



## **Franklin Public Schools**

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### **Superintendent's Report to School Committee November 28, 2017 School Committee Meeting**

#### **Student Problem Solving is Highlighted!**

The work of Colleen Donahue, a mathematics specialist at Horace Mann Middle School, and her students has been published in the November/December 2017 edition of *Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School*. The journal includes "Solve It" tasks, which educators are challenged to use in their classrooms, reporting student responses back to the journal. Selected submissions are published for demonstrating creative solutions to the problem. Horace Mann Middle School students' solutions were highlighted, demonstrating mathematical standards of practice including perseverance in problem solving, constructing viable arguments and critiquing the reasoning of others, attending to precision, and reasoning abstractly and quantitatively. Congratulations Ms. Donahue and HMMS mathematicians!

#### **Sportsmanship Award Highlights**

The Franklin High School athletes and fans were recently lauded by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) with not one but TWO sportsmanship awards.

The Unified Basketball Team and school community were selected to receive the 2017 MIAA/SOMA (Special Olympics of Massachusetts) Unified Basketball Team Sportsmanship Award for the Central section. This award, presented at the Central Section Unified Basketball Jamboree (which FHS hosted), recognizes outstanding demonstration and commitment to the ideals of sportsmanship throughout the Unified Basketball season.

Franklin High School was also selected to receive the 2016-2017 Hockomock Sportsmanship Award, which was awarded at the Hockomock Captain's Conference. The banner will be displayed in the gym for the remainder of the year. Congratulations to student-athletes, coaches, and fans!

#### **Horace Mann Middle School: Update on Mold Testing**

Based on public concerns of potential mold and a history of mold when Horace Mann Middle School was constructed, we contracted with a company to provide testing and advice this past

November. OccuHealth Inc. provided the service and examined and tested the school on November 9, 2017.

We have received the report and are pleased to share that there was no evidence of mold.

The school was visually inspected, air samples and wall cavity samples were taken and analyzed. The report indicated that, upon inspection, there was no evidence of water damage, no visible mold growth, and no discernable odor. As a result of testing the samples, the air quality in the tested rooms and wall cavities was normal and no action is recommended.

### **Wizards Game Re-Cap**

Thank you to the Franklin Education Foundation!

FEF hosted its big annual fundraiser, the Harlem Wizards, on Friday November 17, 2017 in the Tri-County gymnasium. This event is an enormous undertaking and involves many hours of planning, communicating and garnering support. We also want to recognize that many community organizations are sponsors of the event.

Twenty brave Franklin Public Schools employees and 5 stellar student basketball players took on the Harlem Wizards (ultimately losing the game but scoring some baskets nonetheless). Everyone had a great time, which included the basketball game, full of stunts and tricks by the Wizards players, an engaging half-time show, and autograph signing at the end. We at Franklin Public Schools are so grateful to the Franklin Education Foundation as this fundraiser goes to support approximately \$30,000 in grants to support innovative ideas within Franklin's local public schools.

### **Superintendent's Community Forum**

This is a reminder that as Superintendent I am seeking input from a broad group of stakeholders as part of my entry plan. I am holding a community forum on Thursday November 30, 2017 at the Town Municipal Building Training Room (located on the Third floor) from 6:30-8:00 PM.

The original Milford Daily News article contained the incorrect date. It is being corrected.

