



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee December 14, 2021

Professional Development Day Review – December 10, 2021

Building based PD day

PreK – Professional Learning Communities on Foundations, Handwriting without Tears, Playworks and DECA

Elementary – DESSA Assessment data collection on SEL skills, which was expanded to all elementary schools this year

Middle – Rolling out Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, particularly for behavioral interventions

High – Continued to work on curriculum development focus in course partners and including SEL and DEI principles into units.

Next half day is January 14, 2021

Congratulations to Unified Basketball

Congratulations to our FHS Unified Basketball team! They were selected, through a competitive process, for the 2022 US Games representing the state of Massachusetts. They will travel to Orlando, Florida in June to compete through the Special Olympics. We are so proud of our athletes, peers, and coaches!

Congratulations to Ms. Paula Lupien

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association announced our very own Paula Lupien as the Gymnastics coach of the year!

"Earning this prestigious honor does not surprise me in the least. When it comes to coaching, Coach Lupien is the total package. I attribute the success of our Gymnastics program to Coach Lupien's meticulous attention to detail, her love for her student-athletes, and overall dedication to the coaching profession." - [Athletic Director, Tom Angelo](#)

Update on Masks at FHS and COVID Numbers

With approval from the state and Franklin school committee, FHS has lifted the mask mandate for vaccinated students and staff who completed the parent verification form. This lift started on December 13th, 2021 and will end on December 23rd, 2021.

Students are required to wear a mask while riding buses per federal mandate.

Regardless of vaccination status, FHS students must resume wearing masks upon return from our break from starting on January 3rd, 2022 till end of day on January 7th, 2022. The lift on the mask mandate is subject to change in the event that the FHS percent positivity rate exceeds 4%.

Mr. Hanna reported that about 75% of students and about 40% of faculty chose to unmask on Monday.

As for close contact tracing, we are expanding the definition to be inclusive of individuals within 6 feet of a person. There is no change to test and stay but this expanded definition will make more unvaccinated non exempt CC eligible for the test and stay program. Test and stay is only eligible (per DESE rules) for unvaccinated, nonexempt close contacts identified in school.

I will acknowledge that this feels uncomfortable to many with rising cases in town. We continue to have support of our Health Department and we built in the 4% positivity purposefully. We are carefully following the COVID numbers and the % positivity is reported on Thursday evenings. The Health Department is also sharing local Franklin information with us and town numbers decreased last week, as compared to the week prior.

[Please note: The district weekly COVID-19 Dashboard is available on our back to school website and is updated every the first day following a weekend or school break.](#)

[You can access the latest supplemental informational videos, letters to FHS families and plan details here.](#)