

*“Where will I be five years from now? I delight in not knowing. That’s one of the greatest things about life – its wonderful surprises...”*

**Marlo Thomas**



# The Principal’s Flyer

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Hi All;

Welcome to 2010! Not only are we welcoming in a New Year, we are also welcoming in a new decade. January is a month of new beginnings, and we start out this year with high hopes for the future. I am hopeful that the new decade brings with it good health and happiness for everyone at FHS. The Welches celebrated the change of the calendar by hosting our neighbors for our annual first night battle of board games and trivia. The days of bitter cold over the December break provided ample opportunity for outdoor skating and sledding, and I was amazed at how one year of growth provided such a difference in ability for my youngest daughter Amber. Her eagerness and determination while trudging back up the sledding hill and carrying her own inflatable tube was a sight to behold, and it prompted me to reflect on so many aspects of child rearing and parenting. I was struck by her independence, and it got me to generalizing the concept of how younger siblings do so much maturing simply by watching their older role models. The applications to education in formal settings are equally valuable. I’m just glad she doesn’t need a piggy-back on the return trip up the hill, as it was much easier with my oldest over a decade ago!

As the New Year happens to land on a ten-year increment, the **2010 U.S. Census** will be rolling out in the next few months. Representatives from the census have approached the Framingham Public Schools and we have been asked to help promote this yearlong counting of citizens so as to have the most accurate information available. Be on the lookout for a packet from the census that should arrive some time in March. You will be asked to accurately fill out the document and return it by the end of April. The census folks are promoting this by calling it “Every 10 Years, Only 10 Questions, Only 10 Minutes.” It is critical that all persons who live in Massachusetts be counted, as many programs and funding streams depend on this information. The early reports I’ve read have Massachusetts particularly vulnerable this time around, as our outward migration suggests a readjustment downward of our legislative population. Thanks in advance for your help.

The New Year will also bring with it a host of new faces at FHS. Back in the fall Officer Ottaviani and I worked conjunction with the **Framingham Police Department** on an application for some resources known as the Shannon Grant. These grants are distributed to cities and towns in Massachusetts to help reduce the impact of gangs and provide alternative opportunities for vulnerable youth. As a result of this work and a recently allocated grant, FHS will be welcoming an additional school resource officer beginning today. **Officer Rachel Mickens** of the Framingham Police Department will be joining officer Ottaviani in this capacity, and she will be working with the entire FHS staff throughout the upcoming year. The hope is that she can provide some much appreciated additional supervisory oversight during the day and into the afternoon. She will be stationed in the main office to provide coverage with as much geographic balance as possible. Please come introduce yourself and welcome her!

In addition to Rachel, FHS will also need to provide a replacement to some of the faculty who are taking time off to welcome new babies into their families. Many of you are aware that French teacher Cheryl Jones is due

within the next week, and we will be welcoming **Elizabeth (Liz) Favorito** during her absence. Liz is a Union College graduate (2007), and is currently finishing up a MA at BU. Most recently, Liz was filling in as a long-term substitute French teacher at Belmont High School while another teacher was out on leave this fall. Please swing by second floor A-hall to welcome her this week.

Additionally, many of you were aware that **Jen MacIver** has been filling in during Phoenix Program Social Worker Carianne Presiosi's recent maternity leave. Now that Pete Haviland will be leaving FHS to accept a vice-principal position at Weymouth High School, Jen will be stepping in to Pete's position in the Phoenix Program as a long-term substitute for the remainder of the year once Carianne returns from her leave at the end of the first semester. You can re-welcome her in first floor E-hall in the Phoenix Program area any time over the next few weeks.

Beginning on Tuesday, January 5 at the regularly scheduled school committee meeting (which will be held in the back gym at FHS), Superintendent Steve Hiersche will be **outlining a re-structuring plan for the district that identifies a new vision for student assignment and program placement for the future.** The calendar of presentations and discussion opportunities for the public is listed on the FPS website and can be accessed here: <http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/> There will be two opportunities for faculty and staff to hear the plan in its entirety on Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> @3:00 PM, and again on Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> @4:15 pm in the FHS auditorium. There will be additional opportunities for public input at both scheduled school committee meetings and other dates and times throughout the month of January. Those are listed on the website also. Please make sure you stay informed and offer your input.

**The FHS Advanced Photography class** will have two photography exhibits during the month of January, at Panache Coffeeshop and also at the McAuliffe Library. If you get a chance please check out the work of our talented photography students. There will be a small reception for the artists on Sunday, Jan 17 from 2-4.

I was remiss in failing to mention the substantial good work done by the FHS National Honor Society members in their annual Holiday Drive just before the break. Math teacher and NHS advisor Karen Hoff helped organize the NHS members as they helped about 100 families with gifts for the holiday season. This annual tradition at FHS has been supported very well by each and every homeroom at FHS as they adopt a family to support. This is truly a Herculean effort and everyone deserves accolades. You can see mention of this effort in this article from the MetroWest Daily News published just before our December break: <http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/news/x1599182627/Brophy-School-community-provides-holiday-donations> The article also mentions some additional work done by our colleagues at the Brophy elementary school in town. Thanks to all those involved from NHS!

If you have not reserved your tickets yet, remember that a group of FHS parents are sponsoring a **"Scotland Night" at Temple Beth-Am on Saturday, January 9, 2010** to raise funds to help defray the cost of the FHS Drama Company's trip to Scotland. Cost per person is \$30 in advance (plus a handling fee of \$1.50) – available online through [www.ticketstage.com](http://www.ticketstage.com) – or at Centre Music in Framingham; \$35 at the door (if there are still tickets left by then, as the venue has only 200 seats available). Thanks for your support.

Only 10 days of classes before we conclude our first semester and head into exams. Hopefully you all have things planned out in that time, but remember that it would not be all that unlikely to get a snow day or two based on the forecasts at this time of year. I'm hoping we just have cold, dry temps, but if past years are any indication we will likely be in for a couple. Prepare in advance so you're not cutting it close as we get near the end of term. Always better to have a little extra review time than to be scrambling at the end of the semester! Thanks in advance.

**Remember to scroll down for the weekly calendar!**

# Statistic Of Week

## Departmental Grade Averages For Term 1, 2009

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>
<b>English</b>	<b>12.50%</b>	<b>39.17%</b>	<b>25.20%</b>	<b>13.02%</b>	<b>8.21%</b>
<b>Math</b>	<b>21.97%</b>	<b>34.66%</b>	<b>21.71%</b>	<b>9.66%</b>	<b>5.21%</b>
<b>History</b>	<b>23.75%</b>	<b>39.53%</b>	<b>22.80%</b>	<b>7.33%</b>	<b>5.18%</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>17.04%</b>	<b>34.58%</b>	<b>24.71%</b>	<b>14.05%</b>	<b>8.55%</b>
<b>W.Lang</b>	<b>27.34%</b>	<b>40.66%</b>	<b>20.76%</b>	<b>7.31%</b>	<b>3.51%</b>

## First Term Grade Average Trends Over The Last Six Years

		<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>
English	2005	17.96%	41.10%	24.60%	10.48%	5.86%
English	2006	18.38%	42.08%	21.88%	11.02%	6.65%
English	2007	22.58%	42.63%	20.93%	9.90%	4.54%
English	2008	14.93%	38.81%	24.58%	11.26%	7.99%
English	2009	12.50%	39.17%	25.20%	13.02%	8.21%
Math	2005	22.91%	39.76%	22.76%	9.71%	4.86%
Math	2006	20.13%	37.49%	26.00%	10.90%	5.48%
Math	2007	19.96%	37.58%	24.37%	12.49%	5.60%
Math	2008	23.52%	41.29%	23.88%	7.74%	3.56%
Math	2009	21.97%	34.66%	21.71%	9.66%	5.21%
History	2005	24.11%	42.39%	21.80%	6.48%	5.22%
History	2006	20.48%	45.29%	21.35%	7.84%	5.05%
History	2007	16.85%	40.43%	23.84%	12.05%	6.83%
History	2008	22.32%	39.47%	22.52%	7.60%	5.09%
History	2009	23.75%	39.53%	22.80%	7.33%	5.18%
Science	2005	16.27%	39.23%	27.27%	11.64%	5.58%
Science	2006	11.24%	35.68%	29.48%	14.69%	8.91%
Science	2007	14.80%	33.39%	25.62%	17.50%	8.69%
Science	2008	16.04%	35.87%	24.50%	13.80%	8.78%
Science	2009	17.04%	34.58%	24.71%	14.05%	8.55%
W.Lang	2005	28.56%	40.79%	20.22%	7.23%	3.20%
W.Lang	2006	25.85%	39.45%	22.38%	8.71%	3.61%
W.Lang	2007	27.38%	39.31%	20.26%	9.83%	3.30%
W.Lang	2008	34.78%	39.98%	15.48%	7.00%	2.68%
W.Lang	2009	27.34%	40.66%	20.76%	7.31%	3.51%

# Calendar Of Events

Listed are all school-wide calendar and home athletic events.

Remember to Check the FHS Web Site at: [www.framingham.k12.ma.us/fhs/](http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/fhs/)  
For All Other Athletic Event Days & Times Visit: [www.framinghamflyers.com](http://www.framinghamflyers.com)

## This Week:

### Monday, 1/4/10 Day 5 - BDCGF

PTBO Meeting @7:00 PM in H-100

### Tuesday, 1/5/10 Day 6 - DABEG

Dept. Heads meeting @1:00 PM (E-Period)

Boys Basketball vs. Needham

Frosh @3:45, JV @5:15, Varsity @6:45 PM

Boys Swimming vs. Needham @4:00 PM

Girls Gymnastics vs. Braintree @7:00 PM

School Committee Re-Structuring Discussion @FHS

In Back Gym @7:30 PM

### Wednesday, 1/6/10 Day 7 - CBGFE

Boys JV Hockey vs. Needham @4:15 PM

Boys Varsity Hockey vs. Needham @7:50 PM

### Thursday, 1/7/10 Day 1 - ABCDE

Principal's Meeting @10:00 AM @Juniper Hill

Re-Districting presentation @FHS @3:00 PM

Boys JV Hockey vs. Dedham @4:45 PM

School Council Meeting @7:00 PM in Library

### Friday, 1/8/10 Day 2 - CADGF

Girls Basketball vs. Dedham

Frosh @3:45, JV @5:15, Varsity @6:45 PM

Boys Swimming vs. Natick @4:00 PM

Girls Gymnastics vs. Walpole @7:00 PM

### Saturday, 1/9/10

Girls Varsity Hockey vs. Dedham @5:00 PM

Drama Company Scotland Night, 6:30 PM

@ Temple Beth-Am

## Next Week:

### Monday, 1/11/10 Day 3 - BAIEFG

Mike at NISL all day

Girls JV Hockey vs. Braintree @4:15 PM

### Tuesday, 1/12/10 Day 4 - ACDEF

Mike at NISL all day

NEML Test #4 during C-Period (9:00 AM) in cafe

Boys Basketball vs. Braintree

Frosh @3:45, JV @5:15, Varsity @6:45 PM

### Wednesday, 1/13/10 Day 5 - BDCGF

Girls JV Hockey vs. Arlington @4:15 PM

Boys Varsity Hockey vs. Braintree @8:00 PM

### Thursday, 1/14/10 Day 6 - DABEG

Boys JV Hockey vs. A-B @3:40 PM

### Friday, 1/15/10 Day 7 - CBGFE

End of Term 2; Mid-Years next week!

Boys Basketball vs. Brookline

Frosh @3:45, JV @5:15, Varsity @6:45 PM

### Saturday, 1/16/10