



## **Franklin Public Schools**

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### **Superintendent's Report to School Committee October 15, 2019 School Committee Meeting**

#### **Visiting Author at our Middle Schools!**

The Franklin Middle Schools are excited about the upcoming author visit, which is being sponsored by all three PCCs and a grant from the Franklin Education Foundation. The author is Leslie Connor and she will be visiting each school November 13 through 15th.

Starting tomorrow, there will be a Book Fair at Unlikely Story in Plainville, where 20% of all sales will be generously donated back to our schools. October 30 will be the "Stop, Drop, and Read" event at all three of our middle schools. The author will also be visiting Unlikely Story on the evening of November 14 from 6-7 PM!

We are very excited for this special literacy event and the opportunity to share enrichment opportunity across all three middle schools.

#### **Professional Development Day Recap -- October 11, 2019**

Friday, October 11 was a day of professional learning across the district. Our Student Services Office led the day with professional development for all educators, which is very powerful. Professional development release time is one of our only chances to "shrink the district" and make sure that there is collaboration across our schools' educators.

Middle and high school teachers (both classroom educators, special educators, and related service providers) attended a professional learning session designed to deepen understanding on roles, responsibilities, and opportunities around student learning -- including accommodations and modifications to the curriculum. These educators will have a chance to apply this work in smaller groups on November 5; the theory of action here is that by working collaboratively together, educators will provide appropriate support and a challenging learning environment to all students. This session will be repeated for elementary staff on November 5.

Elementary staff attended professional learning with the Family and Community Education Team through the Federation for Children with Special Needs. This session focused on building empathy with parents and families and working towards improved communication and collaboration. Our goal is to bring this same content to our secondary educators at a later point in the year.

**Harvest Festival**

We had a great time at the Harvest Festival on October 5. I want to extend a special thanks to our FHS students from DECA, who participated alongside the SC and Lifelong Learning Staff. The event is such a wonderful way to celebrate the Franklin community!