



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee May 26, 2020 School Committee Meeting

Professional Development Spotlight

Having our faculty and staff present at PD always reflects well on the district. FPS School Business Administrator, Miriam Goodman, recently presented during a webinar of the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) professional organization. She presented as part of a panel of leaders on the following topics:

- Relationships
 - Building trust
 - Managing adversity
 - Elected officials and relationships
 - District administrators -- central office & school-based
 - Educating New Administrators and New School Committee Members
- Shared Services
 - Accounting System
 - Transparencies
 - End Of Year Reporting
 - Shared Departments/Space
- Town Meeting & City Processes
 - Meetings & FinCom Liaisons
 - Town culture -- presentations, etc.
- Collegiality among neighbors
 - Who are your Jedi Knights?
 - The value of roundtables - collaborative-based
 - Reaching out for guidance

Clarification on Bus Fees and Transportation Costs

Due to some questions in the community, we wish to clarify the bus transportation fee credit.

Pursuant to DESE guidance, we have continued to honor our contract with our bus vendor in order to provide continuity of service to students when school opens back up. We negotiated a lower rate with the vendor in recognition that, due to the closure, their operating costs have been reduced. This includes a reduction in repairs and maintenance of vehicles as well as reduced fuel costs. They do continue, however, to employ drivers so that they can continue service when school opens back up with enough staff to operate.

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

We have passed this savings on to our fee-paying families in a proportional amount. This approximates \$35 from the \$360 bus fee. This amount will be refunded to families of seniors. Due to the volume of fees collected in grades K-11, we are applying this amount as a credit in the 2020-2021 school year.

Some have asked how bus fees contribute to our transportation costs. The fees offset but do not cover the full amount we spend on transportation. The total cost for transportation is \$1.45 million and pay to ride revenue covers approximately \$570,000 or 39% of that total.

Expanding Roles in Education Today

As part of an informative, educational initiative with the School Committee's Community Relations Subcommittee, FPS Communications Specialist has developed a helpful infographic to highlight the functions and importance of some of the lesser known roles in education today. I link it here for the community:

https://www.franklinps.net/sites/franklinmaps/files/uploads/roles_in_education_-_final_version.pdf