



## **Franklin Public Schools**

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### **Superintendent's Report to School Committee December 10, 2019 School Committee Meeting**

#### **Community Event Focused on SEL**

Senator Spilka's office is hosting a social-emotional learning forum for K-12 parents on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at the Warren Conference Center in Ashland, starting at 5:45 PM. This event is designed to help parents and students talk about stress, mental health, and strategies to deal with the many pressures our youth face today. Resources from Franklin Public Schools will be shared at that forum.

#### **Portrait of a Graduate Update**

We hosted a small but engaged group of community members last Thursday night to discuss the latest iteration of the essential skills our students will need upon graduation, called our Portrait of a Graduate and our vision for teaching and learning across all grades. The feedback was constructive and helpful. Over December and January, we will be sharing this work more broadly with the community including faculty/staff and families through surveys and with students through focus groups.

We are looking forward to incorporating more feedback and ultimately presenting this work to the School Committee later this winter.

#### **Professional Development Day Preview**

Friday, December 13, 2019 is a half-day for students with a half day of professional development in the afternoon for faculty. It is a building-based PD day, and professional learning, aligned with school and district goals, is being led across the district by building principals. Here are some highlights:

- ECDC staff members will be working with instructional technology. They will be developing a preschool philosophy on technology use as well as exploring how to use specific tools and devices, specifically Clear Touch displays.
- Elementary Schools will be experiencing professional learning in a variety of topics including:

- providing personalized learning experiences in reading, targeting skill gaps as they emerge, and using data to identify student-specific needs and resources for individual or small-group instruction.
- cultural proficiency and the examination of books and curriculum materials with a culturally proficiency lens
- designing units of instruction, specifically connected to the physical, life, and earth science standards.
- instructional strategies for sight words and introduction of SnapWords visual sight word cards and materials.
- DESSA Analysis and SEL Planning
- Secondary Schools will be experiencing professional learning in a variety of topics including:
  - Developing relationships and school core values and identity
  - Expansion and development of middle school advisory
  - “Accountable talk” and behavior intervention strategies, SEL, and instructional planning
  - Unit planning and design
  - School safety
- Nurses will collaborate on health office scenarios and discuss best practice interventions.

### **A Special Thanks**

In response to the efforts last week, I want to be sure to extend our sincere thanks to the Department of Public Works and the Facilities Department. The efforts of these groups to clear snow from streets, sidewalks, and parking lots is instrumental to our smooth functioning. They work long hours in order to get the job done. Their communication is outstanding, conferring with me late at night and early in the morning. I want to be sure to extend our sincere thanks as we head into another winter season.

