



FREMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL
May 2009 Newsletter

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From the Principal's Desk:

Mrs. Kathy Sikanas and the NCCS are proud to announce the winners of the \$150 scholarships for portfolios: Josiah Campbell and Graciela Sanchez with Billy O'Banion as the alternate. Winner of the Director's Choice Award was Chelsea Braafhart. Outstanding recognition awards went to Frank Struble, Annelise Raquet, and Brittany Willett. Winners may use their awards for art classes, art camp, and/or art supplies. Congratulations to all!

Recently the MAEA (Michigan Art Education Association) contacted Mrs. Sikanas that the art work of Alex Schumaker, a 6th grader and Troy St. Peter, an 8th grader, were chosen in the top 100 of the 600 submitted. Troy's was actually in the top 5! His photo was taken from inside his car and was of the Mackinaw Bridge in the side view mirror and was on display at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing.

A family internet brochure is available to anyone wishing to know about how to keep your child safe online. Please stop by the office or have your child pick one up on the office counter.

Swine Flu:

At this point, we have all heard about the swine flu scare. The following is an excerpt from a letter from the District Health Department:

"We are monitoring the situation here in Michigan and we are informing all health care providers on what to look for when they evaluate and treat sick patients," said Dr. James Wilson, Medical Director for District Health Department #10.

Swine influenza viruses are not spread by food and people cannot catch it from eating pork products. Infection appears to spread from person to person,

usually within 7 days after exposure to an ill person. There is currently no vaccine for swine flu, and the regular seasonal flu shot will not protect against it. Antiviral medications may help reduce illness if taken early.

The Health Department recommends the following:

- As always, people with respiratory illness should stay home from work or school to avoid spreading infections, including influenza, to others in the community.
- Avoid close contact with people who are coughing or otherwise appear ill.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Wash your hands frequently, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Contact your health care provider if you are sick.
- Clean common hard surface areas frequently with soap and water or alcohol-based sanitizers.

From the Assistant Principal:

May is a very busy month here at Fremont Middle School. End of the year activities include national assessments, final exams and presentations, research turned in, field trips, and eighth grade graduation.

Our eighth graders are scheduled to take the EXPLORE assessment during the morning on May 12. EXPLORE will help us determine how well our kids are prepared for high school, strengths and weaknesses, and how we can better prepare the kids who will follow. It is considered the ACT test for middle school. The results of the EXPLORE assessment will be available to our staff before the end of the school year.

If you would like a copy of your son or daughter's final results, feel free to call the office any time after June 8.

Field trips for June include our eighth graders going to Michigan's Adventure and the sixth graders attending a Grand Rapids Whitecaps baseball game, both on June 2.

Eighth grade graduation is just around the corner. The annual ceremony will take place on the last day of school, June 5, beginning at 8:30 am. Afterward, the graduates will have cake and punch in the cafeteria. Students will be released on the final half day at 11:05.

As we wind down the school year, please remind your kids to stay focused on their grades and doing well in school. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call me at 231-924-8136, and thanks for choosing Fremont Public Schools.

Free Physicals:

Free physicals will be May 19 in the multi-purpose room at the high school. Report times are for grade levels as of next school year:

6:30-6:45	6 th and 7 th grade girls
6:45-7:00	8 th grade girls
8:30-8:40	8 th grade boys
8:40-8:55	6 th and 7 th grade boys

Even if your child is not sure he/she wants to participate in any sports next year, this is a great opportunity to make sure it is done before the 2009/2010 school year begins. Your son/daughter can bring home a form for you to complete prior to May 19, or forms will be available the night of the physicals, parent signature and insurance information needed. Physicals are required for each school year, not calendar year.

Mrs. Hummel's Open House:

The Fremont Middle School staff would like to invite parents, former students, friends, and community members to an Open House in honor of Mrs. Carolyn Hummel's retirement. Please join us at the Gerber Guest House on May 21st from 4:00-7:00 p.m. as we celebrate the many years that she has devoted to Fremont Public Schools.

8th Grade to Michigan's Adventure:

The Michigan Adventure trip, an annual event at FMS, celebrates the culmination of your child's middle school years. To make sure the trip to Michigan Adventure is a positive experience for all, it is important to make parents and students aware of the following expectations: 1) Students will **not** be allowed on the field trip if he/she has an after-school detention, in-school detention, out-of-school suspension, Saturday school, or 3 tardies in one class between May 1 and June 2 (Already scheduled detentions will not count against the student). 2) In order to participate in the field trip, student behavior in school must show FMS staff that he/she can make good choices and represent FMS in a positive way.

The cost for this year's trip will be \$25, which includes admission to the park, lunch and transportation. In mid-May, your child will bring home a permission slip for you to sign and return along with the money, which will be due on or before May 21.

6th Grade to White Caps Game:

6th grade will attend a White Caps baseball game in Grand Rapids on June 2, leaving school at 8:45 and will return before the end of the school day. The cost is \$20.00 and will cover the cost of the ticket, a hot dog, pop, and transportation.

Students will **not** be allowed on the field trip if he/she has an after-school detention, in-school detention, out-of-school suspension, Saturday school, or 3 tardies in one class between May 4 and May 29. (Already scheduled detentions will not count against the student). Also, in order to participate in the field trip, student behavior in school must show FMS staff that he/she can make good choices and represent FMS in a positive way.

Upcoming Dates:

May 19 - Free physical night at the high school
May 26 - Choral Spring Concert @ 7 p.m. small gym
May 27 - Band/Orchestra Concert @ 7 p.m. big gym
June 1 - School of Choice application deadline
June 2 - 8th grade to Michigan's Adventure
June 2 - 6th grade to White Caps game
June 4 - Awards assembly a.m. also half day of school
June 5 - 8th grade graduation a.m. also half day of school