



Franklin Public Schools

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

September 27, 2022

Professional Development

On Wednesday, September 21st, FPS staff participated in an early release professional development day.

- PK-5 educators participated in the second session of ADL's Anti-bias Education: Pathway to Building More Equitable and Inclusive Schools. This professional development series was based on a recommendation from our DEI committee and funded through Senator Spilka's budget.
- At the secondary level, new teachers participated in Keys to Literacy PD while other educators worked course-alike partnerships and explored new curriculum resources.
- Additionally, administrators, elementary specialists and middle school CETs, and ELA coordinators participated in MAP Growth training to learn about communicating MAP Growth results with families.

We are currently preparing for the following early release professional development day on Friday, October 7th, as well as our full professional development day on November 8th. The morning of November 8th will kick off our 2-year PK-5 Science of Reading PD, while the secondary level will focus on building-based initiatives.

Based on last year's feedback, educators want to continue to learn from and collaborate with colleagues. As such, the afternoon will focus on offering a menu of choices. The Office of Teaching and Learning sent a Request for Proposals emails sent to all educators last week. Educators were asked to consider hosting one of three types of sessions:

1. Present an idea or strategy to colleagues
2. Facilitate a roundtable discussion
3. Lead a collaborative planning session.

We are excited to report we have already received 27 responses, and we continue to encourage more folks to join. In addition to sessions led by colleagues, outside providers will also offer sessions.

MCAS

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will release the 2022 MCAS and accountability results at noon on Thursday, September 29th. Dr. Roger's participated in the DESE webinar today, and more information about what data is being released from DESE will be forthcoming. The School Committee can expect an MCAS presentation in November.

Back-to-School Training

As we settle into the new school year, our staff and students have been participating in annual training.

School Safety

This summer we hosted a School Safety meeting with our FPD SROs Unit to review our current safety practices and procedures and schedule our drills for the year.

Our principals conducted in-person school safety training for all staff, reviewing our definitions, practices, and procedures. In addition, all students reviewed safety practices and procedures and participated in school safety drills, including:

- Bus Evacuations
- Fire Drills
- Lockdown Drills

Our principals have been communicating with families and students as they conduct their first round of drills throughout the month.

Mandated Training

All staff has been completing their annual mandated training, which includes a review of our policies and procedures. This year we implemented an online training platform, ArxEd, that enhances our training with videos and visual aides that augment our policies. ArxEd describes the system as simplified, centralized, and memorable, with videos and infographics ensuring staff has the information they need for various situations. Some examples of annual training topics include:

- Copyright, Section 504, FERPA, Non-Discrimination, Anti-Hazing, Universal Precautions, Bullying Prevention and Intervention, Sexual Harassment, among other modules.
- We created accounts for each staff member providing access to a training dashboard to complete sequential training at their own pace. At this time, 700 of our faculty and staff members have completed all mandated training, and 76 faculty and staff are in the process of completing it. The final module is a feedback survey for staff which ArxEd will review to make improvements in the future. Thus far, the feedback has been positive.

Website Communication

As referenced in my email to families on September 16, 2022, communication is one of our goals, and we are in the process of reviewing and updating our website, which serves as central hub a District information for our families. Most recently we added the following pages (as discussed this summer).

- [Bullying, Harassment, and Non-Discrimination | Franklin School District](#)
- [School Safety | Franklin School District](#)
- [Community Communication Guidelines | Franklin School District](#)

We will continue to make improvements and see feedback from stakeholders in the future.

Staffing

As requested, we have a staffing update.