

“Who is the happiest of men? He who values the merits of others, and in their pleasure takes joy, even as though it were his own...”

Johann von Goethe



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The Principal's Flyer

Hi All;

Congratulations on making it through our first full five-day week! Having a full week capped off by Open House night on Thursday made for a long week, but I was buoyed by the enthusiastic reports from the many parents who attended Open House. So many of you were mentioned specifically by name it was very gratifying to hear. I know that it is a long night, but it means a tremendous amount to the community and all of you made a great impression. Great job!

Tonight is the first PTBO meeting of the year, and I'd like to personally encourage all parents (and particularly all the parents of ninth graders) to attend and get involved. The group meets in room H-100 (in between the cafeteria and the auditorium), and each meeting begins with “cookies and conversation” at about 6:30 PM. At 7:00 PM the monthly guest speaker begins a talk about their area of expertise, and these tend to be VERY informative. I usually give an overview of issues prevalent around the school, and answer any questions from the audience. There is always a “business” part to the meeting also, and in general this is a great group of parents who run our Booster Room (to raise funds) and decide how to distribute these funds to school-day programs to benefit the most students possible. The slate of speakers is listed on the website, and Frank Rothwell (grade 9 Vice-Principal) is the highlight of tonight's meeting, so it is particularly important for parents of 9th graders. If you have not visited already, the website is available from the FHS site or by clicking directly here: http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/fhs_ptbo.cfm. Clicking on this site will allow you to view the upcoming speakers, and to join the organization using a credit card (\$10 dues) using a PayPal account. Thanks in advance for your time, attention, and attendance!

Now is the time that many seniors begin to think about their plans after high school, and FHS has planned a number of events to assist with this process. On Wednesday, October 14 FHS will host its third annual “Futures Day”. On this day from 7:30 AM – 11:00 AM, all students will take time to plan for their futures after high school by participating in activities appropriate to their grade level. Seniors will participate in a college fair in the cafeteria that will have over 40 different colleges and universities as well as “gap year” programs, SAT Prep programs, and financial aide representatives on hand for personal discussions. At the same time, all sophomores and juniors will take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) in their homerooms. This test costs \$15 (payable through your child's guidance office) and the fee is waived for children who receive free or reduced lunch. Other information about the test and some FAQ's are included in an attachment included for parents. Freshmen will be doing some activities in homerooms and the auditorium that focus their attention on long-range planning for their futures.

In addition to these events, FHS also schedules small group discussions for seniors with their guidance counselors beginning this week. These discussions will take place over the next six weeks and are scheduled via guidance passes obtained in homeroom. We also encourage parents to attend the annual **Education Collaborative Regional College Fair scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at Waltham High School** from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Over 150 schools are usually present, as this is a large regional fair sponsored by

T.E.C. (The Education Collaborative). For a list of schools likely to be present at this event, go to www.tec-coop.org

Finally, FHS will host a panel discussion regarding college admissions with admissions officers from local colleges and universities present on **Thursday, October 8 from 7:00 – 9:00 PM.** Our own guidance staff will also be present to answer questions. This usually proves to be a very informative event, so mark your calendars now so you are able to attend.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday this week, non-seniors **will be having their individual pictures taken during one of their English classes.** Picture forms were hopefully available during Open House night, but if parents missed them we will work on having them available on-line also. A schedule will be used to minimize out of class time and pictures are usually taken in the cafeteria. Those who are absent usually are able to have their pictures done during their lunch on Thursday. Thank you to our English teachers for their help in accomplishing this task and keeping our yearbook current.

The FPS Transportation Office has informed me that bus passes will be mailed the week of Oct. 5th. **Students without passes will not be permitted to ride the bus beginning the week of Oct 12th.** If you have not filled out a bus application or applied for a waiver (for those that qualify for free or reduced lunch) please DO IT TODAY. Bus pass forms and free and reduced lunch forms are available on line on the FPS website by clicking here: <http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/>. If you have questions you may contact the transportation office at 508-626-9179. Thanks for your help as we sort all this out.

If any of you are producers of wares appropriate for craft fairs or other sales, the **FHS Parent Athletic Council is currently seeking vendors for their second annual Holiday Marketplace at FHS on Saturday, December 5, 2009.** Last year there were over 100 different vendors providing a huge variety of gifts appropriate for the holiday season, and there were some pretty good crowds on hand to purchase their merchandise. If you or anyone you know is interested in participating by selling things through the use of a booth at the Marketplace, please Contact Faith Guarino via e-mail at havefaith23@rcn.com. I expect our available capacity for vendors will be exceeded this year, so please make sure to get in touch as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

Over the past two weeks our administrative folks have been pretty busy with a number of incidents involving students caught under the influence of and in some cases, in possession of marijuana. Most of these cases have involved students in 9th grade, and all of them have been boys. All those in possession are facing expulsion proceedings, but recent changes in state law prevent them from being arrested or even summonsed into court. The only sanction in cases involving less than an ounce (28 grams) of marijuana is a citation and a \$100 fine. I sense that this change in the law has sent a very poor message to high school students (particularly 9th graders), and I am disappointed in the outcome of this legislative change.

In addition, there was an after-school altercation (fight) in the woods behind the school last Monday involving two 10th graders that was clearly pre-planned and well known enough to draw a crowd of perhaps 40 classmates or so. As usual, cell phones and text messages got the word out during the day far faster than any word of mouth could, and the two combatants willingly and equally participated. Worse yet, at least two of the students used their phones to videotape the fight, and those videotapes showed up on Facebook the next day. This is another example of the problems created by this technology, and while the two combatants are both facing criminal charges, the videographers likely cannot. I have advised students that they are not to congregate in the woods behind the school at any time, though it is certainly fine for them to use this passage on the way to and from school. Those found congregating back there will be subject to disciplinary action. Thank you for your help in reinforcing this message!

Remember to scroll down for the weekly calendar!

Statistic Of Week

Open House Attendance Based Upon Attendance In C-Period Classes (91% of classes reported):

	<u>#</u>	<u># Students</u>	<u>Total #</u>	<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
	<u>Sections</u>	<u>w/parent</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>% Of</u>	<u>% Of</u>
		<u>Attending</u>	<u>Enrolled</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Students</u>
				<u>w/parent</u>	<u>w/parent</u>
				<u>Attending</u>	<u>Attending</u>
AP	10	120	186	64.52%	71.58%
Honors	16	220	384	57.29%	59.79%
CP1	38	290	783	37.04%	35.34%
CP2	15	50	206	24.27%	16.82%
Unweighted	18	140	352	39.77%	35.19%
Totals	97	820	1911	42.91%	43.78%

* Note : Many students had more than one parent attending

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/
For All Other Athletic Event Days & Times Visit: www.framinghamflyers.com

This Week:

Monday, 9/21/09 Day 6 - DABEG

Frosh Field Hockey vs. Needham @3:45 PM
Boys Var & JV Soccer vs. Needham @3:45 PM
PTBO Meeting; Cookies & Conversation @6:30 PM
Meeting Begins at 7:00 PM – All Welcome!
Frank Rothwell – Grade 9 VP = Guest Speaker

Tuesday, 9/22/09 Day 7 - CBGFE

Underclass Yearbook Photos during English Classes
Boys Frosh Soccer vs. Needham @3:45 PM
Girls Swimming vs. Weymouth @4:00 PM

Wednesday, 9/23/09 Day 1 - ABCDE

Add/Drop deadline for full year courses
Underclass Yearbook Photos during English Classes
Athletics Captains Picture @2:15 PM
Girls Varsity Field Hockey vs. Dedham @3:45 PM
Girls Var & JV Soccer vs. Dedham @3:45 PM
Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Dedham @4:00 PM
Girls JV Field Hockey vs. Dedham @5:00 PM
Girls JV Volleyball vs. Dedham @5:15 PM
Step Up Dinner @ Bella Costa @6:00 PM

Thursday, 9/24/09 Day 2 - CADGF

Underclass Yearbook Photos during English Classes

Friday, 9/25/09 Day 3 - BAEFG

Boys Var & JV Soccer vs. Braintree @3:45 PM
Varsity Football vs. Wellesley @7:00 PM

Saturday, 9/26/09

Boys JV Football vs. Wellesley @10:00 AM

Next Week:

Monday, 9/28/09 NO SCHOOL – YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, 9/29/09 Day 4 - ACDEF

Faculty Meeting on Supervision @2:15 PM
Girls Varsity Field Hockey vs. Brookline @3:45 PM
Girls Var & JV Soccer vs. Brookline @3:45 PM
Girls Swimming vs. Needham @4:00 PM
Girls JV Field Hockey vs. Brookline @5:00 PM

Wednesday, 9/30/09 Day 5 - BDCGF

New Registrations Review meeting @12:00 PM
Cross Country vs. Wellesley & Weymouth @3:45 PM
Boys Frosh Soccer vs. Braintree @3:45 PM
Girls JV Volleyball vs. Brookline @4:00 PM
Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Brookline @5:00 PM

Thursday, 10/1/09 Day 6 - DABEG

Principals Meeting @10:00 AM
Girls Var & JV Soccer vs. Newton North @3:45 PM
Varsity Field Hockey vs. Newton North @3:45 PM
Girls JV Field Hockey vs. Newton North @5:15 PM

Friday, 10/2/09 Day 7 - CBGFE

Frosh Elections Packets available for pick-up
Boys Frosh Football vs. Weymouth @3:45 PM
Girls Frosh Soccer vs. Brookline @3:45 PM
Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Newton North @4:00 PM
Girls JV Volleyball vs. Newton North @4:00 PM
Girls Frosh Volleyball vs. Newton North @5:15 PM
Seniors Welcome Freshmen Dance @FHS

Saturday, 10/3/09

Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Natick @6:00 PM
Boys Varsity Soccer vs. Natick @8:00 PM