



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee January 8, 2019 School Committee Meeting

School Start Times

The school start times survey remains open to parents/guardians until 5 PM on Wednesday January 9, 2019. We currently have over 1400 responses. The survey presents two scenarios, each based on the recommendations from sleep research of 8:30 AM or later being an ideal start time for high school aged children. The scenarios are not set in stone, but rather are starting points for the conversation. The School Start Times Advisory Committee will be meeting soon to analyze results from the survey.

In response to questions and comments that are coming up commonly, the SSTAC anticipates holding a parent/guardian educational forum. This is tentatively being planned for January 30, 2019 with January 31, 2019 as a snow date. We are still confirming speakers and panelists and plan to issue a formal announcement once that is done.

Tiered Focused Review from DESE

Representatives from DESE will be onsite in Franklin early next week as part of a mid-cycle review . An excerpt from the press release reads:

“During the week of January 14, 2019 the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) will conduct a Tiered Focused Monitoring Review of Franklin Public Schools. The Office of Public School Monitoring visits each district and charter school every three years to monitor compliance with federal and state special education and civil rights regulations. Areas of review related to special education include student assessments, determination of eligibility, the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team process, and IEP development and implementation. Areas of review related to civil rights include bullying, student discipline, physical restraint, and equal access to school programs for all students.”

And, “Within approximately 60 business days after the onsite visit, the review chairperson will provide the Franklin Public Schools with a report with information about areas in which the Franklin Public Schools meets or exceeds regulatory requirements and areas in which the Franklin Public Schools requires assistance to correct or improve practices. The public will be able to access the report at www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/.”

A big thank you goes out to Paula Marano, Director of Student Services for her work towards our preparation and compliance. Findings will be shared with the School Committee.

More information can be found on our website:

<https://www.franklinps.net/district/pages/dese-tiered-focused-monitoring-review>

Reminder of the School Calendar

Friday, January 25, 2019 is a half day for our students. Our educators will be engaged in spending the second half in a professional development day working towards their evaluations.