

# PAC PARENTS AND COMMUNITY FOR FREMONT

We bought our home in Sparr Heights when my oldest son, Dylan, was 4 years old and I was 8 months pregnant with my youngest son Liam. We wanted to move where we would have great public schools for our kids, and boy had I done my research – printing out statistics, talking to fellow parents, reading articles. I felt so excited and at peace when Dylan started kindergarten, knowing he was in such a great environment. Dylan is now in third grade and I will be one of the parents in line at 2 am to get Liam registered for kindergarten in the spring. Over the years Fremont has exceeded my expectations. The caring and creative staff, the high expectations they have for the students (who rise to the occasion), the amazing participation of parents, and the exceptional programs offered have all made me proud to be a Fremont Mom.



When we started at Fremont back in 2007, I immediately became involved in the PTA and have been on the PTA Board for three out of my four years at Fremont. Being so involved at the school has given me great insight into how things work, including the unfortunate lack of funds for things that I always took for granted as being part of a school's budget. Being a national organization with strict financial guidelines, PTA is limited on what they can fund. I learned that the reason we have beautiful playground equipment, state-of-the-art computers, an art program, and a music program at Fremont was due to the funds raised by our very own parent organization, PAC.

One of my favorite memories is of Dylan coming home from school in 1<sup>st</sup> grade with a PowerPoint presentation he had created. I never learned how to do a PowerPoint presentation and here was my kid showing me his! Because our kids have access to up-to-date technology and have been exposed to the arts (which statistics show help in math and other areas) they will be more prepared for high school, college and life. They will have an edge that so many kids don't. But it takes money to give them that edge. When we are asked to give money during the PAC Annual Campaign I think of my friends who are paying thousands and thousands of dollars for private school, when we are so lucky to have excellence in our "free" public school. But the fact is, a great education is not free. I believe it is my responsibility as a parent at Fremont to contribute not only my time, but my money to fund all those things that make Fremont an exceptional school. My husband and I are self-employed and the last couple of years have been very tough financially. We haven't always been able to give as much as we would like, but we always give something because we know that every little bit counts. As of last week we had about 20% participation from Fremont families. I hope everyone will consider giving something – even \$5 or \$10 – so we can get that percentage up to 100%. Your child's education is worth it!

—Betsy and Cheyenne Wilbur (and Dylan and Liam)

- I am pleased to support Fremont's 2010–2011 Annual Campaign by making this tax-deductible contribution of  
 \$1000  \$500  \$250  \$150  \$100  \$50  \$25  \$10  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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