October 13th 2026

Franklin School Committee

Keeping our community informed and connected to Franklin's schools

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

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Welcome to the October edition of the Franklin School Committee Newsletter! The Community Relations/Public Schools Advocacy Subcommittee is pleased to share updates from recent School Committee meetings and information relevant to our school community.

In this edition, we're highlighting the District and School Improvement Plans for the 2026–2027 school year, including priorities for student learning, support, and family engagement. You'll also find upcoming meeting dates, community events, and resources to help you stay connected.

We hope this newsletter makes it easier to stay informed about the work happening across Franklin Public Schools and encourages continued community engagement.

Friday Night Lights at FHS - Franklin vs Milford









September 8th School Committee Meeting YouTube

District Improvement Plan YouTube

Franklin Public Schools has outlined four strategic priorities for the 2026–2027 school year: strengthening school community and team collaboration, building consistent systems and structures, aligning instructional practices, and enhancing communication.

Now in the second year of the district's PreK–8 reconfiguration, the focus is shifting from establishing the new school structure to ensuring it works effectively for students, staff, and families. The district aims to create more consistent learning experiences across schools, strengthen student support systems, and improve how information is shared with the community.



Portrait of a Graduate

"Goal setting is the most important aspect of all improvement and personal development plans. It is the key to all fulfillment and achievement." ~ Paul J. Meyer

Key initiatives for the year include:

- **Consistent instruction and student support:** Aligning curriculum, classroom practices, and assessments while strengthening the districtwide Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), which helps identify and respond to students' academic and social-emotional needs.
- **Staff development:** Building a more coordinated professional learning system that connects training to district priorities, student data, and educator feedback.
- **Clearer communication:** Improving how curriculum, student support, and district initiatives are communicated to staff and families, including new website resources and regular newsletters.

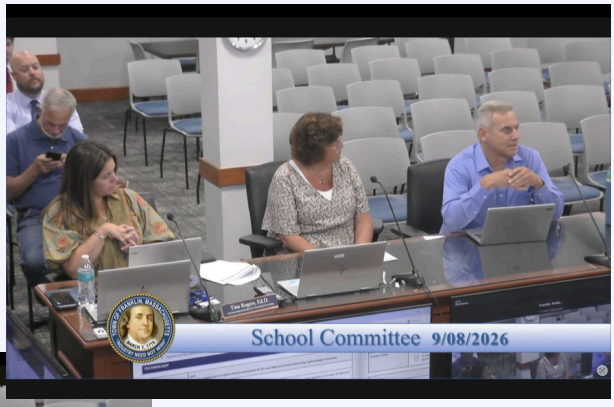
- **Operational improvements:** Standardizing financial procedures, moving toward electronic employee absence management, reviewing hiring and onboarding systems, and developing plans for technology and school facility needs.

- **Programs and student well-being:** Advancing early childhood and childcare programs, strengthening school nutrition and community partnerships, and developing districtwide guidance for screen time and artificial intelligence.

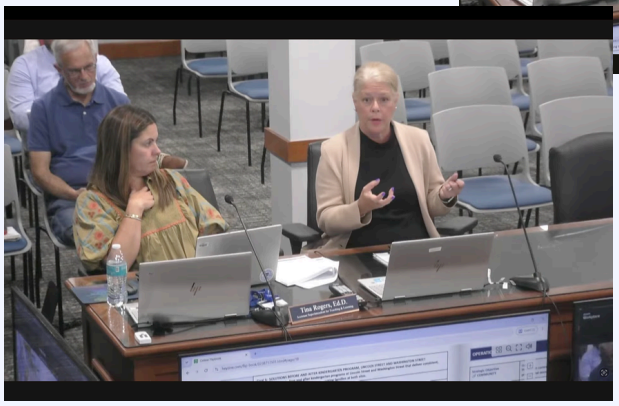
The district will measure progress throughout the year using student data, staff and family feedback, and established success criteria. Fall and spring data reviews will inform a mid-year progress report to the School Committee in February, followed by an end-of-year review in June.

The overall goal is to make district practices more consistent, transparent, and effective while ensuring students across Franklin receive the support and instruction they need to succeed.











September 22nd School Committee Meeting YouTube

School Improvement Plan YouTube

Franklin Public Schools' 2026–2027 School Improvement Plans translate the district's priorities into specific goals for each school level, from preschool through high school. While each level has different needs, the plans share a focus on stronger instruction, consistent student support, meaningful family engagement, and a welcoming school environment.

Here are the key priorities for each level:

- **Early Childhood Development Center (PreK):** Develop a pilot literacy intervention framework to identify and support preschool and kindergarten-bound students who need additional help with early reading skills. The school will also work to provide consistent instruction and communication across its two campuses.

- **Elementary Schools (K–2):** Strengthen students' sense of belonging, build family partnerships, and improve staff collaboration. Schools will also work toward more consistent academic and social-emotional supports, using student data to guide decisions.

- **Elementary Schools (Grades 3–5):** Improve instructional consistency and use student performance data to guide teaching, with an emphasis on literacy and math growth. Additional priorities include strengthening attendance, improving student support systems, and establishing clear, two-way communication with families.

- **Franklin Middle School (Grades 6–8):** Develop shared schoolwide core values with input from students, staff, and families. The school will also establish consistent processes for identifying and addressing student needs, align classroom strategies that help students organize and manage their learning, and provide families with regular academic updates and opportunities to share feedback.

- **Franklin High School (Grades 9–12 and age 22):** Strengthen relationships between students and teachers through a standardized Homebase model during the WIN Block. Other priorities include completing a self-reflection report for the school's Fall 2027 NEASC accreditation conference, monitoring consistent grading policies across departments, and expanding use of the Panthers App to promote school events, athletics, clubs, and student activities.

- **How progress will be measured:** Schools will use classroom observations, student assessment data, attendance records, surveys, and family feedback to evaluate progress toward their goals. These measures will help school leaders identify what is working, where additional support is needed, and what adjustments should be made throughout the year.

Together, the School Improvement Plans provide a roadmap for turning districtwide priorities into practical improvements in students' daily school experiences, while recognizing the unique needs of learners at each stage of their education.

The full 2026–2027 District Improvement Plan, which includes detailed goals, action steps, and measures of success for each school level and district departmen is available through the **Franklin Public Schools website**.











Community Events

Single vs. Split Tax Rate Workshop

- **October 14th at 6 PM** at the Municipal Building. The Town Council will hold a series of workshops in October and November to discuss whether Franklin should maintain a single property tax rate or adopt a split tax rate.

Home Safety and Security for Kids Grades 1-5

- **October 20th from 4 PM - 5 PM** at the Franklin High School Lecture Hall 234. Children learn the basics of being safe when home alone for short periods of time from Officers of the Franklin Police Department, whether by plan or because of an emergency. They will learn how to safely answer the telephone and door, as well as review internet safety and accident prevention. This is a free event; however, registration is required. Register **here**.

Franklin SEPAC Meet and Greet

- **October 22nd from 5 PM - 7PM** at the Franklin High School Media Room. This is an opportunity for parents & caregivers to connect with Franklin Public Schools Student Service Leadership. If you have any questions, check out **www.franklinsepac.com** or email **FranklinSepac@gmail.com**.

Franklin Lions Trunk or Treat

- **October 24th from 3 PM - 7 PM** at the Franklin High School Parking Lot

Single vs. Split Tax Rate Workshop

- **October 28th at 6 PM** at the Franklin High School Auditorium. The Town Council will hold a series of workshops in October and November to discuss whether Franklin should maintain a single property tax rate or adopt a split tax rate.

Election Day

- **November 3rd from 6 AM - 8 PM** at the Franklin High School Gymnasium

Download the Franklin High School Panthers app to stay in the know about FHS athletic team and club events at the **Apple Store** or **Google Play**.



Upcoming School Committee Meetings

School Committee Meetings

- **November 3rd at 7 PM** in the Franklin Municipal Building
- **November 17th at 7 PM** in the Franklin Municipal Building

Subcommittee Meetings

- **Budget Subcommittee**
  - **Members: Paul Griffith (Chair)**, Nadia Mausolf & Ruthann O'Sullivan
  - **Last meeting:** 10/6/26
  - **Upcoming meeting:** TBD

- **Community Relations/Public Schools Advocacy Subcommittee**
  - **Members: Al Charles (Chair)**, Stephen Karunakaran & Nadia Mausolf
  - **Last meeting:** 9/29/26
  - **Upcoming meeting:** 10/20/26

- **Policy Subcommittee**
  - **Members: Dave Callaghan (Chair),** Al Charles & Reis Hansen
  - **Last meeting:** 10/8/26
  - **Upcoming meeting:** 10/13/26

- **Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee**
  - **Members: Paul Griffith (Chair)**, Stephen Karunakaran & Ruthann O'Sullivan
  - **Last meeting:** none for the 2026 - 2027 school year
  - **Upcoming meeting:** Subcommittee activity will begin Spring 2027

- **Horace Mann Legacy Subcommittee**
  - **Members: Dave Callaghan (Chair)**, Reis Hansen & Ruthann O'Sullivan
  - **Last meeting:** 9/14/26
  - **Upcoming meeting:** TBD

All posted School Committee meetings can be found on the School Committee website. Click **here**.



Important Resources

PARENT COMMUNICATION COUNCILS (PCC) FACEBOOK PAGES

ECDC

Lincoln St K-2

Lincoln St 3-5

Washington St K-2

Washington St 3-5

Franklin Middle School

Franklin High School

- Previous School Committee Newsletters are available **here**.
- Watch replays of the previous Franklin School Committee meetings **here**.
- Content shared during School Committee meetings are available online in the **2026 - 2027 Meeting Packets** section.
- 2026 - 2027 Franklin Public School calendar is available **here**.
- There is a wealth of School Committee content available on the **Franklin School Committee website**.
- **News You can Use** serves as a central hub for flyers and notices for FPS families.
- Click **here** to sign up for the Town of Franklin email notifications.
- Stay informed on the happenings in Franklin by visiting **Franklin Matters** or listening to **Franklin Matters Podcasts**.
- SAFE Coalition supports and educates individuals affected by substance use and mental health concerns. Click **here** to learn more about SAFE.
- The **Franklin Food Pantry** offers food, household goods, and referral resources to those facing food insecurity. For services, appointments, or help, contact the Client Services Manager at **508-528-3115** or **info@franklinfoodpantry.org**.