

Freedom-isms



Freedom is a special place with its own traditions and activities. You will hear your children talk about them during your time at Freedom, so we've listed some of the most common "Freedom-isms" below so you become familiar as you join the Freedom community next year. Never hesitate to ask if you have a question about an event or activity!

Freedom Pride - Freedom's Character Education program, developed by a team of staff and parents to promote positive behavior. Freedom Pride is the foundation upon which our school is built. The 9 core values -- self-discipline, motivation, respect, teamwork, responsibility, compassion, citizenship, integrity and honesty -- are taught and embedded in the daily operation of Freedom.

Freedom Pride Slip - When a student makes a poor choice during the school day, he or she is asked to fill out a Freedom Pride Slip explaining which Freedom Pride skill they didn't follow.

FTN - Freedom Television Network - Freedom is very fortunate to have our very own network that we can use to communicate to our entire student body. FTN is used every Friday to recognize our Blue Ribbon Class of the Week. FTN is also used for special announcements and recognitions.

Blue Ribbon Class of the Week - Each year teachers sign up for a week for their class to be recognized as Freedom's Blue Ribbon Class of the Week. During their week, students create a bulletin board in the front hallway that relates to our Freedom Pride skills. The class is recognized in the dining room by having balloons on their tables during lunch. On Friday, the class appears on FTN with the principal/asst. principal and leads the school in The Pledge and Words of Wisdom. After FTN, students receive blue ribbons, cookies and juice.

Pro-Award - Each month students are recognized by a staff member for using their Freedom Pride Skills. Students are presented a certificate, a reward, showcased on FTN, recognized in our school newsletter and recognized by having their information posted on a bulletin board outside the gym.

Falcon Tickets - Falcon tickets are given to students whenever they are caught using pride skills, making good choices, being kind, and using appropriate behaviors in school and on the bus. The Falcon tickets are placed in a drawing once a month and winner are given a small token to say thanks for doing a great job at school or on the bus.

The Bell - The bell in front of the building was placed there in celebration of our 10th year anniversary. Kids love to ring it whenever they can!

"Let Freedom Ring" - Freedom's school song - David Dendler was the music teacher when Freedom opened in 1988. He wrote the music and lyrics for our school song, which all students learn and sing at various occasions each year.

Freedom Dining Room - Freedom's cafeteria is called the dining room. This name was given to promote appropriate dining room behaviors.

Buddy classes - Every class at Freedom pairs up with a class from a different grade level and they do an activity together at least once a month. Activities may include a get acquainted game, a service project, a language arts lesson or sharing student projects/work with one another. The purpose of Buddy Classes is to build a sense of community, build character and help older students serve as role models for younger students.

Freedom Parent Council - Every parent or guardian of a Freedom student is a member of the Parent Council (or PC). There are no dues and anyone can participate. An elected board represents the parents and conducts the business of the Parent Council. Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of every month at 9:30AM at the school. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings even if they are not a Board member.

Fall Festival - The Fall Festival is held every year in late September or early October. This is Freedom's largest fundraiser and includes all kinds of games, food and events. One popular feature is the Haunted Trail, featuring various "scary" decorations in both a mild side and a wild side.

Family Fun Night - This evening of fun is held every winter as a thank you for parent support during the year. The purpose is to bring our Freedom Family together for an evening of free fun and activities for the whole family. Food is available for reasonable prices.

Study Island - This is an interactive web site which helps prepare students for the Ohio Achievement Tests. Each student in grades 3-6 has access to this program, both at school and at home. Not only is this used a practice tool for students, but teachers can also access immediate data and feedback as to how their class is performing on the Ohio Content Standards.

Birthday Book Club - Families can purchase a book for the media center in honor of a student's birthday. Students get to pick their special book. BBC members get to place a personalized label inside the book, present their book on FTN and check out the book before anyone else.

MASH - This stands for **Make All Staff Happy!!** You might see these special jars filled with treats in various places around the building. At the beginning of the school year, volunteers are asked to donate candy and other goodies for staff. The Services Committee of the Parent Council coordinates this program, and re-fills jars as needed.

Hump Day - once a month on a Wednesday, Parent Council provides a special treat for the staff.