Principal’s Update

A public high school is a microcosm of society, and, like the rest of the nation, the last week at Framingham High School was dominated by the results of the Presidential election and the subsequent processing of those results. Our students and staff, like the rest of the country, have strong opinions and strong emotions when it comes to how our country should best move forward. This was obviously a controversial and, at times, divisive election cycle. One of the troubling trends that seems to have sprouted up around the election has been a proliferation of hate speech in certain pockets of our country. I want to make it clear that hate speech has no place at Framingham High School and will not be tolerated. I would appreciate the support of our families at home in reinforcing this message with your children.

One silver lining in such a controversial election cycle has been watching the civic engagement of our young people. Regardless of one’s individual political leanings, we all know that one of our most important jobs as citizens is to educate ourselves regarding socio-political issues and to use that education to make sound, informed voting decisions. This educational process is the bedrock of our democracy; the right to vote is what provides the populace with the opportunity to make our government for the people and by the people. Political apathy is the enemy of democracy. However this election is ultimately viewed by history, my hope is that it helps to motivate and inspire our young people to be active, educated, and engaged citizens of our country throughout their adult lives. As parents and educators, I know that we will continue to provide safe
places for our young people to pursue their education, and that we will continue to model open and respectful civic discourse. We will celebrate and learn from our differences, and we will rededicate ourselves to our shared community value of treating all human beings with respect.

Students received term one report cards in homeroom on Friday November 4th. Report cards are a natural time to check in with your child about his/her grades and come up with a plan to be as successful as possible moving forward in term two. Please also note your child’s total absences so far for the year and keep in mind our attendance policies: 10 absences in a semester course or 20 absences in a year-long course lead to automatic half-credit. It is important to be pro-active with attendance early in the year so that it does not become a larger issue down the line. When we study our school data, low attendance rates unsurprisingly have an extremely high correlation with academic struggles, loss of credit, and ultimately retention. Anything that you can do at home to support strong, consistent school attendance is vital to the success of our students. Report cards also reset our academic eligibility lists. Please keep in mind that students must maintain a 70% cumulative average amongst all of their classes in order to be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities such as athletics, drama, clubs, etc. The same baseline is necessary in order to take advantage of senior privileges and parking opportunities.

The fall sports season is coming to a close in the upcoming weeks, and the winter season is right around the corner. The registration deadline for winter sports is Sunday November 13th. Families must register online at www.flyerathletics.com by the 13th and have a current physical (from within the past year) on file with the school in order to be eligible to try out for a sport. There is no fee during the registration process; user fees and waivers are not collected until after the team selection process is completed.
6th Annual Soldier Cookie Project
The Family and Consumer Science department with the support of the PTO is working on the 6th Annual Soldier Cookie Project. Each year they send boxes of cookies around the world to FHS alumni and friends and family of staff and students deployed during the holidays. Last year, they sent 22 boxes to 17 countries. They need your help in gathering names and addresses of active service men and women away from home during the holidays. Please send names and addresses to Lisa Barnes at lbarnes@framingham.k12.ma.us. Thank you!

Opportunity to Improve
The Opportunity to Improve after-school program has started again. This program runs after-school in the Academic Development Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Framingham Holiday Marketplace
Shop at the Holiday Marketplace and support the Framingham High School Foundation! Bring your shopping lists and join us at the Framingham High School Holiday Marketplace on Saturday, December 3 from 10am - 4pm in the gym. We will have close to 75 vendors selling items that are perfect for your holiday gift-giving!

The Marketplace is a fundraiser for the Framingham High School Foundation, which financially supplements the extra-curricular activities of our students. If you would like to donate your time and talent at the Holiday Marketplace, please visit our Sign Up Genius for volunteer opportunities:
http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054ea4ab2da75-volunteer
Check out the FHS Holiday Marketplace Facebook page for updated vendor lists and information.

Framingham High School Foundation
The Framingham High School Foundation has once again been chosen as one of the six organizations to participate in the Team Framingham fundraising for the 2017 Boston Marathon. Thanks to Framingham Police Chief Kenneth Ferguson for choosing us. The Town of Framingham will receive 22 invitational entries from the BAA for the 2017 Boston Marathon.

The runners selected at random will be expected to raise a minimum of $1,500 for one of these six organizations, with a fundraising target of $3,000. Runners will choose the charity they wish to run for. If you want to run in the Boston Marathon, please get your application submitted and choose FHSF as your charity.

Applications for runners interested in participating in the random selection for these invitational entries are now available on the Town of Framingham web-site for downloading or at the Board of Selectmen Office in the Memorial Building. The application
The College and Career Center

We are pleased to announce that the College and Career Center will be offering extended hours twice a month on Wednesday evenings, from 5:00 - 7:00pm. These hours will begin the first week of October.

Students and families may make appointments for one-on-one college and career counseling meetings. Please visit Ms. Kira Wong’s calendar at kwong.youcanbook.me to make an appointment. Moving forward, we will be offering some informational workshops in addition to having the availability for some individual meetings. We hope many of you can take advantage of the extra hours.

Internship Opportunity

Matt Osber, a software engineer and former FHS parent, will be hosting an after-school internship program on Thursdays for students interested in working on the website, My Moral Compass. The site’s URL is http://my-moral-compass.com. FHS students will have the opportunity to work on website content, technology, and social media. See Mr. Koshero in the Career Center or contact mattosber@gmail.com for more information.

The Drama Company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

What is Urinetown?! Tickets are on sale now.

Tickets for the Framingham High School fall musical are now on sale. This year, the state champion Drama Company will be performing the hilariously witty musical, Urinetown. The show features over 45 cast members and over 40 crew members and a full orchestra of student musicians.

Performances are: Thursday, November 17th at 7:30pm, Friday, November 18th at 7:30pm, and Saturday, November 19th at 7:30pm. Please don't miss out on this show- tickets are selling quickly.

If you are interested in attending a dress rehearsal of the show to do a story or take photographs, please let us know.

Contacts:
Chris Brindley, Director/Producer: cbrindley@framingham.k12.ma.us
Donna Wresinski, Director, Producer: dwresinski@framingham.k12.ma.us

About the show:

FHS Drama Company presents...
URINETOWN: The Musical
Music by Mark Hollmann
Lyrics by Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis
Book by Greg Kotis
Produced through special arrangements with Music Theatre International.
Direction and Musical Staging by Chris Brindley and Donna Wresinski
Music Direction by Dan Moore
With Choreography by Kira Cowan

November 17, 18, 19 - 7:30pm - FHS Theatre
Tickets:
$15- Online
$17- At the Door
$5 FHS Student Ticket on Thursday Night (Purchased in Cafeteria in Advance)
Tickets are on sale now at www.showtix4u.com

Winner of three Tony Awards, three Outer Critics Circle Awards, two Lucille Lortel Awards and two Obie Awards, Urinetown is an hilarious musical satire of the legal system, capitalism, social irresponsibility, populism, bureaucracy, corporate mismanagement, municipal politics and musical theatre itself! Hilariously funny and touchingly honest, Urinetown provides a fresh perspective on one of America's greatest art forms.

In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides that he's had enough and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom!

Inspired by the works of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, Urinetown is an irreverently humorous satire in which no one is safe from scrutiny. Praised for reinvigorating the very notion of what a musical could be, Urinetown catapults the "comedic romp" into the new millennium with its outrageous perspective, wickedly modern wit and sustained ability to produce gales of unbridled laughter. Produced through special arrangements with Music Theatre International.

The Framingham Public Library
Teen Tuesdays: Mixed Up toys
Event for grades 6-12. Mix and match toy parts to make your own creepy/funny creation (Think Sid from Toy Story).
3:30-5:00 PM on Tuesday, November 15th @ Main Library - Costin Room

Library Mini Golf
Event for Grades 6-12. Build your own course, and then play it with your friends after the library has closed!
6:00-9:00 PM on Friday, November 18th @ McAuliffe Branch Library

Thinking Money is a museum-quality traveling exhibition that is traveling to 50 U.S. public libraries between 2016 and 2018. It is aimed at middle/high schoolers and their parents, as well as at caregivers and educators. Framingham Public Library will be hosting it from December 13, 2016 through January 18, 2017. Through an adventure-themed storyline, interactive iPad content and other fun, hands-on activities, the exhibition explores the following themes:

- Wants vs. needs
- Earning and paying interest
- Preparing for rainy/sunny day
- Imagining your future self
Calendar of Events

Monday, November 14th - Day 6: DABEG
2:15-3:15 PM Extended Day for Teachers

Tuesday, November 15th - Day 7: CBGFE
3:45 PM Varsity Girls Swimming vs. Dedham @Dedham

Wednesday, November 16th - Day 1: ABCDE
AM Collaboration - Teacher Appreciation - Homeroom begins at 8:05 AM

Thursday, November 17th - Day 2: CADGF

Friday, November 18th - Day 3: BAEFG

Monday, November 21st - Day 4: ACDEF
6:00 PM Mazie Mentor Goal Awards Night - FHS Auditorium

Tuesday, November 22nd - Day 5: BDCGF

Wednesday, November 23rd - Day 6: DE
10:00 AM Pep rally

Thursday, November 24th - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING

Friday, November 25th - NO SCHOOL