

*“The road to happiness lies in two simple principles: find what interests you and that you can do well, and put your whole soul into it – every bit of energy and ambition and natural ability you have...”*

**John D. Rockefeller III**



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# The Principal's Flyer

Hi All;

The leaves are beginning to change and the new Halloween costume stores that pop up every year are already doing a brisk business. Last Friday's dance at FHS went off without a hitch, and we had about 350 students who attended. Thank you's are in order for all the faculty and staff who gave up their Friday night to help manage this event so that we could have a safe place for kids to have fun. Thankfully there were no incidents and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Last week's **unexpected media spotlight** about the skirmish in the woods I reported on two weeks ago was an unwelcome addition to my week. No fewer than six different media outlets contacted FHS on Tuesday, and it must have been a very slow news day for this issue to get the attention it did. I refused to appear on camera, and despite my insistence one particularly aggressive media person showed up in the main office anyhow. Others hung around out on A-Street long enough to get some kids on camera (off school grounds and after school, since we do not permit them on campus), and they did their best to hype it up more than I think it warranted. I wish they would focus as much attention on the great things that happen here, but my sense is that those events don't generate as many viewer ratings points. Hopefully they won't have reason to push us to the lead story again anytime soon.

How many of you are aware that **President Barack Obama recently declared October 2009 as “National Information Literacy Awareness” month?** Our FHS librarian extraordinaire Ann Klein alerted me to this happening, and once I read through the accompanying text announcing this, I became more and more convinced of its importance. The passage below is an excerpt from his official proclamation, and I found it particularly relevant to be aware of how much “information overload” we (and our high school students) experience and the importance of accurately filtering what we see and hear. Here is what he said:

*“Every day, we are inundated with vast amounts of information. A 24-hour news cycle and thousands of global television and radio networks, coupled with an immense array of online resources, have challenged our long-held perceptions of information management. Rather than merely possessing data, we must also learn the skills necessary to acquire, collate, and evaluate information for any situation. This new type of literacy also requires competency with communication technologies, including computers and mobile devices that can help in our day-to-day decision-making. National Information Literacy Awareness Month highlights the need for all Americans to be adept in the skills necessary to effectively navigate the Information Age. Though we may know how to find the information we need, we must also know how to evaluate it. Over the past decade, we have seen a crisis of authenticity emerge. We now live in a world where anyone can publish an opinion or perspective, whether true or not, and have that opinion amplified within the information marketplace. At the same time, Americans have unprecedented access to the diverse and independent sources of information, as well as institutions such as libraries and universities, that can help separate truth from fiction and signal from noise.”*

Speaking of media and information literacy, did you know that we are now **streaming FHS TV's programming live on the Internet every day?** This was accomplished as of late last week, so now you can receive all the programs 24-7 without needing cable television to see it. Click on the address here to view it: [www.framingham.k12.ma.us/streaming\\_test\\_windows.cfm](http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/streaming_test_windows.cfm) It may take a little while to work out all the kinks, but I am hopeful this will allow viewers worldwide to receive info on FHS.

The FHS Photography 2 and Independent Study photography students will have a photo exhibit at the Boston Transportation Museum as part of a larger exhibit with the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards. The work will be up for one month from Oct 15-Nov 15. Please take in their work if you are in the neighborhood!

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual FHS Holiday Marketplace will be taking place the Saturday after Thanksgiving break (Saturday, December 5),** and the leaders of this effort are eager for more parents or teachers to become involved. This event is a fundraiser for the Parent Athletic Council (which helps support all FHS athletic teams) and it brings together artisans and others interested in providing goods and services to the community. If you are available to help or otherwise interested, there will be an **informational meeting @7:00 PM on Tuesday, 10-6-09 in the FHS library.** All are welcome to come help!

Many of you likely saw the advanced publicity in the Framingham TAB for the upcoming FHS faculty production of *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. If you missed it, you can see it by clicking here: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/framingham/fun/entertainment/arts/x576535510/Not-doing-it-just-for-peanuts> The production will go up on Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17 at 7:00 PM each night. I am pretty sure tickets will go quickly so if you would like to make sure you don't miss out, please go to [www.ticketstage.com](http://www.ticketstage.com) You can order them directly there.

**This Thursday will be the first monthly meeting of the FHS School Site Council.** The Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993 mandates school site councils, and they are charged with reviewing the annual school budget and student handbook and acting as an advisory body to the principal in every Massachusetts public school. We have a pretty active bunch, and teacher representatives are in place from every department in the school. We are always looking for additional parents willing to participate, so if you are eager to learn more in-depth information about FHS please feel free to join us this Thursday evening, October, 8 at 7:00 PM in the FHS Library classroom. We usually meet the first Thursday night of each month and almost always finish by 8:30 PM, so please attend if you are interested.

**The FHS PTBO will be hosting Superintendent Steven Hiersche and Assistant Superintendent Christine Tyrie tonight at its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM in room H-100.** I would really like to see a good crowd of parents as this will send a clear message to our new leaders. Please call another parent or two and come together. Bring your questions and plan on coming to the "cookies and conversation" reception beginning at 6:30 PM. Also, please be aware that Karin from TD Bank will be present at the meeting to assist with parents who wish to link their TD Bank accounts through the affinity program. The school gets a kickback from every account linked to FHS, and this is free money for us! Thanks for your presence and support.

**Remember that progress reports will be distributed this Friday,** so please make sure you input your comments by the deadlines listed in the calendar below. We are likely to have some issues getting the computer gremlins in order, as this is our first attempt at progress reports this year. If all goes well, they will be printed and placed in homeroom teachers' mailboxes on Thursday for personal distribution in homeroom on Friday. Then, barring problems, we'll attempt to e-mail them home on Friday afternoon. Wish us luck!

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

# Statistic Of Week

## **Overall Massachusetts 2009 Grade 10 MCAS Statistics: (percentage in each category except students included)**

	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Failing	Students Included
GRADE 10 - ENGLISH LANG ARTS	29	52	15	4	70,383
GRADE 10 - MATHEMATICS	47	28	18	8	70,194
GRADE 10 - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	16	45	29	9	68,034

## **Framingham High School 2009 Grade 10 MCAS Statistics: (percentage in each category except students included)**

	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Failing	Students Included
GRADE 10 - ENGLISH LANG ARTS	27	55	15	3	478
GRADE 10 - MATHEMATICS	57	26	12	4	474
GRADE 10 - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	26	51	21	3	440

# 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, 10/5/09 Day 1 - ABCDE

New Teacher Meeting @2:15 PM in room E-202  
PTBO Meeting @7:00 PM with Supt. Hiersche and  
Assistant Superintendent Christine Tyrie in H-100  
Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Brockton @4:00 PM

### Tuesday, 10/6/09 Day 2 - CADGF

Deadline to input progress report comments = 2:00PM  
Verifications on e-mail by 4:00 PM  
TEC College Fair at Waltham HS @7:00 PM  
Girls Frosh Soccer vs. Newton North @3:45 PM  
Girls Frosh & JV Volleyball vs. Milton @4:00 PM  
Cross Country vs. Brookline @4:00 PM  
Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Milton @5:00 PM

### Wednesday, 10/7/09 - NO SCHOOL

Professional Development for all staff  
Superintendent's Address to FHS Faculty  
Begins at 10:00 AM  
Girls Varsity & JV Soccer vs. Milton @3:45 PM  
Varsity Field Hockey vs. Milton @3:45 PM  
JV Field Hockey vs. Milton @5:00 PM

### Thursday, 10/8/09 Day 3 - BAEFG

Deadline for progress report changes = 8:00 AM  
Department Heads meeting @1:00 PM  
Progress reports in HR mailboxes by 3:30 PM  
Girls Frosh Soccer vs. Milton @3:45 PM  
Girls Frosh & JV Volleyball vs. Weymouth @4:00PM  
Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Weymouth @5:00 PM  
School Council Meeting @7:00 PM in Lib. Classrm.  
College Admissions Panel Discussion @7:00 in aud.

### Friday, 10/9/09 Day 4 - ACDEF

Progress Reports distributed in HR  
E-mailed home before 3:30 PM  
Girls Varsity & JV Soccer vs. Weymouth @3:45 PM  
Varsity Football vs. Dedham @7:00 PM

### Saturday, 10/10/09

SAT's at FHS  
JV Football vs. Dedham @10:00 AM

## Next Week:

### Monday, 10/12/09 NO SCHOOL

Columbus Day

### Tuesday, 10/13/09 Day 5 - BDCGF

Frosh Field Hockey vs. Norwood @3:45 PM  
Boys Var & JV Soccer vs. Norwood @3:45 PM  
Girls Swimming vs. Walpole @4:00 PM  
Golf vs. Walpole @4:00 PM

### Wednesday, 10/14/09 - Day 6 - E & G

Future's Day  
Seniors at College Fair in Cafeteria  
Sophs & Juniors taking PSAT's in homerooms  
Freshmen in future planning activities  
Frosh elections speeches during Futures Day also  
Girls Frosh Soccer vs. Weymouth @3:45 PM

### Thursday, 10/15/09 Day 7 - CBGFE

Principals Meeting @Barbieri @3:00 PM  
Girls Var & JV Soccer vs. Needham @3:45 PM  
Varsity Field Hockey vs. Needham @3:45 PM  
JV Field Hockey vs. Needham @5:00 PM

### Friday, 10/16/09 Day 1 - ABCDE

Frosh Elections voting @all four lunches  
Girls Frosh & JV Volleyball vs. Needham @4:00 PM  
Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Needham @5:00 PM  
Varsity Football vs. Braintree @7:00 PM  
Faculty Production of *Charlie Brown* @7:00 PM

### Saturday, 10/17/09

Faculty Production of *Charlie Brown* @7:00 PM