



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee May 13, 2019 School Committee Meeting

Budget Update

Last week, we had some favorable news with the release of the State Senate's proposed budget for FY 20. Additionally, Franklin's elected officials -- Senate President Karen Spilka, Senator Rebecca Rausch, and Representative Jeffrey Roy -- appeared at last Wednesday's Town Council meeting and shared remarks and answered questions about the budget. Senate President explained that the Senate's budget is more favorable than the Governor's or House's budget to Franklin in two ways. First, the Senate proposal fully funds the Circuit Breaker reimbursement at 75%, which represents approximately \$200,000 additional. This is income that would be collected based on claims next year and applied towards the FY 21 budget. Second, the Senate proposal uses the traditional formula for reimbursing municipalities for Charter School assessments, rather than the revised formula in the Governor's and House's budget proposals. As such, Franklin would stand to gain approximately \$600,000 in additional revenue under the Senate proposal.

The House and Senate will complete the budget process through the Conference Committee and final numbers for state aid will be known this summer. It is anticipated that the School Committee will be in a position to make decisions on adding additional items to the FY 20 budget as more certainty becomes known about final budget figures.

As a reminder the Town Council Budget Hearing will be held May 22 and May 23 in Council Chambers.

Franklin Cultural District Celebration

On Friday, Mr. Giguere and I happily celebrated the official designation of the Franklin Cultural District, of which the Franklin Public Schools is a partner. The Franklin Historical Society hosted a brief ceremony and then attendees gathered at the Black Box Theatre for refreshments and cultural entertainment. Several Franklin High School and middle school students engaged in musical performances and artwork was admired by those who gathered. It was a wonderful event. Congratulations to Franklin Cultural District!

Empty Bowls

We are so proud to share that Empty Bowls raised \$13,000 for the Franklin Food Pantry at its fourth annual event, which was held on May 2. It was another wonderful community event and we thank all those who came in support.

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

Annie Sullivan Middle School Principal Announced

Yesterday, I announced to the Annie Sullivan Middle School community that Ms. Elizabeth Morrison has accepted my offer to be the next principal there.

We were fortunate to have had two excellent candidates emerge as finalists from a rigorous and thorough search process. Candidates were interviewed by an Interview Team of representatives from faculty/staff, administration, School Committee, and parents/guardians. Selected finalists visited the district to observe classrooms and workspaces; meet with students, parents/guardians, and faculty/staff; and interview with me over two full days earlier in the month. Feedback from the visits was reviewed and considered carefully and references were checked. I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the Interview Team and Ms. Lisa Trainor and Ms. Paula Marano, who led the initial stages of this process. I would also like to thank parents/guardians and faculty/staff members who contributed feedback.

Ms. Morrison has been serving the ASMS community as Assistant Principal since 2015. Prior to her administrative role, she was a highly regarded English Language Arts teacher and ELA curriculum coordinator at ASMS. Ms. Morrison is serving in district-wide leadership roles on the Social-Emotional Learning Leadership Team and as a member of the Portrait of a Graduate Steering Team. She completed her leadership preparation through the Massachusetts School Administrator Association's Leadership Licensure Program, earning her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Endicott College. She also holds a Master of Arts in Teaching from Simmons College and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Miami University.

A HUGE "Thank You" to our educators and our PCCs!!!

Last week was teacher appreciation week. We are so appreciative of all that our educators do to support students' growth and learning. As such, we also want to acknowledge and thank the PCCs for the outpouring of appreciation and support that was seen throughout all of the schools in the district last week. The generosity and enthusiasm was truly uplifting to our staff!

