

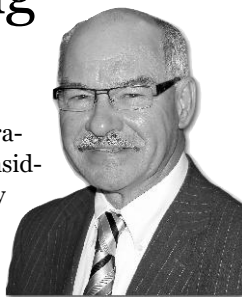
SCHOOL MATTERS

A publication of Fremont Public Schools ★ For more information visit www.fremont.net ★ December 2013

Smaller Class Sizes at Pathfinder can help Student Learning

By Jim Hieftje, Superintendent

Our school district's building administrators and the board of education are considering changes at Pathfinder Elementary that would reduce the enrollment at the school and ultimately result in smaller class sizes.



One of the steps being considered is moving third grade classes from Pathfinder Elementary to Daisy Brook. Eventually, we would hire more K-2 teachers to break down class sizes.

Reducing the size of Pathfinder will make more classrooms available, giving us flexibility so that we may better focus on the educational needs of our earliest learners.

With seven classrooms per grade at Pathfinder, we could realize class sizes of 23. At the same time, we would balance the overall numbers of students in the two buildings.

Is there room at Daisy Brook? Let's look at the numbers.

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Enrollment	2016-17
630			Pathfinder as K-3	
308			Daisy Brook as 4-5	
	465	486	Pathfinder as K-2	480
	476	464	Daisy Brook as 3-5	487

Smaller class sizes in an elementary school can have a well-known positive impact on the learning of young students. Smaller classes can be even more helpful for the growing numbers of our students who are growing up poor.

One measure of poverty is the number of children who qualify for free and reduced price school meals. At Pathfinder and Daisy Brook, 60% of our students qualify for this benefit.

A number of studies have examined the effects of poverty on learning and on a child's readiness to learn. Children who are exposed to poverty at a young age often have trouble academically.



Recently, researchers at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis published their results of brain scans of 145 children between the ages of 6 and 12 who had been tracked since preschool. This study was just released in the journal JAMA Pediatrics.

(continued on next page)

Bus Drivers Needed

The Transportation Department is looking for substitute bus drivers. Free training provided. Information is posted at www.fremont.net, or call 924-4390. ■

SCHOOL MATTERS



Fremont Public Schools Newsletter

Providing you with important information about your schools.

Address comments and suggestions to:

Jim Hieftje, Superintendent
450 E. Pine Street
Fremont, MI 49412
Phone: 231-924-2350

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Pine Street Primary Center: 231-924- 2350
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The Board of Education holds its regular meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Meeting dates are subject to change. Please check the school district web page - www.fremont.net - for meeting locations and times.

Class sizes, continued

Their findings: Poverty appears to be associated with smaller brain volumes in areas involved in emotion processing and memory.

Children in the study exposed to poverty at an early age had smaller volumes of overall white and gray brain matter, as well as lesser volumes of brain areas that affect memory. White and gray matter, nerve tissues found in the brain, are associated with sending communications in the brain, as well as sensory perception, memory, emotions and speech.

This finding, and earlier research that shows poverty's damaging effects can lead to poor cognitive outcomes and school performance, underscores the importance of early and appropriate academic interventions.

We can improve our children's learning, growth and achievement by controlling our class sizes at the early grade levels. Pathfinder, as our gateway school, is a vital link in this process. ■



Preschoolers Enjoy Lessons About Fall

Autumn offers such amazing teaching opportunities. Trees turning extraordinary colors of red, yellow, orange and even purple can help us learn that red and yellow mixed together becomes orange.

We experienced the magic of metamorphosis when our classroom monarch butterfly emerged from its chrysalis and was released to migrate to warmer climates.

As the days turned cooler, we noticed that our last recess for the day is a little darker. It's now harvest time. We see farmers in the fields combining corn and beans.

Packers' Pride Preschoolers experienced the ultimate fun fall activity during a hayride to visit **The Gentleman Farmer** and his wife, to carve a classroom pumpkin and pick apples for applesauce.

We learned that not all pumpkins are the same. Some are used for Jack-o-lanterns, others to make delicious pies. Our thanks to Doug and Holly for the hayride and to Randy Heiss and his wife Laurie for their generosity and, especially, for the time both couples shared with us.

Later we prepared apples for our traditional sauce. As we washed and cut the apples, we noticed they were oxidizing. Were our fresh apples spoiling? After investigation and taste



There's not much better than a good roll in the leaves on a bright fall day.

tests, we learned that the apples were not rotten. It was just the air and apple juice causing the brown color. Some of the children thought they were even sweeter. Apple sauce-making turned out to be sweet and tasty!

Children are naturally curious about most everything. At Packers' Pride Childcare and Preschool, we try to offer a variety of opportunities and experiences for children to stretch their imagination and vocabulary and their understanding of their surroundings.

You can do the same for your child by embracing each season outside, day or night. Talk to your child about the wind chill, fire hydrants, stars and planets, and nocturnal animals. Choose a new word of the day.

We walk past interesting things and teaching opportunities every day. Stop for a few minutes to explore with your children. ■



First grade students and a fire department friend.

First Graders Learn Fire Safety

Members of the **Fremont Fire Department** recently visited the first grade pod.

Dressed in their official fire gear, the firemen discussed fire safety with the students. They also brought their trucks to show the students. **Mr. Ransom** even got to play dress up.

Thank you Fremont Fire Department for donating your time! ■

Science Alive! Comes to First Grade

Science Alive! came to all the first grade classrooms on October 8. The instructors brought with them a skunk, boa constrictor, Burmese python, chinchilla, Amazon frog, and an armadillo.

Each first grade classroom studied the animals up-close, learning about each animal and its unique characteristics. They enjoyed touching the animals and watching them play.

There were lively discussions about each animal's habitat, life cycle, and diet. It was a great hands-on experience!

The cost of the visit was covered by a very generous donation from our **Parent Teacher Organization**. The PTO raises money through student and parent fundraisers. Thank you, PTO, for your support. ■



Daisy Brook Cross Country Run Winners

Fourth Grade Girls

1	Taylor Gerth	4:40
2	Mia Witte	4:55
3	Kennedy Christoffersen	4:58
4	Haley Zerlaut	4:58
5	Ashlyn Hoppa	5:18
6	Brooklyn Prevette	5:30
7	Rylee Best	5:33
8	Karissa Ringler	5:38
9	Grace Heft	5:41
10	Autym Groenke	5:42

Fourth Grade Boys

1	Gage Breuker	4:12
2	Enrique Bowman	4:19
3	Conor Somers	4:20
4	Joey DeLong	4:24
5	Carter Miller	4:34
6	Gabe Whittle	4:35
7	Marcus Klimek	4:36
8	Zach Riley	4:37
9	Ruben Armenta	4:53
10	Caleb Schreiber	4:57

Fifth Grade Girls

1	Calla Miller	4:03
2	Abby Vandenberg	4:05
3	Mackenzie Stitt	4:07
4	Daizy Tiffany	4:44
5	Briana Webber	4:50
6	Sierra Horton	4:52
7	Kassy Fialek	5:32
8	Andi Bradley	5:35
9	Rylee Richards	5:36
10	Jeanelle Scharphorn	5:37

Fifth Grade Boys

1	Nathan Walker	3:47
2	Trey Breuker	3:56
3	Ben Paige	3:57
4	Joshua Zerfas	4:05
5	Colton Best	4:08
6	Wesley Ekkel	4:15
7	Joe Kortge	4:15
8	Jonathan Mellema	4:23
9	Isaiah Hansen	4:30
10	Nathan Comis	4:32



The top finishers in Daisy Brooks' Cross County Run, with Mr. Lindsay.



Fitness and Goal-Setting Displayed at Daisy Brook Elementary School

Students of Daisy Brook Elementary School (grades 4-5) gathered under cloudy wet skies to participate in the Annual Cross Country Run over a 1,000m (1km) course around school grounds on Thursday, October 24.

Four separate runs were staged, and nearly all students participated, displaying their fitness and pursuit of goals.

Congratulations to all who moved, from starting line to finish banner, through wind, rain and sleet! You did it!

The importance of regular physical activity has been discussed in physical education class since the beginning of the school year. Students have been challenged to move--in PE class, at recess, after school and on weekends, by themselves, with friends, and with parents and others in their families.

Many have accepted the challenge and set a goal of completing the Daisy Brook Marathon. All of these things have contributed to improved fitness by a majority of Daisy Brook students. And all of this was on display in the Cross Country Run.

Some challenged themselves to move without stopping. Others had the goal of moving without walking. And some made it their goal to race, running their fastest over the entire 1 km distance in friendly competition against other determined classmates.

Many children took their bodies to the highest levels of physical challenge they have ever achieved. There were determined sprints to the finish banner by runners in the front, middle and back of the pack. Ask a Daisy Brook student to tell the story of their run.

The front-runners attracted a lot of the attention, and they deserve special recognition. In the 4th grade girls run, strong-running **Taylor Gerth** pulled away from strong challengers to finish first with a time of 4:40. **Mia Witte** was second to cross the line in 4:55, followed closely by **Kennedy Christoffersen** and **Haley Zerlaut**, who had the same times of 4:58.

The 4th grade boys run produced a cluster of fast runners who completed the course in under 5 minutes. Leading the way was consistent-paced **Gage Breuker** in 4:12, followed closely by determined **Enrique Bowman** in 4:19, and **Conor Somers** in 4:20.



Students set personal goals in the Daisy Brook Cross Country Run.

The highlight of the 5th grade girls run was the start-to-finish lead of defending champion **Calla Miller**, who crossed the line in a speedy 4:03. She was followed very closely by two other extremely talented and fit runners, **Abby Vandenberg** in 4:05 and **Mackenzie Stitt** in 4:07. These are very fast times for young runners. Perhaps they will be teammates on future FMS and FHS cross country teams?

Nathan Walker also dominated with his front-runner performance in the 5th grade boys run. His fitness has improved through participation in the 6th grade training group, and he has gained experience by running longer races. His fast time of 3:47 is proof of his fitness and willingness to challenge himself to go fast. The race for second place was very exciting, with **Trey Breuker** narrowly outkicking determined **Ben Paige**. Their times were 3:56 and 3:57. These top three were the fastest runners in all four runs this year.

Cross country is also a team sport, and class team scores were calculated. Complete team results were posted in the gym and printed in the Daisy Brook Newsletter.

Congratulations to all finishers. You did it! We hope this introduction to running, fitness instruction and goal-setting will continue to support your willingness to physically challenge yourselves--for the fitness and health of it! ■

Middle School Holds Third Annual Taste of Nations

The 3rd Annual Taste of Nations celebration welcomed more than 500 guests with catered tastes from India by the **Punjab Grill** in Grand Rapids, Turkey from **Zeytin** in Ada, and Thai food from **Old Chen's** in Fremont.

Foods from every continent were created by our students. Musical entertainment was provided by the **Pangea** steel drum band and the FMS orchestra and band.

Irish, Japanese, Mexican and Peruvian dances were featured. Make & take art activities from Mexico, as well as origami, calligraphy and chopsticks demonstrations with our Yahaba exchange students took place in the big gym.

The evening concluded with a fashion show of clothing and accessories from several different countries.



Thank you to the many students, parents and teachers who helped to make this year a success! And a special thanks to the Fremont Area Community Foundation for its continued support of this worthwhile event. ■



Middle School Students Enjoy ArtPrize

Fremont Middle School enjoyed a day at ArtPrize thanks to the generosity of **Mrs. Rosemary Tittle**, who donated the cost of the buses to Grand Rapids.

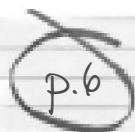
Students had a beautiful day to walk and see the artwork at outdoor and indoor venues. Some of the artists were also available to talk to.

It was fun to experience all of the things in a large city, too--like outdoor food trucks, busy streets, elevators and escalators!

Students practiced how to behave in the Grand Rapids Art Museum, and had lots of great conversations about art and why they liked some pieces and appreciated all of the time spent making others.



As we look forward to going again next year, we want to say thank you to Mrs. Tittle and to **True North** for organizing this wonderful experience. ■



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Fun at the Rink

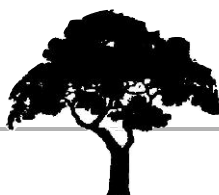
In early November, sixth graders attended the **Hockey for Health** Muskegon Lumberjack game.

Students who had completed their work on a regular basis and did not have any suspensions or detentions were rewarded with a fun day at the rink.

The students watched the Lumberjacks take on the Cedar Rapids RoughRiders. It was a great game, which the Lumberjacks won. Everyone had a fun time. ■



Cheering on the Muskegon Lumberjacks.



Fremont Rainforest

Rainforest Students Prepare for June Trip

Fremont Rainforest has taken more than 400 students, parents and teachers to the Amazon jungle of Peru since 1998.

Students begin working toward their goal more than a year before they travel. This year's group has already sponsored car washes, pop can drives, movie nights, root beer float sales, apple picking and dances, and put on the first annual Jungle Jog 5K to earn money for their trip in June.

Of course, education is a major part of this experience. Students meet throughout the year to learn about the ecology and culture of the Peruvian Amazon before they travel there and witness it for themselves.

Students also participate in many service projects at home and while they are in Peru. Past projects have included river clean-up on the Muskegon and Pere Marquette Rivers, food distribution, Camp Newaygo and Camp Pinewood clean-up, and Fremont lakefront clean-up.

This year's group worked at clearing the trails in the Fremont Middle School's nature center. They are



The work is easier when you have a great goal in mind!

currently working on raising money for clean water systems they will help install while in Peru.

Fremont Rainforest has been really busy this year participating in the Harvest Festival Parade and at the Middle School's Taste of Nations. Our participants are among the very best students, athletes, and musicians our schools have to offer.

Please support these young people as they strive to attain their goal. ■

Guest Artist Jane Stroschin works with FHS Art Students

Fremont High School art students this fall were lucky to have well-known local professional artist **Jane Stroschin** come into their classes for two different art projects.

Jane worked with one drawing and two painting classes for almost two weeks, arriving first thing in the morning and finishing up in the afternoon.

Painting classes completed outdoor landscapes as Jane coached them step-by-step. She demonstrated brush techniques and how to blend paint colors on the canvas, then worked with students individually, answering questions and considering various options to help achieve the desired effect.

During the drawing class, Jane provided individual still-life models for each student consisting of a tree branch and a round, white ornament. She then went on to explain the use of values in order to shade their projects to look realistic and three-dimensional.

Jane was great with the students, and the kids really liked her and the expertise she offered. What she taught was invaluable, both in art lessons and about life.



Jane works with Carlie Schwartz on her painting's foreground.

About 90 art students worked with Jane, creating an original piece the "Jane Stroschin way."

Said art teacher **Chris Rosenberg**: "We are so fortunate to have such a valuable resource as Jane here in our town, and even luckier to have had her right in our classroom."

Thanks, Jane. Your love of art is rubbing off on all of us. ■

Painting for the Annual Orchid Society Show

Two high school artists, **Cassie Wilson** and **Allison Kublin**, volunteered to paint the backdrop for this year's **Grand Valley Orchid Society** display booth.

The mural will be a backdrop for the featured plants and blossoms of the orchid society's entry in the American Orchid Society-sponsored annual show, to be held at GVSU during January.

Orchid society President **Norm Goebel**, who taught science at FHS for 21 years, inquired to see if there were any high school artists who would like to paint the booth scene.

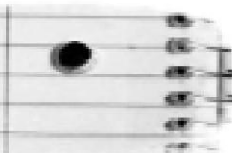
"No pressure," Norm said with a chuckle, "our booth only took first place in last year's show!"

Allison and Cassie took on the project working during class, sometimes through their lunches, and mostly after school. They upheld the high standard set for them, and produced a beautiful tropical jungle scene, set on a river's bank in keeping with the theme of this year's entry.

The Orchid Show is open to the public. Stop in and see the great job our young artists completed. ■



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Visiting Artist Perry Seavitt brings Joy to Painting

The high school's fall painting classes began with a visit from artist **Perry Seavitt**.

Perry, who lives near here, previously taught art at Kendall College, Careerline Tech Center in Holland, Baker College and Muskegon Community College. He took time from his busy fall schedule, including working with artists at ArtPrize, to guide 60 painting students in Mrs. Rosenberg's art classes.

Using pieces of left over wood from his recent deck-building project, Perry "brought out the kindergartner" in the kids. He challenged them to look for the character and story of the wood and to have fun while painting.

With the main directive of choosing a specific color palette--warm or cool--students laid down and brushed out colors showing waves of light and dark and blends of all kinds.

After loosening up a bit, students learned to trust their hunches and to go with the flow. Amazing works of art



Adria Stone and Kaitlyn Ellsworth display paintings they completed during their session with guest artist Perry Seavitt.

emerged, some in a matter of moments. It was both surprising and rewarding to try something so new, yet so simple.

Thank you, Perry, for reminding us to have fun doing what we love. ■



ArtPrize

Sixty students from **Mrs. Rosenberg's** and **Mrs. Pekel's** art classes, joined by **Mr. Lienau**, boarded a bus for ArtPrize in Grand Rapids.

It was a beautiful fall day for a walking tour of the city. We started by the public museum, walked along the river, across the Blue Bridge and headed toward the BOB.

We saw many outdoor sculptures and pieces along the way, and enjoyed multiple pieces in the parking lot and on all levels of the BOB.

After several photo ops, we walked to Rosa Park Circle, where we enjoyed our lunches in the sunshine. Some students wandered the park and checked out a few local venues.

After lunch we headed to DeVos Place, through the Amway Grand Hotel, back across the river, and to the Gerald R. Ford Museum. Although the museum was closed, several of the artists were stationed outside under large tents. It was there that we viewed ***Sleeping Bear Dune Lakeshore***, the eventual contest winner. ■



High school art students at ArtPrize in Grand Rapids.

Art on Display at FADL

The display case at the north entrance of the Fremont Area District Library has been featuring artwork from Fremont High School students.

Student artwork created in class during the fall has been on display. This is a great way to highlight the creativity of the art students in Fremont Public Schools, and a wonderful venue to showcase their amazing work.

November: Mrs. Rosenberg's classes

December: Mrs. Pekel's art classes

January: Mrs. Richmond's MS art classes. ■

Biology Students Learn about Sustainable Development

How do ecological principles guide us toward sustainable development?

That was the key summation question posed to 120 students in **Mr. Wyn's** biology classes over the last couple of weeks.

To help answer that question, students visited three community centers where sustainable development is being practiced.

The **Gerber Wastewater Facility**, **Karnemaat Farms**, and the **Community Digester** all opened their doors (though most of the time was spent outside) to talk to kids about sustainable use of water, soil, and atmosphere.

According to Wyn, it didn't make sense to just *read* about sustainable development in a book when there are local entities putting these principles into practice every day.

A **Maxwell T. Hamilton grant** written last spring paid the transportation costs.

The class wants to extend its thanks to **John Hruby** from Gerber Wastewater, **Tom Karnemaat** from Karnemaat Farms, and **Kimberly Rosencrans** and **Brian Heiss** from the Community Digester for sharing their time to lead the tours and answer students' questions. ■



Top to bottom:
Karnemaat Farms
Gerber Wastewater Treatment Facility
Fremont Community Digester



Art Students Join Harvest Festival

Every year during the Fremont Harvest Festival, the Fremont Chamber of Commerce sponsors a Hay Art contest. Businesses fashion sculptures mostly from hay bales and paint.

This year art students from **Mrs. Pekel's** class joined the fun with their own sculpture, which consisted of round bales stacked into a cylindrical, paint-splattered art container full of artist's pencils and paint brushes.

Each student worked hard to create the first hay sculpture at the new high school. They would like to thank **Larry Sherman** for generously donating the hay bales. ■

Former Fremont FFA Officer Runs for National Office



After finishing her freshman year at Michigan State University, **Abby Spickerman** returned home to Fremont like many college students do for the summer.

Yet, the way she spent her summer vacation was different than most. Abby was preparing for an opportunity of a lifetime. In October, Abby represented Michigan as a National Officer Candidate at the **National FFA Convention**, held in Louisville, Kentucky.

At the convention, six college students are elected to serve as National Officers to represent FFA. Abby was one of more than 40 students running for those six positions.

While Abby was not selected as a national officer, she is the first student from the Fremont FFA Chapter to be the Michigan FFA National Officer Candidate.

Before the convention, she traveled the U.S., attending conventions, training and workshops.

Abby was an active member of the Fremont FFA Chapter, serving as President her senior year. She went on to serve as the Michigan FFA State President in 2012-13.

She is the daughter of Dale & Diane Spickerman, a 2012 graduate of Fremont High School, and a sophomore at Michigan State University, majoring in Agriscience Education.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 557,318 student members in grades 7 through 12 who belong to one of 7,498 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. ■

P Stay Tuned When the Weather Turns

By Zach Lienau, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

The winter sports season has its challenges with the weather. Fremont High School, along with the majority of the Lakes 8 Conference teams, will make a decision on that evening's competition by 1 p.m. when school is canceled for the day.

If you have not heard if a high school competition is canceled after checking with the major news organizations, feel free to contact the Athletic Office after 1 p.m. by calling **231-924-7329**.

All middle school athletics will be canceled when school is canceled.

Please come and cheer on our Packers to victory this winter! ■

Quest High Students Participate in Sports

A third place trophy in a disc golf tournament in Grand Rapids was a recent achievement for Quest High School students. The team consisted of Mo Wood (medalist), Noah Burns, Bryce Cox (medalist), James Booth and Dustee Tanner (medalist).

The school's flag football team also was in action recently, traveling to Alma to take on Republic High School. The team lost a hard fought game 14-6. Cisco Cruz scored the lone touchdown for the Knights in this defensive battle.

The Knight gridiron squad then hosted Fulton. The team put up a valiant effort before giving up a couple of late touchdowns. The final score of 27-14 does not indicate how close the game really was. Cisco Cruz and Bryce Cox scored touchdowns for the Knights. ■



From left: James Booth, Noah Burns and Dustee Tanner.
Not pictured: Bryce Cox and Mo Wood.

Quest Educational Programs

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Need that HS Diploma/GED for job advancement or higher wages?



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Quest Science

By Walter E. Ewing, Quest High Student

Ask a student at Quest High School what they are learning, and how, in science this trimester and you might be surprised with the “happenings” they mention--that is, unique hands-on experiences.

During one environmental science class session, students braved cold wet mornings to conduct stream studies along Daisy Brook Creek. Students performed chemical parameter tests, examined and evaluated physical characteristics of the stream, collected and surveyed macro invertebrates (bugs), and determined the amount of “water discharge.”

These field labs provided the class with data to calculate the overall water quality. Class member Ryan Mohrback said he enjoyed getting out and learning hands-on.

“Whenever we went down to the stream, I found I was learning things left and right, because I apparently didn’t know as much as I thought. I didn’t realize how many organisms are actually in a stream, nor that certain organisms need to have such a clean stream to survive.”

Biology (genetics) class students have been busy with a myriad of hands-on activities and labs, such as DNA fingerprinting analysis, simulated gene recombination using a “Gene Creature” lab, jigsaw group presentations, microscope labs, and construction of a variety of genetics-based models.

Through the use of equipment from the MAISD Math and Science Center, more sophisticated real world-type labs will soon be completed, such as DNA Extraction and Electrophoresis and DNA Fingerprinting.

Kayla McKenney-Smith, a member of this class, said “I never learned much about genetics until I started this class. I now realize the importance of how DNA comes both from the mom and dad. I learned about karyotypes, sickle cell anemia, and how individuals may get Down’s syndrome.”

The chemical science class has also enjoyed a happening or two. Traditional computer based-lessons and a variety of hands-on practice activities and mini-labs have helped students master critical introductory chemistry knowledge and skills.

Recently students completed a rare field lab. Using the local nature area and stream, students conducted a study of naturally occurring incidents of acidity and basicity in nature.



Students discovered how soft limestone rock in the stream serves as a base, decreasing pH levels (base) of the water, thus neutralizing some acids that might otherwise adversely affect aquatic plants and animals.

They again proved through chemical tests how pine and spruce tree needles create a more acidic soil composition.

Caitlin Todd said she felt that “The field lab was fun, and I liked the fact that we were learning things outdoors, out of the classroom for once. I also liked that the lab was hands-on and very realistic, better than just reading about it.”

Finally, the science boot camp class (not quite the real name) has been using a fitness-type approach to achieve improvements in science skills, test-taking, and knowledge.

Students have learned to use Brain Gym physical movements at the start of class to calm and re-focus their brain and body. It actually works.

Daily-5 Exercises come next, which are a variety of short rapid tasks that involve Thinking Maps, analysis of charts and graphs, ACT vocabulary and reasoning, application of the scientific method, and various science skills.

Practice sessions put previous exercises into play, and have included researching and debating science/issues then writing a paper, designing simple science experiments and lab sheets, and other ACT reasoning activities.

Reactions to boot camp can be summed up through Leilani Choate’s comments. Said Leilani: “Every day we focus on different levels of thinking and various hands-on activities. In doing so, we further our learning in both science and extensive thinking. Mr. Ewing’s science boot camp is an awesome way to learn, exercise our brains, and stay ‘Science Strong.’”

“Science happenings” will continue at QHS. As a matter of fact, the environmental science class is even now preparing to visit the 3rd grade classes to conduct a Wandering Naturalist nature program. These are great science experiences, by great young people of our community. ■

News from the Rec Center



By Tom Elmer, Interim Director

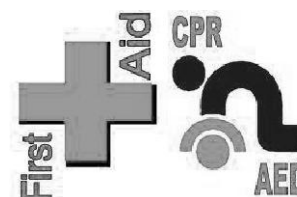
I hope everyone is having a great holiday season and looking forward to the upcoming New Year.

My name is Thomas Elmer, and I have been appointed Interim Director at the Fremont Community Recreation Authority. I am a resident of Fremont, graduated from Fremont High School, and recently earned an associate's degree in Sports Management and Administration.

I have coached varsity track and bowling, and assisted with the varsity football program for the last several years at FHS. I also serve as a Chamber of Commerce Ambassador and as a member of the local BNI network, and serve on the board of the Fremont Bowling Association.

I am very excited to help the community live healthier through programs, enrichment classes, and adult and youth leagues. We are currently running a membership blitz at the Rec Center: **\$15 for an individual, \$30 for a family, and \$10 for Seniors 55-plus.**

Below is a list of programs, leagues, and enrichment opportunities happening in the next couple of months. See next page for January classes.



Aerobics

Aqua Zumba

Babysitting Classes

Caberfae Ski Trip

Church League Basketball

Church League Volleyball

CPR Training

Dodgeball Tournament

Drop-in Basketball

Girls Basketball Camp

Golf Lessons

Griffins Bus Trip

Lap Swim

Lifeguard Training

Master Swim

Open Swim

Self Protection Classes

Swim Lessons

Water Exercise

Work-It-Out Mix

Yoga

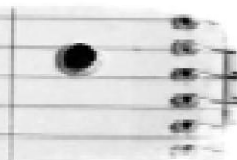
Zumba



Please visit our website at www.fremontcra.com or our Facebook page (**Fremont Community Recreation Authority**) to learn more about our programs, and I look forward to seeing you around the Rec Center. ■



A publication of Fremont Public Schools
For more information visit www.fremont.net



Rec Center Winter Activities

Adult

Class #	Class	Start/End	Day	Time	R/NR	Location
4001	Water Exercise					
	Session 1	1/6-2/14	M/W/F	8:30-9:15 am	\$35/\$40	Pool
	Session 2	2/17-3/28	M/W/F	8:30-9:15 am	\$35/\$40	Pool
4002	Water Exercise					
	Session 1	1/7-2/13	T/Th	8:30-9:15 am	\$30/\$35	Pool
	Session 2	2/18-3/27	T/Th	8:30-9:15 am	\$30/\$35	Pool
5001a	Senior Aerobics					
	Session 1	1/6-2/14	M/W/F	9-10 am	\$35/\$40	Rec Gym
	Session 2	2/17-3/28	M/W/F	9-10 am	\$35/\$40	Rec Gym
	Beginners Yoga					
	Session 1	1/7-2/13	T/Th	9-10 am	\$35/\$40	South Commons
	Session 2	2/18-3/27	T/Th	9-10 am	\$35/\$40	South Commons
6008	Work It Out Mix					
	Session 1	1/7-2/13	T/Th	8:15-9 am	\$45/\$50	Rec Gym
	Session 2	2/18-3/27	T/Th	8:15-9 am	\$45/\$50	Rec Gym
71114	Golf Lessons (Beginner/Intermediate)					
	Session 1	1/7-2/11	T	7:30-8:30 am	\$80/\$85	Rec Gym
	Session 2	2/18-3/25	T	7:30-8:30 am	\$80/\$85	Rec Gym
9955	Zumba					
	Afternoon Session 1	1/6-2/12	M/W	4-5 pm	\$40/\$45	Zumba Room
	Afternoon Session 2	2/17-2/26	M/W	4-5 pm	\$40/\$45	Zumba Room
	Evening Session 1	1/6-2/12	M/W	6-7 pm	\$40/\$45	Zumba Room
	Evening Session 2	2/17-2/26	M/W	6-7 pm	\$40/\$45	Zumba Room
5454	Aqua Zumba					
	Session 1a	1/8-2/12	W	7:15-8:15 pm	\$40/\$45	Pool
	Session 2a	2/19-3/26	W	7:15-8:15 pm	\$40/\$45	Pool
	Session 1b	1/11-2/15	Sa	10-11 am	\$40/\$45	Pool
	Session 2b	2/22-2/29	Sa	10-11 am	\$40/\$45	Pool
8007	Karate					
		1/6-4/4	M/Th	6:30-8:30 pm	\$55/\$60	Karate Room
4420	Self Protection Training					
		1/14-1/29	T	6-8:30 pm	\$45/\$50	Classroom

Youth

Class #	Class	Start/End	Day	Time	R/NR	Location
9007	MYWA Wrestling	11/5-3/14	T/Th	6:00-7:00pm	\$50/\$55	South Commons
	5-17 yrs, Co-Ed					
1207	Sports Sampler	12/7-12/14	Sa	9:00-10:00am	\$15/\$20	Rec Gym
	3-5 yrs, Co-Ed					
T001	Dodgeball Tournament (Co-Ed)					
	Middle School (6th-8th grade)	1/2	Th	9:00am-3:00pm	\$5 per player	Rec Gym
	High School (9th-12th grade)	1/3	F	9:00am-3:00pm	\$5 per player	Rec Gym
8006	Kids Karate	S1: 1/6-2/13	M/Th	6:00-6:45pm	\$40/\$45	Karate Room
	6-10 yrs, Co-Ed	S2: 2/17-4/3				
0107	Preschool Swim Lessons	1/7-1/30	T/Th	12:00-2:00pm	\$35/\$40	Rec Pool
	3-6 yrs, Co-Ed					
0118	Indoor Soccer	1/11-2/22	Sa	8:30am-12:30pm	\$40/\$45	Rec Gym
	4-11 yrs, Co-Ed					
9002	Boys Basketball Camp	1/11-2/8	Sa	9:00am-12:00pm	\$40/\$45	FHS Gym
	K-6th grade					
9123	Boys Travel Basketball	Januray-February	Sa	TBD by Coaches	\$40/\$45	TBD (Grant, Newaygo, etc)
	4th-6th grade					
2E+05	Babysitter 101	1/23 and 1/30	Th	4:00-7:00 pm	\$35/\$35	Quest
	12 yrs and up					



Building Bridges Preschool Programs



No Fee – State Funded

Classrooms located in Fremont, Grant, Hesperia, Newaygo, and White Cloud



GSRP – Great Start Readiness Program State funded program which requires that a child be **4 years old by November 1** of the year they begin school, live within the School District providing services, and that a family meet two or more factors to be eligible.

Children must have at least two eligibility factors that are required by the State. Factors which can qualify a child for the program include things such as child's development or challenging behavior, certain family circumstances (including age of parent at child's birth, single parent, unemployed parent, school achievement of family member, loss of family member, etc.), housing status, family health factors, prior eligibility for Early On®, etc. Income can also be a qualifying factor. Screening is provided free by the Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency Early Childhood Staff. (All qualifying factors will be explored at screening appointments.)

Parent Paid Tuition

Classrooms located in Fremont and Grant (Age 3 slots only available in Grant)

Our tuition based program offers the same services as GSRP for those students who do not qualify as at risk. Parents are offered a low cost tuition based preschool experience for their **3 or 4 year old child**.

Sessions are scheduled depending on the over-all needs of the preschool population each year.

The Learning

In all of our programs the learning environment and curriculum is presented to help children achieve their individual Preschool Learning Outcomes through active play-based learning. These outcomes cover the areas of Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Social Skills, and Technology, which are aligned with state and national standards.

No child will be discriminated against because of race, national origin, sex, age (within program guidelines) or handicap.



Attending a high-quality early childhood program prepares children for success in kindergarten and beyond.

Experts agree that children who have quality early childhood learning experiences are better prepared in school and throughout life. Preschool is the essential first step in your child's lifelong education.

RURAL ROUTE BOX HOLDER
POST OFFICE BOX
OR OCCUPANT

Fremont Public Schools
450 E. Pine Street
Fremont, MI 49412

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