

FCS NEWSLETTER



FRANKLIN CENTRAL SCHOOL, FRANKLIN, NY
WWW.FRANKLINCSD.ORG

OCTOBER 2016
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Franklin School Community,

I hope everyone had a great summer spending time with family and friends. I wanted to take a brief moment to thank our entire school community for a great beginning of the school year. The positive opening of school is a reminder that we have outstanding students, faculty/staff, and families in our district. This is a great place for our young people to get an education and we appreciate your contributions.

As you might know, each summer our LINKS team meets for three days to use district data to identify focus areas for the upcoming year. This is a group consisting of both administrators and teachers from Franklin, who work together to create a thoughtful plan. Our larger goal is to increase student achievement through enhanced instructional practices. More specific focus areas for this year include the following:

- Increase the use of instructional technology in the classroom through providing applications, tools, and training;
- Develop family collaboration strategies for improvement in attendance by identifying trends in our current data;
- Clarify parameters, expectations, and guidelines for Academic Intervention Services (AIS) at the classroom level; and
- Identify strengths and weaknesses in our math instruction and develop an essential learning map at each grade level K-6.

We are excited about the opportunity to move forward and improve in these areas as a team. Additionally, we are continuing the Franklin tradition of building working relationships and maintaining positive attitudes that result in a feeling of trust. It is from an atmosphere of trust that we can facilitate open and honest dialogue among all stakeholders to establish greater understanding and connection. It is equally important to promote such relationships with students, staff, parents, administrators, and the community at large. The end product is a district that rallies around our common mission and goals knowing that individuals have a voice and input is welcomed during the process of improving our schools. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions, concerns, or ideas at any time throughout the year.

Respectfully,
Brad Zilliox, Superintendent

KICKS FOR CANCER



The boys' and girls' soccer teams continue to support the fight against cancer with their *Kicks for Cancer* games. This year marks the 5th year for *Kicks for Cancer* where both teams wear pink to show their support.

All proceeds from the concession and donations from the boys' game on September 30 and the girls' game on October 4 went to the Kay Yow Fund.

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION



The Veterans Day Celebration will be held on Thursday, November 10 with Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and Program at 8:30 a.m.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Community Members,

We are off to another great start at Franklin Central School! Thank you to all who attended Open House on September 15. We are very proud of our school and this was a great opportunity to show you our classrooms and talk about our curriculum for the year. As always, please contact your child's teacher for additional information whenever you have questions about your student's progress, subject matters—anything! If you have not signed up for a parent/guardian—teacher conference for November 18, there is still time to do so. I also encourage you to visit our school website and teacher webpages. Our goal is to provide opportunities for you to learn more about Franklin Central School, our programs, courses, personnel and the many activities and events that occur throughout the year.

Our Morning Program continues to provide an excellent start for Pre-K through Second Grade students on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We ask all visitors to Morning Program sign in at the Business Office upon arrival and sign out upon departure. Thank you for the help and cooperation!

It is hard to believe it is October already. Reminders for Halloween—please no costumes with full masks. These often impede visibility. Also, no weapons of any kind, real or imitation, are permitted.

As the weather grows colder, I remind you to please send a sweater or light jacket with your child. Layering clothing is helpful in a changing climate. Additionally, we will continue outdoor recess for elementary students provided the temperature is at least 20° F. Please be sure to have mittens, hats, scarves, snow pants and boots on hand and label everything.

Please remember if there is anything I can assist with don't hesitate to ask! I am only a phone call or email away.

Enjoy the beautiful colors of autumn.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Julie Bergman, Principal

BUILDING CONDITION SURVEY AND POTENTIAL CAPITAL PROJECT

The New York State Department of Education (NYSED) requires School Districts to complete a Building Condition Survey (BCS) every five years to assess the condition of District facilities and identify areas where improvements are needed. The most recent BCS was completed by the District's architects in the spring of 2016 and a list of recommendations was presented to Board of Education. Major areas identified as needing improvement included:

- Renovation of bathrooms and locker rooms;
- Window and roof replacement;
- Updating the District's electrical and technology infrastructure;
- Updating the phone and security systems;
- Replacement of existing flooring, ceiling tiles, corridor walls and light fixtures;
- Asbestos abatement;
- Park lot resurfacing; and
- Replacement of the bus lift at the bus garage.

NYSED provides a separate funding source in the form of building aid to district's to help maintain school facilities. Our District currently has a building aid ratio of 81%, meaning that we get back \$0.81 of every \$1.00 spent to upgrade and/or maintain existing facilities.

Over the next several months, the Board of Education will be exploring the possibility of proposing a capital project referendum in early 2017 to address many of the items identified in the BCS. Safety, security, energy, and long term maintenance are top priorities. It is anticipated that the project work will be completed in stages over the next three to five years. It is the Board's goal to put together a recommendation that will have limited or no additional tax impact to the community by utilizing building aid and the district's current capital reserve funds.

It is extremely important that we protect our community's investment and keep our School District in top condition for our students and community. Some of the infrastructure components of our building have reached the end of their useful life and other components are showing signs of deterioration and need to be replaced. The first presentation for the proposed project will occur at the November 10, Board of Education meeting, scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. Community input is welcomed and appreciated.

Look for these shelf tags when you shop at your local Hannaford between August 26 and December 3, 2016 to find participating products that earn school dollars!

It all starts with your next shopping trip!
helps Schools

Raising money for your school is as easy as 1 2 3 and A B C.

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ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS
ALL DISMISSAL CHANGES MUST BE IN TO THE SCHOOL NURSE BY 1:45 P.M. TO ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE RIDE HOME.

GARDEN COMING TO FRANKLIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

The fifth and sixth graders, with help from the Franklin Garden Club, Mr. Hyzer and Mrs. Terry, will be starting a raised garden this fall. On October 2, members of the Franklin Garden Club, with help from Mr. Hyzer, constructed two raised beds outside the south side of the school.

The sixth grade class is researching what type of soil or combination of soil should be used in these beds. Once a decision is reached, the sixth graders will help to fill the two raised beds. Also in the planning phase to go with the garden is a composting area.

In the spring, 5th and 6th graders will decide on what type of vegetable plants to grow in the garden. Students will then plant seeds and tend to the seedlings until the weather allows the seedlings to be planted. 5th and 6th graders will also set up controlled experiments dealing with the plants and type of soil.

During the summer, it is hoped that many will stop by to assist in tending to the garden. We are hoping that vegetables from the garden can be sold at the Farmer's market during the summer.

Once school resumes next September, the students will be working with Mrs. Terry to utilize some of the produce in the school cafeteria. If there is anyone in the community who would like to help out in any way, please contact Mrs. Patrick at the school.

SUBSTITUTES NEEDED!

Are you looking for a part-time job that allows you to have a similar schedule as your children? Are you looking for a way to supplement your income? Are you an empty nester, grandparent, or retiree who misses daily contact with children? If so, we have the perfect job for you, Franklin Central School is looking for substitutes in all areas:

- Teaching Substitutes
- Non-teaching Substitutes (Aides & Monitors)
- Cafeteria Staff
- Maintenance Staff
- Bus Drivers

We provide on the job training, and will help interested candidates obtain the necessary licenses and endorsements to become a bus driver. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and able to pass a background check. Bus drivers must also pass a drug test and annual physical. Applications are available on the District website or can be obtained by calling 829-3551.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

TIPS FOR RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS:

- Have papers stored in a backpack or book bag so the papers cannot fly around the bus or cause a hazard on the floor. Keep belongings out of the aisle.
- Check clothing to avoid long drawstrings or other dangling items that could be a safety hazard if caught in bus doors or snagged.
- Arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive each day. Children should be waiting for the bus as the bus can't wait for them. This helps assure orderly boarding and an on-time schedule.
- Children should board the bus in single file and away from the roadway. Behavior problems at the bus stop can create a hazardous situation for all students, so please remind children to be respectful and orderly when boarding the bus.
- Children must wait for the driver's hand signal to cross the road before boarding the bus.
- Children should sit quietly in their assigned seats. Distractions on the bus could cause an accident.
- Cameras are used on buses to ensure the safety of the children and the driver.
- Students who have a change in transportation plans need a note for the driver and for the main office, if they are elementary students. Please include your child's name, teacher, and bus number with clear instructions on the stop where they need to get off, and with whom.
- Riding a bus is a privilege that can be revoked because of misconduct. Parents/guardians may be held responsible for restitution for school property willfully damaged by their child. If you have any questions or problems, please call the transportation supervisor at 607-829-3366.



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School Name: [Franklin Central School](#)
School Code: 17033

NEW FACES AT FRANKLIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

**CATHERINE HUBER—PRE-KINDERGARTEN/
AIS TEACHER**



I'm Catherine Huber and I am beyond thrilled to be working in such a wonderful district as the new Pre-kindergarten and AIS teacher. Teaching and helping my students learn and grow has been a passion of mine for as long as I can remember. I look forward to the upcoming school year and all of excitement this year will bring! I am professionally certified in Early Childhood Birth-2nd grade and earned my BA through SUNY Cortland in 2008. I then went on to begin my career as a teacher substitute teaching in surrounding school districts and later became a Pre-kindergarten teacher at a private school in Clifton Park. During this time, I earned my MA in Education K-6 with a concentration in Literacy and Language in 2011.

Although I enjoyed the job, growing up in the small town of Sidney, my heart drew me back to the area, so I moved to Franklin in 2011 and began substitute teaching and doing long term jobs as well. My most recent position was Pre-kindergarten in a classroom working with typically developing students and special education students and the majority of my teaching experience has been in early childhood. I have also gained a great deal of experiences in grades K-6 and also Literacy and AIS. My husband and our two dogs and cat, recently moved to Oneonta where we plan to be for the future. Being able to work in the Franklin School District has been a goal of mine for the past few years and I am so excited to begin the school year teaching in the District.

BRENDAN COYLE—GUIDANCE COUNSELOR



Hello. My name is Brendan Coyle and I am thrilled to be your new School Counselor. I am from Warwick, New York and relocated to Oneonta in 2004. I currently live in Oneonta with my wife and two children. Professionally speaking, I come to you with 10 years of experience at Cherry Valley Springfield Central School working as a school counselor and have worked with all grade levels. I look forward to getting to know staff, students, parents and community members and forming positive relationships with you all. I wish everybody a happy, healthy and successful 2016-17 school year.

CHELSEA BECKEMEYER—MATH TEACHER



Hello! My name is Chelsea Beckemeyer and I am the new high school math teacher here at Franklin Central School. I was born and raised in Oneonta. I graduated from SUNY Oneonta with a Bachelor's of Science in Secondary Mathematics Education. I have substitute taught in Milford, Unatego and Schenevus. I was a full-time teacher in Sidney last year. I am currently working on my Master's in Secondary Mathematics Education online through Buffalo University. I look forward to working with the students in Franklin this year as well as getting to know the community. I am excited for a great year at Franklin and many more to come.

STEPHEN SEMPLE—SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER



I was born in Sleepy Hollow and grew up in Bedford. I attended college at Pace University in Pleasantville where I studied History and Religious Studies. I decided to become a teacher after receiving a job as a modified lacrosse coach. Manhattanville College is where I achieved my teaching certification and have been working as a special educator for three years at both Springbrook and Delaware Academy. I am excited to join the Franklin Central School District as a resource room and ELA teacher.

MARY LOU MILLER—BUILDING AIDE



Hi my name is Mary Lou Miller and I grew up on a small dairy farm in West Virginia. I have two sons and four granddaughters. I moved to Franklin in 2001 after living in different states because of being a military spouse. My husband passed away unexpectedly in 2002. I am now married to Mike who grew up here in Franklin on a small dairy farm. We both like to garden and I love to sew and cross-stitch. I have worked at Franklin Central School as a substitute for the past 14 years and I am excited to now be a full time aid in Kindergarten.

Welcome to Franklin Central School!

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK

Governor Andrew Cuomo has proclaimed October 24-28, 2016 School Board Recognition Week.

A very special thank you to our school board members for their dedication to children, learning and community and for the many hours of service to our school as they continue to strive for improvement, excellence and progress in education.

2016-2017 FRANKLIN SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Stanley Swears—President

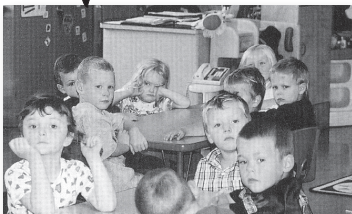
Joan Cronauer—Vice President

Patricia Taggart, Jamie Archibald, Steven Cox

CLASS OF 2017 Pre-kindergarten



Then . . .



and Now . . .



PRINCIPAL APPOINTED 2ND VICE PRESIDENT OF NYSPHSAA

On August 30 the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) announced the appointment of new officers. Julie Bergman, the Franklin Central School Pre-K-12 Principal was appointed to the position of 2nd Vice President.

Mrs. Bergman, a native of Binghamton, began her teaching career in Delhi. Prior to coming to Franklin Central School, she served as an administrator in the Walton Central School District. She has been a tireless advocate for rural schools in each district for the last 26 years having served as a teacher, coach, athletic director, CSE chairperson and building principal. For over 16 years, Bergman has been on various committees including ones associated with the Mid-State Athletic Conference, Section IV Athletics and the NYSPHSAA.

At NYSPHSAA, she has served on the Central and Executive Committee, Handbook Committee, Budget/Audit Committee, and Constitution Committee. Furthermore, Bergman is currently the Chair of the NYSPHSAA Compensation Committee and Fiscal Concerns Committee. In Section IV, she's the Chairperson for Extended Eligibility, Chair of the Mid-State Athletic Conference and is a member of the Officials Coordinating Federation (OCF). Mrs. Bergman earned a Bachelor's degree and Certification of Advanced Study/Educational Administration from SUNY Cortland, and a Master of Education from Texas A&M University.

Congratulations Mrs. Bergman!

**Franklin Central
School Yearbook**

607-829-3551 ext 112

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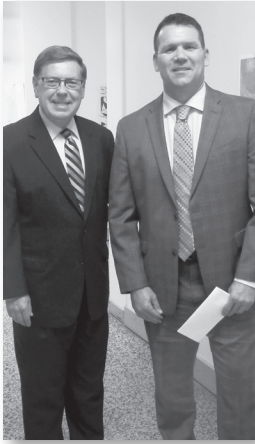
Attention: Sue Patrick

Mail back this form with your check

NAME _____

ADDRESS & PHONE _____

SENATOR SEWARD VISITS



On October 4, Senator Seward visited the Franklin Central School. Superintendent Zilliox took Senator Seward on a tour of the building and grounds, ate lunch in the cafeteria, and visited several classrooms. Senator Seward also conducted a Q & A with Mr. DeCarlo's government class.

The Franklin Central School would like to thank Senator Seward for visiting and for his continued support!



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AND JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY NEWS

The NHS met and elected officers for the year. Congratulations to **Joseph Nowhitney**, President; **Stacey Sickler**, Vice-President; **Emily Chaloupka**, Secretary; and **Ali Eichler**, Treasurer. The chapter will be hosting two blood drives: December 15 and February 13. Students will be commencing their Individual Service Projects this month, a unique project to help and serve either the school or community, of approximately 4-6 hours per month.

National Junior Honor Society met and elected the following as officers for the 2016-2017 year. **Peter Niebanck**, President; **Tyler Gregory**, Vice President; **Alexis Bellino**, Secretary; and **Collin Campbell**, Treasurer. The group will pick a project to undertake shortly. In the spring the group will organize a cleanup day. Individual Service Projects will begin soon. This requires at least four hours per month of community service. Members will also help at dinners and events for community service hours.

MRS. DUTCHER'S FIRST GRADE

First grade is off to a wonderful start! The class is learning about fables such as *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* and *The Little Red Hen*. They are working to retell stories and they are learning to tell what the author was trying to teach us. Our daily journals help us to write down what we learned from each story. It gives students an opportunity to apply the letter sounds and sight words that they have learned. Writing helps develop phonics skills as well as print concepts such as spaces between words and punctuation. We learned about spaghetti spaces and meatball spaces!

We are spending a lot of time in math with number bonds as we begin to explore the concept of addition as parts of a whole. We have some budding mathematicians in First Grade. Our goal is to become fluent with addition and subtraction facts and to truly understand how each operation works.

We also have some comedians in First Grade! Our Morning Program job is to tell a joke. Jokes are a great way to learn vocabulary skills and to understand that some words and phrases have multiple meanings.

Tuesday is a favorite day in First Grade! We are using our Tuesday mornings to complete STEM challenges. Our first challenge was to use plastic cups to build a tower. The goal was to build the tallest tower that would



still hold a pet rock without collapsing. The children had a wonderful time and learned to collaborate with peers. They had to solve problems. We talked about how engineers and scientists

have to try, try and try again before they find success. Perseverance is a critical life skill. These challenges are a fun way to develop skills.

Check out more photos on our class webpage at franklincsd.org!



ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE PROGRAM



The Alternatives to Violence Project at Franklin Central School is pleased to welcome 13 new trained facilitators to our growing organization. These students participated in three multi-day workshops throughout the 2015-2016 school year in which they learned alternatives to violence through shared discussions, experiential activities, and interactive role plays. They are looking forward to running workshops this year for new participants. The students have also shown commitment to building community within the school district and practicing random acts of kindness. We are very excited to have them as a part of our growing program.

On March 11, 2016 three of our student facilitators were given the opportunity to run a one day AVP workshop for the Public Health employees of Delaware County. The students did an amazing job of running the workshop and the adults were very impressed with their leadership skills. The workshop focused on building community, conflict resolution skills, and seeking common ground. The employees of public health were very pleased with the workshop and reported that they would use what they learned from the experience both in their personal lives and within the work environment.



If you are interested in participating in an AVP workshop either personally or as a staff building experience, please contact Noelle Granger at 829-3551. AVP is for people of all ages and we would be happy and willing to set up an amazing experience for you!



FRANKLIN ANGEL TREE

This Holiday season the Franklin Angel Tree will move to the Main Office at Franklin Central School. Select an *angel* from the tree and purchase a gift for a child in need. Angels will be available in Mid-November in plenty of time for Black Friday holiday shopping.

All gifts should be wrapped and returned, with the tag, to the school by Friday, December 16. Last year 18 families and 44 children were assisted by this program.

A huge thank you to the Franklin Community who make this program possible year after year!

GUIDANCE NEWS

- Students in grades 11 and 12 will be attending a College Fair in Cobleskill on October 17.
- PSAT will be October 19 for students in grade 11.

ELEMENTARY DRAMA SHOW

Elementary Drama will be presenting *Boots & Bits* by David J. LeMaster on November 4-5 at 7:00 p.m.

MORNING PROGRAM

Morning Program this year is off to a great start. Our theme is *Books! Books! Books!* We will be sharing stories, poems, and non-fiction books throughout the year. We welcome all of you to join us at 8:30 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, in the cafeteria.

On Mondays, we celebrate students' birthdays for the week. On Fridays, we celebrate successes with stars and book reading medals. The last Friday of every month we celebrate VIPs. The exception would be the month of November. We will celebrate November's VIPs on December 2.

You are welcome to come to our Morning Programs any time. Make note that on November 10, we will have our yearly Veteran's Breakfast at 7:30 a.m., followed by our great program for Veterans at 8:30 a.m.

PRE-K NEWS

The Pre-K class has been working really hard since the first day of school. The themes have been All About Me, Emotions and Colors and Shapes. Some stories that we read to enhance our theme of *All About Me* included titles such as *The Kissing Hand*, *The Way I Feel*, *We Share Everything*, *Waiting is Hard*, and *I Like Me*. We learned about our classroom and each other, creating a schedule that we followed and practiced our routines daily.

Each week we had a *letter of the week* that we learned about. So far we have learned about C, M, A and T. We are excited to learn more and continue to develop our skills.

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

**ECRWSS
BOXHOLDER**

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 7 **No School for Students—Staff Development Day**
- 10 **No School—Columbus Day**
- 13 Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 21 Early Dismissal Drill

NOVEMBER

- 4-5 Elementary/HS Drama, 7:00 p.m.
- 9-10 Book Fair
- 10 Veterans Day Celebration, Breakfast 7:30 a.m./
Program 8:30 a.m.
Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 **No School—Veterans Day**
- 14-17 Book Fair
- 18 **No School for Students—Parent/Teacher
Conference Day**

23-25 No School—Thanksgiving Recess

DECEMBER

- 7 Holiday Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 23 **½ Day of School—Holiday Recess**
- 26-30 **No School—Holiday Recess**

JANUARY

- 2 **No School—Holiday Recess**
- 12 Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 16 **No School—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
- 30 **No School for Students—Staff Development Day**

SENIOR CITIZEN THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON



Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held on November 16, in the Franklin Central School Cafeteria at 1:00 p.m. Call Vivian Groat at 829-6846 for reservations

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

The school will make an attempt to contact parents using our PowerSchool phone system at times when emergency closing is necessary. Please be advised that the phone system or electricity may not be in service and therefore the school will be unable to make these calls.

The following radio and television stations will announce school closings:

- WCDO-101 FM and 1490 AM Sidney
- WDLA-92.1 FM and 1270 AM Walton
- WSKG-91.7 FM, WAAL-99.1 FM, WHWK-98.1 FM
- WKTV Channel 2, wktv.com
- WDOS-730 AM and WZOZ-103.1 FM Oneonta
- WBNG-TV Channel 3
- WBNG.com

YMCA AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

Franklin Central School has partnered with the Oneonta YMCA to offer daily afterschool programming for the 2016-17 school year. Located on the Franklin school campus, this program is offered Monday through Friday from 3-5:30 p.m. The program offers a safe and structured afterschool environment for children in grades Kindergarten through sixth grade. Daily activities include hands-on enrichment activities, supervised play, snack, and time to work on homework.

Program fees are \$45 per week for a 5-day program and \$30 per week for a 3-day program. Discounts are offered for each additional child. This program is a NYS licensed child-care program for which eligible families can receive NYS childcare assistance funding. Registrations are accepted year-round. Registration forms are available on the District Website or by contacting Heather Conklin, YMCA Child Enrichment Coordinator at (607) 353-7074.