

# May Update

Annie Sullivan Middle School

## Advisory Focus

During the month of April, advisories spent much of the month working through the final unit of our SEL curriculum, Second Step. The focus of this unit is on managing relationships and social conflicts. Throughout the unit, students learned strategies for developing and maintaining healthy relationships, perspective-taking, and dealing with conflict. Additionally, on days that grade levels completed MCAS testing, advisories took a break from Second Step and had an opportunity to engage in either mindfulness activities to settle the brain or a movement activity to energize the brain and body.



Throughout the month of May, students will start the month by finishing up the final Second Step unit. We will also have another presentation from our nurses about taking care of yourself, including getting enough sleep and protecting your skin. The Advisory committee is busy planning a variety of different learning opportunities for the last two months of school.



## FPS Comprehensive School Facilities Planning

As previously shared, Comprehensive School Facilities subcommittee has presented a plan to continue to provide high-quality education opportunities for our students while creating a more fiscally sustainable model for our district.

The options presented will result in two strategic changes for the 2025-2026 school year:

1. Unifying our three middle schools into one middle school in one location, the current Horace Mann/Oak Street complex. This will result in the closure of the three middle schools as they currently exist.

2. Unifying our five elementary schools into four elementary schools in two locations, the current Remington/Jefferson Complex and the current Annie Sullivan/Helen Keller Complex. This will result in the closure of the five elementary schools as they currently exist and the redistricting of all students between these complexes. As a result, the Kennedy and Parmenter Elementary Schools would become unoccupied in their current capacity.

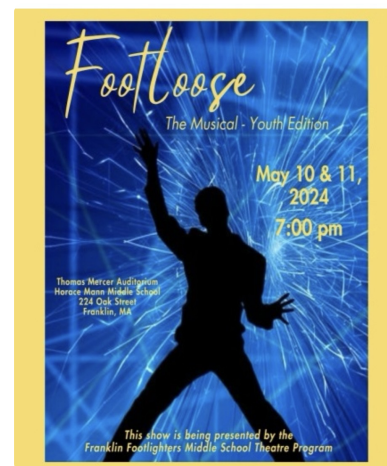
School Committee Members will vote on a final recommendation at the next School Committee meeting on May 14, 2024. A vote to take action on this option will result in strategic master planning during the 2024-25 school year, followed by implementation for the 2025-26 school year.

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## Footlighter's Footloose Performance

The FPS middle school theater company, The Franklin Footlighters, is proud to present "**Footloose: Youth Edition**" which will be performed Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 7:00 pm at Horace Mann Middle School.

Tickets are now available! Please go to the [Franklin Footlighters Footloose ticket website](#) to purchase tickets. Save time and money at the door and buy them online! Each ticket bought on the day of the show costs \$2 more than buying tickets ahead of time. **Enjoy the show!**



## Music Community/Alumni Side by Side Performance

We would like to invite the community, teachers and alumni of the Franklin Music Program to join us in our performance of "God Bless America" at the **Franklin Porchfest on Saturday, June 1st on the Town Common**. (Rain Date, June 2nd) Anyone who has played an instrument or sung in a chorus at some point in their life, is welcome to perform side by side with our talented Franklin High School Symphony Orchestra, Band and Chorus.

There will be two rehearsals for this event: Wednesday, May 15th 6-7PM & Wednesday, May 29th from 6-7PM. If the 2nd rehearsal is not needed, we will cancel. Both rehearsals will take place at FHS in room 131. The group will be conducted by Diane Plouffe. If you are interested, please fill out [THIS FORM](#). Mrs. Plouffe will be in touch with all final details.

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## Spring MCAS Testing

Last month, our students will began the annual MCAS testing by taking their ELA tests. At the start of May, sixth and seventh grade students will participate in Math testing, while eighth graders will

complete Math and STE. Eighth graders will also participate in the Civics Field Test at the end of the month.

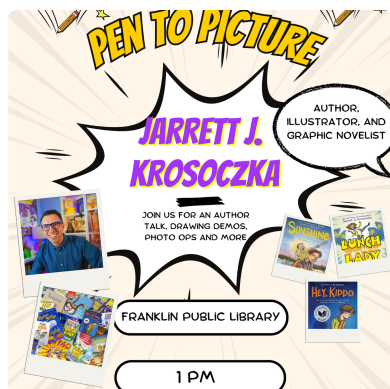
It is important to keep these things in mind to set the students up for success:



- get a good night's sleep
- eat a good breakfast before school
- bring water and a snack to school
- bring a good book to read after the testing sessions are completed
- charge the chromebook and bring a charger to school
- arrive to school on time
- use strategies and resources to show what you know!

The MCAS schedule for the remainder of the year is:

- May 1-2: 7th and 8th Math
- May 8-9: 6th grade Math & 8th grade STE
- May 29-30: Civics test will be completed during Social Studies classes (two class periods)



### Pen to Picture Event (May 4)

Join author Jarrett J. Krosoczka at the Franklin Public Library on Saturday, May 4th at 1pm. He will be talking through his creative process, showing demonstrations, and taking pictures with fans. This event is open to the public and is free of charge, with thanks to the Massachusetts Cultural Council. His books can also be purchased at Escape Into Fiction in Franklin.

### 8th Grade High School Survey

This is a survey to determine your Franklin 8th grader's choice of high school. A follow up survey will be sent to you in June to allow you to confirm or change your selection. Your survey response ensures we have adequate staffing here at FHS and if your student will attend another high school, this allows us to make sure we send their records to the proper location and withdraw them from Franklin Public Schools in the summer.

All 8th graders should use this [link](#) to complete the survey.

### New IEP Form for Special Education



An introduction to the New IEP Form Parent Workshop will be held on May 9th from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, virtually (Zoom) and in person (FHS Auditorium). Click [here](#) to register.

[New IEP Form Workshop.pdf](#)

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## NECC 5K

On Saturday, May 11 (9am registration, 10am race start), the New England Center for Children is hosting a 5K Walk/Run for Autism.



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## Health Office: Postural Screenings

Franklin Public School nurses will be conducting postural screening on all students in grades 5-9 this spring per Massachusetts law (M.G.L. c.71, s.57). The purpose is to detect early signs of possible spinal problems in children. It is not a diagnostic service but a program to identify those who should have further medical evaluation. If your child has any unusual findings, you will be notified and asked to take the child to a physician. The majority of students exhibit no findings. If nothing unusual is found, we will not be contacting you again until the screening next year.

School Nurses are required to perform these screenings annually regardless of whether or not a child has been screened by their provider. Parents may choose to opt-out of their child's school screening by providing a written statement ([M.G.L. c71, s57](#)) by May 10th. If choosing to opt your child out of the school screening, please forward a copy of your child's most recent postural (scoliosis) screening to your child's school nurse.

If you would prefer your student **not be screened** for scoliosis at school this year, please complete this Google [Form](#).

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## Spirit Days

Each month, we will have a new spirit day with a different theme. All students are encouraged to participate as the Flex with the most participation will earn a prize later on in the school year. This is a great way to show school spirit and have fun with peers.

The spirit day theme will be announced on morning announcements the week before/week of the spirit day. For the month of May, the spirit day is Friday, May 3rd with a theme of Country or Country Club. Then again on Friday, May 24, we will have a USA themed spirit day before the Memorial Day weekend.



## FHS: Empty Bowls Fundraiser

The Franklin Food Pantry's 9th Annual Empty Bowls Dinner in partnership with the FHS Empty Bowls Club will be held on Thursday, May 23rd from 6-8pm in the FHS Cafeteria. This is a wonderful family event that includes a simple meal of soup and bread, a silent auction, music by FHS students, arts & crafts activities, and a ceramic bowl to take home as a reminder that somewhere, someone's bowl is empty.

We would love to engage students at a young age to make them aware about the Empty Bowls Club-something they can be a part of when they are in high school.

## ATTENTION 8th GRADERS: Register for High School Experience

High School Experience is a transitional program to help 8th graders as they move to the high school next year. The program runs on **August 6th & 7th from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm**. Students will...

- Tour and learn to navigate their new school
- Meet and greet with FHS faculty & peers
- Learn how to read a class schedule
- Participate in team building activities
- Communicate with upperclass student leaders
- Learn the "ins and outs" from an "expert"
- And more!

Here is a brief [video](#) describing the program! Use this website to register: [www.FranklinLifelongLearning.com](http://www.FranklinLifelongLearning.com)



Questions? Contact: Kristin Letendre Smith, Director: High School Experience ([smithk@franklinps.net](mailto:smithk@franklinps.net))

## Important Dates:

### May:

- Wednesday, May 1: 7th/8th grade Math MCAS
- Thursday, May 2: 7th/8th grade Math MCAS
- Week of May 6: Teacher Appreciation Week
- Wednesday, May 8: 6th grade Math MCAS & 8th grade STE MCAS

- Friday, May 10: Footlighters Performance of *Footloose* (7pm)
- Saturday, May 11: Footlighters Performance of *Footloose* (7pm)
- Friday, May 17: 8th grade Field Trip to Boston
- Tuesday, May 21: Reading MAP (grades 6 and 7)
- Thursday, May 23: Math MAP (grades 6 and 7)
- Friday, May 24: Spirit Day (USA theme)
- Monday, May 27: Memorial Day (no school)
- Monday, May 27: ASMS Band Performance in the Memorial Day Parade (10am)
- Wednesday, May 29: 6th grade Field Trip to Tree Top Adventures
- Wednesday, May 29: 8th grade Civics MCAS (one class period)
- Thursday, May 30: 8th grade Civics MCAS (one class period)

#### June:

- Friday, June 7: Spirit Day (Sports theme)
- Friday, June 7: Early Release (dismissal at 10:45am)
- Monday, June 10: 7th grade Field Trip to Wachusett Mountain
- Wednesday, June 12: 8th grade Step Up Program and Celebration (6pm)
- Thursday, June 13: 8th graders tour Franklin High School
- Friday, June 14: ASMS Field Day
- Monday, June 17: 8th grade Breakfast
- Monday, June 17: ASMS Yearbooks Distributed
- Monday, June 17: Last Day of School (dismissal at 10:45am)
- Monday, June 17: Final Report Cards posted in Aspen



### Annie Sullivan Middle School

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### Elizabeth Morrison

Elizabeth is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters