



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER //////SEPTEMBER 2023 //////

District Continues to Make Safety Improvements





In the last two years, the Board of Education has supported their proactive approach to safety with nearly \$1 million in additional funding for safety improvements.

The district held meetings at the end of the last school year with a variety of staff stakeholder groups, including teachers, custodians, building administrators, administrative assistants, and food service. The feedback provided during the meetings led directly to many of the changes for the new year.

In addition, the district again partnered with Secure Education Consultants, an independent school security firm. They conducted a facility audit in the spring that provided additional direction and support for our safety efforts.

"Dr. Wozniak and the Board of Education understand how important safety

is and they continue to listen to stakeholders and provide funding to make improvements," said Mr. Dan Waters, director of operations, maintenance, transportation, and safety.

Some of the most visible changes include:

- Gold number plates on external doors to indicate where a keyless entry point is for emergency responders.
- Lock/unlock indicators on every door in the district.
- The single emergency push button in every school was replaced with five buttons. The buttons correspond with different types of emergency (severe weather, lockout, lockdown, etc.)
- Emergency safety bags in every classroom, which contain a first aid kit, emergency flip chart, and class roster.
- Security film and screens installed on windows for privacy and safety.
- Security window shades on every classroom and office door.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fraser Families, Welcome back to the 2023-24 school year! I hope you have had a wonderful and restful summer. We are excited to begin a

new year and look forward to providing rigorous academic opportunities, along with critical social and emotional learning and support to our students.

One of the things that makes Fraser such a special place are the people. As individuals we come to work every day, and collectively we make a difference in the lives of so many students.

Henry Ford said, "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

This school year, we will continue to work together by staying committed to our core values and beliefs.

This includes our continual focus around:

- Our Portrait of a Graduate, which keeps us focused on the handshake at graduation.
- Our 6 C's (Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity, Character, Collaboration, and Citizenship) that lead to deeper learning and connect our students to the world.
- Our Strategic Plan, which is our North Star that provides us with a vision and purpose for our work.
- Our Teaching and Learning
 Framework of Universal Design for Learning that provides us with and guides our instructional practices with a focus on student engagement.

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Superintendent Carrie Wozniak, Ph.D. carrie.wozniak@fraserk12.org



FREE MEALS for All Students

All students in Fraser Public Schools are eligible to receive free, healthy breakfast and lunch every day this school year.

More information about what is included in the free meal can be found on our **website**.

Meals Information

Breakfast and lunch menus are posted on the **Food Service page** of our website.

Breakfast is served in our elementary classrooms at the beginning of each school day. At Richards Middle School and Fraser High School, students can eat breakfast in the cafeteria before school.

Lunch is served in the cafeterias at each school. Specific times will be provided by your school principal. Additionally, a la carte items and additional full meals will be available for purchase at all schools.

What Counts as a Free Lunch?

Elementary students will receive the featured entrée (Option A) on the monthly menu, unless they request the salad/deli option (Option B), a soy butter and jelly sandwich (Option C), or a cheese sandwich (Option D). All options come with milk and a fruit or vegetable.



Secondary students will receive one entrée, which includes a protein/meat/meat alternate, bread/grain, fruits/vegetables, and a carton of milk.

A la Carte Options

All schools have a la carte options available for purchase. At the elementary schools, these items are cash only. At RMS and FHS, students may purchase these items with their payment accounts or with cash.

A la carte items include chips, beverages (water, pop, juice), ice cream, and cookies.

Additional entrees are also available for a cost.

Education Benefits Form

Even though meals are free for everyone, we still need your household to complete an Education Benefits Form, which can be found **online in your Family Portal account**. This form is critical in determining the amount of money that our district receives from a variety of state and federal supplemental programs like Title I A, At-Risk [31a], Title II A, E-Rate, etc. All information on the report submitted is confidential, and it should take only a few minutes to complete.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

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I believe having clarity and focus with our work is a critical component of leadership. As I have listened to, and heard from, our students, staff, parents, community, and the Board of Education this past year, a priority of our work will be a continued focus on our culture and climate.

But what does that mean? A positive school culture is a mixture of strong personal relationships, beneficial social skills, effective role models, and clear expectations. Teachers and administrators alike work to establish and maintain a positive school culture throughout the school year.

The benefits of such an atmosphere can be significant – increased instructional time, reduced discipline referrals, and empowered students, just to name a few.

This year we will look to improve school culture through our revamped PBIS program. Last spring, teams from every school in our district worked together to develop a stronger PBIS that is more inclusive of all students. You can read more about our redesigned PBIS program on page 4.

I look forward to visiting our schools and seeing our students in the coming weeks. I also want to invite everyone to our annual Fraser Family Tailgate. This event begins at 5:30 p.m. Friday, September 8, before the first home varsity football game of the season.

With Fraser Pride, **Dr. Wozniak**

PLANNING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER 8

Fraser Family Tailgate FHS Stadium Lot, 5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 11

Board of Education Meeting RMS Idea Lab, 7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 13

All Levels Early Release

SEPTEMBER 14

Gleaners Drive Thru Food Pantry FHS Klein Lot

SEPTEMBER 25

Powder Puff Game FHS Stadium, 6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 25

Board of Education Meeting RMS Idea Lab, 7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 28

Gleaners Drive Thru Food Pantry FHS Klein Lot

SEPTEMBER 29

Homecoming Game FHS Stadium, 7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 30

Homecoming Dance RMS Gym, 7:00 p.m.



WELCOMENew Administrators

Mary Kate Fitzpatrick Director of Elementary Instruction



Ms. Mary Kate Fitzpatrick was promoted to director of elementary instruction. She has

worked in Fraser for 28 years, previously serving as an elementary teacher, elementary instructional consultant, and district lead for our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support [MTSS] work.

With our intense literacy focus, she brings a wealth of knowledge into this position. Ms. Fitzpatrick has a strong background in early literacy and was one of the first literacy ambassadors for the Macomb ISD.

Kyle Ray *Director of Secondary Instruction*



Mr. Kyle Ray was promoted to director of secondary instruction. He has worked in

Fraser for 17 years, serving as an assistant principal at Fraser High School for the last nine years. Before that, he taught high school math.

His strong secondary background and building leadership make him an excellent fit for this work. He has built solid relationships with our teachers, staff, and community with his many experiences at FHS, and he will continue to be a strong supporter of our teachers, principals, and support staff. In addition, his experiences with school improvement, district scheduling, and secondary discipline will be a tremendous asset to our district administration team.

Rosa D'Amico, Career Technical Education Supervisor



Ms. Rosa D'Amico was promoted to career technical education supervisor.

She has been in the district for five years. Previously she served as the CTE administrative assistant. In this new role she will support K-12 initiatives in CTE.

"I am honored and humbled with the opportunity to serve my Fraser Family in this capacity," she said. "I am a proud mother of four Fraser graduates who are finding their way in this world on very unique paths and am very excited to be a part of a team bringing purpose, hope, and formative experiences to our Fraser students. I look forward to working diligently for all our students and staff across K-12 by sharing knowledge, opportunities, ideas, and chances for them to explore themselves and move forward on their paths!"

Health Guidance for Going to School

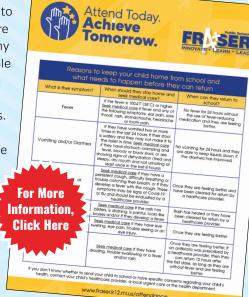
Showing up to school every day is critical for students' well-being, engagement, and learning.

In Fraser – and across the state and country – the rates of student absences have increased during the last several years. Missing just two days of school a month adds up to more than 10% of the school year. All absences, even those that are excused, can negatively impact your student.

We want to partner with our families to make our schools a safe, healthy, and welcoming environment where all students can succeed. During this school year, we will share important attendance information with you to help all our students attend today, achieve tomorrow.

Make sure to send your child to school if they are generally healthy and well and able to participate in their usual dayto-day activities. Avoid keeping children at home unless they are too sick to participate.

Children may also avoid school due to anxiety (symptoms



may include decreased appetite,

feeling tired, stomachache, headache, etc.]. If you are worried that your child may be suffering from anxiety, talk with their teacher, school social worker, or other school staff to discuss the challenge and identify what can help your child stay in school.

We have put together this helpful chart of when to keep your child home and when they can return to school for common illnesses.



Two Dozen Educators

Participate in New Teacher Academy



Starting a new job or a new career can be stressful, but the New Teacher Academy aims to make it easier for new members of the Fraser Family.

Twenty-four new staff members, mostly teachers, spent two days before school started getting to know each other, building and district leaders, and their mentors during new staff orientation. The group also included new school psychologists and our new work-based learning coordinator.

The orientation, led by the directors of elementary and secondary instruction, Mrs. Katie Fitzpatrick and Mr. Kyle Ray, is tailored to welcome new staff in a low-stress, collaborative way.

The first day covered the basics – meeting district leaders and learning about the mission and vision of the district. They also talked about classroom management strategies and the teacher evaluation process. The following week the new employees met for day two and began their training in our learning management system, Canvas, as well as an introduction to Universal Design for Learning.

The group will meet several more times throughout the school year, as well as work with their teacher mentors.

PBIS Improvements Coming to All Schools

Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) programs in our schools are nothing new, but this year every school will be making improvements to better serve our students.

During the spring, PBIS leadership teams from every school took part in two days of training to make the programs consistent across the district.

Part of the training involved surveying staff and students to find out strengths and weaknesses of the programs. The leadership teams then worked on a plan to streamline behavior expectations, communication, and encourage positive behaviors.

"We decided to come together and make sure our programs were aligned," said Mrs. Katie Fitzpatrick, director of elementary



instruction. "We wanted to acknowledge and encourage positive behaviors as well as make our PBIS program more inclusive and equitable for all students."

Each school will be sharing more on their updated expectations and programs with families throughout this school year.

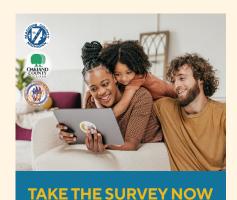
Help the Tri-County Area Improve Access to

HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

Do you have internet in your home? If so, how fast is it?

Recent research shows that students without high-speed internet access at home have lower grades, lower digital skills, and are less likely to plan on attending college.

The Tri-County Region has launched a survey to help understand access to internet in Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne counties. Results will help to identify areas of our region that do



not have high-speed internet or have poor internet service, plus areas where service is unaffordable.

We are asking our Fraser families to take the five-minute survey and provide information to help us better serve our district. Take the survey and learn more at: MichiganMoonshot. org/tri-county-broadband.





Powder Puff Football: 6:30 p.m., Sept. 25, Fraser Stadium

Float Building: 5-9 p.m., Sept. 24-28,

FHS Homes

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Pep Assembly: 4 p.m., Sept. 29,

Fraser Gym

Parade: 6 p.m., Sept. 29, Garfield & Klein **Game:** 7 p.m., Sept. 29, Fraser Stadium **Dance:** 7-10 p.m., Sept. 30, Richards

Middle School

CLASS THEMES AND COLORS

Seniors: Candyland & Black Juniors: Jumanji & Red Sophomores: Life & Green Freshmen: Monopoly & Blue

HOMECOMING COURT

Nomination Forms: Available in Room 1813 Aug. 31 – Sept. 13. Forms due to Mrs. Schaeff in Room 1813 by **Sept. 13 at 2:18 p.m.**

HOMECOMING TICKETS

Cost: \$20 Each

Orientations: All Dates

After School in Room 1813: Sept. 20-27 Tickets will **NOT** be sold at the dance.

Regulations: All fines and fees must be

paid to purchase a ticket.

Guests: ONLY SENIORS may bring guests from other schools. Guests must be under 21. Forms may be picked up in any office or Room 1813.

(Semi-Formal Attire)

Saturday, Sept. 30, 7-10 p.m. Richards Middle School

Restrictions:

- Limos or party buses are strongly discouraged (please consider using other forms of transportation).
- Enter the dance from the front doors.

Requirements:

- Arrive by 8 p.m.
- Bring a photo ID and pre-purchased tickets. No tickets will be sold at the door.
- Once students enter the dance, they are **NOT** permitted to leave and re-enter.
- Students must follow the dress code as described in the Code of Conduct.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY FHS STUDENT COUNCIL

For up-to-date info, follow the FHS Student Council on X (formerly Twitter) @FraserStuCo and Instagram @Fraser_Stuco

QUESTIONS?

Contact: Mrs. Megan Schaeff | Email: megan.schaeff@fraserk12.org | Phone: (586) 439-7352 | X: @FraserStuCo