



Franklin Public Schools

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Superintendent's Report to School Committee July 24, 2018 School Committee Meeting

Summer Programs are Underway

Our Extended School Year and Lifelong Learning Summer Programs are underway across the district.

Last Friday, I had the pleasure to attend a number of celebrations at the end of several programs. The Music Academy concluded last Friday morning with performances at the FHS auditorium. The Art Institute concluded with displays of student artwork in the display cases for students to show off and parents and faculty to appreciate. I was so impressed with what the students were able to put together in such a short period of time.

Our summer math academy concluded with a showcase in the FHS gymnasium where each grade shared their favorite math projects from the summer. Many students enjoyed their programmable robots, which they tinkered with and then raced. Students had some art projects with mathematical roots and students spoke about creating mathematical board games. Whatever their favorite projects were, students clearly enjoyed and appreciated the creative opportunities they had to apply math.

Administrator Orientation

We are welcoming six new administrators to our team. Five of them attended an "Administrator Orientation" last week where central office team members oriented the administrators to district goals and objectives, policies, practices and providing general information on who to contact under various circumstances. We concluded the orientation with lunch, where administrators' mentors also attended. We think it was a very positive way to begin to incorporate them to our leadership team.

Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents' Executive Institute

Joyce and Lucas recently attended the MASS Executive Institute, which was held for three days in July. The theme of the conference was "Redefining What Success Looks Like for All Students: Pathways, Opportunities and Resources." New DESE Commissioner Jeff Riley kicked off the three-day institute. The second day began with Scott McLeod, as one of the keynote speakers. McLeod is known for working with leaders around innovative approaches in

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our schools. This includes instructional shifts for the 21st century and harnessing the power of technology in schools. Each day also included breakout sessions where different districts shared and highlight best practices consistent with the conference theme.

Facilities Update

The playgrounds at Jefferson Elementary School were taken down and new construction should be beginning shortly to install the new playground. The repair of the Keller playground surface will occur later in August. Additionally, we are excited about the construction of the concession stand. When I last saw it (Friday) walls were up, plumbing had been installed, and it was getting ready for more of the finishing work.

Building Learning Communities

Dr. Joyce Edwards will be presenting at the Building Learning Communities conference in Boston. This is a three day event and we have other presenters as well. Joyce will be presenting about the district's work toward digital literacy including the Students' Digital Bill of Rights (and Responsibilities), the curriculum committee's work and scope and sequence, and the parent FAQs. Sam Mandeville, a social studies teacher at HMMS, and Tulani Husband-Verbeek, a reading specialist at Remington, will also be presenting.