

# FREMONT Digest

FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79 NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026

WE WANT  
YOUR  
FEEDBACK!



**Take Our 3-Minute  
Community Survey**  
(SEE BACK COVER)



## What's Inside

Learning Snapshots & Staff Highlights  
How We're Planning for Enrollment Growth

# LEARNING SNAPSHOTS



Students show imagination and creativity in designing ramps with "Rigamajigs" in the Makerspace.



Our youngest learners at Lincoln Early Learning Center work on learning core words to promote language development in an inclusive setting.



Third-graders are amazed by the replication of a storm cloud during an in-school presentation by Storm Science.



A new entrepreneurship course offering at Fremont Middle School develops critical skills such as resilience, problem-solving, and public speaking.

Students in the multi-age classrooms collected funds and shopped at Target for food and household items supporting families in need via the Fremont Township Food Pantry.



Fremont Middle School students explored a wide variety of career pathways and met with professionals from different industries during the annual Navig8 Lake County event.



Fremont Elementary School students simulated a variety of winter sports activities during their physical education class in preparation for this year's Winter Olympic Games.

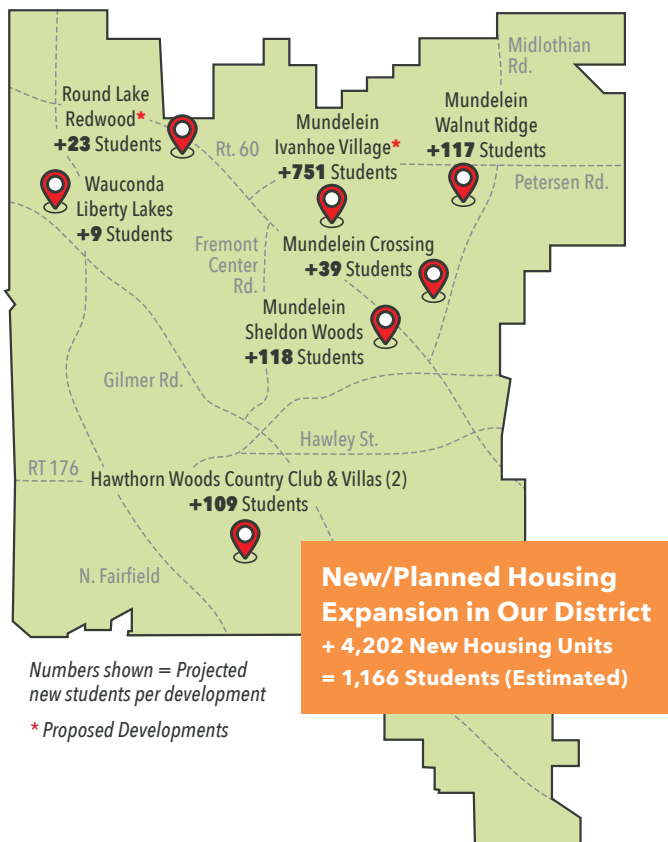


# FREMONT'S GROWING COMMUNITY

**New residential developments are expected to increase our enrollment by approximately 50% over the next 20+ years. Here's what that means for our schools and how we're preparing.**

Q How many new or planned residential developments are there within FSD79's boundaries since 2021?

A There are eight approved and proposed developments within our boundaries; which are expected to add an additional 4,202 housing units.

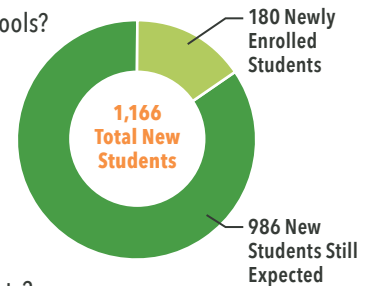


Q How is enrollment being monitored?

A The District engages with a demographic consultant to forecast enrollment and monitors it on an annual basis. While the District recently experienced a slight decline (approximately 10%) in student enrollment, the trend is reversing, in large part due to enrollment of students from new residential developments.

Q How many of these new students have already enrolled at Fremont schools?

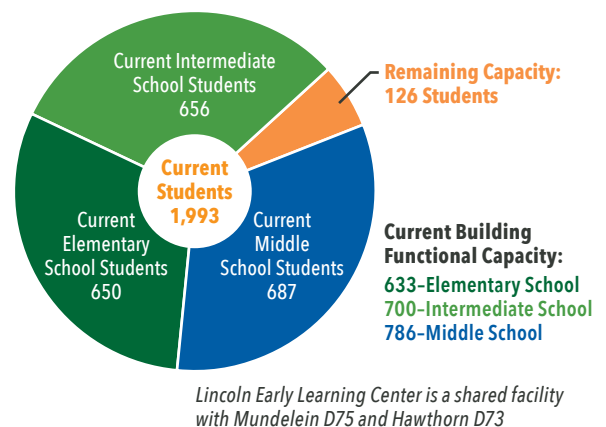
A As of 2026, 180 students have enrolled from these developments. That leaves 986 more students yet to arrive.



Q Does FSD79 have the space to accommodate these new students?

A No, our campus will be over capacity. To maintain class sizes, quality programs, and personalized attention, we will eventually need one additional school.

## FREMONT SCHOOLS BUILDING CAPACITY



Q Have we made any changes to account for this growth?

A Yes. Fremont Elementary School has already reduced the frequency of physical education classes to ease gym crowding. Additionally, the District has subdivided larger learning spaces to maximize available space.

Q Has the District developed a Long-Range Facility Plan to accommodate this growth?

A Yes, the District engaged the community in a 10-month process to develop a 20-year plan. This plan is reviewed annually, along with our enrollment forecast. New developments continue to add to the growth projections.



**For more information, visit our Residential Developments webpage**  
[bit.ly/D79Developments](https://bit.ly/D79Developments)

# FINANCIAL SPOTLIGHT

## HEALTH LIFE SAFETY PROJECTS

### Investing in Safe and Maintained Facilities

In the fall of 2025, the District issued \$27.1 million in Health Life Safety (HLS) Bonds to address state-mandated facility projects. By funding these essential repairs now—including new roofs, ADA renovations, and enhanced security—we are protecting our community's assets while avoiding costly deferred maintenance. Notably, these bonds represent the District's only long-term debt, reflecting our commitment to responsible financial management.

While preliminary work is already underway, the majority of these large-scale improvements are scheduled for the summers of 2027 and 2028. Our commitment to this strategic investment means our facilities will stay safe and well-maintained while also protecting our financial future.

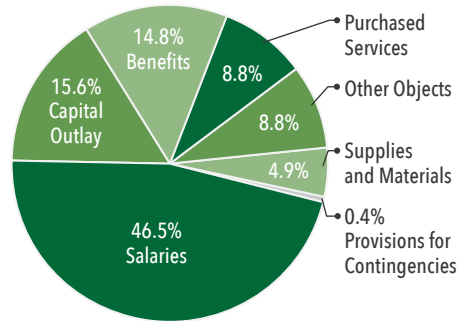
## LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TAX RATE COMPARISON (2024)

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Big Hollow District 38     | 2.5086%        |
| <b>Fremont District 79</b> | <b>2.8588%</b> |
| Libertyville District 70   | 2.9777%        |
| Lincolnshire District 103  | 3.2719%        |
| Hawthorn District 73       | 3.8161%        |
| Kildeer District 96        | 3.9644%        |
| Aptakisic District 102     | 4.1321%        |
| Mundelein District 75      | 4.1846%        |
| Diamond Lake District 76   | 4.4780%        |
| Grayslake District 46      | 4.6171%        |

## FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79 BUDGET ALLOCATION (FY2026)

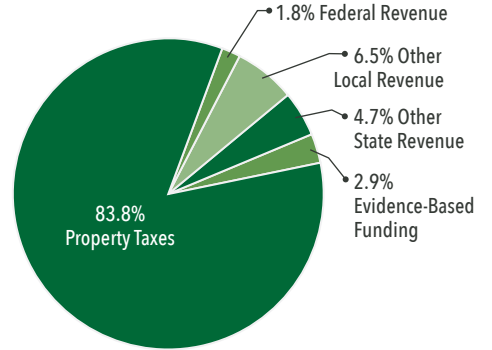
### FISCAL YEAR 2026 EXPENDITURES

*Budgeted Expenditure Allocation by Source*



### FISCAL YEAR 2026 REVENUES

*Proposed Revenue Allocation by Object*



## Summer Construction Projects

When students return in August, they will benefit from several facility projects designed to enhance daily safety and also address learning priorities focused on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). In continuing our commitment to safety, we are upgrading our secure entry vestibules at the Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle Schools, while also adding a new traffic entrance/exit on Fremont Center Road to improve safe access and alleviate congestion.

We are excited to launch a hands-on STEM lab at Fremont Middle School to provide experiential, future-focused programming, alongside a much-needed cafeteria expansion. These critical improvements are being funded in alignment with our fund balance policy. By reinvesting these existing funds, we are prioritizing a safer, higher-quality school experience for every student.



VIEW OUR  
2026 FINANCIAL  
REPORT  
Visit: [bit.ly/3xmFJhi](https://bit.ly/3xmFJhi)

# FREMONT AT THE FOREFRONT



## RULER FRAMEWORK

Fremont staff are completing foundational training in the Yale RULER framework, with student implementation set to follow in 2026-2027. This evidence-based approach is designed to foster a supportive and inclusive culture, leveraging emotional intelligence to help cultivate a positive learning environment for all.



## LITERACY RESOURCES

FSD79 is adopting new K-5 English Language Arts resources, including Collaborative Classroom, Amplify CKLA, and Heggerty, following three years of committee review and alignment with evidence-based reading instruction. Staff professional learning on these resources begins this spring.



## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) THINK TANK

This spring, FSD79 launched an AI Think Tank, including parents, students, teachers, and administrators to help FSD79 develop guidelines for the responsible and safe use of artificial intelligence. A roadmap to build AI literacy skills, aligned with our District's vision, is also being drafted.



## Fremont Staff Receive Top Awards

We are thrilled to have two Fremont individuals recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education with the Award of Excellence—the most prestigious of the “Those Who Excel” honors—Middle School teacher Stacey Begg, and Elementary School teacher Lucas “Lucky” Deutsch. Additionally, Middle School assistant principal Nick Atchley was honored by the Illinois Principals Association with the Lake Region Assistant Principal of the Year award.



## FSD79 Earns Top Workplaces Recognition

Fremont School District 79 is honored to be a recipient of the Top Workplaces 2025 award as announced by the *Chicago Tribune*. This is the second time in three years that FSD79 has earned the honor, having been similarly recognized in 2023. **Fremont is the only school district in the Midsize Workplaces category to be named to the Top Workplaces list.**

The Top Workplaces list is based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey administered by employee engagement technology partner, Energage LLC. The confidential survey uniquely measures the employee experience.



## FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

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Residential Customer



*We want your feedback!*



**Take Our Community Survey**

### Your feedback matters!

Please take 3 minutes to complete our community survey to share your feedback, including your level of satisfaction with the District.

The survey will close on April 20 and final results will be shared on our website [www.fsd79.org](http://www.fsd79.org).



**Take our  
Community Survey**

<https://bit.ly/26FSDSurvey>

## Supporting Our Staff

FSD79 is committed to developing a culture that attracts and retains high-quality staff. Our efforts are paying off as evidenced by a **94% staff satisfaction rate**. The following are just a few examples of how the District invests in its staff.

- Full benefits program (medical, dental, vision, and life insurance, and mental health supports)
- TRS and IMRF pension
- Recognition programs
- Professional learning opportunities
- Mentor programs and professional learning communities
- Leadership opportunities
- District-provided wellness opportunities

## 2026-27 School Year Registration Open



Registration is now open for all grade levels for the 2026-27 school year.

**REGISTER TODAY**

Visit: [www.fsd79.org/families/registration](http://www.fsd79.org/families/registration)

JOIN  
THE  
FSD79  
TEAM!



Check out available jobs at [www.fsd79.org/jobs](http://www.fsd79.org/jobs)

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SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

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