

**REPORT TO
THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

OCTOBER 22, 2015

**REPORTS OF
BUILDING PRINCIPALS FOR
SEPTEMBER 2015**

Conerly Road School

Report to the Superintendent
for the Board of Education
for the Month of September 2015

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Sept. 1	First Day for Teachers
Sept. 2	In-Service Day
Sept. 3	First Day for Students (K-4)
Sept. 7	NO SCHOOL
Sept. 8	First Day for PreK
Sept. 8	PD Meeting
Sept. 14	NO SCHOOL
Sept. 15	NO SCHOOL
Sept. 16	PD Meeting
Sept. 17	Safety Meeting
Sept. 17	PBS Meeting
Sept. 17	Back to School Night (3-4)
Sept. 21	FIRE DRILL
Sept. 21	PD Meeting
Sept. 23	NO SCHOOL
Sept. 24	NO SCHOOL
Sept. 25	LOCKDOWN
Sept. 28	PTO Meeting
Sept. 29	Bus Evacuation Drills / Meeting with Bus Drivers
Sept. 29	Back to School Night (PreK-2)

Upcoming Dates:

Oct. 2	PBS Launch
Oct. 5	PD Meeting
Oct. 6	Assembly for (PreK-4) for RED RIBBON WEEK
Oct. 5-9	Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 5-9	Bully, RED RIBBON WEEK
Oct. 8	Fire Prevention Day (assembly for all grades)
Oct. 9	Fall Picture Day
Oct. 12	NO SCHOOL – In-Service Day
Oct. 14	World Math Day
Oct. 16	Junior Achievement Day
Oct. 19-23	PTO Book Fair
Oct. 19	PD Meeting
Oct. 22	Safety Meeting
Oct. 22	PBS Meeting
Oct. 23	PTO Autumn Fest
Oct. 30	HALLOWEEN Parade

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES – STAFF

Teacher's College – Summer Reading Institute for the elementary grades from
June 29, 2015 – July 3, 2015 from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Summer Math Institute - Building a system of Tens for elementary teachers in
Franklin Township.
July 7 – 9, 2015 15 hours total.
Joy Kuchinsky

CNJ PEMA Rutgers Graduate School of Education
Math, Algebra and linear equations
Maxine Robinson
Joy Kuchinsky
Felicia Osley
August 3 – August 14, 2015 70 hours total

New Jersey Leadership Academy Series 1 Cohort 1 Conference
Educational Administration Conference Center in Monroe, NJ
August 6, 10 & 13 2015

Connecting Summative Assessment and Instruction Conference
Educational Administration
Conference Center in Monroe, NJ
August 17, 2015

Franklin Township Administrator's Retreat
Building Learning Leaders
August 18-19, 2015

Advancing The Implementation of CCSS and Preparing for PARCC
Leading the Learning At Your School (Webinar)
July 21, 2015
Dr. Donna S. Burnett

III. SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

CRS selected to participate in the ISTE/Verizon Mobile Academy
January 2016
Verizon Mobile Academy Team:
Dr. Donna S. Burnett – School Administrator
Sarah Grumet - Math Coach
Myra Hardy – Instructional Technology
Mary Murdock – Grade 2 Teacher
Katerina Moulinos – Academic Intervention Specialist
Jean Walker – Grade 4 Teacher
Lisa Anne Zoldi - Kindergarten

IV. ACHIEVEMENT TOWARD ANNUAL GOALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

By June 2016 third and fourth grade students shall have scored at or ABOVE STATE BENCHMARKS IN PARCC FOR MATHEMATICS

Sarah Grumet, Math Coach

Coaching

- Conferring teachers on the implementation of the GO Math curriculum in our classroom
- Collaborating with teachers to create standards based activities
- Assisted teachers with Math Centers to support the standards
- Assisting with setting up ST Math, ThinkCentral class lists, and First in Math

Professional Learning:

- September 1, 2015, In-Service
- September 2, 2015, NWEA MAP Training

Professional Development:

September 1, 2015

o District Math Initiatives and Curriculum:

- Research Article: "Elementary School Math Teachers' beliefs."
 - o *Have teachers read and discuss in groups.*
 - o *Have each group list 5 important takeaways from the reading on chart paper.*
 - o *Conduct a gallery walk: Give the teachers a post-it and have them post a comment on each of the charts.*

Math Activity: Menus

Each group will be given two or three problems. Choose one problem and solve.

- Have each group share out on their solutions of the problem and then respond to the following questions:
 - o Why did you choose that particular problem?
 - o Describe the process you went through to solve it?
 - o How can you adapt the problem to your grade level?

District's initiatives and curriculum for 2015-16:

- Go over the District data
- The Components of the Math Workshop Model. Emphasize the importance of Small Strategy Groups and having Data to support the groups.
- Curriculum and Timeline: Visit Rubicon - Focus on the Special Ed attachment, Prerequisite, Key content, Key skills and Resources
- Technology – Discuss the major website for mathematics in K – 5:
 - o Thinkcentral – Part of the GoMath
 - o First-In-Math - Intervention for Fact Fluency
 - o ST.Math – Pilot
 - o Iready – Diagnostic and Intervention program (3 – 8)
- Assessment: Edconnect for grades 3 to 5, MAP for grades K – 2, Pre- and Post for grades 1 and 2.

Fact Fluency Assessment on FIM (3 times)

Meetings

- September 16 and 17, 2015: Math Grade Level Meetings: Grades K-4
 - o GO Math materials
 - o Visible Thinking_ Professional Text
 - o Coaching Cycle
 - o Rubicon

- Thinkcentral
- Create classes
- Access to book, videos, etc.
- Download
- Exemplars
- EngageNY
- Math Coach Meeting:
 - September 11, 2015
- Coaching the Coaches:
 - September 18, 2015

Other

- Creating the district wide spreadsheets for the PreAssessment for Math- Grade 2
- Distribution of GO Math to all classrooms: books, manipulatives, grab and go kits, math boards, notebooks, Hovercams, iPads, etc.
- Assist in administering iReady and MAP

By June 2016 third and fourth grade students shall have scored at or ABOVE STATE BENCHMARKS IN PARCC FOR LITERACY

Lisa Cassell

Elementary Literacy Coach

Summer 2015

*Revised Rubicon units of study for Reading and Writing

*Prepared for September 1st professional development

*Distributed the units of study for reading and writing to teachers

Presented professional development session on September 1st to 3rd grade teachers across the district:

- Reviewed the work done in Rubicon
- Reviewed the changes with assessments
- 3rd and 4th grade teachers discussed the teaming process

Classroom Instruction

-Provided assistance with assessment by doing read alouds to the kindergarten classrooms.

-Provided assistance with any issues surrounding assessment

Amy Ruggirello School Counselor Board Report

Provided Individual/Group Counseling on the Following Issues:

- ❖ Empathy-how our words affect others
- ❖ Using "I-messages" to express feelings
- ❖ Relaxation techniques, imagery
- ❖ Anxiety about school (social and academic)
- ❖ Trustworthiness
- ❖ Motivation

- ❖ Conflict Resolution
- ❖ Making Friends
- ❖ Self Esteem
- ❖ Anger issues, de-escalating situations
- ❖ Sick family member
- ❖ Making good choices in class

Professional Development

- ❖ Provided HIB Training for Staff 9/21/15

Professional Learning

- ❖ Attending Rider University for Life Coach Certification program (began 9/14/15)
- ❖ Conflict Resolution training at NJ Law Center 10/27/15

Classroom Lessons

- ❖ Stop, Walk Talk
- ❖ Bullying vs. Bad Behavior
- ❖ "Our Classroom is a Place Where" (Lesson on Respect)
- ❖ Introduction to Partnership for a Drug-free America- started poster contest in 4th grade

504

- ❖ Plans disseminated to all teachers involved with students (teachers signed accommodations receipts)
- ❖ Reviewed Plans
- ❖ Scheduled meetings for October, 2015

I&RS

- ❖ Updated and reviewed current plans
- ❖ Assigned case managers

Safety

- ❖ Attended District Safety meeting
- ❖ Lead School Safety Meeting- discussed HIB, current safety plan, drill procedures, etc.
- ❖ Updated all drill instructions- provided hard copies for staff as well as e-mails
- ❖ Practiced drills (fire drill, lockdown)

Family Connections

- ❖ Letter sent home about safety concern (parents entering building before and after school)
- ❖ Week of Respect information sent home
- ❖ Provided strategies for parents who are having difficulty getting children ready in the morning and who have anxiety about school. Provided checklists/reward charts

Submitted by,

Dr. Donna S. Burnett

Dr. Donna S. Burnett
Conerly Road School, Principal
Dsilva-burnett@franklinboe.org

ELIZABETH AVENUE SCHOOL

Report To The Superintendent for the Board of Education Month of September 2015

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- September 3 ➤ First Day of School Grades K-4
- September 7 ➤ No School – Labor Day
- September 8 ➤ First Day of School for Pre Kdg
- September 8 ➤ PTO Meeting-7:00 p.m. EAS Library
- September 14-15 ➤ No School – Fall Recess
- September ➤ PTO Spirit Sticks Sale begins during lunch periods
- September 17 ➤ Back to School Night
- September 26 ➤ PTO Ice Cream Social – 1:00 – 3:00
- September 29 ➤ Maggie McGhee “Good Character Band Wagon” assembly

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES - STAFF

-
-

III. SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- September 28— ➤ Grades 3 & 4 begin using *i-ready Diagnostic*-an individualized instruction based program that assess student's unique needs.

IV. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 1 ➤ September Bus Reward Party
- October 2 ➤ PBS Kick Off Assemblies – 1:45 Gr. K-2 & 2:15 Gr. 3-4
- October 6 ➤ PTO Meeting-7:00 p.m. EAS Library
- October 5-9 ➤ Week of Respect w/Assembly on 10/7
- October 9 ➤ PBS Freaky Friday
- October 12 ➤ No School for Students – Teacher In Service Day
- October 16 ➤ Lifetouch School Picture Day
- October 21 ➤ PBS Family Pumpkin Decorating 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- October 26 ➤ PTO Spirit Sticks Sale during lunch periods
- October 30 ➤ Halloween Parade

V. ACHIEVEMENT TOWARD ANNUAL GOALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Elizabeth Ave School Monthly Report for September 2015 Mary Melito, Math Coach

Coaching

- Ensured that teachers had all necessary materials to implement instruction.
- Unpacked CCSS with teachers
- Met with AIS teachers to assist in focus of instruction
- Attended classes during small group instruction
- Observed teachers lessons
- Discussed Pacing of Curriculum with Teachers
- Resolve *Think Central* issues
- Help add classes and students to *Think Central* and *First in Math*
- Assisted in planning lessons for observations
- Assisted teachers in administrating NWEA MAP and *i-ready* district wide assessments

Professional Learning

- Curriculum Planning Meetings
- NWEA MAP Training
- *Go Math* and *Think Central* training

Grade Level Meetings

- Facilitated Grade Level Meetings around Curriculum Pacing
- Facilitated Grade Level Meetings around *Think Central* and *First in Math*

Meetings

- Math Coach meetings
- Coaching the Coaches
- Title I development for Kindergarten

Highlights For the Month

- Continue to support and inspire teachers in math and improving conferences and small groups instruction in math to improve student achievement
-

Presentations:

- NWEA MAP training

Elizabeth Ave School Monthly Report for September 2015 Suzanne Oliver, Literacy Coach**Coaching:**

- Ensured that teachers had all necessary materials to implement instruction
- Unpacked CCSS with teachers
- Met with AIS teachers to assist in focus of instruction and SGOs
- Attended classes during small group instruction
- Observed teachers lessons
- Discussed Pacing of Curriculum with Teachers
- Assisted in planning lessons for observations
- Assisted teachers in administrating NWEA MAP and *i-ready* district wide assessments

Professional Learning

- Curriculum Planning Meetings
- *i-ready* training
- Rutgers reading training

Grade Level Meetings

- Facilitated Grade Level Meetings around Rubicon, beginning of year assessment memo

Meetings

- Literacy coach meetings
- Coaching the Coaches
- Started planning for Rutgers tutorial

Highlights for the Month

- Continue to support and inspire teachers in math and improving conferences and small group instruction in math to improve student achievement

Respectfully submitted,

John Haney

John Haney
Principal, Elizabeth Avenue School

Franklin Park School

Report to the Superintendent
for the Board of Education
Month of September, 2015

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

September 1	First Day for Teachers
September 2	Staff In-Service
September 3	First Day for Students K-4
September 7	No School – Labor Day
September 8	First Day for Pre-K
September 10	Bus Orientation New Student Breakfast
September 11	Student Assemblies – Building Expectations
September 14-15	No School – Fall Recess
September 16	Math Grade Level Meetings
September 17	Back To School Night: Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten FPS Safety Team Meeting DEAC Meeting
September 18	Kindergarten Counselor Mugs & Muffins PTO FPS Back to School Carnival
September 21	FPS Staff 60 Minute Meeting Topic: <i>Teach Like A Pirate</i> Book Study Launch
September 23-24	No School – Fall Recess
September 25	Birthday Recognition
September 28	FPS Bus Evacuation
September 29	Back To School Night: 1 st & 2 nd Grades PTO Fair 6:30 pm 3 rd Grade Dance Troupe Practice Audition Literacy Grade Level Meeting (3 rd Grade Only)
September 30	Back To School Night: 3 rd & 4 th Grades PTO Fair 6:30 pm 3 rd Grade Dance Troupe Practice Audition

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES - STAFF

July 7-9	Kindergarten Teacher, Vanessa Carter, attended Summer Math Institute Program at Franklin High School
August 23	Speech Therapist, Sarah Lael, attended American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Webinar titled: Evaluating and Enhancing Children's Phonological Skills: a systematic approach.
September 17	Fourth Grade Teacher, Lindsay Sena attended Rutgers Webinar titled: Classroom Environment
September 15	Speech Therapist, Sarah Lael, attended American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Webinar titled: Practical Tips to Differentiate Social Communication Disorder from Autism Spectrum.

September 24 Speech Therapist, Sarah Lael, attended American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Webinar titled: Vocabulary Instruction: evidence for five instructional strategies.

III. SPECIAL ACHIEVMENTS

September 10 School Counselors welcomed approximately 25 new students to FPS at a welcome get-together where they had snacks, learned about the counselor's role in the school, the PBS program, met our mascot, Buzzter, and did an activity where they wrote about how they were going to be 'rock stars' at FPS this year.

September 11 Franklin Park School Staff successfully re-launched their Positive Behavior Support Program to all Pre-K to 4 students with an assembly to celebrate positive behavior support at Franklin Park and to re-teach the building wide expectations.
Golden Ticket incentives in recognition of adhering to behavioral expectations in six location of the campus will continue to be distributed.

September 17 FPS Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten staff hosted Back to School Night. The turnout of parents and guardians was incredibly positive.

September 18 Guidance Counselors, Terri Hrapsky, Jennifer Chernoski and Pre-Kindergarten Coordinator Kathleen Damore hosted Mugs and Muffins events for our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten parents. Parents learned about the counselor's role in the school and the character education program here at FPS. Parents brought parenting concerns/issues up for discussion and were also provided many informative resources to take home including an activities packet of developmentally appropriate free to low-cost activities to do with their children.

September 21 Franklin Park PTO hosted a Back to School Carnival Night. The turnout was exceptional, the weather was perfect, the bouncy houses exciting and the cotton candy was delicious.
The FPS Staff embarked on an exciting journey, they set sail on the high seas to seek their adventure, treasure, and passions. Through a book study of David Burgess *Teach Like A Pirate*, the staff will utilize a blog <https://www.smores.com/8k80k-teach-like-a-pirate-book-study> to discuss the book and its impact on classroom instruction and student engagement.

September 29-30 FPS 1st through 4th Grade staff hosted Back to School Night. The turnout of parents and guardians was impressive.

IV. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1 3rd Grade Dance Troupe Tryouts

October 5 FPS Staff 60 Minute Meeting – Topic: SGO 2.1
Literacy Grade Level Meeting (1 & 4)
Launch of Month of Respect

October 6 Math Grade Level Meeting
4th Grade Dance Troupe Practice Audition
Respect Yourself – Crunch Fitness Experience

October 7	4 th Grade Dance Troupe Practice
October 8	Awesome Assemblies as part of the Week of Respect 4 th Grade Dance Troupe Tryouts
October 9	Respect Yourself – Crunch Fitness Experience
October 12	No School – Columbus Day Staff In-Service
October 13	PTO Meeting
October 14	Math Grade Level Meeting
October 15	Literacy Grade Level Meeting (K & 2)
October 15-16	Fall Pictures
October 16	Literacy Grade Level Meeting (3)
October 19	Staff 60 Minute Planning Meeting Dance Troupe Rehearsal FTPD Violence Awareness Presentation
October 20	Fall Pictures Math-Instructional Rounds
October 21	FTPD Violence Awareness Presentation
October 22	Literacy Grade Level Meeting (1 & 4) FTPD Violence Awareness Presentation
October 23	“Be a Respectful Rockstar” Day PBS Booster Assembly Math Grade Level Meeting
October 28	Peacemaker Recognition
October 30	Birthday Recognition for the month Fall Festival/Parade of Costumes Math Grade Level Meeting

V. ACHIEVEMENT TOWARD ANNUAL GOALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

By June 2016, third and fourth grade students shall meet the AMO target as measured by the PARCC in Language Arts Literacy.

1. Staff will continue their grade level meetings to discuss and plan for successful practices in the areas of literacy working collaboratively with administration and the literacy coach in their examination of the Common Core, the district’s diagnostic measures, and district and building goals in the area of Language Arts/Literacy.
2. Pre -Kindergarten to Grade Four staff will participate in a professional learning community based on David Burgess text, Teach Like A Pirate. Staff will discuss and explore practical methods and innovative ideas for maximizing student engagement.
3. Administration has continued its implementation bottom lines in the area of language arts/literacy including, but not limited to:
 - Teaching Point posted which focuses on instructional strategy rather than activity
 - Meeting area to accommodate the whole class
 - Desks clustered in groups of four to six to facilitate collaborative work
 - Reading Logs for Grades 2, 3 and 4
 - Reading tracking system for Grades K & 1

- Reader's Response Journals for Grades 3 and 4
- Partners clearly established and identified
- Evidence of on-going conferring systems
- Classroom Library that is 1/3 leveled and 2/3 genre/themed/author based
- On-going use of Personalized Writer's Notebook
- Continual maintenance and deliberate use of word walls
- Targeted Tier II and Tier III vocabulary work which encompasses word exploration with the grade level "Words that Rock:".

These bottom-lines will be monitored through the use of Teachscape's Walk-Through Tool.

4. Kindergarten through Grade 4 staff will administer diagnostic assessments and regularly evaluate outcomes to identify specific domains, skills and sub-skills that students exceed or need interaction so to provide daily, individualized, differential opportunities for all students in Language Arts/Literacy.
5. For 2015-2016 administration will continue to conduct monthly focus walks as a mechanism for providing constructive feedback to teachers of reading to establish and/or embellish balanced literacy environments within each classroom.

By June 2016, third and fourth grade students shall meet the AMO target as measured by the PARCC in Mathematics.

1. The staff will continue their grade level meetings to further dialogue their successful practices in the areas of math working collaboratively with administration and the mathematics coach in their examination of the Common Core, the Math Workshop model, ST Math, district diagnostic assessments, and the Go Math series, K-4.
2. Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Four staff staff will participate in a professional learning community based on David Burgess text, Teach Like A Pirate. Staff will discuss and explore practical methods and innovative ideas for maximizing student engagement.
3. Administration has continued its implementation bottom lines in the area of mathematics inclusive of:
 - Math Journals for Grades K through 4
 - Math manipulatives labeled and accessible
 - Adjustment of Math Workshop Block to allow for 20 minute small group time to be delivered first
 - Math word wall accessible and updated for current unit as defined within Rubicon
 - Evidence of on-going conferring system

These bottom lines will be monitored through the use of Teachscape's Walk-Through Tool.

4. Kindergarten through Grade 4 staff will administer diagnostics assessments and regularly evaluate outcomes to identify specific domains, skills and sub-skills that students exceed or need interaction so to provide daily, individualized, differential opportunities for all students in Math.

For 2015-2016 administration will continue to conduct monthly focus walks as a mechanism for providing constructive feedback to teachers of math to establish and/or embellish math workshop environments within each classroom.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Sury Scott

Nicole Sury Scott

Principal - Franklin Park School

Hillcrest School

Report To The Superintendent for the Board of Education for the Month of September 2015

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

September 1 – First day for teachers
September 2 – Teacher In-Service
September 3 – First day for K-4 Students
September 7 – No School-Labor Day
September 8 – First day of Pre-K
September 14 & 15 – No School-Fall Recess
September 16 – Faculty Meeting
September 21 – Faculty Meeting
September 23 & 24 – No School-Fall Recess

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES - STAFF

1. Principal's/Director's Meeting
2. Administrative-District Meeting
3. HIB training for all staff and parents – 9/17
4. Safety training for all staff at faculty meeting – 9/21
5. School Safety/HIB Meeting – 9/25

III. SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Morning Announcements: Mrs. Manning, Mrs. Solovay & Ms. Bialick's 4th grade classes

IV. SAFETY DRILLS

Sept. 16 – Shelter in Place, emergency power outage
Sept. 25 – Fire Drill

V. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 2 – Hillcrest PTO "Meet and Greet"
Oct. 5 – "Respect" Assemblies
Oct. 12 – No school/Teacher In-Service
Oct. 30 – Halloween Parade

VI. ACHIEVEMENT TOWARD ANNUAL GOALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

The coaches are supportive in achieving the district goals in curriculum and instruction, and with assisting teachers to improve student progress, especially in the area of meeting and exceeding the Common Core State Standards.

Coaching

- Meet with teachers to review implementation of the Go Math! resources in our classrooms.
- Coaching Cycles with teachers in grades K-2.
- Collaborate with teachers to create standards based activities and lessons.
- Meet with teachers to review small strategy groups using data.
- Work together with teachers to use data to drive instruction.
- School-Wide First In Math initiative
- Assist teachers with using technology to enhance their math lessons (i.e. iPads)
- Assist and support teachers with implementing ST Math pilot program
- Attend I&RS meetings
- Math Fact Challenge

The literacy Coach provides resources, materials and strategies to teachers to help guide them in the implementation of the Reading and Writing workshop to improve student achievement. This month the Literacy Coach

- Provided support in the areas of planning and preparation for teachers through coaching cycles.
- Met regularly with teachers during coaching cycles to plan, co- teach and reflect for upcoming coaching days.
- Attended out of district PDs; connecting PARCC instruction In the K-5 Classroom
- Attended monthly literacy coaches meeting.
- Created a whole school reading celebration for grades K-4.

Evelyn Rutledge M.Ed.

Principal

**MacAfee Road School
Report To The Superintendent
for the Board of Education
Month of September 2015**

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Sep 3	First Day of School for Students
Sep 7	Labor Day
Sep 8	First Day of School for Pre-K Students
Sep 8	Kiss & Cry
Sep 14	No School – Fall Recess
Sep 15	No School – Fall Recess
Sep 16	Back to School Night Pre-K – 2 nd Grade
Sep 21	Kidstuff Fundraiser Begins
Sep 23	No School – Fall Recess
Sep 24	No School – Fall Recess
Sep 29	Back to School Night 3 rd and 4 th Grade
Sep 30	Bus Evacuation

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES – STAFF

School Nurse

Blood Borne Pathogens power point given to all staff. Immunization records for all new students being review for compliance. Flu Clinic held in health office for MacAfee staff.

Bus Evacuation

On September 30th MacAfee conducted the Fall Bus Safety Evacuation Drill followed by the Bus Drivers safety meeting hosted by MacAfee

Student Teachers

MacAfee welcomes student teachers into their classrooms. Several MacAfee teachers opened their classrooms for observations and discussing their instructional strategies, offering formal and/or informal feedback regarding pre students teaching.

Back to School Nights

MacAfee Road School held two Back to School nights for pre-k thru second grade and third and fourth grades. During the first Back to School Night MacAfee Road School's new playground received a huge boost in the form of a \$15000 donation from Investors Bank. Their money will be put toward a new age-appropriate playground for Pre-k and Kindergarten Students

Mrs. Schnure – Third Grade Teacher

This past summer I was involved with two workshops from Teacher's College. Both workshops pertained to ESL.

I also went to Rider University for two workshops. One was how to Team Teach and also new books that can be found to teach for Literacy

Stacey Resnick – first Grade Teacher

Students:

- Students took home the class mascot MacGiraffeAfee for the weekend. They took a photo to add to our album and wrote in the Mac journal about their shared experience.
- Students attended two assemblies

Professional:

- As the coordinator, I hosted the Midland School and sent an email to the faculty to see who is interested in hosting them in their classroom.
- As the coordinator, I contacted teachers and readers to participate in the Guest Readers program.
- As the coordinator, I contacted 4H and scheduled the first grade teachers for a 4H Lesson by Specialist Rachel B 10/27.
- Updated my website weekly
- Updated my online newsletter weekly
- Met with parents for Back to School Night
- Submitted the dates for Read across America and the Living Museum for the school calendar.
- Attended faculty meetings.

- Hosted a student observer from RVCC for 5 hours

III. SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

MacAfee Garden

The 3rd & 4th grade students in Ms. Zega & Mrs. Bock's class at MacAfee Rd. School began the school "gardening" year on a great note. The students have been busy in class but also in the garden. For the past 3 weeks, they have been busy harvesting tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, string beans, potatoes, and cabbage. In keeping with a five year tradition, the class is donating most of the vegetables to the Franklin Food Bank. So far, the class has donated 239 lbs. of produce this year. The students in last years' class donated a total of 417 lbs. This year, the class hopes to exceed that amount and give 425 lbs. They are only 186 lbs. away from reaching their goal!

9/11

During the week of 9/7-9/11 students wrote cards and letters to local fire companies and the Franklin Township Police Department to thank them for their dedication and service to the citizens of Franklin Township.

Mr. Jared Slaymaker and Ms. Keira Radvanski our music teachers prepared a musical tribute for the students to sing at our 9/11 Ceremony honoring our Police and Fire companies.

Invitations were sent to all 10-fire companies as well as the Police Department of Franklin to attend the ceremony where students through their music and writing honored all of our fire companies. 4th grade students read their letters to those present. All of the MacAfee students sang a musical tribute to the honorees. The songs were the Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America.

It was a wonderful day to honor those who serve.

Susan Lenczewski
Corinne Yorlano
4th grade co-teachers

MacAfee's 50th Anniversary

MacAfee Road School is heading into its 50th year anniversary. On Saturday, October 31st our committee will be having the Alumni Event where former Franklin Township athletes are coming back to instruct clinics for football, soccer, basketball and dance. Our event is taking place on Halloween! As

a result, we will be having a Trunk or Treat to celebrate the holiday. We have been working hard as a committee to ensure our MacAfee students enjoy a fun-filled day.

IV. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 1	Jersey Care Workshops
Oct 8	First PTO Meeting
Oct 8	Fall Pictures
Oct 12	No School – Teacher Inservice
Oct 13	ABC for Fitness Pilot
Oct 16	Kick Off Event for Event
Oct 16-23	Fall Book Fair
Oct 19-23	Box Tops for Education Contest
Oct 30	Halloween Parties in Classroom
Oct 31	Walk-A-Thon/Trunk or Treat

V. ACHIEVEMENT TOWARD ANNUAL GOALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

In month of September – Literacy Coach

- the literacy coach continued to pursue her Orton Gillingham Certification.
- the coach attended district wide coaches' meetings.
- she assisted in the administration of Map and I-ready diagnostic assessment.
- she continued to hold her regularly scheduled Grade Level Meetings and Literacy Coaching Cycles.

During the month of September – Math Coach

- I visited other math coaches in the district during their grade level meeting
- I helped administer tests on EdConnect, MAP, and iReady
- I conducted an after school presentation on MAP
- I provided PD on beliefs of teachers during our inservice day on September 1st.

Respectfully submitted

William Grippo

William Grippo, Principal
MacAfee Road School

Pine Grove Manor School
Report to the Superintendent
for the Board of Education
for the Month of September 2015

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

September

- 1- First Day for Teachers
- 2- In-Service for Teachers
- 3 - First Day for Students
- 7 - First Full Day for Pre-Kindergarten
- 8 - 1st PTO Meeting
- 14 - Fall Recess
- 15 - Fall Recess
- 17- PGM Back to School Night
- 23 - Fall Recess
- 24 - Fall Recess
- 29 - Back Pack Assembly for 3rd Grade

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES - STAFF

September

- 2 - Principal's Meeting/Faculty Meeting
- 16 - Principal's Meeting/Faculty Meeting
- 21 - Principal's Meeting/Faculty Meeting

III. SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT

None

IV. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

October

- 5 - Week of Respect Assembly
- 6 - Science Enrichment
- 7 - PACER Program/I&RS Meetings
- 8 - PTO Meeting
- 9 - PBS Rally/Family Game Night
- 12 - No School for Students - Columbus Day
- 17 - PGM Community Yard Sale
- 30 - PTO Fall Festival

**Giselle C. Rodriguez – Literacy Coach
Pine Grove Manor Elementary School
Monthly Board Report for September 2015**

The literacy Coach provides resources, materials and strategies to teachers to help guide them in the implementation of the Reading and Writing Workshop to improve student achievement. This month the Literacy Coach:

Coaching

- Met with teachers to clarify/model how to complete literacy assessments.
- Provided teachers with resources and answered questions about Words Their Way for spelling, phonics and vocabulary instruction.
- Assisted teachers in creating classroom environments that were conducive to literacy instruction.
- Met with teachers to help plan units/lessons.
- Supported new teachers by providing materials and strategies to support student achievement.

Grade Level Meetings

- Monday, September 21st – Conducted grade level meetings for teachers in grades Kindergarten through Fourth Grade in which I shared important beginning of the year information pertaining to: Literacy Assessment/Writing Folders, Coaching Cycles, Collaborative Planning Meetings, Spreadsheets, Resources, and District Goals/Areas of Focus for literacy, MAP, iReady, etc.

Presentations/Teacher PD

- Tuesday, September 1st - In-Service Day – Presented to all of the Kindergarten teachers in the district about new units, the literacy assessment calendar and new district initiatives.

Professional Learning

- Wednesday, September 2nd – Attended a workshop and leadership team meeting on the NWEA MAP.
- Friday, September 18th – Attended Coaching the Coaches and discussed goals for the year and collaborated with other district literacy coaches.

Other

- Worked on the PGM Book Room Inventory.
- Administered and assisted teachers as they administered the NWEA MAP in grades K-2.
- Ordered books for classroom libraries based on teacher needs.
- Unpacked and distributed book order to teachers.

- Tuesday, September 22nd – Took part in Literacy Walkthroughs with David Heras, Supervisor of Elementary Language Arts Literacy, Academic Support, and Enrichment (K-4)

Beth Benjamin's Principal Report

September 2015

Elementary Math Coach

Mr. Miguel Rivera – Pine Grove Manor School

The Mathematics Coach provides resources, materials and strategies to teachers to help guide them in the implementation of the Math Workshop to improve student mathematics achievement and understanding.

This summer and in the month of September, the Mathematics Coach:

Previous to September:

Summer 2014

- *Developed and taught 3 day Math Institute with math supervisor and math coaches– Developing Math Ideas
- *Worked on curriculum for Kindergarten grade with 2 teachers
- *Worked on assessment for Kindergarten with 2 teachers
- *Reviewed K unit assessments with 2 teachers
- *Prepared for September 1st professional development on mathematical beliefs and new initiatives
- *Unpacked Go Math! order
 - Checked items sent against packing form
 - Distributed Go Math student workbooks and journals
- *Distributed previously ordered items to Title I teachers

Summer 2015 Professional Development

*3rd year of participation in PEMA program at Rutgers –
Partnership for the Enhancement of Mathematics Achievement
2 week graduate course – 60 hours; continues throughout the
school year with monthly webinars and professional workshops

During the month of September 2015:

Mathematics Professional Development for PGM teachers

Presented math professional development session on September 1st to all
Kindergarten teachers in the district

- *Math teacher beliefs
- *Provided curriculum timeline for each grade – must see
Rubicon for more in depth planning, resources and
activities
- *Briefly reviewed Workshop Model and the flexible small
groups at beginning of period
- *Passed out curriculum timeline
- *Passed out and briefly reviewed Assessment Calendar

First Grade level meeting on September 11 – all grades

- *Answered questions and concerns - Rubicon review
- *Balance between Go Math and Engage NY
- *Reviewed Rubicon and all its different components – Go
Math! is only a resource
- *Presented teachers with different formats of Standards for
Mathematical Practices – more student and parent friendly
- *Shared other materials and resources
- *Explained Game night along with Art in Math contest – math
bulletin board created to go along with the theme
- *Reminder of Exemplars
- *Reminder that pre-assessment included prerequisite

knowledge from previous grade

- *Goals of Math coach

- *meeting all students' needs

- *integration of math literacy into instruction

Math Grade level meetings – October 1st and 2nd

- *Review of Exemplars

- *Use of Rubicon as your main resource

- *Presented Unit 1 assessment for each grade and discussed its importance and can also be used as a pre-test/data for small groups when given at end of unit

- *Introduction to small groups implementation plan

- *Discussed the new computer testing initiatives

- *Student access to Think Central and First in Math

- *Reviewed goals of math coach

- *Math materials to be ordered

- *Book Studies

Pre-Assessment for Grades K - 4

- *Prepopulated spreadsheets for 2nd grade

- *Distributed Beginning of the Year Assessment, Grades K -2

- *Created spreadsheet for K and 1 pre-assessment

- *Assisted Kindergarten teachers in giving the computer test, MAP

- *Coordinated with 3rd and 4th grade teachers in relation to i-Ready testing

- *Currently in the process of analyzing the scores for the building

- *Compilation of assessment binders for each grade

Classroom Instruction

- *Introduced myself as math coach, Ms. BSquared

- *Introduced math games in both 3rd and 4th bilingual classrooms

- *Introduced place value bear family to classrooms
- *Assisted in giving Kindergarten assessments and getting 3rd and 4th grade students on i-Ready
- *Kindergarten – introduced 1, 2 Man
- *Grades 1 - 4: assisted selected teacher to get their students on ST Math

Information provided to teachers

- *September 1st in-service professional development
- *Presented i-Ready presentation to 3rd and 4th grade teachers at faculty meeting
- *Presented information about Guatemala trip to teachers at faculty meeting
- *Distributed First in Math Packets to teachers and will help them register students if needed.
- *Reviewed information about Think Central and how to register students, computer component of Go Math!
- *Provided literature to go along with current units.
- *Addressed teacher concerns
- *Possible ideas for Power of 10 day, October 10 - 10/10
- *Began to establish coaching cycles to begin in October

Attended the following meetings:

- *Meeting with literacy coach to set up grade level meeting schedule
- *Meeting with i-Ready team to set up information session for teachers
- *Coaching the Coaches - discuss role of coaching and SGOs
- *Math Coach monthly meeting
- *First PTO meeting
- *Met with teachers throughout the month to address areas of concerns, brainstorm ideas and plan lessons

*Met with science specialist on leave to discuss cooperative partnership with PPC and Green Team

Other:

*Spent two days at Hillcrest due to coach's absence – answered teacher questions and concerns

*Creation of Grade Level Meeting Schedule with Literacy Coach

*Math in Art Bulletin Board – creation of questions that can be answered using the pictures from the bulletin board

*Green Team Bulletin Board

*Planned for grade level meetings.

*Planned for Family Game Night to be sponsored by the PTO,
Friday, October 9, 2015

*Distributed fliers, English and translated into Spanish

*Flier for Math in Art contest – also translated

*Assisted students during lunch on their art projects

*Discussed first instructional round – October 15, 2015 with principal

*Packing up books to be sent to SGS and also shelved the new books

*Set up and organized my office in PGM

Upcoming Events in October:

- Grade level meetings
- Continuation of Map and I-Ready testing
- Assist teachers with creation of SGOs
- Beginning of coaching cycles
- Family Game Night – October 9th
- Monthly meetings for coaches
- PGM - Instructional Rounds, October 15th

GUIDANCE UPDATES

September was a busy month at PGM! We welcomed our students back and started the school year off right by talking about RESPECT.

Classroom Lessons: September's theme was respect. Kindergarteners listened to the story Arthur's Nose by Marc Brown and talked about how it's not nice to make fun of someone for the way they look. In 1st grade, students watched a video about Arthur's Eyes and discussed the difference between respectful and disrespectful behaviors. 2nd grade students read the story Hooway for Wodney Wat by Helen Lester and participated in a game about what respect means to them. In 3rd grade, students read Kevin Henke's Chrysanthemum and differentiated between respectful and disrespectful scenarios. 4th graders raced to see who could create the longest list of respectful behaviors in school and at home.

Individual Counseling: Counselor worked with many students for individual counseling for a variety of personal and social issues.

Small Groups: A social skills group and Banana Splits, a group for students of divorced homes, are in the process of starting up.

STAR Program: Following up on students from the 2014-2015 school year and looking to enroll new contenders.

Safety Meetings: The counselor attended the District Safety meeting. The PGM Safety Team successfully conducted a lock down and a fire drill.

I&RS: Counselor worked to schedule 3 days of follow-up I&RS meetings, which will be conducted during the first full week of October.

Upcoming:

Week of Respect: October 5th-9th

Fire Prevention: Friday, October 16th

Red Ribbon Week: October 26th-30th

Respectfully,

Miguel Rivera
Principal

Sampson G. Smith School
Report to the Superintendent
for the Board of Education
for the Month of September, 2015

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- September 1 Teachers convocation at FHS
- September 2 In-service Day
Principals' staff meeting
- September 3 First day of school for students
- September 4 SIP meeting
- September 8 Coaches Meeting
Teachers' academy
- September 9 5th grade welcome back assembly
- September 10 6th grade welcome back assembly
- September 16 PTO meeting
- September 21 Principals' staff meeting
- September 21 Instructional Rounds in Math
- September 30 5th grade Back to School Night
- October 1 6th grade Back to School Night

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES – STAFF

- The administration met to finalize goals for the 2015-2016 SIP plan.
- The coaches met with the grade level teachers, focusing on the following topics: literacy, math, and assessment.
- The Principal met with Sharon McNeil, the district behaviorist, to coordinate the PBS program at our school.
- The SGS teachers' academy was held on September 22nd. This was a professional development where teachers learned strategies to enhance family communication through technology.
- SGS teachers participated in Instructional Rounds on September 28th. The topic was using assessment to drive small group instruction.
- All students and teachers were trained on HIB policies at SGS.
- A partnership was made with the Rutgers Graduate School of Education, which will increase the amount of student teachers placed at SGS.
- SGS is taking part in a professional development program called Creating Opportunities for Relationships (COR). The COR program concentrates on helping teacher to build strong, lasting relationships across the wide range of students in their classrooms, and in doing so, improve classroom management, as well as reduce disparities in discipline referrals.

III. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 2 SIP meeting
Student of the Month Breakfast
- October 8 & 9 School Picture Days
- October 12 School Closed for students
Teacher In-Service Day
- October 19 Principal Meeting
- October 26 6:00 pm- Parent Workshop
Topic: A day in the life of an SGS student
- October 27 & 28 Extended Day Program begins
2:15 – 4:00pm
- October 30 PBS Incentive Day

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Mattia

Gary Mattia
Interim Principal

**FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Report To The Superintendent
For the Board of Education
For the Month of October 2015**

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

❖ **Mrs. Linda Taliercio 8th Grade Read 180 / FMS Yoga Club**

In 8th Grade Read 180, we are reading We Beat The Street, by Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, and Rameck Hunt. The doctors are from Newark, NJ, who made a Pact to stay together in medical school and succeeded. We are reading the book together in Independent Reading and logging our responses together.

❖ **Ms. Sanabria's 7th and 8th Spanish 1A:**

The student's created safety drill posters working in groups of four, and did a great job creating safety messages and working as a team. The posters are displayed throughout the FMS 300 hallway for everyone to see. The student's completed their Interpersonal IPA's, as well as their Interpretive IPA's pre-assessments in the edConnect module. To learn the Spanish speaking countries, the student's used maps to learn the location of the Spanish countries by working in pairs and were able to complete a writing activity. They are able to identify where the Spanish countries are located and their names. They are moving along and I am very proud of how well they are doing so far.

❖ **Ms. Valerie Northey, LCSW, LCADC - FMS**

January was the start of two new Programs through the SAC department. Volunteers from **MIDDLE EARTH** began meeting with 6 of our students weekly through the **LUNCHTIME Mentoring Program**. These volunteers come once per week to meet one to one with students to assist with academics, social skills and behavioral issues. The students enjoy this and look forward to their mentors meeting with them. Additionally 2 sessions of **Girls Circle** will take place from the last week in January through March. 22 Girls in total are participating. **Rutgers University** Graduate Students continue to offer one to one counseling to identified students through the SAC and Guidance Department.

Connections students continue to meet weekly and once a month at the high school with their mentors. This Friday, January 30th, several Connections students will be collaborating with the Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Substance Abuse and promoting the "Parents Who Host Lose the Most" campaign by handing out materials at a local pizzeria from 4-7 PM

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES - STAFF

From the Guidance Office:

We welcomed two Guidance/SAC interns to our team at FMS – one is from Rutgers University and the other from Kean University.

On Wednesday, September 9th Quiyon Peters attended the monthly District Safety Team Meeting at the Board Office. Many school safety issues were discussed such as: Drill Planning, HIB, Back-to-School Night Safety, etc.

As per the parents' requests, our first Section 504 meetings were held with the teachers, nurse, counselor, administration and parents. New plans were implemented with accommodations for the students to assist them in school. Planning has begun for the "Parent University" to implement family partnership activities and programs that will enhance the school climate and culture by building relationships between teachers and families.

Tracy Schwartz, Mathematics Coach Franklin Middle School

A select group of math teachers were trained on my.hrw.com (Go Math online resources). They will turnkey the information to all math teachers during common planning.

A select group of algebra teachers were trained on Pearson online. They will turnkey the information to all algebra teachers during common planning.

8th grade teachers received additional iReady training to begin the diagnostic assessment with their 8th grade students.

Instructional lab teacher have begun the iReady diagnostic with 7th grade students.

7th grade students are working on the operations with rational numbers.

8th grade students are working on geometric transformations.

Algebra students are working on solving equations.

Ms. Maha Ghanem – Literacy Coach, Franklin Middle School

The Grade 8 Language Arts department is working on "Quick Literary Essays and Fan Fiction" in their writing unit and "Noticing Archetypes and Allusions, Reading Across Genres" in their reading unit. The Grade 7 Language Arts department is working on developing "Realistic Fiction" stories in their writing unit and "Author Studies: Noticing Patterns Across Texts" in their reading unit. Ms. Ghanem, the Literacy Coach, will be doing various demo lessons in both veteran and new staff members' classrooms based upon both grade-level units, specifically in the writing units this month. For example, she will be modeling how to deviate from the traditional story arc in an Honors leveled class and also within a small group of higher leveled learners in a standard-leveled class. Furthermore, Ms. Ghanem will be team teaching with Ms. Cooke and a few other grade 8 teachers, modeling how to write a fan fiction narrative by reinventing the story from another character's

perspectively. She will be using traditional fairytales in her demonstrations so that the concept is accessible to all students.

During the month of October, all grade 7 teachers will administer the i-Ready diagnostic assessment after receiving professional development from one of our Instructional Lab teachers, Mrs. Batulis. Then, the grade 7 teachers will implement i-Ready into their classrooms at least 40 minutes per week through classwork and homework assignments. Ms. Ghanem will provide additional professional development to the teachers regarding how to interpret the data and use it for small group instruction.

Furthermore, the Language Arts Department will be using EdConnect throughout the school year for all district assessments; some teachers will have kids doing the assessments on paper but will input the scores using EdConnect, while other teachers are going entirely paperless, having students perform all assessments by typing into task boxes in EdConnect. Finally, Ms. Ghanem will be working with Mrs. Peters, one of the school counselors, to develop a "Parent University," hosting workshops and events each month throughout the school year. The first workshop topic will be "A Day in the Life of a Language Arts Classroom" in which the Literacy Coach and Language Arts teachers will volunteer their time in the evening to give helpful tips to parents about how to support their child in Language Arts Literacy.

Ms. Michelle Maikis, Language Arts / Special Education FMS

Maikis, Moore, Petrucelli, Monica Smith are participating in RIISA and attended the first conference on September 24. This year's theme is Teaching and Learning with Diversity in Mind.

Ms. Kathy Kansky, FMS Math Dept.

Ms. Murray and I will be running a math competition to be held at the St. Joe's High School in Metuchen in January. Practices will be starting in October for all who are interested. We will be handing out flyers to classes soon.

III. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ Oct. 6 FMS Back To School
- ✓ Oct. 7, 8 & 9 Week of Respect
- ✓ Oct. 12 In Service Day – No School for Students
- ✓ Oct. 14 BOE Meeting
- ✓ Oct. 14, 15 & 16 Parent Teacher Conference / FMS Minimum Session

IV. ACHIEVEMENT TOWARD ANNUAL GOALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

The 2015-2016 school year is here and I am both honored and exhilarated to be the interim principal at FMS. We should all be looking forward to an exciting school year filled with new challenges, learning, and great memories.

Prior to becoming an administrator, I taught grades 4 thru 8 in the Matawan /Aberdeen School District. As an administrator, I was principal of Cliffwood Elementary School, Matawan Regional High School, and the Sixth Grade Center in Manalapan.

Our focus is to develop the whole student – intellectually, emotionally, and socially. Your children will have opportunities that are guided each day by a dedicated and energetic staff who are deeply engaged in curriculum and student learning.

My door is always open for feedback and working together to provide our students with the very best learning experience possible. I am looking forward to an exciting and rewarding year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael D'Anna, Interim Principal
Franklin Middle School
415 Francis Street
Somerset, NJ 08873
Ph. 732-249-6410 ext. 201
Fax 732-246-0770

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

Report to the Superintendent For the Board of Education For the Month of September, 2015

I. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Books in the Park 2015

Books in the Park are a mobile lending library that puts books into children's hands during the month of July. We understand the importance of maintaining literacy skills over the summer by keeping kids interested in reading. Books in the Park visits each site once or twice a week, lends books, offers an array of children's literature, and includes many fun activities too! Our motto is: those who read get good grades in school.

Books in the Park were a success once again this year. We expanded the number of sites we visited to 6 which included 3 sites from Franklin Township Summer Recreation Program: Williams Park, Franklin Park School, and Elizabeth Avenue School. We also serviced Franklin Township ESL Summer School housed at Elizabeth Avenue School, and 2 rental communities: Somerset Mews and Easton North. We estimate around 500 participants, which include children from toddler ages, through elementary and middle school students as well as some mothers and caregivers. We kept a daily count of how many books were checked out, (not how many books as many books are returned and checked out again and again). This year we checked out 1,823 books to our children in Franklin Township during the month of July!

Of course we couldn't do this without our student volunteers from Franklin High School: Zoya Ali earned 52 hours, senior; Natalia Gonzalez, 60 hours, senior; Nirav Brahmhatt, 61 hours, junior; Obdwangely Trinidad, 57 hours, junior; Aminata Coundoul, 65 hours, sophomore; Bhavi Patel 60 hours, sophomore; Chandni Patel 64 hours, sophomore; and Camilo Rojas 53 hours, sophomore. This enthusiastic new crew of volunteers clocked in 472 volunteers hours that created a very exciting and record breaking Books in the Park summer reading program this year. These volunteers read to the students, maintained the mobile library collection, processed incoming 'new' books and processed the returned books as well. They brainstormed and developed craft activities for the residential parks. They made reading fun. We enjoyed several testimonials from parents as well as participants who have been with Books in the Park over the years. Our volunteers were led by Farah Hussain ESL teacher at FHS, and Fran Bardusco ESL Teacher at FHS who also co-wrote a HIPP grant that started this program 15 years ago!!! What an inspired month of July we enjoyed!

During the week of August 25th, the School Counseling Department transformed itself into a College Application Boot camp! On August 25, 26, 27 and 28, four different presentations were offered to rising seniors to help them jumpstart their college application process. "Application 101: College Know How" walked students through Naviance, an amazing

college planning software, available to all Franklin High School students. "Writing Your Personal Statement" gave students the tools they needed to write an effective college essay that would engage college admissions counselors. "Resumes that Rock" informed students on how to craft the perfect resumes that would highlight their accomplishments and accolades. Lastly, "Crushing the Common App" familiarized students with the common application as well as how to match their application to Naviance. In each workshop, School Counselors delivered instruction for the first hour and then worked with students the second hour as they began the college application process. The workshops were held in the FHS Library and laptops were available to all attendees to maximize their time spent in the workshop. Overall, the program was a success as 30-40 students attended each day! Teachers have also noticed that the students who attended the workshops are ahead of their peers in the college application process. The School Counseling Department looks forward to continuing to support FHS's senior class as they embark on their post high school planning.

- Student Assistance Program (SAC) In-service Training for New Teacher Orientation 8/25/15
- SAC Program Introduction Freshman Orientation 8/31/15
- SAC Program Drug/Alcohol Suicide Awareness In-Service Training 9/2/15
- Awareness and Support (ASG) Group Counseling
- Suicide Awareness Month: "Awareness Campaign"

- Teen PEP Mini Retreat 9/30/15
- Girls Circle Group Counseling
- Boys Circle Group Counseling
- Week of Respect Hallway Mural
- REBEL Recruitment Meeting 9/29/15
- STFL Recruitment Meeting 9/30/15

See attached September SAC Newsletter

Junior Classical League students went to national JCL convention in late July in Trinity University in San Antonio.

Students received the following national accolades:

Boys' relay: 7th place
 Soccer (coed): 4th place
 Volleyball (coed): 4th place
 Girls' relay: 6th place
 Coed relay: 8th place
 100 meter track run: 19th place: Adam Platek
 10th in shot put: Adam Platek
 Meera Surampudi: 20th in reading comprehension test
 Megan Sweat: 28th in reading comprehension test
 Performed in national JCL chorus: Sydney Rosen
 4th in 50 yard breaststroke: Sydney Rosen
 8th in small models: Sydney Rosen
 9th in sight Latin: Sydney Rosen
 9th in English oratory: Sydney Rosen
 Sydney Rosen: 19th in Latin derivatives test
 That's entertainment: auditioned and performed Diablo (Chinese yo-yo) show: Adam Platek

9th in sculpture: Adam Platek
7th in traditional photo: Caitlin Hibbard
15th in classical art test: Angela Brosius
3rd place in spirit competition
9th in website competition
5th in creative writing competition
7th in scrapbook
19th in publicity contest
Nancy Howell scholarship award: Jessica Serpe (paid for most of her trip and her Teacher's trip to nationals: only 1 in country)

II. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES – STAFF

FHS Football and Athletic Department is pleased to announce our first scholarship offer to Darius Gibson. He will receive a full scholarship to the United States Military Academy at West Point. We are proud of his hard work and achievement. Go Army!

Association for Student Assistance Professionals ASAP/ NJ Somerset Chapter Meeting
Franklin Township Schools HIB Awareness Training In-Service
RTS Program Orientation Training In-Service
RTS PBSI Training in- Service 9/21

III. SPECIAL ACHEIVEMENTS

Franklin High School is pleased to announce that **Rahul Boppana, Bilva Chandra, Sonia Gupta, Shaun Guru, Priti Kantesaria, Sean Maggio, Kelvin Qian, Archana Raghunath, and Jonathan Tsai** have been named Commended Students in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented to these scholastically talented seniors.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2016 competition for National Merit Scholarships, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2016 competition by taking the 2014 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

The following can be included in special achievements front he FBLA Nationals
6th place in the Nation for Social Media Campaign competition - Tapan Desai and Shrikar Patel
Finished in the top 15 in the Nation for Management Information Systems – Melissa Tu, Stephanie Tu and Jemmie Tsai.

IV. MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Homecoming Dance – 10/30
Week of Respect Theme Week 10/5-9
Teen PEP Dating Violence Workshop 9th Grade Health Classes 10/28
TAG Classroom Workshops 10th Grade Health Classes 10/5
Violence Prevention Week Activities/Displays 10/19-23
Red Ribbon Week Lunch Displays 10/23-30
Steered Straight Assembly Program 10/20 Grades 10th and 11th

Michael Fowlin: "You Don't Know Me..." Assembly Program 10/22 Grades 9
Inter-high Leadership Conference 10/7
REBEL Training and Learning Retreat (Rescheduled October New Date TBA)
REBEL SAFE HALLOWEEN Prevention Display and Giveaway 10/30
15 Minute Child-break Parent Workshop at Franklin Middle School 11/11 and 11/12 6:00
p.m.

V. ACHEIVEMENT TOWARD ANNUAL GOALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. DiGanci

Thomas F. DiGanci, Ed. D.
Interim Principal
Franklin High School

Franklin High School Student Assistance
Department
"Celebrates Our Differences"
Through Interactive, Fun & Engaging Week Long Activities!!

"WEEK OF RESPECT"

October 5-9 2015

Monday:

10/5/15

"Rainbow Color Day!"

Wear Multiple Colors to Celebrate a Rainbow of Lifestyles & Perspectives

Tuesday:

10/6/15

Mix It Up Day

Mix up your Clothing Patterns to Meet a Mixture of People!

Wednesday:

10/7/15

WEAR PURPLE DAY!

Wear PURPLE to Promote Peace!

Thursday:

10/8/15

Cultural Awareness Day

Celebrating all Cultures by Wearing your Cultural Garments!

Friday:

10/9/15

"Warriors for Peace!"

Wear your WARRIOR Clothing to Support PEACE & UNITY for ALL!

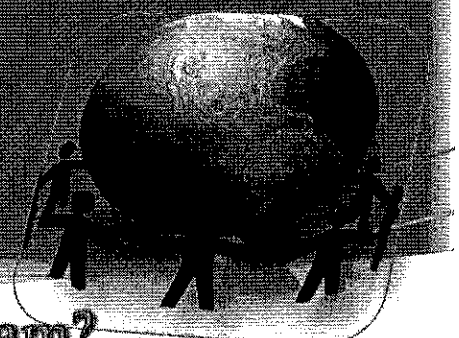
Students will embark upon new initiatives that promote respect for diversity and engage in meaningful lessons and/or other activities that focus on preventing bias-based harassment, intimidation and/or bullying.

Student Assistance Program

1234 Avenue K, Somerville, NJ 08876

Promoting Safe & Healthy Lifestyles

"Providing prevention and intervention services for students and their families."



What is a Student Assistance Program?

Student Assistance Coordinators are a valuable resource for students and their families. The Student Assistance Program of the Franklin Township School District provides a variety of programs and services to students and their families in safe, comfortable, professional setting. A strikingly large percentage of school-aged children in the United States are in crisis. Drug and alcohol abuse, violence, bullying, depression, suicide, stress and anxiety disorders, eating disorders and other social/emotional issues threaten the well being of all students, their families and society as a whole. As the problems have escalated in recent years, so have the demands on schools throughout the country to address them. Administrators, teachers, parents and students understand that school success is predicated on a safe and healthy learning environment. Student Assistance Coordinators identify, address and monitor individual students as well as coordinate and oversee the district prevention/intervention efforts. As licensed, certified, trained mental health and substance abuse professionals, our Student Assistance Coordinators address student substance abuse, mental health and other behavioral problems through assessment, individual and group counseling, family intervention and referral. Additionally our Student Assistance Coordinators provide professional development to administration and staff in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-15 (in-service training on identifying symptoms and behavioral patterns which may be indicative of substance use) and N.J.S.A.18A: 6-111 (in-service training on depression and suicide prevention).

Our Student Assistance Coordinators work in conjunction with our district's guidance department and community agencies to provide our students and their families with the necessary resources to assist them in developing to their highest potential.

I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.

-Maya Angelou

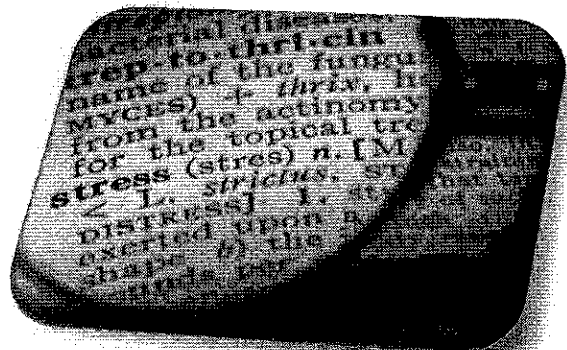


Referrals for Assistance

Student Assistance Services are available in all of our district schools. Students or parents seeking assistance may contact the SAP program directly either by contacting the respective Student Assistance Coordinator assigned to their school by email, phone or office (see below). Once contact has been made, an initial appointment will be scheduled to assess the student's needs and plan accordingly.

Students may also be referred to the program by their teachers or administration. There are times when teachers may express concerns regarding student behaviors, mental health or possible substance use. In those cases student confidentiality will be maintained.

All services offered through the Student Assistance Program are **CONFIDENTIAL**. Students are by nature quite guarded regarding the disclosure of many personal issues including drug/alcohol abuse to adults, especially teachers, administrators and other school personnel. Students seeking assistance through the Student Assistance Program are protected by federal confidentiality regulations (42 CFR Part 2).



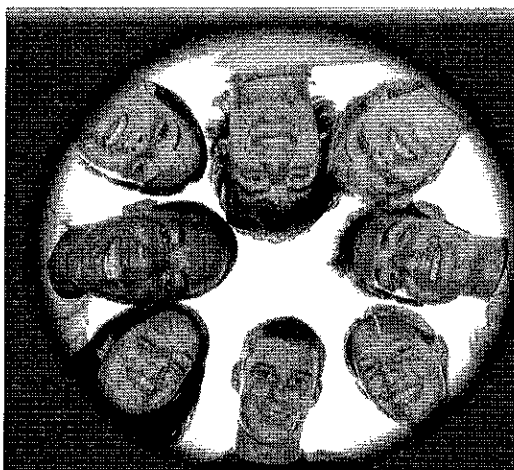
Student Assistance Services K-8 *Franklin Middle School*

Ms. Valerie Northey, LCSW, LCADC, SAC
Guidance Suite Rm. 100H
(732) 249-6410 ext. 217
vnorthey@franklinboe.org

Student Assistance Services 9-12 *Franklin High School*

Mrs. Stacy Hale, MA, M.ED, LAC, SAC
Rm. B233 (732) 302-4205
shale@franklinboe.org

Mr. Jason Marchitto, MA, LPC, SAC
Rm. C235 (732) 304-4200 ext 4321
jmarchitto@franklinboe.org



Whatever you do, you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising that tempt you to believe your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires some of the same courage that a soldier needs. Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men and women to win them.
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Advantages of the Student Assistance Program?

THE SAC vs. OTHER SCHOOL PERSONNEL

According to the Association for Student Assistance Professionals, interventions by non-SAC faculty members often create a conflict of interest for the faculty member and threaten student privacy. The New Jersey State Legislature has correctly identified the extent of non-academic challenges facing students today. For example, they have recognized that a significant number of young people are already involved in the abuse of alcohol and other drugs, and that many children and adolescents are at a high risk of developing alcohol and other substance abuse problems. As a result, legislation was created that mandates schools to provide both education and intervention with students experiencing substance abuse and other social/emotional issues (18A:40A-8).

CONFIDENTIALITY

The Association of Student Assistance Professionals also states, students are by nature quite guarded regarding the disclosure of many issues (particularly drug/alcohol use) to adults. Many students worry about the conflict of interest in discussing personal issues with teachers, administrators, and guidance counselors when these are the very faculty members who grade them, discipline them, write their recommendation letters, and frequently communicate with their parents. Congress has recognized these obstacles, and created federal confidentiality regulations (42 CFR Part 2), providing student access to confidential treatment for alcohol and drug related issues. In the event that other issues surface, the SAC is best equipped to communicate the nature of the problem with both the student and their family, and develop an appropriate treatment plan, which might involve additional community resources when necessary.

Association of Student Assistance Professionals New Jersey
www.asapnj.org



SAC Services and Programs

Counseling Groups:

Individual / Group Counseling Sessions

Substance Abuse Awareness

Quit 2 Win Tobacco Cessation

Student Centered Prevention Programs:

*Reaching Everyone by Exposing Lies
(R.E.B.E.L.)*

Teens Achieving Goals (T.A.G.)

Teen PepPrevention Education

Assembly Programs

Project Wisdom

*Connections Leadership/Mentoring
Program*

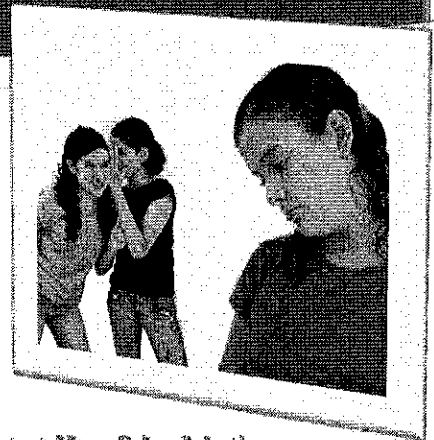
Sisters in Training for Life (S.T.F.L.)

Other:

Community Referrals

Youth Empowerment Conferences

Bullying and Suicide Prevention



There is a strong link between bullying and suicide, as suggested by recent bullying-related suicides in the U.S. and other countries. In recent years, a series of bullying-related suicides in both the U.S. and across the globe have drawn attention to the connection between bullying and suicide. Though too many adults still see bullying as "just part of being a kid." However, this issue is a serious problem that leads to many negative effects for victims, including suicide. Many people may not realize that there is also a link between being a bully and committing suicide. Therefore, parents, teachers, and students need to learn the dangers of bullying and help those students who may be at risk of committing suicide. Bully-related suicide can be connected to any type of bullying, including physical bullying, emotional bullying, cyber-bullying, and sexting or circulating suggestive or nude photos or messages about a person.

Please Contact Your School Anti-Bullying Coordinators if you suspect your child is experiencing Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying:

District Anti Bullying Coordinator

Mr. Orvyl Wilson 1755 Amwell Rd. Somerset, NJ
(732) 873-2400 x 408 owilson@franklinboe.org

Pine Grove Elementary School
(732) 264-2424 x 2234

Hillcrest Elementary School
Jennifer Pasqua (732) 246-0170 x 3233
jpasqua@franklinboe.org

Conerly Rd. Elementary School
Amy Ruggirello (732) 249-9362 x 2229
aruggirello@franklinboe.org

Franklin Park Elementary School
(732) 297-5666 x223

Macafee Rd. Elementary School
Bonnie Kudwitt (732) 873-2800 x4229
bkudwitt@franklinboe.org

Elizabeth Ave. Elementary School
Jackie DeFilippis (732) 356-0113 x 2226
jdefilippis@franklinboe.org

Sampson G. Smith Intermediate School
Lynn Avellino (732) 873-2800 x113
lavellino@franklinboe.org

Franklin High School
Rod Brundidge, VP (732) 302-4200 x6206
rbrundidge@franklinboe.org

Franklin Middle School
Quiyon Peters (732) 249-6410 x322
qpeters@franklinboe.org

"Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but
~~sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy.~~
sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy."

(continued)

Statistics

- *In a cohort study of 1,118 9-11 year olds, researchers found that many psychosomatic and psychosocial problems occur as a result of bullying.
- *Children with depressive symptoms and anxiety are at an increased risk of being victimized.
- *Researchers have found that experience with peer harassment whether as a bully or victim contributes to depression, decreased self worth, hopelessness and loneliness all risk factors for suicide.
- *2,000 randomly selected middle schoolers, 20% (19.7% females/20.9% males) have reported thinking about attempting suicide while 19% reported attempting suicide (17.9% females, 20.2% males).
- *Researchers found that bullying and cyber bullying victimization was a stronger predictor of suicidal thoughts and behaviors than was bullying and cyber-bullying offending.
- *Traditional bullying victims were 1.7 times more likely and traditional bullying offenders were 2.1 times more likely to have attempted suicide than those who were neither.
- *Cyber bullying offenders were 1.5 times more likely to have attempted suicide than those who were not cyber bullying.

Signs of Suicidal Ideations

- * *Distrust in previous favorite extra curricular activities*
- * *Losing interest in a job or college plan*
- * *Drug/ethanol use*
- * *Behavioral problems*
- * *Withdrawal from friends*
- * *Sleep Changes*
- * *Changes in eating habits*
- * *Neglect personal hygiene*
- * *Chronic complaints of stress*
- * *Decreased concentration / attention*
- * *Decreased grades*
- * *Lack of interest in school work*

Taken from: Cyberbullying and Suicide Hinduja Sameer & Patchin, Justin Ph.D Cyber Bullying Research Center.



New Trends in Teen Substance

staying abreast of the new trends in substance abuse, it is extremely important to understand the terminology or slang associated with those who use various forms of drugs and alcohol. Unfortunately, teens will disguise their drug use by using various slang terminology when discussing their drug/alcohol experiences or need to use while in school, home, work etc. Although, some slang used by teens can be completely harmless and may not refer to certain drugs of choice, there are many that do. Therefore, becoming aware of the new trends in teen substance abuse and the nicknames associated with substance abuse is extremely useful for parent who feel their child may be using drugs. Educating yourself on the various slang terminology, can also help you to differentiate between ordinary communications and terms that could relate to drugs. Some examples of the most commonly abused substances by today's teens may include:



"Syrup," "Purple Drank," "Sizzurp," "Lean"

Drinking prescription-strength cough syrup containing codeine and promethazine mixed with soda was referenced frequently in rap music beginning in the late 90s and has now become increasingly popular among youth in several areas of the country, according to recent CEWG data. Users may also flavor the mixture with the addition of hard candies. Codeine and other opioids present a high risk of fatal overdose due to their effect of depressing the central nervous system, which can slow or stop the heart and lungs. Mixing with alcohol greatly increases this risk.

"Molly"—slang for "molecular"—refers to the pure crystalline powder form of the club drug MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), which in pill form is known as ecstasy. Molly, which is usually purchased in capsules, has seen a surge in interest in the past few years, being celebrated frequently by popular music artists. MDMA in any form produces energy and euphoria in users but also may dangerously affect body temperature and cause confusion, depression, and sleep problems. News reports elsewhere have reported "Molly" capsules containing cocaine, heroin, and other substances.

K2/Spice (Synthetic Marijuana) AKA "SPACE" "Spice" refers to a wide variety of herbal mixtures that produce experiences similar to marijuana (cannabis) and that are marketed as "safe," legal alternatives to that drug. Sold under many names, including K2, fake weed, Yucatan Fire, Skunk, Moon Rocks, and others—and labeled "not for human consumption"—these products contain dried, shredded plant material and chemical additives that are responsible for their psychoactive (mind-altering) effects. Spice users report experiences similar to those produced by marijuana—elevated mood, relaxation, and altered perception—and in some cases the effects are even stronger than those of marijuana. Some users report psychotic effects like extreme anxiety, paranoia, and hallucinations.

Marijuana The intoxicating effects of marijuana are due to the chemical called tetrahydrocannabinol, better known as THC. All forms of marijuana are mind-altering (psychoactive). Common names for Marijuana include Blunts, Weed, Mary Jane, Herb, Baked, Indo, Hydro, Haze, and Ganga. The amount of THC in marijuana samples confiscated by police has been increasing steadily over the past few decades. In 2009, THC concentrations in marijuana averaged close to 10 percent, compared to around 4 percent in the 1980s. For a new user, this may mean exposure to higher concentrations of THC, with a greater chance of an adverse or unpredictable reaction. Increases in potency may account for the rise in emergency department visits involving marijuana use. For experienced users, it may mean a greater risk for addiction if they are exposing themselves to high doses on a regular basis.

Alcohol Ethyl alcohol, or ethanol, is an intoxicating ingredient found in beer, wine, and liquor. It is a central nervous system depressant that is rapidly absorbed from the stomach and small intestine into the bloodstream. A standard drink equals 0.6 ounces of pure ethanol, or 12 ounces of beer; 8 ounces of malt liquor; 5 ounces of wine; or 1.5 ounces (a "shot") of 80-proof distilled spirits or liquor (e.g., gin, rum, vodka, or whiskey). Intoxication can impair brain function and motor skills; heavy use can increase risk of certain cancers, stroke, and liver disease. Alcoholism or alcohol dependence is a diagnosable disease characterized by a strong craving for alcohol, and/or continued use despite harm or personal injury. Alcohol Street terms include: Booze, Brews, Hard stuff, Hooch, Juice, Sauce, and more.

Ecstasy, or 3,4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), is often called "X". Other names include XTC, E, X, Beans, Adams, Hug Drug, Disco Biscuit, Adam, and more. When ecstasy is mixed with LSD or acid, it is called "Candy Flipping".

Ritalin is commonly prescribed for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), but when abused it is sometimes called "Kibbles and Bits" or "Pineapple."

National Institute on Drug Abuse The Science of Drug Abuse & Addiction <http://www.drugabuse.gov>

Knowing What to Look for:

In determining whether or not your child may be experimenting or abusing drugs/alcohol, it is very important to recognize certain behaviors that encompass issues related to substance abuse. Familiarity with the signs and symptoms of persons abusing illegal substances can assist you in exposing the evidence related to your suspicions. Confirming your suspicions can also help you begin that conversation with your child about your concerns. Here you will find a comprehensive list of behavioral characteristics associated with substance abuse.

Keep in mind: Many of these signs of drug use or alcohol use — in isolation — may be just normal teen behavior. Mood swings or changes in behavior are a standard part of growing up as teens make the transition from childhood to adulthood. However, as you start to recognize more and more of these signs and symptoms in your teen, a picture of drug or alcohol use may begin to become clear.

New Jersey Partnership for Drug-Free America
www.drugfree.org

Signs and Symptoms

Behavior characteristics associated with substance abuse

- Abrupt changes in work or school attendance, quality of work, work output, grades, discipline.
- Unusual flare-ups or outbreaks of temper.
- Withdrawal from responsibility.
- General changes in overall attitude.
- Deterioration of physical appearance and grooming.
- Wearing of sunglasses at inappropriate times.
- Continual wearing of long-sleeved garments particularly in hot weather or reluctance to wear short sleeved attire when appropriate.
- Association with known substance abusers.
- Unusual borrowing of money from friends, co-workers or parents.
- Stealing small items from employer, home or school.
- Secretive behavior regarding actions and possessions; poorly concealed attempts to avoid attention and suspicion such as frequent trips to storage rooms, restroom, basement, etc.

Substance Abuse Outpatient Treatment Facilities:

Princeton House Behavioral Healthcare
140 Livingston Ave. North Brunswick, NJ
(732) 435-0202 North Brunswick Facility
www.princetonhcs.org

GenPsych Behavioral Health Services
981 Route 22 West, Suite 3D Bridgewater, NJ 08807 (908)
231-0511 Toll Free (855) 436-7792
www.genpsych.com

Somerset Treatment Services
118 West End Ave. Somerville NJ
(908) 722-1232 x3019
www.somerset-treatment-services.org

Allies Adolescent and Family Services Richard Hall
CMHC Franklin Blvd. Somerset, NJ (Satellite office)
(908) 253-3168-Adolescent and Family Services
(908) 253-6135 Assessment Center
www.mentalhealth@co.somerset.nj.us

UMDNJ Behavioral Health
667 Hoes Lane Piscataway, NJ 08855
(800)-969-5300

Board of Education & Administration

Board of Education

Mr. Edward Potosnak, President
Nancy Lacorte, Vice President
Mr. Richard Seamon
Mrs. Betty Whalen
Dr. Julia Presely
Mrs. Christine Danileson
Mrs. Patricia E. Stanley
Mrs. Margaret E. Steele
Mrs. Latée E. Walton-McLeod

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Franklin Township Public Schools is to provide excellent educational opportunities that meet or exceed New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for every student; maintain an environment that engenders an appreciation of the value of every student; develop every student to his/her highest potential; and instill the attitudes, skills, and knowledge necessary to become independent, contributing members of a democratic, multicultural society.

Administration

Dr. John A. Ravally
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. James H. Strimple Jr.
Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary

Dr. Jefferey Charney
Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Brenda Sofield
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Orvyl Wilson
Director of School Management

Franklin Township Public School District Student Assistance Department

1755 Amwell Road
Somerset, NJ 08873

Resource Directory

Parents Parent's Place
www.parentspace.com

Partnership for a Drug-Free America
www.drugfree.org

The Antidrug
www.theantidrug.com

SAMHSA National Clearinghouse for Drug
and Alcohol Information
www.health.org

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug
Dependence
www.ncadd.org

The Association of Student Assistance
Professionals of New Jersey

www.asapnj.org

Bullying.Org
www.bullying.org