



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee March 22, 2018 School Committee Meeting

Concession Stand Update

On December 12, 2017 at the regular School Committee meeting, the School Committee voted to approve a community project for a new Concession Stand at Franklin High School, as presented by Mr. Mike Socci, pending my verification of sufficient funding.

We held a follow up meeting about the Concession Stand to learn more about the progress of the fundraising and to determine if enough progress had been made to proceed forward. I am pleased to report that they have secured \$122,500 donated labor and \$32,800 of donated materials. They also have a cash donation of \$18,500. All totaled, this amount is \$173,800, leaving them with about \$37,000 remaining to fundraise. As of last week's meeting date, they had a plan to close this gap by securing additional donors of labor, materials, and cash.

Given the magnitude of donations they have secured, I feel comfortable moving forward with the project and proceeding to the next phase. We have a follow up meeting to walk the site to develop a project plan for demolition and construction, as outlined in their initial proposal.

Mike D'Angelo, Director of Facilities; Miriam Goodman, Business Administrator; Peter Light, Assistant Superintendent; Tom Angelo, Athletic Director, and I have been participating in these initial planning meetings. We are expanding our team to bring Mr. Peri, Ms. Motte, Ms. Peretz, and Ms. Kelley into the discussion so that they are fully apprised and can influence the development of the project plan going forward.

I want to be sure to extend my thanks and gratitude to the donors who are committing generously to this project. We are very excited that a new Concession Stand with bathroom facilities will come to fruition!

Food Service Program Review

I would like to commend Colin Boisvert, Director of Food Services, Suzanne Sherrin, Assistant Director, our cafeteria staff and Miriam Goodman, Business Administrator for their hard work in preparing for a recent Department of Elementary and Secondary Education audit of our food service program. The reviewer noted that she was, “pleased with the operations and there [were] minimal findings.”

Our program was commended for:

- Eligibility determination (for free and reduced lunch) process is excellent- we had no errors in 328 applications reviewed
- Meal patterns are compliant - we are serving food that meets the guidelines
- Good communications in place - staff know what they are doing
- Fantastic catering program

The findings have already been corrected through a Corrective Action Plan and included:

- Cannot use a single digit code to identify F/R status
- Annual public release needs to include free eligibility guidelines and categorical listing of other programs that would also qualify families
- Water needs to be available in the cafeteria - RMS does not have a water fountain or filling station for water bottles.

Again, I'd like to extend accolades and thanks to our excellent Food Services Department.

Grant Received at Jefferson Elementary School

Sarah Klim applied for and received a 2018 Bridge Builder Program grant from the Martin Richard Foundation for the Jefferson Elementary School. This will appear as an action item in the consent agenda for your next meeting, however, I want to take a moment to highlight it.

This award is for \$500.00 to fund a community service project. The goal of the foundation is to foster projects that foster inclusion, equality, understanding, and trust in the community.

This grant will support paint and painting supplies to create murals in the school hallways. This was a student-generated idea. Ms. Klim met with the entire fifth grade, presented the

opportunity to them, and asked them to come up with ideas for projects. After a few weeks and they had gathered all the ideas, the students voted and the idea for murals was the winner. Students will work in small groups to either choose quotes about kindness, respect, being inclusive, or they will design pictures along those same themes. Then they'll work in their groups to paint them, hopefully this spring.

Family Science Night

In case you missed it, family Science Night was a blast last week. The advisors and members of the Franklin High School Science Honor Society did a fantastic job setting up biology, chemistry, physics, computer science, and environmental science activities and demonstrations around the theme of aliens and space. I was there pretty early and many, many families were still arriving throughout the night. I think they did a great job sharing the fun of science with the entire community!

Leaping into K

Our annual Leaping into K presentation occurred on Monday March 12, 2018. Our principal of ECDC, Kelly Kelley, hosted the event and we had numerous parents (despite the inclement weather we were anticipating) at the Mercer Auditorium. She did an excellent job creating a welcoming and informative environment. They heard presentations from a few principals, two Kindergarten teachers, Ms. Debbie Dixon about student services, and Ms. Miriam Goodman about food services and transportation.

The next step for Kindergarten entrants will be presentations at each of the local schools later this spring.

