Wildcat Community News

News from Franklin City Schools | November 2016



News from Pennyroyal

Pennyroyal Political Forum

Pennyroyal students got a first-hand look at the political process on Oct. 10, as the 5th and 6th Grade Student Council hosted a forum with two candidates who are vying to represent Ohio District 62.

Democrat Sam Ronan and Republican Scott Lipps spoke to the 5th and 6th graders, introducing themselves, explaining their backgrounds and why they wanted to run for this office.

Student council members asked the candidates several



Rylan Monk asks a question.

questions including "Do you have to go to college to be a state rep?" What qualifications do you have to have to be a state rep?" and "What do you want to change (when you get into office)?"

Before they spoke, both candidates signed the wall of appreciation thanking them for their service. (See article below.)

On Nov. 8, the 5th and 6th graders will participate in a mock election where they will vote for a State Repre-

sentative and President/Vice President of the United States.

Thank you for your service!

This year, Pennyroyal Elementary is honoring members of the Franklin Fire and Police Departments, other first responders, and active and retired members of the military for their service. They're invited to visit, sign a banner of appreciation, and stop in a classroom.



Franklin Police Chief Whitman is thanked for his service.

The goal is to show how thankful that Pennyroyal staff and students are for those who serve the public and keep our community and country safe.

This project is under the direction of Mr. Stephen Lake. 5/6 math.

Conservation Capers



Pennyroyal students learned to "Open Your Eyes, Be Energy Wise," through Conservation Capers, a science-enrichment program sponsored by Duke Energy. Nikki Neutron and Dr. Maybe discussed and debated reasons and ways to be energy efficient and to save water and energy. Three Pennyroyal students competed as members of "Team Awesome" against a clueless Dr. Maybe in a final quiz about energy matters. Team Awesome won easily!

Harvest Hoedown

Pennyroyal Elementary welcomed students and families to their Harvest Hoedown on Oct. 13. A campfire, card



games, food, a hayride, raffles, a book fair, duck pulls, cake walk, pumpkin decorating, and make-it, take-it science projects were all part of the evening. The make-it, take-it science project involved a white balloon and a hex nut. Pic-

tured at left is 6th grader Katelyn Barn-

hart trying her hand at putting together the two components to create a "Screaming Ghost."



News from Hampton Bennett & the ECC

Gym, bleachers big projects during summer

Imagine assembling a jigsaw puzzle the size of a gym floor. As it turns out, installers from Cincinnati Floor Co. did just that this summer when replacing the 47-year-old floor at Franklin High School. That, plus replacing the bleachers, were the two biggest building/grounds projects completed in the district this past summer.

The gym projects began in June and ended after school began, with the Volley for the Cure match being one of the first events held on the new floor. (See page 7.)

The floor and bleachers had not been replaced since the building was opened in 1969.

Business manager Craig Hatfield said that it was a pretty typical summer as he outlined some of the completed projects. The district keeps a master list of necessary projects and schedules them several years out.

While much of the work was behind-the-scenes tasks like water softener maintenance and kitchen repairs, other work is more visible, like the freshly painted walls and doors at the high school and mulching flower beds at all of the buildings.

Given our buildings' age and the demands today's technology places on them, Hatfield noted that most are "electricity starved." Consequently, electrical upgrades are ongoing.

Aside from the gym floor and bleachers, the most visible project is a new entryway at FJHS. Several years ago, the office was moved to the ground floor from the 3rd, but visitors still entered into a hallway. Now, the main entry — off the back parking lot — is into a secure vestibule.

District Veterans Day Events

Wed., Nov. 9, 7 p.m., FHS auditorium. Veterans Day program presented by all 6th graders.

Thurs., Nov. 10, 9 a.m., FHS auditorium. Veterans Day program presented by Franklin High School.

Veterans, active military personnel, and their families are invited to attend both events.

Senior Citizen Activity Passes

Senior citizens (age 62+) living in the Franklin City School district may pick up a pass in the Superintendent's office that will allow them to attend school-sponsored activities, including sporting events and arts performances, at no charge

Help wanted

Franklin City Schools needs qualified applicants to serve as substitutes in all Classified positions including Transportation, Custodial, and Food Services. For more information on CDL requirements and training to become a bus driver, please contact the Transportation Office at (937) 743-8670.

If you would like to obtain more information on applying to be a substitute in our Custodial or Food Service Departments, please contact the Business Office at (937) 743-8600.

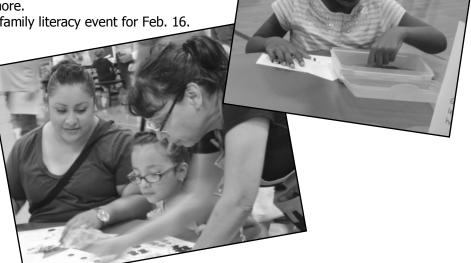
Hooray for Math!

Early Childhood Center students and families enjoyed hands-on activities together at Hooray for Math on Oct. 6.

Activities used a fall or Halloween theme, and included candy corn graphing, spider web counting, counting spiders and eyeballs, making letters, writing words in sand trays, creating shape monsters, and more.

The ECC has scheduled an "I Love to Read" family literacy event for Feb. 16.





News from Schenck

Summer Readers

A celebration was held for students who completed the school-wide summer reading program. Front row, from left: Jar-



ed Erwin, Spencer Blair, Payne Davidson, Raegan Smiley, and Emily Carmack. Back row: Maddie Davidson, Grace McGuire, Christian McGuire, Maddie Smith, Kailey Estes, Annie Bales, and Callen Johnson.

Technology in the Classroom

All classes are working on building technology into their daily lessons. Students are participating in programs to support individualized learning, and computer skills are being practiced in tech class and in the classrooms.

Many classes have technology learning stations for stu-

dents to rotate through as small groupinstruction is occurring.

Students are using laptops to supplement the reading



and math programs, take assessments digitally, complete assignments, and conduct research. Several teachers have created Google Classrooms for students to communicate and turn in their assignments electronically.

Fundraiser to fund outdoor education area

Our fall fundraiser was a great success! For a second year, the school sold mums in decorative seasonal containers. Over 850 mums were sold; money raised will go toward plans to build an outdoor education area, covered pavilion, and tables for the school grounds.

Students enjoyed selling the fall flowers, raising money for their school, and helping make the community beautiful for the fall season.



Study Buddies

Primary and intermediate classes have partnered to create "study buddies" and learn with one another.



The buddies have participated in two different sessions of reading, writing, research, and science activities since the beginning of this school year. Third and sixth graders designed airplanes together, measured the length of flight and the amount of time in flight, and then worked on their designs to increase these factors. Fifth and second grade studied photosynthesis focusing on the cause and effect of sunlight and the change of color in leaves. Fourth and first graders learned and wrote about butterflies and their life cycle, the importance of camouflage, and created butterfly designs using chromatography, which is the process of separating a mixture of chemicals.

Teacher nominated

Fifth grade teacher Jenni DeHart was nominated by a former student and selected as a winner in a national contest sponsored by Beauty Revived blog and magazine. The goal of this organization is to empower and celebrate the true beauty in women. Mrs. DeHart was one of 50 beautiful teachers across the country who will be featured in the publication and won a photo shoot with a professional photographer.



Teacher participates on ETS project

Fourth grade teacher Debbie Erwin participated in a week-

long project through ETS (Educational Testing Service) in Princeton, NJ, just prior to the start of school. It focused on teacher observations and evaluating videos of teachers' techniques and group discussion skills. She will continue her work throughout the



school year by providing feedback to videotaped lessons. She said it was a great learning opportunity for her and has helped her be very reflective about her own teaching.

News from Anthony Wayne

Fall Into Math Night

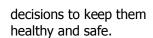
Anthony Wayne families celebrated the beginning of autumn with Fall Into Math Night. Families were provided with information regarding grade level standards and ways to support students at home in math. Students spent quality time playing fun and educational math games with family members. Over the next several weeks Anthony Wayne students will be participating in a math-a-thon where they will

be solving math problems to raise money to help support St. Jude hospital's fight against juvenile cancer.

Also, families learned about Anthony Wayne's school-wide focus on implementing Growth Mindset principles with students highlighting the importance of hard work, extra effort, and persistence for optimal learning.

The Anthony Wayne PTO also sponsored a book fair during the evening where families purchased books for their children. The event concluded with a free carnival that included games, prizes, an inflatable obstacle course, and food all provided by the Vineyard Church!





After the 12-week course ends, Anthony Wayne 6th grade students will be joined by 6th graders throughout Franklin City Schools to attend the traditional D.A.R.E. graduation on December 19 at Franklin High School.



D.A.R.E. Program Begins at AW

D.A.R.E. is a comprehensive K-12 education program that addresses drugs, violence, bullying, internet safety, and other high-risk circumstances that potentially affect our students.

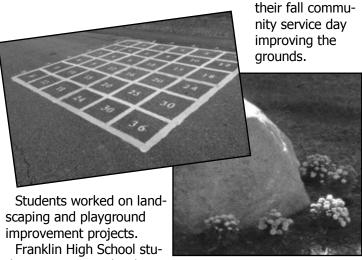
This is a police-officer-led program and Deputy Kelly McKay is meeting with our 6th grade students once per week over the next 12 weeks teaching them strategies to live productive, drug- and violence-free lives.

Deputy McKay's main focus is to help our 6th graders learn specific strategies that support them in making good

News from Hunter

Community Service Day

Franklin High School students spent time at Hunter during



dents are required to have

20 hours of community service in order to graduate.

Spirit Week

Hunter students celebrated Spirit Week during the days leading up to Homecoming. Themes included Pink Day for Breast Cancer Awareness, Superhero Day, and Disney Day.



Student Council

Hunter recently elected several 4th, 5th, and 6th graders as their Student Council representatives. The group will be working on a number of projects throughout the year including selling CandyGrams, assisting with the yearbook, and picking themes for Spirit Week (such as Disney, Superheros, and Pink Day). Student council members include Alexis Dearth, Chris Bond, Brody Whaley, Claire Bryan, Jack Taylor, Emilee Acree, Ashley Booth, Duke Murphy, and Ava Baumann.



Flexible seating aids learning

If you could choose a chair that helped you learn better, what would you pick? This year, students in three classrooms may choose from seating options that help them to

learn best.

Mrs. Henderson-Weaver, Ms. Eglestson, and Ms. Banks raised funds through DonorsChoose.org for flexible seating. Depending on



the classroom, students choose a seating option for the day or week.

Choices include wobble chairs, yoga mats, and balance ball chairs. According to Teresa Henderson-Weaver, the students love it.



News from Franklin Junior High

Teacher of the Week



Franklin Junior High science teacher Holly Daniels was surprised on Oct. 13 by being honored as Warm 98's "Teacher of the Week." She received a SWAG bag from Modern Office Methods and a crystal apple from Warm 98. Mrs. Daniels has been teaching for 27 years and was nominated by a parent. The class enjoyed pizza from Westshore Pizza and being filmed for a Channel 5 news segment announcing Mrs. Daniels' honor.

Pinwheels for Peace

Each fall, Molly Bender's art classes create Pinwheels for Peace in memory of 9/11. The class discusses infor-

mation from the 9/11 memorial website, which includes an interactive timeline that covers from 5:45 a.m. on 9/11/2001 until 2011 when the memorial and museum were com-



pleted and dedicated.

The Pinwheels have to be decorated with patriotic and/ or memorial images and colors.

Bender noted that this was the first year that most of her students had not been born when 9/11 occurred, but



were interested, respectful, and engaged throughout the week.

The Pinwheels were displayed in front of FJHS on Sept. 11-12.

8th grade trip: Putting their Paws on DC!

FJHS 8th graders headed to Washington, D.C. and Gettysburg on Oct. 19-22. This annual trip's itinerary typically includes stops at all the major sites including the Capitol,



the various memorials on the National Mall, and Arlington National Cemetery, where students participate in a wreath ceremony.

Participants had a student-designed shirt showing their Wildcat pride. The design contest was open to all 7th and 8th

graders, with Aliyah Gordon submitting the winning entry, shown above. At right, students and teachers are shown in the Capitol rotunda. (Pictures courtesy of Franklin Junior High.)



Fifty Franklin Junior High 8th graders were invited to attend a Discover STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Conference on Oct. 14 at Miami University Middletown.

The event was organized by the Butler County Educational Service Center and included speaking with professionals from the STEM professions, a college fair, a guest speaker, and interactive activities. Students also had a chance to experience being on a college campus and to interact with students from other districts.



News from Franklin High School

FHS Drama Club to present world premier

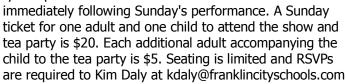
The approximately 50 students involved with the FHS Drama Club production of Robb Willoughby's ALICE can

add presenting a world premier to their resumes.

The show, an adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland* and *Alice Though the Looking Glass*, is written by Miami Valley native Robb Willoughby.

Performances will be Nov. 4, and 5 (7 p.m.), and Nov. 6 (2 p.m.). Tickets are \$10/adults, \$8/seniors, and \$5/students. Tickets will be available at the box office prior to each show.

On Sunday, Nov. 6, preschool and elementary students are invited to a Mad Hatter Tea Party and pictures with the cast



On Thursday, Nov. 3, there will be a complimentary

luncheon (Noon) and performance (1 p.m.) for senior citizens. RSVP to FHS, (937) 743-8610.

The show is under the direction of Jeff Sams, with Kimberly Daly as assistant director and Zach Katris as production stage manager.



Manufacturing Day

Manufacturing Day, which is officially the first Friday of October, is a celebration of modern manufacturing. The goal is to inspire the next generation of manufacturers. Thousands of events are held nationwide; sponsors are many including the Ohio Manufacturers Association.

Twenty FHS students got a look at high-tech manufactur-

ing when they visited SAS Automation in Xenia, described on its website as an "industry leading developer and manufacturer of the original Robotic End-of-Arm Tooling (EOAT)."



Volley for the Cure

On September 30, students and staff faced off in a Volley for the Cure Volleyball Match. Students raised over \$500 for the volleyball team's fundraiser to support breast cancer research. The match was one of the first events held on the new FHS gym floor.



Community Service Day

Franklin High School students worked on projects around the district on Oct. 8, when the high school held its annual fall community service day.

FHS students must have at least 20 hours of documented community service throughout their high school years in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Students worked on landscaping and playground projects at Hunter (see the News from Hunter Elementary page) and painted Steps to Success at Anthony Wayne.





News from Gerke

STEM Project

Miss Garrett's class completed a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) project that chal-



lenged students to build something in groups to suspend an object using various materials.

Game Club

Approximately fifty 4th, 5th, and 6th graders participate in Game Club, learning sportsmanship and honing skills such as communications, matching, geography, and how to lose gracefully.





Several Junior
High School students are helping and earning community service hours.
The club is organized by Matt Slone.

Franklin City Schools 150 E. Sixth St. Franklin, OH 45005