



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee

May 23, 2023

Massachusetts Seal of Biliteracy

We are excited to announce that the Franklin Public School District will be participating in the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy for the 2022-2023 School Year. This program is designed to recognize students who are proficient in English and any other language, regardless of whether they learned it at school, in the community, or at home. Our participation in the Seal of Biliteracy program reflects our commitment to encouraging language learning, certifying biliteracy skills, and recognizing the value of language diversity.

To earn the Seal of Biliteracy, students must demonstrate a high level of proficiency in English by achieving a score of 472+ on the ELA MCAS or 455+ & EPP. Additionally, they must demonstrate a high level of proficiency in a world language by achieving a minimum score equivalent to Intermediate-High on a state-approved assessment or by completing an alternative assessment that demonstrates Intermediate-High proficiency in speaking, writing, reading, and listening (where applicable) for languages that do not have readily available assessments.

The following FHS students have earned the Seal of Biliteracy in their respective languages:

- Typer Apicella: French and English
- Audrey Bonacci: Latin and English
- Parham Danial: Farsi and English
- Matthew Donaldson: Latin and English
- Joshua Dunlap: French and English
- Matthew MacDonald: Latin and English
- Jasmine Ming: Latin and English
- Artemesia Saparoff: French and English
- Akhil Savant: French and English
- Hope Xayaveth: French and English

We are proud of our students who have risen to the challenge and demonstrated their language skills to the fullest. Congratulations.

Spain Trip Recap

As you may recall, you approved our international trip to Spain last year, which took place over the February vacation. tonight we are joined by our outstanding Spanish teacher and trip coordinator,

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

Laura Keenan, Who wishes to say a few words about the trip and thank you for approving this opportunity for our students.

Budget Update

I am sharing a follow-up regarding the budget development process. As a recap, the recommended funding from the Town Administrator identifies an amount of \$71,252,779, which supports an increased allocation of \$1,031,954, or 1.47% in the Town's budget. Since receiving this information, we have been analyzing all aspects of our budget to identify reductions from the School Committee's approved amount to meet the Town Administrator's recommended budget allocation. We are being as thoughtful as possible when considering budgetary decisions, and we recognize the impacts on our system. We intend to notify those impacted directly and discreetly as soon as possible. We are scheduled to go before the Town Council at the Town Budget Hearings on May 24 and possibly May 25, 2023.

I received some emails from our music parents recently advocating for the music program. As a member of the Franklin community, I also value the outstanding achievements and recognition that the music program brings to our town and schools. As a parent, my son has also benefitted over the years, and I share the same gratitude.

I understand their concerns about the budget and how it may affect these programs. As a leadership team, we have worked hard to analyze our budget and distribute the reductions across levels and departments as much as possible. We are doing our best to support our programs and make sure they continue to provide valuable experiences for students using the funding we are allocated. I appreciate everyone's perspective and advocacy.

FHS Graduation

The FHS Class of 2023 Graduation will take place on June 2, 2023, at 6:30 pm at FHS. Please find more information regarding the details on the FHS website or the FHS newsletter.

Memorial Day Message

As Memorial Day approaches on Monday, May 28, 2023, we honor the bravery and selflessness of our veterans and service members who have defended our freedoms. Let us strive to uphold the values they fought for and remember their sacrifices with gratitude and respect. Thank you, veterans, for your unwavering dedication.