



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee February 26, 2019 School Committee Meeting

Welcome Back from Vacation and a Special Thank You to Our Custodians

We would like to welcome our students, staff, and faculty back after the February vacation. We hope everyone is returning refreshed and recharged. I'd like to take a moment especially to thank our Custodians. Maintenance staff were hard at work over the vacation paying particularly close attention to surfaces that are touched often. They took extra care to disinfect our learning spaces in light of the strong cold and flu season we have been experiencing. We want to thank them for this extra attention and care.

My Shadow a Student Experience

A national campaign where educators shadow students is taking place February 25 through March 8, sponsored by shadowastudent.org. Since I have been in FPS, I have wanted to engage in shadowing students in order to immerse myself in their experience and learn about FPS from that unique perspective. Tomorrow, I will be shadowing a Franklin High School sophomore, who has agreed and whose parents have granted permission. I am even going to meet him bright and early at 6:30 AM to ride the bus to school!

My goal is to learn, just as I learned last year in my first year as Superintendent, through the use of focus groups and community forums. I will not be there to observe the student's behavior nor will I be evaluating any teacher. I have asked the teachers to treat me like any other student in their classes and I have promised to try to make every effort to be fully participatory. I look forward to sharing with the high school community and the greater district any insights I gain, perhaps also a consideration of expanding the practice in the future.

Professional Development Day -- Half Day for Students this Friday

This is a reminder that we have a half day for students this Friday, for professional development for teachers. It is a district-focused half-day. Elementary educators will engage in PD led by our district committees around homework and the new proposed HWK guidelines; a SEL needs assessment; and Portrait of a Graduate. Grades 6-12 will engage in ongoing curriculum based PD. Special educators have specially designed PD focusing on supporting students with special needs.

Videos from School start times parent/guardian education night and SC Legislative Forum will be posted online soon.

