are already learning needed skills for their own tomorrow.



Experiencing the Wild

Once again, Pine Street Primary Center students visited the Card Wildlife Education Center located on the Ferris State University Campus. Over 180 wildlife specimens from around the world were on display - donated by Ferris State Alumni Roger and Debra Card.

Students had the opportunity to touch animal pelts, horns and skins, as well as learn interesting animal facts. Students were also able to experience and see over ninety full body and head mounts, including: moose, elk, caribou, grizzly bear, polar bear, red fox, kangaroo, and many more! In addition, the students were also able to see a collection of fish, waterfowl and game bird species.

A generous transportation grant to the center was provided by Ferris State University. Our students and staff had an exciting and informative experience!



Fremont Public Schools Kindergarten Round Up

PINE STREET PRIMARY CENTER



HELPING CHILDREN GROW

Do you know a boy or girl who resides in the Fremont Public School District and who will be five (5) years old on or before Dec. 1, 2010? If so, please complete the form below. Information will be mailed to all who respond to explain enrollment procedures, dates for screening and further information for parents. Please complete ALL information below and turn it in as soon as possible.

Full Name of Student _____
First Middle Last

Birth Date _____ Phone # _____

Parents' Names: Father _____
First Name Last Name

Mother _____
First Name Last Name

Address _____
Street City

Township _____ County _____

Mail completed form to:
 "Kindergarten"
 Pine St. Primary Center
 450 E. Pine
 Fremont, MI 49412

Pathfinder

Setting Goals Reading More

On Monday, March 1, Pathfinder students were introduced to this year's reading incentive program. An odd character reading a bedtime story told them about a man named Theodor Geisel.

Through a series of hints, the students were able to figure out that Theodor Geisel is better known as Dr. Seuss.

The children were entertained with a Seuss-like skit put on by some of the staff members. With the help of 'Snooks,' 'the Cat in the Hat,' and some students from Miss Wills' classroom, the cast was able to convince one floppy eared, video playing character that books are a good thing and reading is fun. The bedtime story character also told the students about the book Dr. Seuss was working on when he died - *Hooray for Diffendoofer Day*. The book is a celebration of innovative teaching methods and hard working students that make Diffendoofer the best school in the land.

The students were in agreement that Pathfinder was the best school in Fremontland. To prove it, they began working to meet their reading goal of 2,000 AR points by Thursday, April 1. If the students were able to meet the goal, they would be rewarded with their own "Hooray for Diffendoofer Day!" On this day, not only would the students get to wear crazy hair styles, but some community volunteers would be coming in to do some memorable styling for Mr. Cassidy and several other staff members.

While working to earn their points, the students also participated in many fun Dr. Seuss-related activities in their classrooms. Friday, March 5, was "wear a shirt to read day." Everyone was encouraged to wear a shirt with writing on it. After reading *If I Ran the Zoo*, students brought in their favorite stuffed animal to read to on Friday, March 12.

The week of March 15 was *The Foot Book* and the children were encouraged to bring and wear a pair of slippers. During the week of the March 22, all classes read *Oh the Thinks you can Think*, and on Friday everyone wore gloves like the Snus. The week of March 29 was Diffendoofer Week. Each day, classes read a different Dr. Seuss book and did a corresponding activity.

Total points had yet to be calculated at the time of publication, so be sure to catch the next edition to find out how many points the students earned and whether or not crazy hairdos took over Pathfinder Elementary!



Daisy Brook Elementary

Exploring the World of Writing

Students in Mrs. Hanna's class were happy to have a visit from Kelly Tinkham, a local author. Kelly is the author of *Hair for Mama*, a book about a young boy dealing with his mother's cancer.

Kelly shared with students the process she went through when writing her book and the long process of getting a book actually published. She also gave students a lot of helpful tips for working on their own stories.

The young writers in the class would love it if she came back when they were done writing their stories - for a celebration!

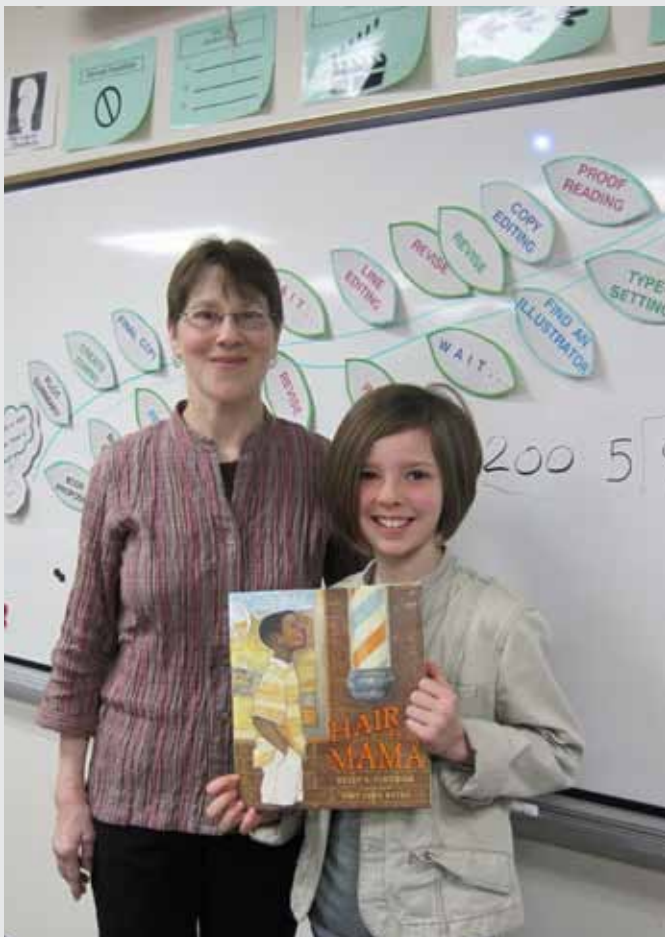


Author Gary Schmidt Visits Daisy Brook

Gary Schmidt, a Calvin College children's literature professor, author, and Michigan resident, visited Daisy Brook Elementary on March 15. This visit was made possible by the generosity of the Fremont Area District Library through its Writer's Live program.

Mr. Schmidt's books - *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy* and *Wednesday Wars* - won the Newberry Honor Award in 2005 and 2008 respectively. Schmidt spoke to the students about his experiences and how these experiences help bring books to life. He also spoke about the process it takes to have a book published.

Gary has written a variety of books that touch on many experiences and is a great storyteller. He held the students' attention and took the time to answer questions and sign books after his presentation. What a great experience for our students and a privilege to have him visit our school!!!!



Daisy Brook Science Fair

Daisy Brook's 22nd Annual Science Fair took place during the first week of March. This year, the displays represented over 180 student participants. Daisy Brook's goal is to give students experience in developing a project and working through the scientific process from beginning to end.

The whole process starts with Fremont High School Science students coming over to Daisy Brook and demonstrating some really cool science experiments. Ms. Jane Cook, a science teacher at Fremont High School, works with her students to develop demonstrations that will peak interest and show students how to properly demonstrate their experiments. Daisy Brook students love to see the demonstrations and are excited to begin their own experiments.

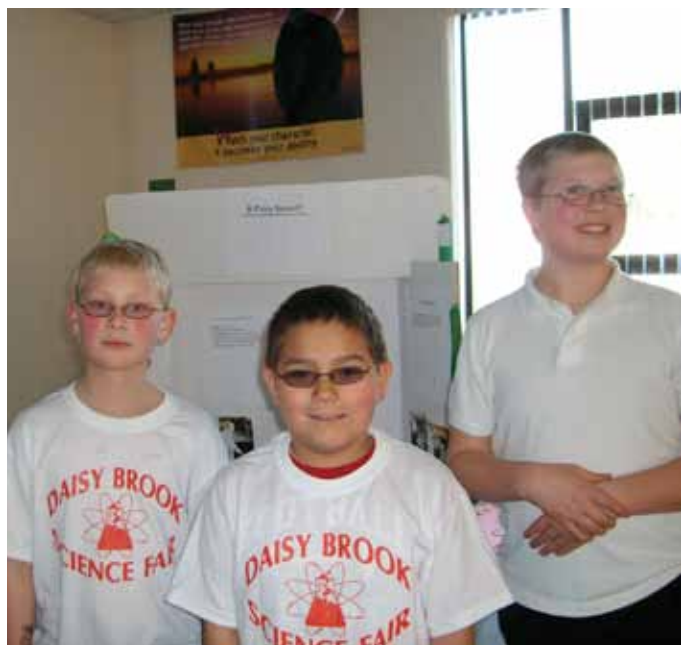
Then, during February, Daisy Brook organized two nights when parents could come with their students to put together display boards. Various materials and tools were made available for the students and many wonderful displays were created.

Students set up their project display boards during the first week of March. Teachers judged the displays to see if every part of the scientific process was evident. They also listened as students explained their projects and presented the details of their findings. Blue ribbons were awarded to those students whose projects displayed the scientific process.

Parents and the public were invited to see the projects during the evening. Third-grade students from Pathfinder also came to discover what they have to look forward to when they come to Daisy Brook.

This year, we had some great, well-constructed projects. The students learned many new science skills, as well as how to present a science project.





Middle School

Speak UP! 2010

Ten Fremont Middle School eighth-grade students were chosen to participate in a leadership/philanthropy project called Speak UP! The idea of the program is to give these talented boys and girls an opportunity to develop their leadership skills, while at the same time using these skills for a project that gives back to the community.

The NCCS Camp Newaygo retreat held in February included learning sessions regarding philanthropy, their responsibility as members of a community, and discovering exciting youth-led projects. In May, the students will return to camp for the second part of the program, which will include the development of their own philanthropy project.

Through a variety of activities, these students grew as leaders and became more aware of the opportunities to use their leadership skills to help their communities.

This year's eighth-grade participants included: Mercedes, Brode, Kyle, Kayla, Jacob, Kera, Brandon, Donovan, Abby, and Kenzie.

The Speak UP! program is in its twelfth year and is currently being led by Mrs. VandenBerg. The project is funded through a grant from the Fremont Area Community Foundation.



FMS Photography Earns Honors

FMS eighth-grade students Abby and Kyle entered two of their black and white 35mm photos in a juried community show at the Nuveen Community Center for the Arts in Montague. This annual show is presented by the Nuveen Center, White River Gallery, and branches of the Arts Council of White Lake.

Kyle and Abby took their photos during their eighth-grade Photography Co-curricular class this year. The theme for this year's competition was "Change of Seasons."

Abby entered a photo of her Dad's hands working on his bicycle chain. The piece was titled, "Spring Cleaning." Kyle entered a photo he took of an exaggerated perspective of a FPS school bus titled, "Season of Knowledge."

Kyle's photo earned Honorable Mention in the Youth Division. The Juror for this year was Sandy Meyer, a watercolorist. When choosing awards, she looked for these qualities: originality, creativeness, repetition of shapes and colors, good value contrast, and good composition.

It was really a great experience for these art students to take a risk, enter this competition, and become involved in the arts' community. Congratulations to Abby and Kyle and keep taking great photos!



Serving Others

More than just a Hot Meal

As a new project for 2010 (earning the SPOTLIGHT ON CHILDREN BANNER PATCH), members of the Fremont Packer Leo Club have been rolling up their sleeves, donning aprons and hair nets, and serving food monthly at the Muskegon Rescue Mission's Women and Children's Center.

Three to five Leo members, often a willing parent, and Leo advisor, Laurene Homsher, purchase, prepare, and serve a hot evening meal at the shelter. Bill's Shop-N-Save frequently provides a donation toward the meals or allows food to be purchased at cost.

Meals especially enjoyed are "Italian Night," featuring lasagna, salad, and garlic bread; "Mexican Night," featuring a full taco bar with refried beans and rice; and "All American Night," which includes baked ham with scalloped potatoes, a hot vegetable and pie ala mode. The number of women and children in any given night changes, so plenty of food is made to allow for leftovers, which are greatly appreciated and used the next day for a luncheon at the shelter.

While there is a full-time cook at the Rescue Mission, "Miss Wanda" always appreciates an evening off duty. She has come to learn, however, that the Packer Leo Club prepares outstandingly tasty "homemade" meals, so she often stays, "just to make certain everything is ok."

An additional part of the "educational" portion of the Leo Club is to sit and share with the women and children. Many have stories that are adventurous, some beyond belief, and others heart-breaking, but all needing someone to care at that moment. The Fremont Packer Leos are wonderful "listeners" and by the end of the dinner, tears and hugs are shared.

Leo members who participate at the Mission are always excited to plan the next month's meal because the rewards of making others' evening meal a happy time is a heart-warming event for all.



We-Search Reports

Eighth-grade students in Mrs. Maike's Language Arts classes are working together to investigate a controversial issue.

Utilizing the Modern Language Association of America (MLA) format, the students are writing and publishing an argumentative essay on chosen topics. Some of the topics include: what to do about Asian carp entering the Great Lakes, violence in video games, cell phone use in schools and while driving, and the baiting of deer in Michigan.

These real-life issues give students a chance to do research, learn together, and produce essays they can be proud of. What starts out as work soon becomes an interesting process for many.

Updating School Pride

Shown here is the new look for the FMS front entrance. Renee Wallace painted the bulkhead to boost school spirit and FMS art students have been busy creating works of art and even a sculpture for the hallways and front lobby.



Toilet Tag Science Experiment

Mr. Lynch's seventh-grade science class recently studied the steps of the scientific method and conducted an outdoor experiment by playing a game called toilet tag.

The students conducted an experiment to test their hypothesis to see if playing toilet tag would get the students' heart rates into the target zone of 145-175 beats per minute. Mr. Lynch's class also learned the target heart rate zone is the heart rate needed in order to receive benefits of physical exercise. Such benefits include a reduction in cholesterol levels, increased cardiovascular fitness, an increased ability to focus and learn in the classroom, as well as, the reduction of body fat. The students played the game for half-an-hour and checked their heart rates every five minutes.

As a result of the experiment, the students stated their scientific conclusion and determined that toilet tag is indeed a beneficial game based on the calculations of their heart rates. Mr. Lynch's class also learned how important it is to exercise at least three to five times a week for 30-45 minutes each time.

Overall, the students enjoyed the activity and transferred what they learned in the classroom and applied it to a real-life situation!!



FMS Integrates Learning

Fremont Middle School has opened the door to a new style of instruction – one that embraces the philosophy of inclusion with co-teaching.

Two members of the middle school staff - Loren Edwards, an eighth-grade language arts teacher, and Michelle Moon, a special education teacher - have had the opportunity for the past two years to bring content to all types of students with diverse needs. In a co-taught environment with differentiating instruction and cooperative learning, having creative strategies for lessons is the norm. “I always ask myself what do we do together that is subsequently better than what I can do alone when we sit down to plan,” said Mr. Edwards.

Mr. Edwards and Mrs. Moon have combined to create full-participation with high expectations for all students in the classroom. “Our” students may have modified assignments, but the learning challenges through integration are still demanded.

A sample of their success has been a special needs student known in the past for not verbally participating or being willing to write due to a fear of failure and looking foolish. This student was just waiting to fall through the cracks in the system but has instead discovered he/she has a voice to contribute. While spelling and grammar remain a struggle, his/her opinion can be respected and heard by a wider audience. The student has gone from reluctantly writing a paragraph to writing three-page persuasive papers. These writing assignments are the same expectations in style and length that the teachers have for all the students.

According to Mrs. Moon, “I’m more impressed everyday when I see what both the general education and special needs students accomplish with the creative lessons we throw at them daily. Everyone is always looking forward to those challenges.”

This blending of the student learning population has contributed to raising test scores and is allowing all the students to better reach the state standards.

Currently, there are seven co-taught classes in math and language arts from sixth- through eighth-grade. With these successes, more classes will be added next year to fully integrate teachers and students.

FMS Mathematics Achieving More

The teachings of the Mathematics Department at Fremont Middle School may remind us of the math most of us grew up with – at first glance. Upon further inspection, though, one may notice there are some significant changes in middle school math.

High school students have greater graduation requirements to meet than ever before. Therefore, there is a strong push at the middle school level for students to be more successful in math – trusting this success will translate into doing better at the high school level.

Teachers are expected more than ever before to have their students be actively engaged in their learning. Some of the activities used at FMS include “Search and Rescue;” the “I have...who has” game; the study of Platonic Solids and Isometrics in Geometry; and the use of parallel assessments and knowledge folders.

The concept of parallel assessments may be strange to many parents, so let me try to explain. After suitable instruction, students take a test (I know, what’s new?!) Students who do not score at an appropriate level of achievement (usually better than 80 percent), may complete some extra corrective instruction and then re-take the test. If the student still does not feel successful, there can be more corrective instruction and a third test. Students work to obtain an achievement level that indicates success and will ideally become a success in math at FHS (Note: As students move through the high school sequence of math courses, students are progressively “weaned” from the test/re-test process – insuring that students who graduate from FHS are ready for college-level courses).

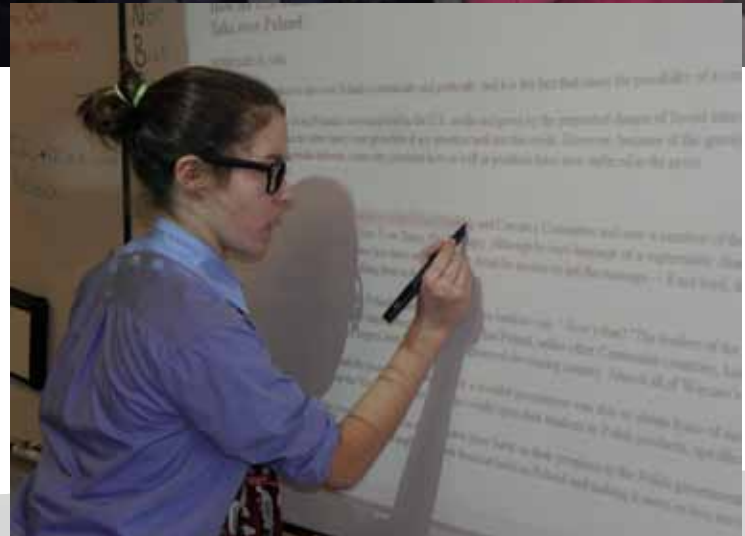
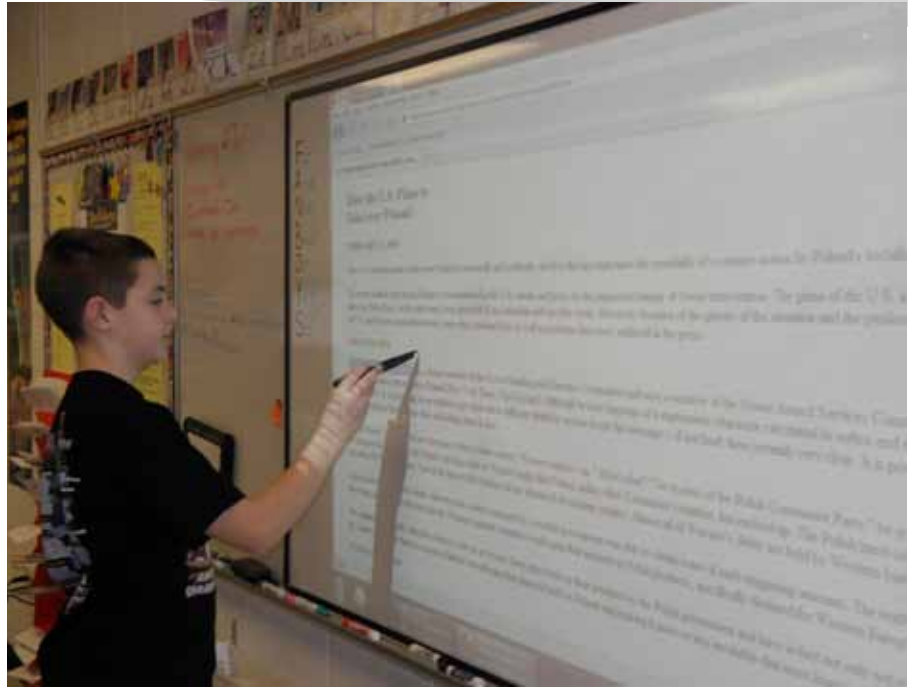
No one knows exactly what the future holds, but the “experts” seem to think that more mathematical thinking is going to be required in the 21st Century. Hopefully, more successful math students at FMS will promote more successful FHS math students and a more informed citizenry.

ēno is Numero Uno

The first day back to school after Christmas vacation is always exciting for teachers and students; sharing stories of adventures, gifts given and received, and smiling faces just happy to see each other after a two-week break. January 2010 proved to be even more exciting for the students in Mrs. Hamilton's classes as they returned to find their classroom setup with new technology. It was Christmas all over again! The students immediately fell in love with the ēno board.

The ēno board is an interactive whiteboard that allows the teacher and students to use multimedia together in the classroom. Combining the old dry-erase whiteboard with a completely wireless stylus and computer, Mrs. Hamilton and her students have the ability to interact both with traditional media, as well as familiar programs like Microsoft PowerPoint or a web browser. During the past several months, the students have become experts on the ēno, and some have even given up their free time to work on the ēno board.

According to Mrs. Hamilton, the availability of this high tech tool in her classroom is, "just another example of our school's commitment to giving students the best opportunity for success."

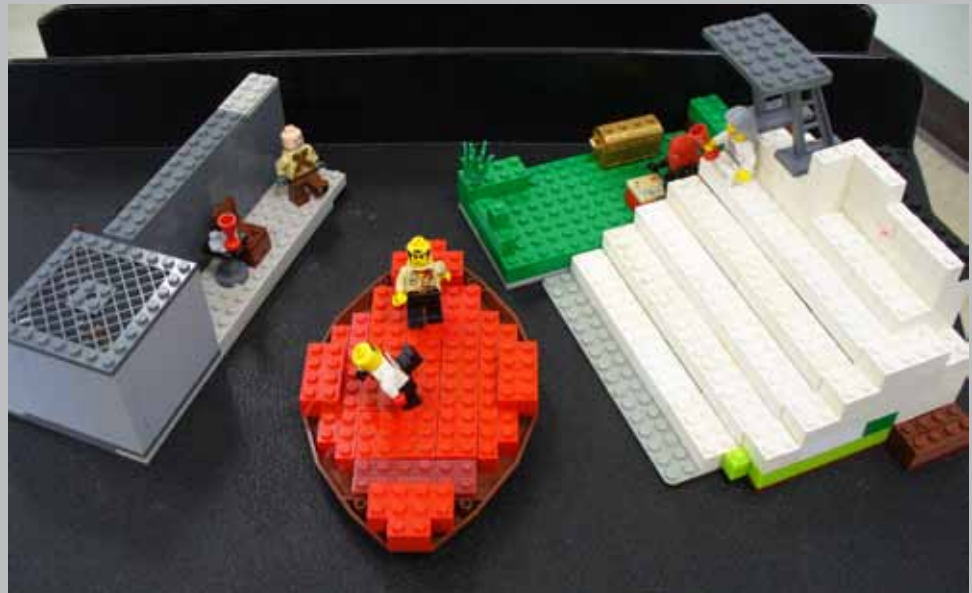


Exploring Ancient Greek Theatre

Students in Mrs. Homsher's seventh-grade theatre class began the marking period studying the roots of Egyptian and Greek Theatre.

Students paired up to research aspects of early theatre and then were asked to complete one of the following projects: a diorama of an original Greek theatre; a poster of either an original Greek theatre, costumes from early theatre or a map of the theatrical regions circa 900 A.D.; or fashion a mask used in ancient theatre.

Students shared their projects in class, describing why they selected the project they did, specific facts relating to the topic chosen, and the historical features of the project. The most creative and interesting project was an ancient proscenium theatre created using a LEGO erector set.



Setting Goals for Personal Growth & Achievement

Seventh-grade students continue to grow here at FMS! As parents, we remember marking the wall each year to measure growth. Those children eventually get to eye level and we can't quite reach. Here, in the seventh grade, the students continue to reach and grow.

When asked what they are learning and what they are striving for this year, we received a wide variety of answers from our 177 members of the class of 2015. Shown below are just a couple of the responses...

"I'll try to get all A's."- Keera

"I will get all A's and turn in all homework."- Ben

"I want to know stuff about business, management and how to cook."- Breanna

"Donate money to charity and do chores to earn money."- Austyn

Seventh-graders: GROW ON!

High School

Quite the Catch

It was a cold and sunny Saturday morning on February 6 when 26 Fremont Conservation Club members and guests ascended on Long/Ryerson Lake for an action-packed day of ice fishing.

The morning started off with everyone getting into teams of two or three people. Once the teams were decided, Doug Frens was gracious enough to assist us by pulling everyone and their gear out onto the ice with his Yamaha Rhino. Doug, as well as a handful of other parents, helped drill holes, set up tip ups, and give assistance to those who had never ice fished before. The morning started off slowly with not a lot of fish being caught; but as the morning progressed, the sun got brighter and the fishing got sweeter. Most everyone saw some action.

The afternoon concluded with a cookout on the ice with hotdogs and chips prepared by Mr. Wyn. Awards were also presented to the team with the most fish and the individual with the largest fish. Cody was the winner of the largest fish - a very nice crappie. He was awarded with a brand new ice fishing kit that included a new rod and reel, along with a tackle kit the FCC purchased from our local Dunham's Sporting Goods store.

Cody and his father also finished the afternoon with the most fish, so they took home the award for the most fish caught by any team. Their reward was a \$20 Spanky's Pizza gift certificate that was donated by Spanky's Pizza.

Overall, the day was as perfect as it could get. There wasn't a cloud in the sky and the ice was perfect for fishing. Everyone that went had a ton of fun learning new techniques and just hanging out with friends and family.

By: Ryan, Conservation Club Secretary



Fremont Varsity Quiz Bowl Wins Lakes 8 Conference

The FHS Quiz Bowl teams finished their conference seasons on March 10, but the Varsity team's season is far from over.

Led by Tara, Felipe, Samantha, John, Jacob, and Shae, the team went 6-0 in conference play and became the 2009-2010 Lakes 8 Conference Champions. Including non-conference games, Fremont went 10-0 during the season and was the only undefeated team.

Fremont will now travel to the 23rd Annual Michigan State Championship High School Quiz Bowl Tournament on April 23 and 24 in East Lansing. The last time Fremont won the conference was during the 2006-2007 season.

Quiz bowl is a fast-paced, team activity where students compete in groups of four against one other team. Each match consists of two, 10-minute halves and requires students to answer individual and team bonus questions. Questions are on topics such as math, science, literature, art, history, sports, and pop culture.

"I am really proud of our team this season," stated Coach Chris Gleason. "Our biggest strength is our wide-range of knowledge. Each member is strong in his or her own subject areas and is an integral part to the team. We are looking forward to the state tournament."

The FHS Quiz Bowl team is hosting a Community Quiz Bowl Competition to raise funds for the trip. Anyone in the community can compete on April 15 at 6:00 pm at the high school. If interested in participating in the event, please contact a quiz bowl member or Chris Gleason at cgleason@fremont.net. Everyone is welcome to attend and watch the competition. For more information, see the competition article below.



Community Quiz Bowl Challenge to be Held

It is once again that time of year when you show off what you know in the annual Community Quiz Bowl Challenge

Details:

Date: Thursday, April 15, 2010

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: FHS

Entry fee: \$40/team of four or \$10/person

Purpose: Proceeds go towards FHS Varsity Quiz Bowl team's trip to State!

Participation has been waning the past couple years, so I'm thinking of mixing things up a bit. Instead of using buzzers, you'll work with your group on a series of questions grouped by topic. Each round will be timed, and at the end of the match the most total points will win. Questions will include all sorts of things like pop culture, sports, and, of course, the good stuff like history and science and everything in between. I'm hoping this new format will encourage new teams to try it and invigorate the veteran squads.

Come out and support the Varsity QB team members as they head to the State competition – following a perfect 10-0 conference season!

P Packer Athletics P

Winter 2010

What an **OUTSTANDING** winter season for Fremont Athletics! Due to our exceptional performance in the Lakes 8, Fremont was above all the other Lakes 8 schools in points for the Lakes 8 All Sports Trophy for the winter season. This is a huge credit to our coaches and athletes for their hard work throughout the past four months. With spring approaching, our goal is to lead the point total for the spring season, as well. In addition to this, we also brought home two district championships and one regional championship.

It was a winter sports season full of excitement in the world of Fremont Athletics. We feel we have the best student section and fans in the entire Lakes 8. On a daily basis, our athletes, students, and parents modeled sportsmanship and leadership. Fremont has a tremendous tradition in athletics and we look forward to continuing to improve our tradition in the future. We feel our exceptional tradition is a credit to the athletes, students, parents, fans, and the community of Fremont.

Congratulations to all the participants and all their fine accomplishments throughout the 2010 winter athletic season. We also would like to thank all the coaches, parents, fans, students and community businesses for all your support of Fremont Athletics. Below are a few highlights of some outstanding accomplishments that took place during the winter of 2010.

Boys Bowling

The boys bowling team was in the Lakes 8 Championship race all the way until the final match. After a hard fought season, the boys bowling team finished a close second behind Orchard View. The boys bowling team was led by great senior leadership and committed underclassmen.

Girls Bowling

Without a doubt, the girls bowling team was one of the best in West Michigan! The girls bowling team won the Lakes 8 and also won the Regional Champions for the second year in a row. Throughout the season, the girls dominated the local bowling tournaments and matches. Congratulations to Coach Justin Moon and his team!

Girls Basketball

The girls basketball team, under the direction of Coach Jeff Moon, was on a mission to defend their previous back-to-back district championships. The girls showed continuous improvement throughout the year and were in the top tier of the Lakes 8 throughout the entire season. A couple close losses resulted in the Lady Packers in a tie for third in the league with Grant. The girls also had an overtime loss in the district semi-finals. Congratulations to Spring Lake on their championship season.

Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team had a great tournament run. After finishing fourth in the League, with Ludington capturing the Lakes 8 title, the boys finished their season strong. Coach Zervas had his program ready to play in the district tournament, where Fremont captured the district title. With great senior leadership, the boys basketball team lost a hard fought battle in the Regional Finals to Muskegon Heights.

GO RED...GO WHITE

Boys Swimming/Diving

The Packers swimming and diving team showed incredible improvement throughout their season. The swim team finished fourth in the Costal Swim Conference. Coach Mary Pekel did an outstanding job preparing her athletes for competition. Their commitment to success was evident at every practice and meet. Zach McGinn also qualified for the state meet.

Wrestling

Wrestling brought home another district championship this season for Fremont Athletics. In addition to this, we had four wrestlers qualify for the state meet. Throughout the season, the wrestling team was battling for a top spot in the Lakes 8, finishing overall in fifth place. The Lakers of Spring Lake won the League wrestling title. Multiple athletes set personal records throughout the wrestling season.

Below is a list of All Conference and All State Athletes for the winter of 2010

All Conference

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Caroline Heitzman | 1 st Team | Basketball |
| Alec Beattie | 1 st Team | Basketball |
| Britney NaDeau | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Alicia Brummel | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Dani Fuller | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Katie Pikaart | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Zach Brandt | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Alex Harmon | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Ashleigh Kolski | 1 st Team | Competitive Cheer |
| Johnny Wiggers | 1 st Team | Wrestling |
| Hunter Blake | 1 st Team | Wrestling |
| Jaden Sella | 1 st Team | Wrestling |
| Tyler Krim | 2 nd Team | Basketball |
| Reed Luchies | 2 nd Team | Basketball |
| Tyler Hunt | 2 nd Team | Bowling |
| Travis Hunt | 2 nd Team | Bowling |
| Emilie Younker | 2 nd Team | Competitive Cheer |
| Cory Price | 2 nd Team | Wrestling |
| McKenzie Lantz | Honorable Mention | Basketball |
| Aimee Baumgartner | Honorable Mention | Competitive Cheer |
| Nathan Sprague | Honorable Mention | Wrestling |
| Zach Kamphorst | Honorable Mention | Wrestling |

All State

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Britney NaDeau | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Zach Brandt | 1 st Team | Bowling |
| Hunter Blake | 1 st Team | Wrestling |

Congratulations Athletes



FHS Boys Varsity Basketball Team Named District Champions

The Boys Varsity Basketball team won the District Championship in Big Rapids on Friday, March 12. The FHS team beat a very good Big Rapids team and then continued on to beat a very good Whitehall team 53-50 in the championship game.

This win marks the team's seventh District Championship in the last nine years. Further, the team is seven for seven in championship games during that time.



Children's Theatre

On February 25 and 26, Fremont elementary schools were treated to an interesting rendition of Cinderella, as performed by 22 high school students.

In this version of Cinderella, O'Reilly breaks up the wedding of Cinderella and Prince Charming only to tell them they are fake versions of the storybook characters. O'Reilly, with the help of her assistant, takes the audience on a fast-paced journey to find the real Cinderella and keep the step sisters and step mother from marrying Prince Chip. Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, and the Little Mermaid complete the entourage looking for a Prince Charming.

This production was enjoyed by approximately 150 Pine Street students, 500 Pathfinder students, 350 Daisy Brook students, and 50 Fremont Christian students.



*in May
a timeless family classic*

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

Dramatized by Joseph Robinette

From the novel by L. M. Montgomery

When aging brother and sister, Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, send to the orphanage in Nova Scotia for a boy to help them on the farm, they get more than they bargain for. Due to a mix-up, they are instead left with 11-year-old Anne Shirley. Over the course of six years, this romantic, hot-headed, and energetic girl wins their hearts and turns the stodgy, rural Canadian community into a bright world of kindred spirits.

May 6, 7, 8

Dogwood Center for the Performing Arts • 7:30 p.m.

Tickets on sale at the Dogwood box office beginning April 20.

| | Advance | Evening of Performance |
|----------------|---------|------------------------|
| Adults | \$10.00 | \$12.00 |
| Students | \$5.00 | \$5.00 |



Fremont Wrestlers

Fremont wrestlers are a hard-working group of athletes who are dedicated to the sport. They not only sacrifice their Saturdays for competition, but they have to diet, weigh-in at certain times, and follow regulations that are mandated by the Michigan Athletic Association. These wrestlers not only have to have the endurance to wrestle their matches, but to have the quick wit and maneuvers to outsmart their opponents. The analogy is much like a chess match.

Many of our past wrestlers have been able to branch out into post-high school careers such as law enforcement and the military. Wrestling has helped them with the self discipline, team comradeship and physical fitness needed for those careers.

Congratulations to Hunter for placing at State! Also, proudly representing Fremont was Theron, Freshman Johnny, and Senior Jaden.

The future looks bright with Bruce Rought, our second-year assistant varsity coach, who brings in new ideas and many years of wrestling knowledge. In addition, a strong eighth-grade squad coached by Tim Elmer will be in place for next year's high school competition. Helping out with the wrestlers are knowledgeable college wrestlers who have had the experience and, again, bring in ideas and technique. It is not just one person who helps a student succeed.

Come watch and support the wrestlers. Once you understand the sport, you will be hooked. We have veteran parents who understand the calls and the point system - just ask them. They will be glad to explain. They love the sport!



Preparing for Commencement

Spring is in the air! Spring sports are practicing, trees are budding out and graduation is right around the corner. Our senior students are traveling all around the country visiting colleges and making life-long decisions. This time of year is always filled with excitement and anxiety for students and parents alike. Please contact the high school office at (231) 924-5300 if we can be of assistance through this right of passage.

We just finished the Michigan Merit Exam for our juniors. The three days went very well. Fremont High School would like to thank McDonalds of Fremont for its generous contribution of breakfast food for the ACT portion of the exam. We had over 120 students take advantage of the breakfast, which was 100 percent higher than any other year. We appreciate McDonalds helping our students get off to a great start.

Upcoming Events for Seniors...

- May 1- Prom
- May 25 - Honors banquet at 6:00 p.m. (Invite only)
- May 26 - Honors assembly at 8:20 a.m.
(Seniors, please dress-up)
- May 26, 27 & 28 - Senior Exams
- May 28 - Seniors' last day
- June 3 - Graduation rehearsal 11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Full Attendance required to walk at graduation)
- June 6 - Commencement at 2:00 p.m.



FHS Art Students Think Globally – Act Locally

The new trimester began with a new project in the FHS Sculpture classes - a project based on the international effort towards peace.

Starting with a lesson on the Nagasaki Peace Museum and Peace Park, the classes learned about the devastation that resulted from the dropping of the atom bomb on Nagasaki, Japan, on August 9, 1945. The classes viewed monuments and sculptures dedicated to peace, read what artists wrote about their work to promote peace, and began a five-week peace project of their own.

With the help of Japanese native and long-time Fremont resident, Hitomi Brokaw, students learned how to make paper origami cranes. For two days, Hitomi demonstrated how to fold the beautiful origami cranes, worked with students in groups and one-on-one, and shared her own special papers of all sizes and patterns. With her guidance and smiles, students completed several cranes, along with a few other origami creations just for the fun of it.

Now, for the next five weeks or so, sculpture students will each make one crane a day until 1,000 cranes are created. Once made, the classes will string them together to make a traditional bundle of 1,000 paper cranes with the plan to send them to the Nagasaki Peace Museum in support of world peace. This is our effort to “Think Globally, Act Locally” and make a positive difference in our world.



State Convention 2010

On March 9, twenty-five students from the Fremont FFA headed to the FFA State Convention in East Lansing. Over the course of four days, members had the opportunity to meet fellow FFA members and attend convention sessions.

During the sessions, the students listened to retiring addresses from State Officers and the keynote speaker, Rick Metzger. Several members of the Fremont FFA received awards during the convention. Outstanding Junior Degrees were awarded to: Rachel, Megan, Chris, Caite, Max and Caitlin. Caitlin and Rachel also earned the Academic Excellence Award.

Seven different Fremont FFA members earned the State FFA Degree, including: Deliah, Mandie, Ryan, Jason, Sarah, Vanessa, and Brooke.

Jason was recognized as the State Star in Agricultural Placement during the 7th Session of the Michigan FFA State Convention. This award recognizes the student with the best Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs who works in the agricultural industry. Jason works on Smith Dairy Farm, a centennial dairy farm north of town. In order

to be named the State Winner, Jason filled out a lengthy application, had an onsite interview, and finally was interviewed in Lansing by a panel of judges. Jason was selected from the 250+ FFA members who received their State FFA Degree as the State Winner. His parents are Dave and Bev and his grandparents are Valmond and Ester - all of Fremont.

Proficiency awards are given to students with exceptional SAEs. Four different Fremont FFA members were recognized for their work in their SAE programs. Jason, as mentioned, was the State Champion in the Dairy Placement Proficiency for his work on his family-owned centennial farm. Max was the State Champion in Agricultural Processing for his work at Cushman Meat Processing. Caitlin works at Pell's Dairy farm and earned a Silver Rating in Dairy Placement. Travis earned a bronze award in Diversified Crop Production. Travis works for his dad on their family's centennial farm.

Three FFA members competed in State Leadership Contests. Jason received a silver award in Extemporaneous Public Speaking. In the Job Interview contest, Caitlin received a gold award and Morgan received a silver award. Congratulations to those who received awards!



The Fremont High School Industrial Arts program is hosting the **Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society's (MITES)** Regional Competition



Regional Competition
Friday, April 30



Public Viewing 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
(In the FHS Gym)

Everyone is welcome to come and see the best wood and metal projects from eight counties!

West Michigan Showcase
Representatives Announced

The Annual West Michigan Showcase was held on March 17 and 18. This year's FHS representatives included...

Academic - John Carlson

Female Athlete - McKenzie Lantz

Male Athlete - Reed Luchies

Literary Arts - Kellie White

Performing Arts (solo) - Matthew Rusco

Performing Arts (group) - "NuCleus" (Eight-member string ensemble including: Morgan Beeler, Jordan Crandell, Alicia Juengel, Destiny Noordyk, Sarah Paris, Nick Voyt, Rachel Voyt, and Heather Warfield)

Visual Arts - Shae Schornagel

Earning third-place honors in the Visual Arts category was Shae Schornagel. Earning second-place honors in the Literary Arts category was Kellie White.

Matt Rusco gave a great guitar/vocal solo presentation, while our FHS double string quartet – NuCleus – gave an outstanding and lively performance that was PURE ENTERTAINMENT.

Please congratulate these outstanding high school students. All of our nominees represented our school so well and made us proud.

Save the Date...

Prom

May 1, 2010

Fruitport Golf Club

8:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

Tickets Go on Sale April 16!

Quest

Service Learning Prepares Students

Take a moment and think of how our students in Fremont are going beyond their classroom settings and practicing skills needed to succeed in real world jobs and professions. A great example of this type of experience occurred when QHS' Environmental Science class students provided a hands-on living history program for FMS' eighth-grade students.

Quest students conducted research on the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition of 1804-1806 and later did an admirable job bringing this historical event to life for the younger students.

This Quest endeavor was formally known as Service Learning. This teaching and learning strategy results in students taking what they have learned and skills they have honed to provide a service to their community. Quest students did just that. They first spent several weeks researching topics of interest related to the "Lewis and Clark Expedition" - especially in the areas of applied science, nature investigations, and Native American interactions.

The students then prepared displays involving artifacts and other items, learned how to conduct interpretive talks and lead hands-on activities, and even cooked several food items using 200-year-old recipes. After that, the students practiced setting up stations and rehearsed their interpretive skills, as they readied themselves for the real test – leading their "clients" (eighth-graders) through informative and interesting hands-on programs/stations. The key goal was to help their clients truly feel and experience what it sounded, looked, smelled, and even tasted like along the trail of Lewis and Clark's expedition.

On the awaited day, Quest students set up Lewis & Clark and Native American encampments in the FMS gym, giving the look and feel of 200 years ago. Following a couple introductory interpretive presentations by their teacher, the students quickly took over and began conducting six interpretive, hands-on stations - something few had ever done before. As small groups of eighth-graders rotated through, the older kids soon drew the "clients" into an aura of going back in time.

This service learning experience proved that students can indeed use what they know and practice job skills in a very useful and beneficial way. Quest students can be proud of this big step towards real-world employment.

Incidentally, these high school students actually conducted their station programs 20 times to accommodate all eighth-graders at FMS. What is the proof of success, you ask? Well, the "clients" will tell you that they were inspired and left feeling like satisfied customers.



Packers' Pride

Growing Healthy – Inside & Out

Healthy eating is practiced all year at Packers' Pride Childcare Center and Pre-school, but during the month of March, we explore each food group separately. We discuss the portions needed each day to grow and be healthy, as well as the "job" of each food group.

In addition to studying about food for our bodies, Packers' Pride students also studied 'food for thought' – books – as March is deemed National Reading month. In the past, we have been involved in the "Book-it Pre-School Program." Unfortunately, the program was discontinued this year. So, we got creative and chose books that talked about eating.

During grain week, we baked bread with the Little Red Hen and had a pajama party with a pig and made pancakes. During fruit and vegetable week, we sampled blueberries with Sal and planted carrot seeds with a little boy whose family didn't think it would grow. During the following week, we read Green Eggs and Ham by Dr Seuss. Hmm... What do you suppose we sampled?

Eating healthy is really very simple and can be a lot of fun. We offer a large variety from each food group; and when the children get involved in the preparation, they are more likely to try something new and develop a fondness for it. Our hope is to develop and strengthen good eating and reading habits that will last a life time.

This month, we are celebrating the young child. We are planning a special family supper and have invited guests to come and teach us about healthy teeth, healthy bodies and good hair care. In addition, we certainly won't forget the importance of builders and mechanics – rounding off the professions in our community that we have been exploring all year.

We are beginning our summer and fall enrollment. Anyone wishing to visit, please feel free to call or e-mail. Packers' Pride is a full- or part-day childcare center for infants and children ages zero through seven, as well as a licensed pre-school program. Our program promises to offer opportunities for your child to explore, manipulate, discover, to make choices, and to create through age-appropriate materials, equipment and activities. For more information, please feel free to call me – Allison Alderton - at (231)924-7435 or e-mail me at aalderton@fremont.net.



An Opportunity to Share

Julie Rozeboom, a 2001 Quest High School graduate, came back on March 8 to speak to Mrs. Zeerip's health class on issues of childhood obesity and what we can do to reduce this nationwide epidemic.

After her presentation, students were able to ask questions and had a chance to hear about what her experience was like at Quest and her reasons for choosing QHS.

Miss Rozeboom will be graduating from Ferris State University in December with a degree in Health Administration. Thank you, Julie for taking the time to share with us.



On the Back Cover...

FHS art students are busy creating origami cranes. The students are working to create a string of 1,000 cranes. The students then plan to send them to the Nagasaki Peace Museum in support of world peace – an effort to “Think Globally, Act Locally” and make a positive difference in our world. For more, see page 24.



School Matters District Newsletter

Administration

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Jim Hieftje, Interim Superintendent | (231) 924-2350 |
| Jim Hieftje, Dir. of State/Fed. Programs, Curriculum & HR..... | (231)924-2350 |
| Bing Hanson, Director of Financial Services..... | (231) 924-2350 |
| Rob Pouch, Dir. of Athletics/Recreation Enrichment | (231) 924-7373 |
| Jan Kandler-Kartes, Athletic Director's Secretary..... | (231)924-7329 |
| Nancy Sparks, Pine Street Primary Principal..... | (231)924-3530 |
| Bob Cassidy, Pathfinder Principal | (231) 924-7230 |
| Nancy Sparks, Daisy Brook Principal | (231) 924-4380 |
| Ken Haggart, Middle School Principal..... | (231)924-0230 |
| Scott Sherman, High School Principal..... | (231)924-7332 |
| Debra Wightman, High School Assistant Principal..... | (231)924-7347 |
| Jim Hieftje, Quest High School Principal..... | (231)924-2350 |
| Tracy Sanchez, Dir. Quest Educational Programs | (231) 924-0470 |
| Eva Houseman, Director of Special Education..... | (231)652-3834 |
| Ryan Engang, Director of Operations..... | (231)924-8825 |
| Don Vincent, Director of Transportation..... | (231)924-4390 |
| Denise McDaniel, Director of Food Services..... | (231)924-8160 |
| Dianna Dakin, Technology Coordinator..... | (231)924-8190 |

Board of Education

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Anita Osterman | President |
| Karla Gilliland..... | Vice President |
| Jim Featherstone..... | Secretary |
| Phil Harmon..... | Treasurer |
| Ed Wosinski..... | Trustee |
| Linda Blais..... | Trustee |
| Matt Hendrie..... | Trustee |

Regular School Board meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the administration building. Please call (231) 924-2350 or check the district website at www.fremont.net for more information. The public is invited to attend.

School Matters is published five times each year.

Amber Hogancamp, Editor – Printed by Hi-Lites Graphics Inc.

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, it is the policy of Fremont Public Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in employment, programs or activities.

FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS RECREATION DEPARTMENT

204 E Main, Suite 3, Fremont, MI 49412 – 231-924-3750

New location! S. end of Fremont HS.

Web site: <https://communityed.fremont.net>

On-line signup available with credit card.

.....

KARATE

| No. | Class | Days | Dates | Times | Fees |
|------|----------------------|------|-----------|-------------|------|
| 8006 | Kid's Karate age 6+ | M/Th | 4/12-5/27 | 6:00-6:45pm | \$20 |
| 8007 | Adult Karate age 11+ | M/Th | 4/12-5/27 | 6:30-8:30pm | \$35 |

SPRING EXERCISE

| No. | Class | Days | Dates | Times | Fees |
|-------|------------------|-------|-----------|--------------|------|
| 4001B | Senior Water Ex. | M/W/F | 2/22-3/31 | 8:30-9:15am | \$30 |
| 4002B | Senior Water Ex. | T/TH | 2/23-4/01 | 8:30-9:15am | \$25 |
| 5001A | Senior Aerobics | M/W/F | 4/12-6/04 | 9:00-10:00am | \$35 |

SPRING TUMBLING

| No. | Class | Days | Dates | Times | Fees |
|------|------------------|------|----------|-------------|------|
| 700A | Presch(age3&4) | T | 4/13-6/1 | 4:00-4:45pm | \$30 |
| 700B | Presch(age 3&4) | Th | 4/15-6/3 | 5:00-5:45pm | \$30 |
| 701 | Beginner(age 5+) | T | 4/13-6/1 | 4:45-5:45pm | \$35 |
| 702 | Tumble I | TH | 4/15-6/3 | 4:00-5:00pm | \$35 |
| 703 | Tumble II | TH | 4/15-6/3 | 5:45-6:45pm | \$35 |
| 704 | Tumble III | T | 4/13-6/1 | 5:45-6:45pm | \$35 |

TABLE TENNIS: Tues, 7:30-9:30pm, CE Gym
\$3/person For somewhat serious players, age 16+
Bring paddle

K-6 RECREATION SOCCER: Practice starts week of April 12. Coaches needed at all levels! Call 924-3750.

T-BALL/COACH-PITCH: sign-up will begin after Spring Break.

INDOOR WALKING in the MS halls or walk track (when open) 3:30-8:30 pm M-Th, 3:30-5:30pm Fri. (follows school schedule).

Fremont Public Schools
220 W. Pine Street
Fremont MI 49412

NonProfit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fremont, MI
PERMIT NO. 72

RURAL ROUTE BOX HOLDER
POST OFFICE BOX
OR OCCUPANT

April 2010

School Matters

<http://www.fremont.net>

Student Centered • Learning Focused • World Ready

