

TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Troy Walton, Superintendent Trish Birmingham, Board Secretary/SBA

December 2022

Dear Township of Franklin Public Schools Community,

As difficult as it is to believe, the winter recess is upon us. It is our hope that everyone finds the time to relax and visit with family members. We can't express enough our appreciation for your patience, efforts, and resiliency that helped make the first trimester a successful one. Please review the community update items below and as always let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

DISTRICT SCHEDULE FOR THE WINTER RECESS

A friendly reminder that the district will be closed for students between December 24th and January 1st in observance of the winter recess.

Friday, December 23 rd	Single session day for all students/staff
Monday, December 26 th through January 1 st	· ·
Monday, January 2 nd	District reopens for students/staff

<u>TEACHERS OF THE YEAR-</u> The 2022-2023 Teachers of the Year were announced. The Teachers of the Year will be recognized at the February Board of Education meeting. Please join me in congratulating the following......

Mary F. Janvier School-Mrs. Louise Taberne
Main Road School-Mrs. Paula Venade
Caroline L. Reutter School-Mrs. Beth Aylmer
Educational Services Professional-Ms. Lisa Bakota

END OF 1st TRIMESTER/REPORT CARDS

The first Trimester has officially ended. All of the first Trimester grades are posted and available for parents/guardians to view via the Realtime Parent portal. A link to access the Realtime Parent Portal is available on the district website under the parents/students tab. A hard copy of your child's report card is available upon request.

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

We are excited to announce that beginning after the winter recess, our district will have an additional school resource officer. Please join me in welcoming **Mr. Brian Farrell** to the Township of Franklin Public School district. With the addition of SRO Farrell, our district will now have two full time school resource officers. Thank you to the Board of Education and the Franklin Township Police Department for working together for the safty of our students.

NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE TACTICAL TRAINING

As an FYI for the community, the New Jersey State Police will be using the old Lake Road School to conduct tactical trainings during the month of January. Please do not be alarmed if you see emergency equipment and/or state police members in full gear around the Lake Road school facility. This is just a training exercise.

VISION 2026-STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES

In April 2022, the Township of Franklin Board of Education approved the <u>Vision 2026 Strategic Plan</u>. As you will see, the plan consists of five goal areas with specific targeted goals within each goal area. District officials began working with stakeholders toward the achievement of the outlined goals. In efforts to provide the community with progress updates, we have created a <u>strategic plan webpage</u> that includes the plan in its entirety and links to the action plans and progress updates as they are presented to the Board of Education. As always, please let us know if you have any questions regarding the strategic plan.

NEW MISSION/VISION STATEMENTS

As a part of the Vision 2026 strategic planning process, the district has adopted a revised mission statement and developed a vision statement. The new mission and vision statements were developed through a collaborative process and finalized by the strategic planning advisory committee. The new mission and vision statements are listed below and will serve as the driving force of the efforts of the district moving forward.

Mission Statement

In partnership with students, families and the community, the mission of the Township of Franklin Public Schools is to foster the unique potential of each individual student by providing an inclusive, safe and supportive learning environment.

Vision Statement

To be a child centered community that empowers students and equips them with the academic, social & emotional foundation needed to become responsible citizens and lifelong learners.

COVID-19 DISTRICT UPDATE

As you are aware, the district is no longer posting daily COVID case information via the COVID Tracker. However, periodic updates are provided via the building principals' updates and the district community update. As of the date of this update, the Township of Franklin Public School District has experienced a total of <u>73</u> positive COVID-19 cases since September 1, 2022.

KEEPING CHILDREN HOME WHEN SICK

As you are well aware, the flu is running rampid so parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of illness every day as you are the front line for assessing illness in children.

Parents/caregivers are asked not to send their child to school if they present the following symptoms.

-Fever of 100.4°F or higher -Muscle pain or body aches -Diarrhea -Congestion or runny nose

-New or worsening cough -Headache -Nausea or vomiting -Sore throat

-Difficulty breathing -Loss of taste or smell -Fatigue -Chills

COVID COMMUNICATION

As we move into the winter months, it is very important for parents to communicate with the school nurse in the unfortunate case that your child tests positive for COVID-19. All school districts in New Jersey are still required to report student/staff cases of COVID. The school nurses' email addresses are listed below. We thank you for your continued cooperation.

<u>Caroline L. Reutter Nurse</u>- Mrs. Orysia Zorzi at <u>ozorzi@franklintwpschools.org</u>
<u>Main Road Nurse</u>- Mrs. Lorraine Kiger at <u>lkiger@franklintwpschools.org</u>
<u>Mary F. Janvier Nurse</u>- Mrs. Jessica Swanfeld at <u>jswanfeld@franklintwpschools.org</u>

Please be assured that our school district is here to support our students and the school community. It is our hope that everyone has a wonderful winter recess. As always, please let us know how we can be of any assistance. Happy Holidays!

Yours in education,

Log Walton

Mr. Troy Walton

Superintendent of Schools