

# **Fremont High School**

**PL 221**

# **School Improvement Plan**

**September 10, 2024**

## MISSION STATEMENT

Fremont High School and its community will provide an educational, supportive, and safe environment empowering students to learn, develop skills, be responsible and have a positive attitude necessary for life.

## VISION STATEMENT

We believe that:

1. Students will acquire skills necessary to cope with social, personal, and cultural situations.
2. Students will gain self-understanding and respect for others.
3. Students will apply research skills.
4. Students will select and utilize appropriate problem-solving methods.
5. Students will develop civic values that will enable them to act responsibly.

### Committee Members:

Joe Camp (English teacher)	Mark Sherbondy (principal)
Angela Wirick (math teacher)	
Tony Mitchell (social studies teacher)	Laura Taylor (science teacher)

### Meeting Schedule

The PL221 committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:10 a.m. in the high school conference room.

### Fremont School Corporation

Fremont High School is part of the Fremont School Corporation, one of four school corporations in Steuben County. Fremont School Corporation serves approximately 1000 students in one elementary school, one middle school, and one high school.

### Profile of Fremont High School

Fremont High School graduated its first class in 1879. The present building is a grade nine through grade twelve public school built in 1980. It is located in Fremont, Indiana, a small town in northern Steuben County of about 2138 residents. Situated in the most northeastern district in the state of Indiana, the school corporation is bordered on two sides by the state of Michigan. The school corporation includes the Town of Fremont, the Town of Clear Lake, and three townships which are predominantly farmland and large lake communities.

### Summary of Past Data

Fremont High School received an "A" rating from the Indiana Department of Education for the 2017-2018 school year and was designated as a **Four Star School** in 2017-2018. The high school rating is based on categories measured by the department of education with 54.4% of sophomores passing the mathematics ISTEP and 73.1% passing the English 10 ISTEP. Fremont's "A" rating is based on the 2017-2018 data.

In the spring of 2021 Fremont High School test scores surpassed the 2017-2018 Four Star performance. With ISTEP testing delayed a year due to COVID, 58.6% of the junior class passed the mathematics portion of the ISTEP and 87.8% of the class passed the English portion. The state of Indiana averaged 25.3% passing the math portion of the ISTEP and 50.9% passing the English portion. The State of Indiana has not designated Four Star Schools since the COVID shutdown in the spring of 2020.

### FHS 2022 and 2023 federal report cards (2023 is the latest available report.)

E/La Academic Achievement	Math Academic Achievement	Graduation Rate	Strength of Diploma	Addressing Chronic Absenteeism	Overall School Rating
Approaches Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Approaches Expectations	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations
Approaches Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Approaches Expectations	Exceeds expectations	Meets Expectations

### SAT Results for Both Evidence Based Reading & Writing and Math

Fremont High School	at benchmark	total tested	percent at benchmark	Out of 521 public and private schools
2023 spring juniors	22	57	38.60%	Rank: 95 <sup>th</sup>
2024 spring juniors	24	68	35.3%	Rank: 94 <sup>th</sup>

### FHS SAT Results by Subject

Evidence Based Reading and Writing	Below Benchmark	Approaching	At Benchmark	total tested	percent at benchmark	State rank
2023	16	10	31	57	54.40%	169 <sup>th</sup>
2024	19	7	42	68	61.8%	141 <sup>th</sup>
Math	Below Benchmark	Approaching	At Benchmark	total tested	percent at benchmark	
2023	14	18	25	57	43.90%	86 <sup>th</sup>
2024	21	19	28	68	41.2%	75 <sup>th</sup>

# Fremont High School Spring 2023 and 2024 SAT Demographic Breakdowns

Paid meals			Free/Reduced price meals			Female			Male		
Both at Benchmark	Both Total Tested	Both Benchmark %	Both at Benchmark	Both Total Tested	Both Benchmark %	Both at Benchmark	Both Total Tested	Both Benchmark %	Both At Benchmark	Both Total Tested	Both Benchmark %
17	44	38.60%	5	13	38.50%	14	37	37.80%	8	20	40.00%
18	48	37.5%	6	20	30.0%	16	38	42.1%	8	30	26.7%

Paid meals					Free/Reduced price meals				
EBRW Below Benchmark	EBRW Approaching Benchmark	At Benchmark	Total Tested	Benchmark %	EBRW Below Benchmark	EBRW Approaching Benchmark	At Benchmark	Total Tested	Benchmark %
12	8	24	44	54.50%	4	2	7	13	53.80%
14	5	29	48	60.4%	5	2	13	20	65.0%

  

Math					Math				
Math Below Benchmark	Math Approaching Benchmark	At Benchmark	Total Tested	Benchmark %	Math Below Benchmark	Math Approaching Benchmark	At Benchmark	Total Tested	Benchmark %
11	13	20	44	45.50%	3	5	5	13	38.50%
15	12	21	48	43.8%	6	7	7	20	35.0%

Female					Male				
EBRW Below Benchmark	EBRW Approaching Benchmark	EBRW At Benchmark	EBRW Total Tested	EBRW Benchmark %	EBRW Below Benchmark	EBRW Approaching Benchmark	EBRW At Benchmark	EBRW Total Tested	EBRW Benchmark %
9	5	23	37	62.20%	7	5	8	20	40.00%
7	3	28	38	73.7%	12	4	14	30	46.7%

  

Math					Math				
Math Below Benchmark	Math Approaching Benchmark	Math At Benchmark	Math Total Tested	Math Benchmark %	Math Below Benchmark	Math Approaching Benchmark	Math At Benchmark	Math Total Tested	Math Benchmark %
10	12	15	37	40.50%	4	6	10	20	50.00%
10	10	18	38	47.4%	11	9	10	30	33.3%

### SAT Summaries for the State of Indiana Spring 2023

<b>Student Demographic</b>	<b>Both EBRW &amp; Math At Benchmark</b>	<b>Both EBRW &amp; Math Total Tested</b>	<b>Both EBRW &amp; Math Benchmark %</b>
Paid meals	18025	47227	38.20%
Free/Reduced price meals	4236	31016	13.70%
Female	10399	38932	26.70%
Male	11862	39311	30.20%
<b>All Students</b>	<b>22261</b>	<b>78243</b>	<b>28.50%</b>
		median	<b>21.90%</b>

<b>Student Demographic</b>	<b>EBRW Below Benchmark</b>	<b>EBRW Approaching Benchmark</b>	<b>EBRW At Benchmark</b>	<b>EBRW Total Tested</b>	<b>EBRW Benchmark %</b>
Paid meals	13424	4909	28894	47227	61.20%
Free/Reduced price meals	16711	3683	10622	31016	34.20%
Female	13808	4502	20622	38932	53.00%
Male	16327	4090	18894	39311	48.10%
<b>All Students</b>	<b>30135</b>	<b>8592</b>	<b>39516</b>	<b>78243</b>	<b>50.50%</b>

<b>Student Demographic</b>	<b>Math Below Benchmark</b>	<b>Math Approaching Benchmark</b>	<b>Math At Benchmark</b>	<b>Math Total Tested</b>	<b>Math Benchmark %</b>
Paid meals	16111	11844	19272	47227	40.80%
Free/Reduced price meals	19232	7014	4770	31016	15.40%
Female	17938	9998	10996	38932	28.20%
Male	17405	8860	13046	39311	33.20%
<b>All Students</b>	<b>35343</b>	<b>18858</b>	<b>24042</b>	<b>78243</b>	<b>30.70%</b>

Scores reflect all Graduation Cohort 2024 SAT testers during Indiana state administration

## Fremont HS 2022-2023 Biology ILEARN Results (2024 results not yet available)

School Name	Biology						Biology Total Tested	Biology Proficient %	IN schools rank	IN school corp rank
	Biology Below Proficiency	Approaching Proficiency	Biology At Proficiency	Biology Above Proficiency	Biology Total Proficient	Biology Proficient %				
Fremont HS	12	12	24	14	38	62	61.30%	56th	rank 5th	

Female							Male						
Biology Below Proficiency	Approaching Proficiency	Biology At Proficiency	Biology Above Proficiency	Biology Total Proficient	Biology Total Tested	Biology Proficient %	Biology Below Proficiency	Approaching Proficiency	Biology At Proficiency	Biology Above Proficiency	Biology Total Proficient	Biology Total Tested	Biology Proficient %
3	6	13	8	21	30	70.00%	9	6	11	6	17	32	53.10%

Paid Meals							Free/Reduced Price Meals						
Biology Below Proficiency	Approaching Proficiency	Biology At Proficiency	Biology Above Proficiency	Biology Total Proficient	Biology Total Tested	Biology Proficient %	Biology Below Proficiency	Approaching Proficiency	Biology At Proficiency	Biology Above Proficiency	Biology Total Proficient	Biology Total Tested	Biology Proficient %
9	9	17	11	28	46	60.90%	3	3	7	3	10	16	62.50%

### Summary of Indiana Biology ILEARN Results 2022-2023

Student Demographic	Biology Below Proficiency	Biology Approaching Proficiency	Biology At Proficiency	Biology Above Proficiency	Biology Total Proficient	Biology Total Tested	Biology Proficient %
Paid meals	15282	13608	11732	6310	18042	46932	38.40%
Free/Reduced price meals	20813	9367	4740	1320	6060	36240	16.70%
Female	17103	12243	8231	3312	11543	40889	28.20%
Male	18995	10734	8240	4318	12558	42287	29.70%
Overall Indiana Totals	36099	22977	16472	7630	24102	83178	29.00%

## Percentages of Enrolled Students by Race/Ethnicity

American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Multi-racial	Pacific Islandr	White	Free Reduced	Paid lunch	total
0	3	0	8	3	0	269	100	183	283

### Special Education Students

Learning-disabled students and mildly mentally disabled students are provided services at Fremont High School. Students who are classified in an area outside of learning disabled and mildly mentally impaired are served by the Northeastern Indiana Special Education Cooperative. Emotionally disabled students are provided consultation services. In January 2014 the applied skills program opened at Fremont High School serving seven students from Fremont, Angola and Prairie Heights High Schools.

### Career Programs

Students who are interested in career programs during high school have several options at Fremont. Students can choose industry certification and/or dual credit in fourteen career programs at the IMPACT Institute. Twenty-two juniors and seniors enrolled in twelve different IMPACT programs. This fall three seniors will earn fire fighter certifications and dual credit at the newly available Fire Science Program at the Angola Fire Station.

Automotive Technology	Auto Body Collision Repair
CAD Drafting	Construction Trades
Cosmetology	Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts	Primary Health Care (PHC)
Health Occupations Education	Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning
Precision Machining	Marine Mechanics
Welding	Interactive Media

### Athletics

Fremont High School is a member of the Northeast Corner Conference that consists of twelve schools in the four-county area of extreme northeast Indiana. Fremont High School is currently the second smallest school in the conference based on enrollment. We provide a total of fourteen varsity sports for both males and females.

## Historical Free and Reduced Lunch

For the 2019-2020 school year, Fremont Community School's free/reduced lunch rate was 48.4% which is nearly double the rate of 19.6% in 2006.

## Fremont High School Staff

The staff at our school includes 23 Indiana certified teachers. Fourteen teachers have 20 years or more of experience. Additional personnel include a school principal, an athletic director, 3 secretaries, 1 custodian, a school counselor, a library technician, 4 instructional assistants, and the food service staff.

Other support personnel available to assist in meeting the needs of the students include a special education cooperative psychologist, a corporation school nurse, a consulting speech and language specialist, a corporate maintenance director, a grounds crew, multiple bus drivers, and a corporate technology director.

## Dual Credit

In the fall of 2009 Fremont High School entered into an agreement with Trine University to offer dual credit concurrent enrollment courses on the high school campus. In the fall of 2013 dual credit offerings expanded to include biology, chemistry, mathematics, and Spanish through IVY Tech Community College. Trine University became the sole provider of dual credit courses at Fremont High School. For the class of 2018-19, 77.6% of the graduates earned college credits prior to their high school graduation compared to the state average of 68.1%. The college level, dual credit courses offered at Fremont High School are listed below:

Microeconomics	Principles of Sociology
Introduction to Government	Psychology
American History II	English Composition I
Introduction to Literature	English Composition II
College Algebra	Pre-calculus
Calculus I	Spanish I, II & III
Chemistry I & II	Biology I
Business Applications	Physics I & II
Biology	

## Dual Credit Advantages

- Dual credit courses are open to all students willing to work at the college level.
- Students who are undecided about attending college may experience a college level class at FHS.
- Trine University courses are offered at a reduced tuition.
- Fremont graduates enter their freshman year of college with college credit.
- Students earn high school credit that qualifies for a diploma with academic honors.

## Dual Credit Results

### Percentage of Fremont High School Students Earning Dual Credit

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022  
 35% 67% 67% 59% 68% 75% 75% 79% 77% 78% 81% 85% 77%

## Attendance

Fremont Community Schools and MSD Steuben are combining efforts to improve attendance county wide. The attendance mediation program will start in the fall to support families with poor attendance. After 5 unexcused absence days, schools send an attendance warning letter to parents/guardians. After 8 unexcused days, schools schedule a meeting with the family and a school official. After 10 days of unexcused absences, schools refer families to the county mediation program. According to the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), a student is considered chronically absent if they miss 10% or more of school days in a year, including both excused and unexcused absences.

Year	Students Chronically Absent	Total Students	Percent Chronically Absent
2024	38	293	13.0%
2023	14	300	4.7%
2022	60	315	19.0%
2021	42	296	14.2%
2020	53	306	17.3%
2019	58	315	18.4%
2018	64	319	20.1%
2017	70	322	21.7%
2016	64	320	20.0%
2015	75	347	21.6%
2014	67	361	18.6%
2013	48	379	12.7%

## Diploma Types

	General	Core 40	Academic and Tech Honors	Academic Honors	Technical Honors
FHS 2023	6/65= 9.2%	24/65= 36.9%	3/65= 4.6%	30/65= 46.2%	2/65= 3.1%
No 24 data yet					

## Plans After Graduation

Based on senior exit surveys, 72% of graduates intend to pursue higher education, 7% are undecided, 17% plan to enter the workforce, 2% enlist in the armed forces, 1% declared an apprenticeship, and 1% attend the choice program which teaches independent living skills.

## Graduation Rate

The graduation rate for the class of 2023 was 87.84%.

The graduation rate for the class of 2024 currently stands at 90.63% with 6 waivers, 1 alternative diploma.

To receive a waiver, the student must:

- 1) maintain at least a "C" average, or its equivalent, throughout the student's high school career in courses comprising credits required for the student to graduate;
- 2) maintain a school attendance rate of at least 95% with excused absences not counting against the student's attendance;
- 3) satisfy all other state and local graduation requirements beyond the postsecondary readiness competency requirements; and
- 4) demonstrate postsecondary planning, including:
  - a. college acceptance;
  - b. acceptance in an occupational training program;
  - c. workforce entry; or
  - d. military enlistment; that is approved by the principal of the student's school.

The alternate diploma is a standards-based diploma available to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, pursuant to Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) 7-32-93.5, who participate in the state's alternate assessment (I AM) and meet the criteria set forth in 511 IAC 6-7.1-10. The alternate diploma may not be awarded to any students aside from those identified as meeting the criteria outlined in 511 IAC 7-32-93.5 and for whom a case conference committee has determined the alternate diploma is appropriate.

### 2022 and 2023 Fremont High School Graduation Results

Paid Meals			Free/Reduced Price Meals			Female			Male			Total		
Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate
45	44	97.78%	27	24	88.89%	28	27	96.43%	45	41	91.11%	73	68	93.15%
45	39	86.67%	27	26	96.30%	35	32	91.43%	39	33	84.62%	74	65	87.84%

### 2022 and 2023 State of Indiana Graduation Results

Paid Meals			Free/Reduced Price Meals			Female			Male			Total		
Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate	Count	Grads	Rate
53K	49K	92.3%	29K	24K	83.8%	42K	37K	88.8%	43K	36K	84.6%	84K	73K	86.7%
49K	45K	91.12%	30K	26K	88.04%	41K	37K	89.40%	42K	37K	85.69%	84K	74K	87.52%

### Description and Location of Curriculum

The Indiana State Approved Course Titles and Descriptions can be located at [www.doe.state.in.us](http://www.doe.state.in.us). Fremont High School curriculum maps based on Indiana Academic Standards drive high school instruction ensuring the curriculum supports the achievement of state standards. Fremont High School curriculum maps are housed at the high school.

### Titles and Descriptions of Assessment Instruments

The high school uses SAT, PSAT, ACT, ASVAB, ILEARN biology and WIDA for standardized data collection. Other data collection instruments include:

Six Plus One Traits of Writing Assessments are used for in-house writing assessments. This assessment is based on the Six Plus One Traits of Writing program originally developed by the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory for the improvement of writing using standardized criteria and rubrics for writing assessment.

## **Parental Involvement**

Parents use Canvas, Facebook, Twitter, email, and the school website to stay informed and communicate. Parents have daily access to student progress, discipline, daily announcements and attendance on line through PowerSchool. Parents support the school through music and athletic booster groups.

## **Safe and Disciplined Learning Environment**

A practice of reasonable rules and consistent, caring enforcement has been established and will continue. There were 271 discipline referrals written in 2021-2022. Those referrals involved 130 different students. Over half (151) of those 271 referrals were for tardiness. Consequences included 56 out of school suspensions, 6 in-school suspensions, and 14 expulsions.

## ***Academic Honors Diploma, Technical Honors Diploma and Core 40***

Fremont High School currently offers courses to meet all of the requirements of the Academic Honors Diploma, Technical Honors Diploma and Core 40 Diploma.

Our guidance counselor does an excellent job of presenting diploma options to students. It is standard practice to encourage students to work towards the Core 40 diploma, Technical Honors diploma, or Honors diploma instead of the General diploma.

The General diploma is accepted as an option after it becomes apparent that it is the only remaining option for the student.

Students meet with our guidance counselor each year to discuss course planning. This includes an emphasis on the Core 40, Technical Honors diploma, or Honors diploma. Additionally, information regarding diploma requirements is available to students in student handbook.

## **Technology**

A technology plan is maintained and administered by the corporation. Technology initiatives and training are coordinated through three staff technology liaisons with assistance from the technology director. Fremont High School became a one-to-one school in the spring of 2020 when the corporation instituted e-Learning in response to the global pandemic. Students extensively use Google and canvas.

## ***Data Conclusions***

Good news:

- Sixty percent of Fremont students passed the biology ILEARN test, exceeding the state average of thirty percent placing Fremont Community Schools in the top 10% of all Indiana school corporations.
- Just over thirty-five percent of Fremont juniors met the college ready benchmarks on the SAT placing Fremont High School in the top 20% of all reporting agencies.

Areas of concern:

- Chronic absence rates increased from 4.7% to 13%.
- 74% of the female students met the benchmark for EBRW, while only 47% of the male population met the benchmark
- 47% of the female students met the benchmark for math, while only 33% of the male population met the benchmark.

## ***Current Strategies***

- Mathematics
  - The department uses the CPM series of textbooks for Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II. CPM texts use a problem solving approach that relates prior knowledge to new concepts. The CPM texts

were developed on college and career ready standards and incorporate the eight Mathematical Practice Standards in lessons.

- Students that fail math 8 ILEARN and/or 8th grade math enroll in a year-long Pre-Algebra/Algebra I course. The staff continues to teach strategies for solving applied skills problems, re-teach basic math skills, and support students with assistance in Algebra I concepts.
  - Students who need extra support in earning required math credits enroll in a year-long Geometry and Algebra II.
  - To prepare college bound and other juniors to take the PSAT, the department divides students into classroom size groups and assigns them to a math teacher's room for FLEX times prior to test. Teachers assist students as they work through the PSAT practice book, SAT practice tests, and/or Kahn Academy individualized test prep materials.
  - The department implements more technology through use of Chromebooks, 3D document camera/projectors, canvas, online resources, and video recording
  - The department added a Quantitative Reasoning Course designed to provide critical and quantitative reasoning skills while preparing students for success in other courses and in their chosen careers.
- English
    - Students that fail English 8 ILEARN and/or eighth grade English enroll in a year-long basic skills/English 9 course.
    - All sophomores pre-mediate in the fall prior to the PSAT.
    - Juniors use previously released SAT materials twice a week in preparation for the spring SAT.
    - The senior English reading buddies program fulfills the graduation pathway service requirement.
  - Biology
    - Fremont High School expanded the number of environmental science classes for sophomores. Sophomores who take environmental science in the fall and biology in the spring will engage in a full year of life science.
  - All Staff
    - Teachers work to incorporate SAT strategies into curriculum maps.
    - Teachers use standardized and updated testing vocabulary to create assessments.
    - Teachers encourage the use of annotating text to prepare for written assessments.

### *New Strategies*

- SAT Gender Disparity
  - FHS staff will meet on September 20, 2024 to implement strategies to improve male student SAT test performance.
- Attendance
  - Fremont Community Schools, Prairie Heights, Hamilton and MSD are combining efforts to improve school attendance across Steuben County. The attendance mediation program starts in the fall of 2023 to support families with poor attendance.
  - After 5 unexcused absence days, schools send an attendance warning letter to parents/guardians.
  - After 8 unexcused days, schools schedule a meeting with the family and a school official.
  - After 10 days of unexcused absences, schools refer families to the county mediation program.
- Dual Credit
  - Dual credit staff is applying to Purdue Fort Wayne. Offering dual credit courses through PFW enables Fremont students to earn the Indiana College Core.