

Fredericktown Schools...

... Every day, Everyone Learning and Adapting to Excel in a Changing World

December 2022 Volume LII, Number 2 Celebrating Fredericktown Since 1971

#### Mr. Chapman's Update

Dear Fredericktown Families and School Community,

I want to thank you and our students for a successful first half of the school year. Your commitment and support make Fredericktown Schools a special place to serve and learn.

Many elements play into the success of a thriving school system. Fredericktown has a strong

foundation and proud history of investing in and providing outstanding learning opportunities to maximize the educational experience, and academic growth of every student. This community has individuals and families that care about our schools, our children, and one another; citizens that come together to support the expectation for children to come to school in a safe, engaging, learning environment.



Fredericktown also provides exemplary music, theater, and sports programs that reflect our community's pride and strong heritage. Over the past five months, I have observed outstanding individual, team, and group achievements in these areas. These successes are made possible with the expectations of a caring parent, family, teacher, staff member, coach or director.

However, there is another element of a successful school system that is difficult to measure and equally important. Fredericktown ranks high in community partnerships which have been built on trust, support, and strong connections. This community has individuals, families, and volunteers who are partnering alongside Music and Athletic Boosters, PTO, the Alumni Association, teachers, and staff to mentor our students. In addition, the Community Foundation, and local business and industry are making a tremendous impact on our students and their experience at Fredericktown.

Thank you for being a part of the Freddie Family and allowing me to serve as your superintendent.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Go Freddies!

#### **Thank You to Our Bus Drivers!**

Many of our students spend hours on our school buses every week, and yet, many times bus drivers are one of the most overlooked employees. They spend their days navigating through traffic and weather, occasionally dealing with challenging passengers and always focused on trying to keep things running smoothly to get our kids back and forth to school safe.

The bus is filled with lots of energetic, enthusiastic students and our drivers take it all in stride. With sincerity, kindness, and patience they demonstrate a level headiness that can escape us while driving.

We want to Thank each of you, for your dedication and doing all you do: for going through all the background checks, for maintaining your licenses, caring for your vehicle, for driving safely, and for demonstrating professionalism all the while. Thank you for driving in the dark, in the rain, under loud noise, and difficult conditions. You are so, so appreciated!

# Winter is Here & It's Cold Outside!

As cold weather becomes the norm, be prepared for potential delays or school cancellations. Making the decision to delay or close school is done with the safety of our students in mind. Road conditions, visibility, temperature, and wind chill all factor into making these critical decisions. Our goal is to always make the decision to delay or cancel school prior to 5:30AM.

When weather conditions make it necessary to close or delay school, SchoolMessenger will deliver a message to all student's main phone number and email listed in PowerSchool. If these numbers change for your family, please take a moment to update via our website or by calling the school secretary.

During these chilly days, if your child needs hats, coats, gloves, etc., please don't hesitate to let us know. We have resources to ensure all children have what they need.

Please reach out with needs to our District Social Worker, Hannah Art: hart@fredschools.com Phone: 740.694.2726, Ext. 3400

#### 00000000000000

Christmas Break is Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> to Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. We'll see you back in 2023!

> Wishing you and your Family a Safe and Blessed Holiday Season!

### FFA News: Snowplow Shovels and a Petting Zoo

Each year the Ohio Department of Transportation hosts the **Paint the Plow** program, allowing local schools and non-profit organizations to paint an ODOT snowplow blade with messages of snow and ice safety, state, school, or community pride, or patriotism. Fredericktown FFA impressed!



Freddies message of **SLOW DOWN** is one that resonates across the community. Please remember to always leave room for ALL the plows, farm and construction equipment!

FFA hosted a Petting Zoo for students, the cuteness and cuddles were EVERYWHERE! The programs and exposure that FFA provides is a celebrated asset to our community!



### Thank You Freddie Community for (always) Coming Out!

As Mr. Chapman shared in his message, the Fredericktown community is a central force in the education of our children. They come to celebrate and share everything from talents, careers, and the love of their grandchildren. Thank you all for coming out when asked and bringing your time and gifts to our kids!



### PBIS $\rightarrow$ What Does That Stand For?

#### You may have heard the acronym PBIS, but what does that mean?

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an approach schools use to promote positive behavior and school safety; PBIS programs teach kids about behavior expectations and strategies using a proactive approach. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment. Many kids struggle with behavior in school. When schools react only with punishment, students don't learn the skills they need to improve. That's where PBIS comes in.



With PBIS, schools teach students positive behavior strategies, just as they would teach about any other subject. PBIS is a school wide initiative, all students, regardless of grade level or needs, are included in the focused learning of positive behavior. Recognizing that students can only meet behavior expectations if they know what the expectations are, the learning starts with what's considered appropriate behavior, and uses common language to talk about it. Throughout the school day — in class, at lunch, and on the bus — students understand what's expected of them.

PBIS has been shown to lead to better student behavior, fewer incidents of disciplinary action, even less bullying. Students have shown that they earn

**First Quarter Nominees** Students have shown that they earn better grades and are more socially connected with PBIS programs and opportunities. Quarterly, teachers nominate students who have demonstrated exemplary focus on our PBIS pillars of Achievement, Citizenship, and Tolerance. They are celebrated with assemblies and special activities. When you see us celebrate our PBIS students, please give them a positive Shout-Out!



Second Quarter Nominees





### Fredericktown Local School District

117 Columbus Road Fredericktown, OH 43019

Gary Chapman, Superintendent | (740) 694-2956 Heather Darnold, Treasurer | (740) 694-2956 x4100

Frederickton Local Schools Board of Education: Paul Napier, President Don Falk, Vice President Nate Bellman

Candi Gallagher Todd McClay U.S. Postage Non-Profit Organization Fredericktown, Ohio 43019 Permit # 158

OCCUPANT

## Look Inside For...

- Mr. Chapman's Update
- Grandparents Day
- FFA / ODOT Snowplows
- Theatre Season is Here!
- Website Update
- What is PBIS?
- Winter Weather Advisements

Website: www.fredericktownschools.com Facebook: @FredericktownLocalSchools Instagram: @Fred\_Local\_Schools

