



Franklin Public Schools

*Office of the Superintendent
355 East Central Street; Suite 3
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038
Phone: 508-553-4819*

Superintendent's Report to School Committee *June 9, 2020 School Committee Meeting*

Kudos on FHS Graduation

First, I would like to send a big congratulations to the Class of 2020. The end of the year did not proceed as anyone would have expected. There were difficult decisions to be made with respect to celebrating and recognizing our graduates, a lot of which takes a lot of planning. We appreciate all of the efforts of the Class of 2020 Officers, Class of 2020 Advisors -- Mr. Leighton and Mr. Picillo, the FHS Administrative team, and the FHS secretarial staff for coordinating the week's events. We also want to be sure to give a big shout out to the Franklin Facilities Department and Franklin Department of Public Works for all of their work in preparation and staging for the events over the course of the week. Franklin TV has been an excellent partner in capturing the special moments on film and also broadcasting live during the parade on local radio. Additionally we treasure the relationships we have with Franklin Fire Department and, especially as related to the parade, the Franklin Police Department for all their contributions in assisting with parade routing and their community policing efforts to lead the parade and keep everyone safe.

Franklin TV is putting the finishing touches on the graduation video and will re-release it soon. The production schedule was very tight, with diplomas awarded last Monday-Wednesday, speeches recorded, and the parade. Unfortunately, this tight schedule led to ten members of the Class of 2020 being omitted from the original version of the graduation video. They are edited into the final version, but I also want to carve out a special moment to recognize each of them by playing a short video for you tonight.

Sarah Spanek -- Connecticut College
Ali Brigham -- George Washington University
Derek Donahoe -- Assumption College
Hailey Donahue -- Brigham-Young University -- Provo
Jack Donovan -- Keene State College
Nick Elkins -- University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Thomas Ellin -- Endicott College
Sydney Garilli -- University of Connecticut
Daniela Gil-Rey -- Massachusetts Bay Community College
Nathan Nanos -- University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Congratulations again to all of our graduates!

Stop the Bleed

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice"
Equal Opportunity Employer

Sophomore Amanda Wylie is to be congratulated for winning the Stop the Bleed contest. This contest involved her creating a public service announcement video advocating for FHS to include First Aid education related to "Stopping the Bleed". As the 1st place, nationwide winner, Amanda is awarded a \$3000 scholarship for college and FHS will receive 30 Stop the Bleed kits for emergency response curriculum. Congratulations, Amanda!

Closure Update

The Commissioner of Education issued guidance related to required safety supplies for re-opening schools. This guidance recommends personal protective equipment including disposable masks, disposable gloves, hand sanitizer and other materials and was issued so that we can place orders in time for materials to be available in the fall.

I have seen several news articles circulating that interpret this guidance as portraying a picture of what school will look like in the fall. For example, he references students in groups of no more than 10 but he cautions that this and other statements are related to the current health care situation.

In a clarification, the Commissioner urges us to use this guidance for supplies purchasing only and not to make broader judgements of what models of learning in the fall might look like. I hope this quells some fear within the community. We anticipate guidance about the fall from DESE to be issued mid-June.

It is hard to believe it, but our last day of school is next week. Our final day of remote learning will be Thursday, June 18. Students are gathering their materials from schools and there will be 5th and 8th grade celebrations in the coming days. Many thanks to our PCCs for their contributions to these celebrations. Again, they are not what we are used to and everyone is adjusting, and we hope that they bring a sense of closure to these children as they transition into their next school building.