

# Over the Fence

## MAKE YOUR ENROLLMENT SELECTION

*The Board of Education was presented with three options for returning to school at the October 12 meeting. After review, the Board voted to return to face-to-face learning five days a week beginning November 30. There will still be a robust virtual option available for all families as well.*

- **DK will only have a face-to-face option.**
- **Elementary K-6 families will have one choice to make that will be effective from November 30 – June 16.**
- **Secondary 7-12 families will have two choices to make:**
  - November 30 – January 22 (*Virtual or Face-to-Face*)
  - January 25 – Second Semester (*Virtual or Face-to-Face*)

We have prioritized transitioning our elementary students first. This was a state-wide priority. It also closely coordinates with the First Trimester at these buildings. Secondary students will fully transition at the start of Second Semester.

**PLEASE CLICK ON THE APPROPRIATE BUTTON BELOW TO COMPLETE YOUR ENROLLMENT SELECTION FORM.**

**Elementary K-6**  
Enrollment Selection Form

**RMS & FHS**  
Enrollment Selection Form

*Please note that we may revert to all virtual learning if directed by state or local health officials.*

**We are asking families to choose either face-to-face instruction or virtual instruction for their child(ren) by October 30.**

### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fraser Families,



This school year that is like no other is well underway, and we are all starting to find our stride. While things look different this year compared to the past, the core values of what we are about in Fraser remain the same.

We are continuing to focus on our strategic plan and the 6Cs of our Portrait of a Graduate: creativity, character, communication, critical thinking, collaboration and citizenship.

As I have visited our schools, I have been so impressed with the flexibility of our students and how well they have adapted to a new way of learning. Our teachers have implemented innovative ways to build relationships with their students while most of their time together is not in the same physical space.

These relationships are critical to everyone's success. By working together, we can continue to foster that sense of family that we pride ourselves on in Fraser.

There are so many good things happening in our schools. Despite masks covering our students' faces, their joy at being in school is evident. Everything may not be perfect, but we have an amazing team who truly cares about each one of our students.

That care is evident as we prepare for students to return to our buildings every day. Our team is working hard to make the transition as seamless as possible for all students, whether they choose to remain virtual or come in for face-to-face learning. As we move "Fraser Forward," we know our families have had questions regarding this transition. Please take some time to review our updated **Fraser Forward web page**. It contains important information and FAQs to help families make decisions regarding next steps for your student's learning.

We are continually reviewing and enhancing all of the safety and cleaning protocols already in place and planning how we can scale them up to accommodate larger groups of students. I am confident that our team will be fully prepared to see the 4,800 smiling faces of our students on November 30 – whether those smiles are behind a mask or behind a computer screen.

I have said many times in the last six months that we are all in this together. What I mean by that is even though we may not have the same circumstances, we all want the same outcome: teaching our students in the safest way possible. We will continue to do what is best for our students, and we are grateful for your kindness, compassion and understanding during these unprecedented times.

With Fraser Pride,  
Ms. Wozniak

# CURRICULUM CORNER

## WHAT IS A LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)?

As we all learn to navigate the virtual learning environment, it is important to understand the different tools we use to help our students. The most important tool for our parents and students to understand is the Learning Management System, or LMS. In our district, we use two programs: itslearning for elementary students and BlackBoard for middle and high school students.

### WHAT IS AN LMS?

The LMS is the digital classroom for our teachers. It is the organizational space for all course content, and should be a student's first stop every day or every class period. Content is organized by date. In itslearning, a daily post in the homeroom course separates the content by subject matter. In BlackBoard, the daily content is sorted by class period or block.

The district has created templates for teachers to use, so content should be similar and organized in the same way across all classes.

### WHY IS THE LMS IMPORTANT?

Teachers upload lessons, assignments and videos into the LMS each day for students to access. Teachers may also send students to learning apps or websites from links inside the LMS.

This year, students will also find the links and scheduled times to connect to their GoToMeetings inside the LMS.

### HOW TO USE THE LMS

When students log in to the LMS, they will first see that day's content.

In itslearning, content is organized by subject in the homeroom course. Clicking on the yellow subject buttons will take you to the full week of lessons for that subject, as well as supplemental resources related to the content area. Lessons from previous days and weeks can also be accessed by using the course tree, found under resources at the top of the screen.

In BlackBoard, content is organized by course. Clicking on the courses listed on the right will take you to posted lessons for each subject. Once you enter a course, in the center section of the page you will see necessary course information such as posted lessons, GoToMeeting links and other resources. To access lessons, look for the "Pathways to Learning" folder. Current lessons and lessons from previous days can be found within the "Pathways to Learning" folder.

We are continuously improving the student experience in our LMS and sharing best practices among our staff. With help from parents and learning coaches, we can all work together to make virtual learning a success.

We also have Parent guides to both LMS platforms on our [website](#). Look under the Student/Parent Information.

## NEW FACES IN FRASER PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**Ms. Jane Sturgell,**  
*Special Education Director*

Ms. Sturgell will be moving up to the director role, after working as the Special Education Supervisor for the last two years. She replaces Mr. Denis Metty, who is retiring later this month.

She joined our district in 2004 as a school psychologist, and in the last 16 years has worked in every building. She also served as the district-wide Alternative Assessment Coordinator and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Consultant.

Ms. Sturgell has both bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology from Central Michigan University, as well certificates in School Psychological Services and Central Office Administration. She is also working toward an Education Specialist degree in Educational Leadership from Saginaw Valley State University.

"I have felt incredibly privileged to work in Fraser for the last 16 years. We truly have the most passionate, most dedicated staff and the best students and families. I am looking forward to leading our Special Education department and further serving our outstanding community."



**Mrs. Bridget Murawski,**  
*Special Education Supervisor*

Mrs. Murawski has been with our Special Education department since she joined our district in 2004. Most recently, she worked as the district Autism and Behavior Consultant, where she collaborated with staff, students and their families in order to ensure the most successful school environment for students exhibiting differing needs. She has worked as a CI classroom teacher at Salk and ECSE teacher at Dooley.

She will move into the Special Education Supervisor role when Ms. Sturgell takes over the director position at the end of the month. The supervisor directly supports the Special Education Director and all nine schools in our district.

Mrs. Murawski has a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education from Central Michigan University, and a Masters of Education degree in Special Education with a Concentration in Cognitive Impairments from Wayne State University.

"I am thrilled and honored to have the opportunity to help lead our truly exceptional Special Education department. Fraser has the hardest working, most passionate staff members and students and it excites me to be able to serve them in this new capacity," she said.



## 6th Grade at Eisenhower Celebrates Notable Authors

Things look a little different at Eisenhower Elementary this year. They have fewer students in-person and many of those smiles that they usually see are covered by masks. That said, teachers continue to look for ways to engage and inspire students.

Sixth-grade teacher Shannon Descamps is always trying to get students excited about reading. This year, face-to-face students are joining the likes of children’s authors Jason Reynolds, Jerry Spinelli, Gary Paulsen, Jacqueline Woodson, Kelly Yang and Pam Muñoz Ryan in her classroom. During the small groups, students are seated with these authors to garner interest and aid with social distancing.



As the year progresses, students will be able to select books from these notable authors from the classroom library. They will write reviews, share their reflections with classmates and celebrate themes. Authors were selected due to the quality of their stories and the diversity of the characters within. Mrs. Descamps strives to ensure that her texts are both mirrors and windows to the world around us and wants to make sure ALL students are represented!

# PLANNING AHEAD

### OCTOBER 29

11th Grade PSAT/NMSQT\*

### OCTOBER 30

Early Release, All Levels

Final Day to Make Your Enrollment Selections

9th Grade PSAT Make-up\*

### NOVEMBER 3

No School, All Levels – Election Day

\* To RSVP for an in-person seat for your respective test at Fraser High School, visit:

<https://bit.ly/32P9Hci>

## Katie Couric Talks About Her Book

The 5th-grade students at Mark Twain Elementary received some positive words of encouragement from someone special to kick off their school year.

Mrs. Jodi Lombard reads a book called “The Brand New Kid” by Katie Couric to her 5th-grade class at the beginning of each school year. The story talks about how difficult it is to be new and different, and how one person can make a positive difference for someone else.

This year, the students were introduced to the story by the author herself, Ms. Katie Couric, “Today Show” host, news personality and author. Ms. Couric made time during her hectic schedule to film a quick video for the 5th-grade students to share why she wrote the book and to encourage them to be kind and understanding of others.

The story reinforces the school’s Positive Behavior Interventions and Support program, Mark Twain R.O.C.K.S., encourages reading and emphasizes the importance of being kind to others.

After the story, students discussed times when they were new to a situation and how hard that was. They also brainstormed ways they could make others feel comfortable and welcomed to Mark Twain Elementary if they were new. It was a special way to kick off this very special school year!



## Constitution Day

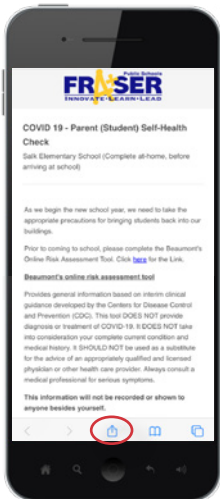
First-grade students at Mark Twain Elementary learned about Constitution Day, which is observed September 17th each year. The Constitution is the highest law and sets the rules for our country. This activity was part of a unit on establishing rules and routines, which also helped reinforce executive function skills. The children colored an American flag in honor of Constitution Day.



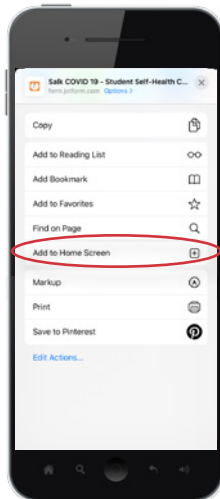
# EASILY ACCESS THE HEALTH SCREENER

As students come into our schools for small group sessions, it is important that parents are completing the Daily Health Screen. This screener is required by the State of Michigan and the district, and helps us ensure the safety of our students and staff.

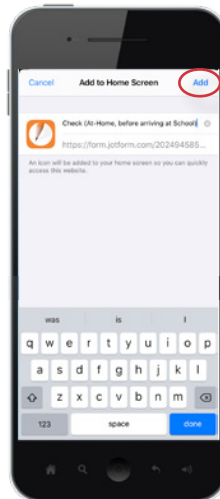
We know the link can be easy to misplace, so we put together a few steps to show you how to add the link to your phone's home screen.



First, open the link to the Health Screener. This is unique to each school, so visit your school's homepage to find the link. On an iPhone, click the square button with the arrow at the bottom center of your screen.



Click on the "Add to Home Screen" button.



Click "Add."



You're done! Now the screener will be easy to find each day.

# TECHNOLOGY TIPS

Each month we will include some tips to help make virtual learning a success for our students and families.

## REPORT A TECHNOLOGY OR DEVICE ISSUE

The quickest way to resolve an issue with your district device or connection issues is to submit our Device and Instructional Support Form. This form is routed to team members at each school, so the right person can follow up in a timely fashion. The link is: <http://bit.ly/TechAssistanceForm>.

## VIEW THE TEACHER IN GOTOMEETING

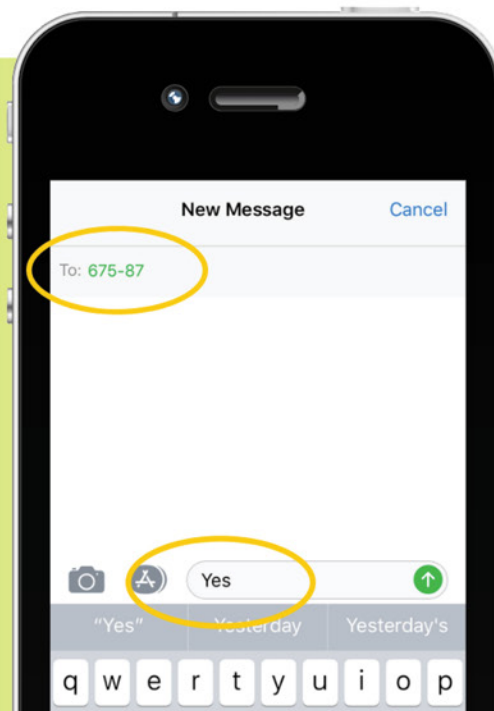
More than 3,000 students in our district use an iPad to connect to their virtual class meetings, and they may not always see their teacher's camera. The default view on GoToMeeting on a tablet is to see the cameras of six people. Avoid unnecessary frustration by following these easy steps to ensure your child can view the teacher:

- When in to a GoToMeeting, click on View.
- Select "View Who's Talking."
- Done! Your child will now see only the speaker's camera.

As we all adjust to a new way of learning, we know technology is important to making sure our learning environment works. You can also visit our [website](#) for more information about our virtual learning and technology.

# OPT-IN TO RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES

Text 'YES' to 67587 to receive text message alerts from Fraser Public Schools.





## Free Meals Available to All Students

The Food Service Department at Fraser Public Schools is thrilled to share that we will provide meals for virtual learners throughout the school year! In an effort to help us prepare and meet the needs of our community, we are hoping you will take a few minutes to review the information contained below to assist you with our new procedures.

### PICKUP INFORMATION

Monday – Friday  
Fraser High School Cafeteria  
Enter on Klein Road side  
7:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Fridays will now include weekend meals. Parents will receive three breakfasts and three lunches during the Friday meal pickup.

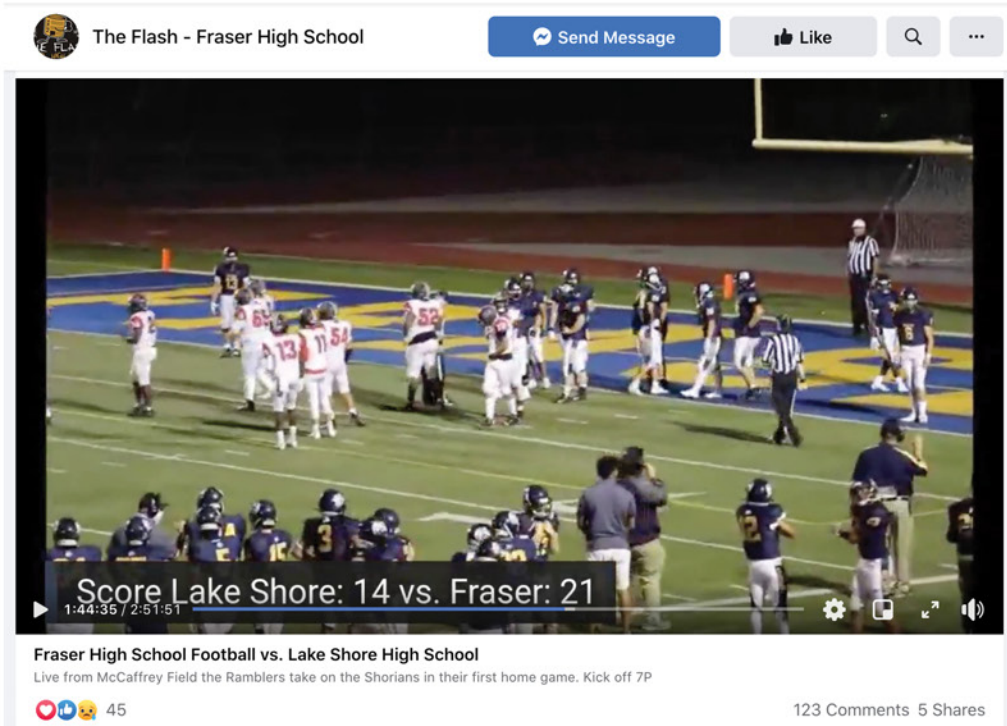
- Breakfast and lunch available to all children up to age 18.
- The student does not have to be present for meal pick-up.
- We are requesting that meals be pre-ordered by parents to assist our Food Service Department with determining meal participation.
- Parents can pre-order meals up to a week in advance using the [sendmoneytoschool.com](http://sendmoneytoschool.com) website.
- Students in SACC/Early Childhood Care will be provided both a breakfast and a lunch on days they are attending the program. These will be delivered to their classroom.

### FREE AND REDUCED MEAL APPLICATION

Funding for the current free meals program is only approved through December and could be eliminated at any time.

Parents are strongly encouraged to complete a Free and Reduced Meal Application at [lunchapp.com](http://lunchapp.com). Once this free program ends, your meal price will be dependent on your child's eligibility status. In addition, your application status could make your child eligible for other support from the district.

Please contact the Food Service Department at **586.439.7167** with any questions.



## FHS Broadcasters Live Streaming Home Athletic Events

The Fraser High School Flash Broadcasters are live streaming many of our home athletic events on their Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/fhstheflash](http://www.facebook.com/fhstheflash).

The MHSAA guidelines restrict or prevent attendance at athletic events, and this was a natural way to share the games with our community.

Students are also gaining experience with announcing play by play during the games and meets. Check out the **Flash's Facebook page** for a schedule of upcoming events and support our athletes!

## VIRTUAL LIBRARY CARD PROVIDES ACCESS TO ONLINE HELP AND RESOURCES

Fraser Public Schools is continuing its partnership with the Clinton-Macomb, Roseville and Fraser Public Libraries to provide virtual library cards to students in our district. Parents or guardians must opt in to receive a card. In the past three years, more than 2,000 students in our district have taken advantage of this opportunity.

The virtual library card provides access to a variety of free resources, including Tutor.com, where students can connect live with a professional tutor. The cards also grant access to electronic reference sources and databases, eBooks and magazines.

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE FORM](#)

Please click the button above to opt in to receive your card. If you previously signed up for a virtual library card, please ensure it still works, as you may need to opt in again. It will take about two weeks for login information to be provided once submitted.