

# Franklin Public Schools

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### Superintendent's Report to School Committee March 12, 2019 School Committee Meeting

### Recap of Commissioner Riley's Visit

Commissioner Jeffrey Riley, Commissioner of the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, visited Franklin today. We brought him to Helen Keller Elementary School and the Annie Sullivan Middle School to participate in two major activities aimed towards developing students' social-emotional learning.

Mr. Riley participated in "Zones of Recess", a set of recess activities designed so that students can self-monitor their emotions and engage in activities aligned to their emotional state. He even ran a few laps with our students in the Yellow Zone and worked his way towards his "100 mile" T-shirt. He also met with an articulate group of 8th grade World of Difference peer leaders who explained how their work in leading anti-bias curriculum with sixth graders is having an impact on the entire school. Here are some pictures from the visit:









Commissioner Riley speaking with Annie Sullivan Middle School Peer Leaders

#### Highlights from Franklin High School

Here are some abbreviated highlights Mr. Peri sent to the FHS community over the weekend.

- For the first time in Franklin High School history the <u>Math Team</u> is the champion of the Southern Mass Math League! The match was a back and forth battle with Franklin pulling out much needed perfect scores in several late rounds. With perfect scores from senior Sid Chaganti and sophomore Shreya Jha, the top 5 finish qualifies the team for the State Open competition next month, while the first place finish qualifies Franklin for the New England Championship as well. We had additional strong performances by all, in particular senior Roy Wang and junior Shoyaib Shaik.
- Out of over 130 schools competing in <u>Mock Trial</u>, the FHS team is in the Final 8 in Massachusetts! They are competing next this Wednesday.
- Over forty of our <u>DECA</u> students left for Boston on Thursday afternoon for a multi-day business competition against many other area schools. Eight students qualified for Nationals in Orlando in April!
- 2 FHS teams developed innovative smartphone based fitness tracker apps to take 1st and 2nd place in the statewide <u>Matlab STEM Challenge</u> competition. In April, students will visit Mathworks HQ in Natick where they will receive their awards. Congrats to our STEM champs!
- Our <u>drama department's performance of the one act play</u> "Shaken" resulted in four different awards in competition last weekend!

- We had several students win individual accolades at the <u>MAEA Emerging Artist</u> <u>Exhibition</u>, including Jackie Forcina for her watercolors and Drew Conrad for his sculpture!!
- Saturday, Samhita Modak advanced to the Massachusetts State Finals in the Poetry Out Loud Recitation Contest!!
- The FHS Jazz Band just earned a gold medal in the <u>MAJE State Jazz Festival</u> and will compete in the state finals on March 23.
- Franklin High School and Franklin Middle School ensembles are performing this week in the MICCA showcase concerts.: tonight at 6 and Thursday at 6 PM.
- We recently had three students earn <u>all-state honors</u> and perform at Symphony Hall, including Bobby Castro, who was named the #1 Jazz drummer in the state of Massachusetts!
- In sports, we have had MANY teams and individual athletes make the postseason and win season awards. Some have posted to the TVs around the building. As for our most current news, we have:
  - FHS Cheer won Regionals they finished first runner up at States.
  - Girls' basketball is playing tonight in a state semi-final game.
  - The wrestling team went 21-3-1 in dual meets. They won the D1 Central Sectional Title as a team by over 50 points. The individual accolades of this team are terrific and lengthy. One highlight of many was Jordan Carlucci placing in the top 8 out of the best 32 wrestlers in all of New England!!

## Leap into K Night

We are excited to welcome the graduating class of 2032 at our annual Leap into K Night --Tuesday March 19. It will be located at HMMS at 7:00 PM.