FREMONT Digest

FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79 NEWSLETTER

FALL 2025



Spotlight on CTE and STEM

Utilizing creativity and exploration skills to prepare students for our growing world

EXCELLING AT FSD79

2,089 ENROLLMENT PK-8 STUDENTS

46 LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

323 STAFF MEMBERS +40 NEW HIRES

15:1 STUDENT-TO-TEACHER RATIO

94% EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION RATE

83% TEACHERS WHO HOLD A MASTER'S DEGREE

Our performance proves it.

Through the dedicated work of our students, teachers, and staff, Fremont students are excelling in the classroom.

8TH GRADE NATIONAL PERFORMANCE

96th PERCENTILE–MATH

89th PERCENTILE–READING

The accolades celebrate it.

2025 Exemplary School

FREMONT ELEMENTARY | TOP 10% IN THE STATE

We are ready.

Top 20% MATH + ELA READINESS SCORES

Fremont's math and English Language Arts (ELA) scores on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) are in the top 20% of all schools in Illinois.

Top 10% IEP + MULTILINGUAL SCORES

Our students who either have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or are multilingual scored in the top 10% in Illinois.



Our commitment to social-emotional wellness aims to create the most welcoming and productive environment for all learners.

This year marks the second year of our **Away for the Day** initiative, where students are required to put away their cell phones during the school day. This has led to more productive and meaningful relationships between students and their peers and teachers, while also reducing disciplinary measures related to technology use.

During the 2025-26 school year, all Fremont staff members are participating in **RULER training.** The program, which was developed by the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, builds shared language and practices for supporting students' emotional well-being by creating a consistent, caring environment across classrooms, hallways, playgrounds, and buses. Starting in the 2026-27 school year, students will begin using RULER strategies in their classrooms–learning how to better understand and manage their emotions, make thoughtful choices, and build positive relationships with others.

ADVANCING OUR COMMUNITY'S PRIORITIES

In April 2024, we asked our community to complete a survey to share your priorities related to the future planning of our growing school community. Here are your top four priorities and the work we are doing to advance them.

OUR COMMUNITY'S TOP-RATED FACILITY PRIORITIES

STEM AND CTE LEARNING SPACE

Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) and Career Technical Education (CTE)

Completed | Created STEM/CTE hub in existing intermediate school space

Next Up | Adding a dedicated STEM/CTE lab to the middle school (summer 2026)

BUILDING SYSTEMS AND EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE

Completed | Critical electrical, fire safety, masonry, and tuckpointing projects

Next Up | Secured Health/Life Safety bonds to fund required facility maintenance projects (roofing, safety, air quality, accessibility), representing the District's only current long-term debt

ADD SPACE FOR ENROLLMENT GROWTH

Completed | Remodeled existing Transportation Center to shift maintenance offices from schools, making room for more instructional space; modified physical education schedule at elementary school to reduce gym space demand as the school reached functional capacity; added walls in larger classrooms to subdivide space

Next Up | Expanding the currently undersized middle school cafeteria (summer 2026)

SAFETY AND SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS

Completed | Added security gating, door card readers, outdoor lighting, and playground safety

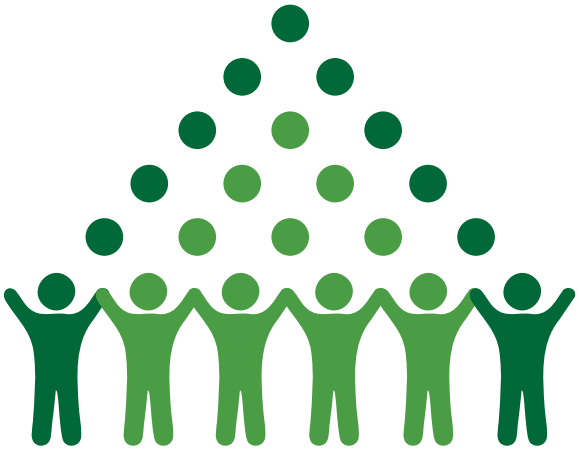
Next Up | Renovating security vestibules at elementary, intermediate, and middle schools (summer 2026)



NEWLY-ADDED SECURITY GATES AT FSD79



REPURPOSING OF STEM/CTE LEARNING SPACE



NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS GROW ENROLLMENT

FSD79 is working to inform our taxpayers as new residential developments are predicted to grow the student population at our schools. When a new development in one town fails to pay its fair share, the resulting costs are shared by every taxpayer across the entire school district.

Our District plans responsibly for the future—especially as we anticipate **nearly 50% enrollment growth driven by new residential developments,** such as Ivanhoe Village.

In an April 2024 survey, 91% of respondents agreed that **residential developers should contribute sufficient impact fees** to support our growing student body.

As enrollment grows, our taxpayers have strongly responded that **they do not want to choose between higher taxes or diminished educational programming.**

HOW WE'RE WORKING TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT ON OUR RESIDENTS

1 Engaged the Community to Help Advocate for Fair Impact Fees Paid by Developers

We've worked to keep you informed about the projected impact of new developments and how you can help advocate for fair impact fees in partnership with the Village of Mundelein, which holds the decision-making authority in this process. Your advocacy improved the financial conditions and safeguards in the Ivanhoe Village term sheet, albeit not to the desired levels, but you made a difference!

2 Partnered with Legislators to Give Mundelein a Tool to Reduce Taxpayer Impact

We collaborated with state legislators to pass legislation empowering the Village of Mundelein with a tool for developers to contribute their fair share. If implemented, this measure could save Fremont taxpayers millions in future construction costs to accommodate more than 750 new K-8 students expected from Ivanhoe Village alone.

3 Shared Proven Models to Help Protect Our Taxpayers

We've showcased examples from other municipalities where school districts and villages work together to protect taxpayers while still supporting responsible residential growth. These partnerships demonstrate that balanced solutions are possible.

4 Voiced Alarm to Village Officials Over Reduced Developer Fees

We recently expressed our concern regarding a newly adopted Village of Mundelein ordinance that reduced developer impact fees by approximately 50%. For example, in the new Walnut Ridge development by Pulte Homes (155 new homes), Fremont is expected to receive $465,000 less than what was agreed to in 2020 for Pulte's Sheldon Woods development.

As growth continues within our boundaries, we remain steadfast in advocating for fair, sustainable solutions that protect our taxpayers and ensure every Fremont student continues to learn in high-quality, well-equipped schools.

WHAT'S NEXT...

FSD79 will continue to work to receive fair developers' impact fees for necessary school district expansion, by:

- Continuing advocacy with Village of Mundelein
- Continuing to work with legislators
- Encouraging you and all our residents to stay involved!

Learn More!
www.fsd79.org/about-fsd79/ivanhoe-village-updates



Responsive to the priorities of our community, Fremont School District 79 is expanding our Career Technical Education (CTE) and Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) offerings to ignite student passions and advance long-term career goals.

Our **new CTE pilot program** at the middle school is popular and includes studies related to Video Production, Multimedia Design, Digital Art, and entrepreneurial programming. We are also enhancing the **CTE/STEM experience,** which will be further elevated by a **renovated and expanded lab space,** with construction scheduled to take place in 2026.

At the intermediate school, we reimagined existing space to create a **dynamic STEM, Technology, and Healthy Minds hub** where students engage in interdisciplinary learning, exploration, and hands-on experimentation.

Sign Up
to receive our District e-newsletter:
https://bit.ly/3KimhHf





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Lincoln Early Learning Center • Fremont Elementary School
Fremont Intermediate School • Fremont Middle School

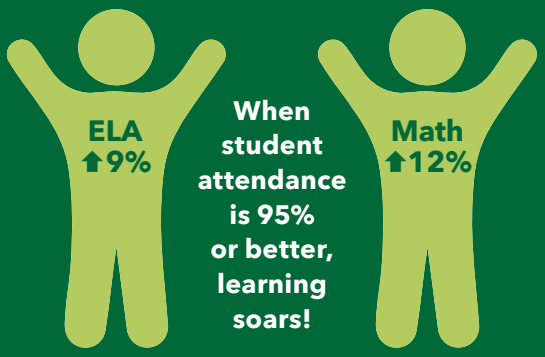
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FSD79 IS COLLABORATING WITH AREA FIRST-RESPONDERS ON A NEW INITIATIVE THIS YEAR TO HELP OUR STUDENTS BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH THESE TRUSTED PARTNERS. "HIGH-FIVE FRIDAYS" FEATURE A VARIETY OF FIRST-RESPONDERS GREETING OUR STUDENTS AS THEY ARRIVE FOR THEIR SCHOOL DAY. WE APPRECIATE THE COLLABORATION!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Consistent, on-time attendance is essential for student success!

Data shows that Fremont students, who have an attendance rate of 95% or better, have an improved proficiency rate over their peers who have an attendance rate of 94% or lower.

Your Teaching Journey Begins Here!

We believe great schools start with great teachers. That's why we're committed to supporting the next generation of educators. Through our support program, college students pursuing teaching degrees can gain meaningful, hands-on experience, mentorship, and a pathway toward a future teaching career.

Do you know someone studying to become a teacher? Encourage them to connect with us by scanning this QR code and completing the form.

Join the FSD79 Team! Check out available jobs at www.fsd79.org/jobs

Together, we can inspire and prepare tomorrow's educators.

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