

28th ANNUAL

Virtual Live Event
May 13th, 2021

Supporting Framingham High School Activities, Athletics and the Arts

Salute Honorees

1993 Pam Jezukawicz Connie Sullivan George Wheeler

1996 Francis Galvani Joseph Perini III William Summers

1999 Steve Ryder Ann Stacie Dr. Eugene Thayer

> 2002 Ann Lamb Chris Petrini Elaine Robert

2005 Patrick Dunne Bob Jachowicz Joan Rastani

2008 Roni Cronin Lowell Mazie Pat Walker

2011 Michael Grilli Joey Sementelli

2014 Dennis Giombetti Christine Tibor

2017 Chuck Greenslit Bennie Ottaviani Maria Rosado Dr. Jean Avery Kennedy Clark Jack O'Rourke

1997 Si Babineau Barry Bograd Sherwin Greenblatt

> 2000 Rob Healey John Poles Phil Read

2003 Joan Kelley Betty Mattarazzo Sally Smith

> 2006 Jim Carney Margo Deane Pam Hulme

2009 Rev. Dr. J Anthony Lloyd Lou Merloni Joseph Shields

2012 Mark and Karen Curtis Dave Gudejko

> 2015 Bob Merusi Lee Mencoboni

> > 2018 Mike Bower Ron Vallely

1995 Ron Burton Tom Click Tony Colonna

1998 Robert Campion Barbara Gray Charles Long

2001 Mark Goldman John Hart Kathy Herrman

2004 Robert Brown Jim Carey Pat Zucchi

2007 Joe Casperowitz Mike Phipps Jim O'Connor

2010 Richard Chesmore Arthur DelPrete George Hulme

> 2013 Sharon Gilbert Tony Tolson

2016 Alicia & David Blais Kathy Davies O'Leary

> 2019 Kathy Hauck Cathy Miles David Miles

The Salute to Framingham 28th Annual

Welcome to the 28th Annual Salute to Framingham, one of Framingham's most anticipated annual events! This year, we will be celebrating Alex Braverman and Ricky Finlay for their outstanding commitment and service to the youth of Framingham. They join a select group of people who have made a real difference in the lives of our children.

Over the past 28 years, the Salute program has also honored hundreds of teachers and school support personnel who make each day "special" in the Framingham Public Schools. This year is no exception. During the virtual live program tonight, we will recognize 26 staff members representing all of the Framingham Public Schools, as well as two retiring senior administrators with over 10 years of service to our district.

Since 2004, The Jim O'Connor Service Award has been awarded to individuals, organizations or families who have worked as a team to serve the youth of Framingham. Recipients exhibit the same passion, vision, commitment and leadership that Jim O'Connor, the Salute's founder, exemplified throughout his career as Framingham High School's Athletic Director. This year we honor Jeff's Place.

And in keeping with tradition, we will be recognizing 24 members from the Class of 2020 in addition to 25 current FHS seniors who have shown leadership in a variety of ways.

The Salute to Framingham is the largest single fund-raiser for Framingham High School. All proceeds from tonight will be used to support activities, the arts and athletics for FHS students through the Framingham High School Foundation.

Many thanks to all of you for being here tonight and to our sponsors and advertisers for making this evening a tremendous success.

Enjoy the celebration. Wendy Chan and Jacqui Goldberg



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by the Framingham High School Foundation & Salute to Framingham

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Picture Frames for Peer Leadership Inspirational Messages

Programs Supported

by the Framingham High School Foundation & Salute to Framingham

Athletics

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Gym Wall Pads
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Basketball Practice Uniforms
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Girls Hockey Jersey's
Girls Tennis Uniforms

Golf Uniforms
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Congratulations!

Alex Braverman L Ricky Finlay

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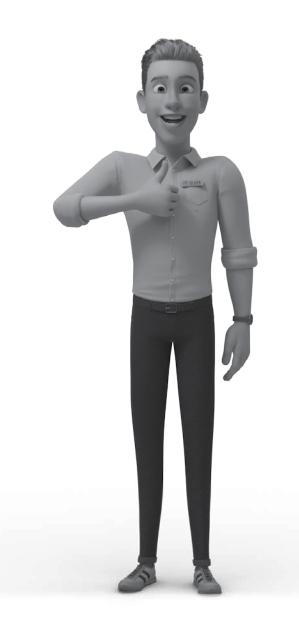
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Congratulations to all of tonight's honorees!



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Alex Braverman

Alex Braverman has been involved in Framingham youth athletic programs for more than 25 years. He is described as a great coach, team leader, mentor, and friend. As with many parents, Alex started coaching when his children were participants, but has continued coaching long after his children aged out of the programs. Through the years, Alex has coached FUSC and TBA basketball, served on the board of FUSC, was both president and treasurer of FUSC and is a division director for TBA basketball. Alex has been a soccer referee for over 15 years and was the Referee Director for FUSC for several years. Alex also took on the herculean task of running the FUSC Memorial Day soccer tournament for many years.

When the FUSC ran into financial difficulties in 2015, Alex played an integral role in guiding the club to financial stability. He was fundamental in helping rebuild the reputation of FUSC as responsible stewards providing quality soccer programs to the Framingham community. According to those who have worked with him, "Alex goes above and beyond in whatever capacity he is involved, whether it is coaching, being on the board, in an executive role, or stepping in when help is needed."

Congratulations to Alex Braverman and all the honorees!

Framingham United Soccer Club





Ricky Finlay

Ricky Finlay's love for Framingham runs deep and he does what is in the best interest of Framingham's children, the school system and the community. A three-time member of the School Committee, Ricky has been an advocate for all students and spearheaded the effort to eliminate all athletic and activity fees for all Framingham students.

Ricky has made lasting improvements to recreation facilities in the areas of South Framingham and most recently was the driving force behind the Hoops and Homework playground. For more than a year, Ricky worked tirelessly, bringing city and business leaders, local unions and residents, to coordinate a community-based design and identify resources. He coordinated institutions, unions, and more than 200 participants and was able to complete the playground in one single build day. He was the driving force behind lining up the funding for the Barbieri playground and has recently taken a leading role in the effort to build an addition to the Interfaith Site.

Ricky is a former coach and equipment manager for Framingham Youth Football and Cheer, a member of Framingham's Disability Commission, a member of the City Seal Committee, Member of the Fuller building committee, a member of the Board of Directors for Hoops and Homework and also serves as Cubmaster for the Saxonville Pack 21. Those who have worked closely with him say "Rick is the type of public servant and member of our community that shows anyone who is dedicated and cares can make a difference in the lives of our youth." If someone reaches out to Ricky for help, no matter whom it is or what they need, Ricky is there.

Congratulations

Alex Braverman & Ricky Finlay

and all of tonight's honorees



FHS Gridiron Club



SENATE PRESIDENT KAREN E. SPILKA STATE REP. JACK PATRICK LEWIS STATE REP. MARIA ROBINSON

Wish to salute:

ALEX BRAVERMAN & RICKY FINLAY

For their exceptional engagement on behalf of the youth of Framingham.



2020 Jim O'Connor Community Service Award

The Jim O'Connor Community Service Award is given in honor of those who hold the passion, vision, commitment and leadership skills of the Salute to Framingham founder, Jim O'Connor. The honor is given to organizations who work as a team to serve the youth of Framingham.



Jeff's Place provides free grief support groups for families who have experienced a significant death loss, serving children ages 3-18, along with their caregivers. They facilitate healthy integration of loss by helping families feel connected with each other and less alone in their grief journey. They work to normalize the grieving process for children and teens by promoting peer-to-peer connections to lessen feeling alone, empower children and teens to recognize and cope with their varied feelings, build confidence and self-esteem through the development of trusting and empathic bonds, encourage laughter, play and fun and provide hope, healing, and meaningful growth for all whose lives they touch. All groups are facilitated by both a clinician and a trained grief-informed volunteer. Jeff's Place also provides individual and family counseling along with crisis intervention and professional educational trainings on childhood bereavement for local schools and organizations.

Jeff's Place began in 2010 with 6 families and 9 children, but clearly met a need for the numerous grieving children and families in the MetroWest community as the number of families contacting them for services steadily increased. This prompted Jeff's Place to become an independent 501(c)(3) organization in 2011 and move to Framingham, MA in 2013. Jeff's Place has now served over 550 individuals from 38 cities and towns in and around MetroWest through their free support groups, individual counseling, educational trainings and crisis intervention. Their families come from a wide diversity of cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds; grief and loss does not discriminate.



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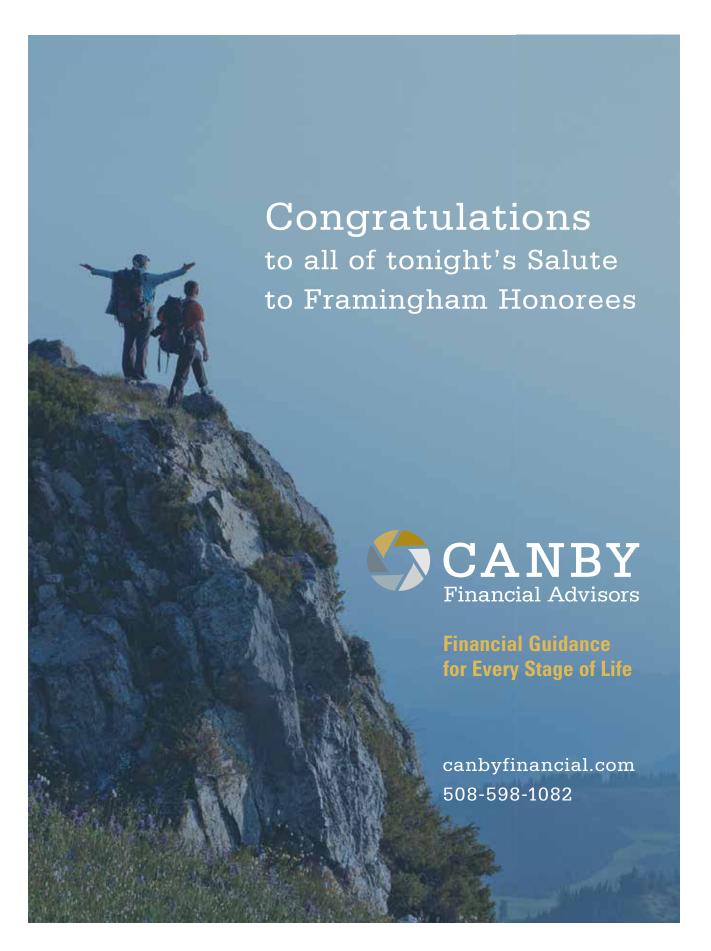
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Congratulations

Honorees & All Salute-to-Framingham Award Recipients



Thank you to all of the sponsors and supporters of our 2019 – 2020 team.



THE FLYERS' GOLF TEAM

thanks the FHS Foundation and congratulates the 2020 Salute honorees!



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF TONIGHT'S HONOREES



FHS FIELD HOCKEY VARSITY AND JV



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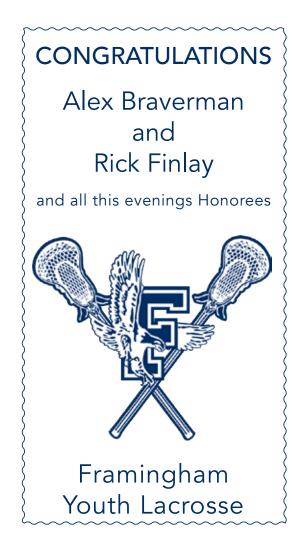
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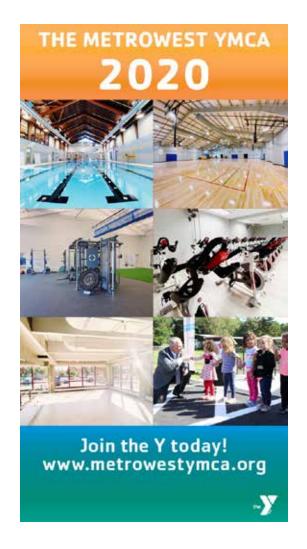






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Congratulations

Elena Nichols Nardizzi

and all of tonight's

Salute-to-Framingham

Honorees & Award Recipients who have made such a positive impact in their schools and the community surrounding them.

With Love,

The Nichols and Nardizzi Families



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Congratulations

Alex Braverman & Ricky Finlay and all of this evenings Honorees

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Congratulations to Ricky Finlay and all of this year's <u>Salute to Framingham</u> Honorees and Award Recipients

Thank you for your tireless service and commitment to the youth of Framingham

Scott Wadland

Framingham School Committee
District 3







CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2020 SALUTE RECIPIENTS:

Ricky Finlay and Alex Braverman

Petrini & Associates, P.C. 372 Union Avenue, Framingham, MA 01702 Tel. (508) 665-4310 www.petrinilaw.com - info@petrinilaw.com

Petrini & Associates, P.C. is a Metrowest public law firm specializing in municipal law and public construction and infrastructure litigation. P&A is City Solicitor to the City of Framingham, Town Counsel to West Brookfield and Leicester, and special counsel to cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth.

Christopher J. Petrini (2002 Salute Recipient)
Christopher L. Brown ◊ Amanda Zuretti ◊ Michael K. Terry
Heather C. White & Julie O. Petrini, Of Counsel

Congratulations to School Committee Alum Ricky Finlay and All Other Honorees!

... and THANK YOU for all you've done for education in Framingham!



From the 2020-2021 School Committee



St. Mary's Credit Union is proud to support the

28th Anniversary Salute to Framingham

Congratulations to this years honorees!

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Please meet these seniors through the words with which they were nominated by staff.



earnest-all superlatives apply. Sophie holds herself to an incredibly high standard both in and out of the classroom, gym and track. As a captain of both the FHS Varsity Track & Field and FHS Varsity Cheerleading teams she lives by the mantra of never excusing herself from the work that is necessary to achieve. Her athletic skills along with her dedication to academic excellence will have her competing in high jump as a Boston College Eagle next year.

Sophie is determined, dedicated, focused, unselfish, reliable, honest and

Sophie Albright



This year and last year he was an eager participant in class and brings very positive energy to the class. He's always willing to share ideas and help out others. This year especially, he is always engaged in Zoom classes and tries to encourage others to participate more as well.

Henrique Amancio



Rose is a dedicated learner both inside and outside the classroom. She engages in the decision making process at FHS and is a strong advocate for environmental and social justice. She works tirelessly to stand up for what she believes in and is an inspiration to both students and staff.

Rose Bailey



Ian has taken an array of courses at the Honors and Advanced College Placement levels. Ian is one of the most versatile students I've worked with in my sixteen years. His multifaceted ways are reflected in his extracurricular activities such as theater and athletics. He is one of the few students that has been able to balance the demands of athletics (soccer and wrestling), drama and academics so well. Ian also finds the time to be involved with the Rotary Youth Leadership Association.

Ian Barney



Aidan Beckman is a senior leader with the marching band and percussion ensemble. He is constantly working to better himself and his peers. He is a dedicated member of the class and always seeks to support others with his skills and dedication.

Aidan Beckman

Please meet these seniors through the words with which they were nominated by staff.



President of FHSDC and runner up in the Non English Speaking Union Competition. She has kept the Drama Company connected this year in the midst of very challenging times. Her attitude and positivity has made it possible for others to keep their heads up.

Hannah Bossange



She's a force of nature. Absolutely the most positive, helpful, determined, hard worker...ever. She consistently supports others, creating a ripple effect of positivity throughout FHS and beyond.

Sydney Callahan



She has come SO far!. She is heavily involved in the International Order of the Rainbow Girls (IORG) which is the female branch of the Masons. Erin has been the president of her youth chapter and they do lots of community service like Alzheimer's walk, raising money for Shriners Hospital, women's shelters, veterans and elderly. She has been a great role model for the younger RFL students, sharing that change is possible and that she has lived it despite the curve balls that life throws at us.

Erin Cayce



In a void of silence and black screens he always participates, volunteers to read, and does well with his work. He is always extremely polite, reflective, and even humorous. It's been nice having him in class, and after speaking with some of his past teachers they agree that he helps to elevate those around him!

Jacob Chartier



Anna Clara Costa

She is the embodiment of FHS spirit and positivity. She leads through her example of kindness and she has her hand in every part of the FHS experience. She participates in Track and Field, is an active member in Step Up, has been class president for all four years, is part of model congress, just to name a few things. Most importantly, what I love about Anna is that she doesn't do any of these things for her resume; she is genuinely curious about the world and is so, so excited to follow her passions/interests in any way she can. Not to mention she is an academic power house rocking a tough schedule (she will be our first FHS grad with a special AP distinction after completing the AP seminar capstone).

Please meet these seniors through the words with which they were nominated by staff.



Tim goes above and beyond in his genuine kindness. One of the kindest students I have had in my 28 years teaching. His dedication in and out of FHS is commendable! His volunteer work with Timothy's Toy Box has spread joy and happiness to countless Framingham families!

Timothy Gilbert



Not only is Nate one of the funniest students I've ever had, he is also one of the kindest., Nate has grown so much in high school, not just in academic ability but in perseverance, emotional intelligence, and social awareness. He shows true compassion every day.

Nathaniel Jacobs



Lily is a rockstar. She brings a smile to my face every day I see her. She is not only a talented writer, but also a talented public speaker and actress. I would vote for her for Congress.

Lillian Karofsky



He has been an amazing kid since he stepped through the doors of FHS four years ago. He came to the US with his family when he was in 7th grade. His English proficiency was Level 1 at the time, yet the following year he won the school-wide 8th grade essay contest in English. This is just one example of his many accomplishments that are the result of his determination and diligence. He has also been heavily involved in clubs and activities that revolve around social justice, immigrant and Black student rights, and making FHS a better place for all.

Joy Kunda



Ashley has demonstrated an unmatched willingness to learn and practice. She often participates, shows creativity in her presentations, and even goes the extra mile to have fun with assignments. She is truly a pleasure.

Ashley Lemus

Please meet these seniors through the words with which they were nominated by staff.



Olivia Lincoln

Olivia has been the captain of the softball team for two years and does Peer Leadership. She's been an amazing leader during a difficult time. She organizes off- season opportunities to bring players together which is particularly challenging in the current environment where many players are new to the program. She's an all-around positive person who teammates gravitate toward and trust. She works the hardest and brings out the best in those around her.



Sed Lomami

Sed constantly gives effort and is genuinely interested in the literature and the class. Takes pride in doing well. His constant effort and positive attitude has helped to lift the spirits of all those around him on a daily basis.



Rachel Marinofsky

Rachel is a member of NHS, Field Hockey Captain, 2 year Ice Hockey Captain and likely to be a Lacrosse captain in the spring. It seems like she basically tries extremely hard to excel at everything she does: sports, school, work, and life. In addition to being an outstanding FHS community member, she has also continued to work throughout the entire pandemic as a frontline worker at Carmel Terrace Assisted Living in Framingham. I cannot think of a better person to be honored for the Salute than Rachel.



Diego Mazariego

Diego is an engaged student, always actively communicating with me and interacting with other students. He is also a fantastic community member -- he did a journalistic internship last summer, jumping right into the working world even as everything was virtual. He has consistently impressed all around him as he grows and matures.



Elizabeth McElwain

Incredibly polite, hardworking, and earnest. Additionally, she is heavily involved on the dance team and balances her time between sports/activities and academics.

Please meet these seniors through the words with which they were nominated by staff.



Jack Rigueiro

Jack is someone everyone knows and loves. His energy makes you feel uplifted instantly -- he is happy, caring, helpful, encouraging, and interested in what others are doing and saying. He is willing to jump into any activity. He's eager to learn and works well with anyone. These qualities make him an exemplary friend, student, teammate and leader.



Gabryella Rodrigues

Gaby has not only been wonderful as far as attendance and participation, but she is often helpful to other students and keeps in-class questions interesting and relevant in class. She always has a smile on her face and is wonderful to have in class.



Kimberly Salla

I don't think I've ever witnessed such growth in any other student. Kim started with me as a sophomore vowing that she hated reading and English and she grew so much that year that she moved to honors for the rest of high school and has been a successful tutor in the ADC for two years. Kim's greatest strength is encouraging good in other people- she truly makes FHS a better place.



Carly Sofro

Carly Sofro - driven, motivated, hardworking, kind, honest, dependable, all other kind things to say! Her dedication to excellence and perseverance has made Carly a standout among her peers.



Citli Valencia Cordova

Citli is a student who continuously impresses me with her knowledge base. She is a passionate learner and teacher. Citli easily conveys her thoughts and inspires others to want to learn more. As her teacher, I constantly find myself saying "great question or thought, let's investigate this further".

Framingham High School Foundation

The Mission of the FHS Foundation is to financially supplement Framingham High School extra-curricular programs (activities, arts, and athletics) which may otherwise be restricted due to budgetary limitations. We firmly believe that high school students engaged in extracurricular activities in their areas of passion help them thrive in both academics and in all areas of their social and emotional well being.

The FHS Foundation was founded in 2002 by a group of parents to address the district's financial challenges due to the economy. Since then, the FHS Foundation continues to be able to accomplish its mission by building alliances with the Metrowest community, applying for grants, and through the Salute to Framingham, FHSF's primary fundraiser. Thanks in part to your support, the FHS Foundation has been able to support a wide array of extracurricular activities at the High School for well over a decade.

As always, 100% of the proceeds from this event are used to benefit activities, the arts, and athletics for the enrichment of FHS students.



www.framinghamhighschoolfoundation.org

Program

Emcee for the Evening: David O'Leary

Class of 2020 & 2021 Student Recognition

Carolyn Banach, Principal Greg Lagan & Jeff Convery - FHS Vice Principals

Samantha Aniela Bauer Jake Charles Benoit Alexandra Catherine Cahn Brian Jacob Chansky Maxwell James Connor Marley Elizabeth DeSimone Mira Iman Jean Donaldson Isobel Mamie Garrett Fiana Sophie Herscovici Luiny Neveslyne Juliao Jazlynn Choi Kew Leung Nicholas George Novello Larissa Marques Nunes Jose Geovany Nunez Velasquez Ilyannshelly Ortiz Lopez Hannah Suzanne Pearce Jonalys Vienna Peña Brendan Danxiong Qi Arjun Venkata Sesha Ramachandrula Julia Marie Rivera Megan Li Sidmore Madilyn Kate Spear Hailey Ann VanAelstyn

Samuel James Whiting

Sophie Delael Albright Henrique Leonardo Amancio Rose S. Bailey Ian Anthony Barney Aidan R. Beckman Hannah Bossange Sydney Leigh Callahan Erin A. Cayce Jacob Chartier Anna Clara Costa Timothy Nicholas Gilbert Nathaniel Jared Jacobs Lillian Grace Karofsky Joy Kankuenda Kunda Ashley Lemus Olivia Louise Lincoln Sed Eliya Lomami Rachel Neville Marinofsky Diego Arturo Mazariegos Elizabeth Anne McElwain Jack David Rigueiro Gabryella Castros Rodrigues Kimberly T. Kuster Salla Carly Madison Sofro Citli M. Valencia Cordova

2020 Salute to Framingham Award Presentation

Salute to Framingham Honorary Chairs, Mark Albright & Paul Spear

Alex Braverman & Ricky Finlay

Program

Jim O'Connor Community Service Award Jeff's Place

"We Are Grateful" Presentation

Address by Superintendent of Framingham Public Schools, Dr. Robert Tremblay

Dr. Susan McGilvray-Rivet (2020) Genoveffa Grieci (2021)

"You Are Special" Recognitions

Superintendent of Framingham Public Schools Dr. Robert Tremblay

Faculty and Staff Recipients

Maria Aparecida Dias: Joseph Ciavarini: Fuller Cameron Jack Coleman: Woodrow Peggy Ayres: Central Jackie Cueroni: Hemenway Liannys Alvarez Cheryl Curley: Walsh & Diane Cartier: Barbieri Iris de León: BLOCKS Jennifer Bremer: Fuller Maria Dias: Dunning Lauren Brown: Stapleton Victoria Dutcher: Brophy Gina Capodilupo: Brophy Dana Feingold: Potter Rd Mable Su: BLOCKS Lori Casavant: Dunning Gabriel Garcet: Stapleton

Mark Goldschmidt: FHS Sabrina Gravanti: King Monica LaBran: Potter Rd Nicole McCormack: FHS Elena Nardizzi: McCarthy Colleen Rogers: Cameron Elisa Sadulsky: Walsh Daniel Sirpenski: FHS



Samantha Bauer

Sammie has a unique maturity that helps her push peers to do what is right, and make everyone feel like they are part the whole. As soccer captain, she helped freshmen on the team with homework, and drove kids to practices, pasta parties, and other team activities. She also ran clinics for students with special needs, served as a leader on the unified basketball team, and was a Peer Leader. To top it all off, Mr. Childs says she may just be the best sales associate at Old Navy.



Jake Benoit

Jake has been the Class of 2020 president for longer than the current president of the US, getting elected his freshman year and reelected each year since. Jake has a super high GPA, especially given all his incredibly challenging course load of 4 Advanced Placement and one honors course this year. Jake is also a two-way bilingual student who goes to elective classes and helps translate for students who yet have to master English. Jake is also a member of the Swim and Dive team. He will be taking his talents to Harvard next year.



Alexandra Cahn

Alex seems to do it all; she is the captain of the state champion dance team, is the president of Student Government, has become a driving force in the yearbook, takes 4 AP and 1 honors course this year, found time to start the Knitting Club, is a member of the Photography Club, and volunteers as a youth ambassador for the Hugh O'Brien Foundation. She handles all of this stress with aplomb and good cheer. She will be heading off down the road to Wellesley College next year.



Brian Chansky

Brian is an influential force in the class of 2020. After two years of working with steering committee to advance our class goals, he won a spot as the Vice President as a junior. In that role he has been a fierce advocate behind initiatives such as junior privileges. Not one to rest easy, his senior year he is taking five AP courses, and is mostly handling all of this with cheerfulness. He is active with the United Synagogue Youth at his Temple, where he has been a board member for the past four years and serves as Chapter President. He has a positive impact on both school community and community at-large.



Maxwell Connor

Max is the president of the FHS Drama Company. It is his winning personality and genuine love of the company and the arts that has made this year one of the company's most successful years. As if being Bert in Mary Poppins and tap dancing upside down from the ceiling were not enough, this year he played the role of Jean Val Jean in our production of Les Mis. He is an outstanding young man, actor and student.



Marley DeSimone

Marley is in the top 5% of her class, has a rigorous academic schedule with all AP classes, and is a member of the National Honor Society. Marley is not only a strong swimmer, but she has also become a tremendous leader in providing guidance to younger athletes through her work as an ADC tutor, and at the pool. Throughout her career she has brightened challenging practices with her inspiration, smile, and charisma, which is even more impressive when you consider who her parents are. :)



Mira Donaldson

On top of being a solid student who has steadily improved academically over the course of her career, Mira is the founder and driving force behind the Black Student Union, a club that seeks to improve the climate of the school for all students. Her club does real hard cultural work; they have presented to the faculty on several occasions, have made connections with other BSUs in the state, and have hosted important events for community members. Mira courageously brings the community together; perhaps that courage results from overcoming a liver transplant at 14.



Isobel is an insightful reader and mature beyond her years. While she spends her summers working on university-level research, she spends her days here at FHS studying in all honors and AP courses and then tutors other kids on her own in the library.

Isobel Garret



Fiana Herscovici

Fiana has been the Class of 2020's secretary for the past 4 years, and is president of the National Honor Society. Fiana is a force behind many of our initiatives, from lobbying to get junior privs, to planning our multicultural day, all this while taking three AP courses this year, and maintaining a GPA of 4.7. Ms. Maynard says, "Fiana is undoubtedly one of the hardest working students I have ever had in my many years of teaching; [she gives] 100% in EVERYTHING she does, both in and out of FHS. However, what truly sets her apart is her modesty. With all that she accomplishes, she still is willing to help others shine and succeed."



Luiny Juliao

Simply put, whatever Luiny puts her mind to, she can do. She rocketed through her ESL classes after starting at the lower-intermediate level and now takes honors-level everything, except for AP Studio Art. While working upwards of 30 hours a week, Luiny amassed a GPA of 4.4. She was the winner of the Boston Globe Gold Key Medal for her artwork. Ms. Bigelow says, "Luiny is one of the most motivated, kindhearted, intelligent, hardworking, and thoughtful students I have ever taught at Framingham High School. She is, simply put, a wonderful person."



Jazlynn Leung

Jazlynn has excelled since day one at FHS. She has a passion for both the field of science and working with kids - which will help in pursuing her dream of being a pediatrician. Jazlynn has been able to flawlessly balance her rigorous course load, athletics, and her social life. In addition to being in the Top 5% of the class, she is a leader on the Girls Basketball team, a Project Manager for the National Honor Society, VP of the Key Club, member of a traditional Chinese Dance Company, and an extremely accomplished piano player.



Nicholas Novello

Nick, a captain of the football team, is an amazing athlete and student, a consummate team kid. He has an A+ work ethic and thinks of others first. His unbelievable knowledge of football allowed him to act like a coach on the field. Ms. Adams says, "He is a brilliant student and works hard. He often explains problems to others in class and is encourages his peers to answer problems correctly." He is also works in the ADC as a tutor, who impresses his tutee with his astounding knowledge and approachable manner.



Larissa Nunes

Larissa has been instrumental as Executive Anchor for the Class of 2020 where her connection with various student groups has brought new members together. On top of her challenging course-load, she is active in her church, teaching religious education and planning activities for their youth group. She is also a dance leader, specializing in ballet and Jazz at Brandi Rae's School of Dance, babysits for neighbors and is a camp counselor at Camp Invention. She will be the first in her family to attend college.



Jose Nuñez Velasquez

Jose has the face of America, coming to us his freshman year from El Salvador not knowing a word of English. He is always mature, respectful, hardworking, and eager to improve. Jose embodies a quality that we wish all students had: perseverance. Despite challenges he has faced in his life, he always arrives ready and eager to learn with a smile on his face. This year in particular, he has developed a passion for reading and eagerly dives into books - from graphic novels to classics. Not only is Jose a role model to other students, but he inspires his teachers to want to do the best they can for their students. Ms. Gill says, "Jose goes above and beyond to succeed."



Ilyannshelly Ortiz Lopez

Ilyannshelly is a student-athlete who shows leadership both in and beyond the classroom. Ilyannshelly came to FHS when she was in ninth grade from Puerto Rico. Since that time when she was a beginner ESL student, she is now in all mainstream classes, has become a standout player on the volleyball team, participates in the Student Immigrant Movement Club, and excels in the classroom not only with her own work, but also by motivating others who need support; she gives tours to Spanish-speaking newcomers as a Senior Helping Freshmen. She will be the first in her family to attend college.



Hannah Pearce

Hannah is a wonderful role model for our class, not only because she is so involved, but because she does so quietly, yet effectively. In addition to being our class treasurer for four years now, she is an active member of the National Honor Society, annually completes 30 hours of community service for Youth in Philanthropy, is the varsity Girls Basketball manager, and a member of Model UN. Outside of school, she has been a cashier in Honey Dew Donuts, and is currently a barista in Saxonville Mills Café.



Jonalys Peña

Jonalys is an extremely active member of her class as a Peer Leader and as captain for two years in a row of the state championship Dance Team. She always has a smile on her face and sees the positive in every situation. She has been a tremendous leader and role model for younger students and anyone who has been interested in getting involved – such as new students arriving from other countries, and as a Senior helping freshmen. She does this while exuding a joy that becomes infectious.



Brendan Qi

On top of his difficult schedule of 5 AP and Honors class this year, Brendan has been a committed member of the Drama Company, playing prominent roles in many productions, including one of three Drama Company members to win an award at last year's METG State Drama Festival for the live music of Animal Farm. He was also a runner up for Mr. FHS last year, where he wowed the audience with incredible, and funny, xylophone-playing.



Arjun Ramachandrula

Arjun is a scientifically talented and academically gifted student who is an integral part of the FHS community through his regular participation in extra-curricular activities, especially robotics, where he has competed in national competitions. Over the course of high school has maxed out his schedule with AP and Honors classes, to the point where he now has to do independent studies in math and technology. He plans on studying engineering in college.



Julia Rivera

Julia continually surprises people with her talent and dedication. She is a member of the chorus and the color guard where she successfully advocated for an indoor color guard team. She is also a member of the Step Up to Excellence program where she has completed multiple community service opportunities such as tutoring elementary students in the district. Like many of her colleagues here tonight, she always has a friendly disposition and greets people with a smile on her face.



Megan Sidmore

Megan is an all-around amazing student and person. She is an active member of Flyer News which requires much dedication, getting here to school in the wee hours of the dawn while most students are asleep. She is also a talented artist and student. She continually impresses with her knowledge and determination within the classroom. She is also kind and helpful to everyone she meets.



Madilyn Spear

Madi is a positive, outgoing young lady who is a great role model to those around her. She has mastered a lot of academic skills, which allows her to find success in her classes, and is always willing to learn from her mistakes. She is funny, charismatic, and easy to talk to, a four year member of the Drama Company, acting as treasurer her junior year. On top of her leading roles in some of the Company's biggest plays, she regularly volunteers at middle school productions and helps in every way, from staging to ushering.



Hailey Vanaelstyn

Hailey is one of those people whose passion for making the world a better place becomes contagious. As President of the Gender and Sexuality Alliance she is working with other clubs in spearheading a color run fundraising campaign. She is a vocal leader on the girl's hockey team, becoming a player others look up to. On the Unified Basketball team, she cares deeply about the special education students, taking the time to get to know her classmates personally. Hailey's joy in helping her teammates is evident, and reflects her kind and caring personality, which complements her academics, as she was inducted in to the National Honor Society this year.



Samuel Whiting

Sam is a compassionate, thoughtful, motivated young man. He has strong academic skills along with social self-confidence, which makes him a role model for his peers, whether on the court, ballfield or in the classroom. Sam was captain of the Boys Basketball team, and became a leader on our Unified team where he willingly gives up his time and energy to help special education students enjoy the game of basketball.



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We Are Grateful - 2020

Dr. Susan McGilvray-Rivet



Susan has devoted her career to building, through bilingual education, welcoming and inclusive educational communities and limitless possibilities for all students, and especially for multilingual learners. She has been a strong advocate for bilingual programs and in bringing diverse students together to learn both with and from each other through language and culture.

Susan has been a Massachusetts educator for over 43 years. She began her career in 1977 as a bilingual Spanish teacher in Lawrence, and then quickly rose to Coordinator of Transitional Bilingual Education. She was then hired as Principal of Proctor Elementary School in Topsfield. Susan assumed her first Framingham position as Director of Bilingual, ESL and Sheltered English Education in 1994, and became the Principal of the Barbieri Elementary School in 2010.

Susan is a graduate in elementary education and Spanish from Wittenberg University. She holds both M.Ed. and Ed.D. degrees from Boston University. She is the recipient of numerous local and national bilingual and civil right educator awards.

Minerva Gonzalez, former principal of the Barbieri Elementary School, wrote of her, "Her lifelong commitment to education has significantly impacted the lives of the children in our community and the community itself." Susan is invested in the community and has always looked at bilingual education as an investment in the future of children's education.

Dr. Susan McGilvray-Rivet, for your many years of dedication and service to the FPS and your students,

We Are Grateful!

We Are Grateful - 2021

Genoveffa Grieci



Gen Grieci came to Framingham, MA from Italy as a child and she has never forgotten her beginnings. Her experiences and memories have propelled her to make a difference in the lives of Framingham's immigrant children and youth.

Gen began as an English as a Second Language teacher at Framingham South and continued in that role when the high schools merged. She then moved on to become the Department Head of the Bilingual and ESL programs at the high school. Later, she became the Assistant Director to the district's Bilingual and ESL program, eventually becoming the Director.

Under Gen's leadership and guidance, the entire district has come to know and appreciate the importance of bilingualism and biculturalism. She has expanded the program to each school in the district and has paved the way for 3 new Two-Way programs at Potter Road, Wilson and Brophy Elementary. Gen has also implemented innovative programs such as SLIFE for students who come to Framingham with little or interrupted schooling, native-language tutors for low incidence students and a legal waiver process where bilingual programs have to ensure that students did not lose content while learning English.

Dr. Esta Montano, a long time colleague, describes Gen as "patient, kind, encouraging, collaborative, and determined. She is, without a doubt, the first name you will hear when Framingham's English learners and graduates of the program are asked who has had a major impact in their lives."

Gen Grieci, for your many years of dedication and service to Framingham Public Schools and to your students,

We Are Grateful!



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Congratulations to all of this evenings honorees!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Maria Aparecida Dias - Cameron Middle School



Cida is the first person most people see when they come through the front doors of Cameron Middle School. She greets everyone in a warm and inviting way, making all feel comfortable and respected, whether they are parents, students, staff or other visitors. Cida is a bridge to the Brazilian families who entrust their children to us each day. She is always willing to help and share important cultural information so that all families feel a part of the Cameron community. Her support with translation has been invaluable. She is always professional and caring with families, students and staff.

As a guidance secretary, she is thorough, accurate, detail-oriented and completes tasks quickly and efficiently. Here is what some of her colleagues have said about her: "Cida's warm smile and caring nature welcome everyone who enters Cameron's doors. Whether accompanying the social worker (support staff) on home visits, translating during challenging situations or helping to provide support and guidance to families in need, Cida is an invaluable part of our Cameron team." and "Cida is the kindest, caring, and most compassionate person I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Her presence in the office exudes calmness." Cida spreads cheer and positivity throughout the building with her infectious smile, positive outlook, and of course, incredible dance moves.

She is a mentor to some of our most struggling students. They stop by to see her to share their troubles and she, in turn, encourages them to believe in themselves. Cida has a calm presence, especially in difficult situations. She has a heart of gold and always goes beyond what would be expected to help out our school community.

Cida Dias, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Peggy Ayres - Central Office



Peggy is a proud mother, grandmother, and chef of the ultimate breakfast casserole. She has been an invaluable member of Community Resource Development since March of 2014.

She has worked tirelessly and been instrumental to the growth of the department. She has seen the department grow from 3 programs servicing a few hundred students to the department we are now that has over 30 programs year-round and servicing over 3000 students.

Peggy is always present, willing, and ready to help. She consistently goes above and beyond and is just an incredible joy to work with.

Peggy Ayres, You Are Special!



"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Liannys Alvarez & Diane Cartier (Office Manager Team) - Barbieri Elementary School



Our office managers, Diane Cartier and Liannys Alvarez are the face and operation central of Barbieri School. Every parent, family member or visitor who walks through the door is greeted in Spanish, English and sometimes a little Portuguese by Liannys. No matter how busy or how many tasks there are to juggle everyone is greeted with a smile. Do you have a question about ordering, building permits, payroll, meeting or substitute schedules? Diane is the one to see.

Diane and Liannys do it all to support our 700 students and their families and our 115 staff members. Arrival and dismissal, busing, dismissals during the school day, extra-curricular activities and clubs, before and after school programs, answering questions, referrals to appropriate school and district contacts, attendance, school security and office help calls... the list is endless!

They get to know our students on a personal level: students from all our programs, bilingual, DD and multi-handicapped. They comfort sick children on the way to the nurse and support students who may need to "help in the office" as part of a behavior plan. They are understanding and respectful when students arrive in the office with a significant social emotional or behavioral need. The office is a safe place for students due to this dynamic duo. It goes without saying that these women go the extra mile to help staff and families alike.

Liannys Alvarez & Diane Cartier, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Jennifer Bremer - Fuller Middle School



Jennifer Bremer can be described as multilingual, multi-talented, dedicated to ALL students, and a skilled special educator in both elementary and middle school.

Undoubtedly, Jennifer is a fierce advocate for students with disabilities, especially students with Autism. You can often see her meeting with the Unified Arts teachers, Student Support staff, and administration, making sure the complex needs of not only hers, but all students, are met. Jennifer introduced a social skills class during which students from general education classrooms are invited to participate.

Thanks to her extreme passion about teaching and exemplary dedication to learning, she is an all-around asset to our Fuller Middle School community. Jennifer is highly respected by all staff and students, and especially by all of her former students from McCarthy who circle back to visit with her now that she is back with us at Fuller.

Jennifer Bremer, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Lauren Brown - Stapleton Elementary School



Mrs. Brown is being saluted by the staff at Stapleton for being an amazing special educator. She reaches our toughest students and they want to learn. Her ability to relate and work with our most fragile students is exemplary.

She has such a gift for teaching those students who have lost confidence in themselves, knowing what students need and unifying staff. She is accepting of ideas and willing to do whatever it takes to help students.

She makes her lessons engaging and differentiated. She is creative and open to new ideas. She goes above and beyond for staff and students. Lauren is irreplaceable!

Lauren Brown, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Gina Capodilupo - Brophy Elementary School



Gina has been a dedicated member of the Framingham Public Schools and Brophy School for fourteen years. She began teaching second and third grade and her classroom was always run like a well-oiled machine due to her commitment to routines, consistency, and relationship building. Gina always takes the time to truly know her students and understands that if she is able to form a strong bond with each student, especially the most challenging students, she will see their best work academically. After five years in the classroom, Gina transitioned and became a Title 1 interventionist.

When Gina speaks about her students she talks not only about their test scores and reading level but also their personal lives and personality traits. She believes in the importance of remembering the whole child and carries this motto with her in all that she does. Her work ethic is second to none as each intervention group she works with is meticulously planned to ensure that students are benefiting from each moment they're with her. Her groups run effortlessly because Gina is so attuned to the individual needs of each child. Her ability to differentiate lessons allows each child to leave their time with her feeling successful, motivated, and challenged.

Gina inspires all of the staff at Brophy with her dedication to her students. While Gina would never say it, she is one of Brophy's biggest assets. Her impact is immeasurable.

Gina Capodilupo, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Lori Casavant - Dunning Elementary School



As a kindergarten teacher Lori's singular focus is to always provide the most successful kindergarten experience to our youngest students and their families. Her goal is always to meet the needs of her students in all areas of development, while instilling in them the excitement for and pride in their learning. She sets high expectations for each student in her class, and utilizes each child's strengths to promote their achievement. She consistently exceeds the expectations as a model educator, always seeking to improve her skills and embrace new technologies, methodologies and pedagogies to benefit her students.

Lori goes above and beyond to become a consistent, reliable force in the lives of her students. Over the years she has been known to attend student's sporting events, birthday parties, and theater productions. This year Lori has met the additional challenge of teaching an integrated class with newcomer ELs alongside her standard students. She has worked diligently to reach out to new parents to assure they feel welcomed and supported in this new environment, and no surprise, her students are thriving!!

Lori is a supportive and dedicated colleague who is always there to offer support, share her expertise and insight, as well as the oftentimes needed "extra hand" to any colleague in need. She is quick to jump in and get involved in school initiatives, working collaboratively to be a part of changes that will improve students' experiences. The Dunning community is fortunate to have such an amazing teacher and colleague.

Lori Casavant, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Joseph Ciavarini - Fuller Middle School



Joe Ciavarini, an Inclusion Teacher at Fuller, is fondly known as Mr. C by the students and staff. Mr. C is a dedicated professional who flies under the radar when it comes to drawing attention to himself for all of the wonderful things he does for students. He does not seek out praise or acknowledgments, he just does things because they are the right things to do for kids.

What does Mr. C. ever do for us? First, Mr. C is THE trusted adult for many students because he genuinely cares about them. He takes time to get to know students, and not just the ones on his caseload or on his team. He is the go-to for anyone who needs advice, a caring pat on the shoulder, or a place to vent or cry. Kids seek him out daily.

Mr. C has a very special Friday lunch group, which has been going on for years. Kids look forward to earning their passes each week to join and many times Joe provides lunch for the students, whether it's homemade or brought in as a treat from a local restaurant.

Lastly, in addition to mentoring students, Mr. C connects with all adults by being a thoughtful and trusted team player and mentor with a great sense of humor. His love of Star Wars, Dungeons and Dragons, superheros, and Monty Python keeps him as a kid at heart.

Joe Ciavarini, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Jack Coleman - Woodrow Wilson Elementary



Mr. Coleman should be saluted for his long career here. He is extremely passionate about music and is a very talented musician and teacher. He has been one of the pillars of the Woodrow Wilson School for many years, inspiring countless students and helping our school community come together through music at our Global Gatherings.

He has been making contributions in music education for numerous years and as a result has had a significant impact on shaping the Woodrow Wilson culture. His creative ability to write songs related to school pride and curriculum highlights his passion for our school and students.

He has earned the respect of thousands of students over his time at Wilson due to his high standards for them both musically and morally.

Jack Coleman, You Are Special!



"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Jackie Cueroni - Hemenway Elementary School



Jackie Cueroni has been a resident of Framingham for 30 years. Jackie grew up in Ashland, graduating from Ashland High School and receiving a Bachelor's Degree from Framingham State University with a degree in Psychology and Economics. Jackie earned a Master's Degree from UMASS Boston in School Counseling and her BCBA from UMASS Lowell.

Jackie started her career as a counselor and Assistant Clinical Director for the Department of Youth Services in Worcester. From there, she spent three years as a Group Home Supervisor for the Department of Mental Health in Quincy before starting her family.

Jackie and her husband, Joe have four children Joey, Anthony, Michelle and Christina who all attended Barbieri, Walsh and graduated from Framingham High School. Anthony and Christina are now employees of the Framingham Public Schools!

In 2008, Jackie began her career in the Framingham Public Schools as a paraprofessional in the PDD program at Potter Road. Her career led her to McCarthy where she was a behavior specialist for all the elementary and middle schools in Framingham. During those years, the majority of her students attended McCarthy Elementary. In 2012, Jackie became the Guidance Counselor at Hemenway School, where she has resided ever since.

Jackie is an invaluable member of the Hemenway Staff! On a daily basis, Jackie is problem solving with students, collaborating with teachers and support staff, managing student behaviors, organizing and running TAT and SET meetings, participating in all SBLAT and TEAM meetings, supporting the Social Emotional Curriculums in classrooms and communicating with families. Jackie is well respected by teachers, administrators, parents and students at Hemenway. She is a hard-working, knowledgeable, patient, kind counselor, who is ready to take on any challenge that comes her way! We are grateful to have Jackie Cueroni as our guidance counselor extraordinaire!

Jackie Cueroni, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Cheryl Curley - Walsh Middle School



Cheryl Curley started working at Walsh Middle School in 2004 as a special educator. Throughout her 16 years at Walsh, Cheryl has worked tirelessly for all of her students and is asupportive team leader for her colleagues. Cheryl is always willing to help anyone. She will volunteer to help out with any cause and the word 'no' does not exist in her vocabulary. She will literally help out with any activity, event, or lesson plan that will benefit our students.

Cheryl has worn many hats throughout her career at Walsh. From volunteering at school events such as the Walsh 5K to serving on the Champions' Day Committee, Cheryl is dedicated to the school community and the students she serves.

Cheryl serves as a building leader for several programs that address the social and emotional well being of our students. As a PBIS coach for several years, Cheryl created lessons and implemented Tier 1 strategies for the entire student population at Walsh.

Currently, Cheryl is the driving force behind the Walsh Connections Program and she is a mentor to a countless number of special educators. Cheryl spends many late nights making accommodations, creating study guides, and/or scripting parent emails to help support her students. Cheryl's students succeed because of her hard work. Cheryl's team of teachers feel supported because of her leadership and the entire Walsh community is a better place because of Cheryl.

Cheryl Curley, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Iris de León - BLOCKS Preschool



Iris de León started at the BLOCKS preschool in 2007 as a parent volunteer helping out in her daughter's classroom. It took only a short time to see how well she worked with children, that we realized she would be an excellent candidate to support students with significant challenges and hired her in April 2008.

Iris is a collaborator, team player, talented artist and tech wizard who is willing to help in all areas without needing to be asked. Her organization, good judgement and positive relationships especially with our Spanish speaking families has provided daily two way communication and collaboration between school and home. Iris is able to problem solve quickly when a situation arises which is critical given the significant challenges of her students. Her calm demeanor and knowledge of each child's needs allows her to be proactive, always anticipating in order to be able to respond in the moment.

Iris is also a force of nature at work. She keeps things rolling all day long, so nobody better slow down. Whether it's panic in the playground, bad news in the bathroom, singing (that's what we call it anyway) at morning Circle, apparent food fight in the Cafeteria, need for the nurse, etc. As Pete the Cat might say, "Iris keeps walking along and singing her song, because It's all good". She's calm, cool, organized, hardworking, and if you worked with her everyday, just might say she's a little bit indispensable.

Iris is an asset to our school, always lending a hand when possible, brainstorming ideas and solutions to everyday challenges. Her positive demeanor truly contributes to making our school a better place for all. Gracias Iris.....Eres muy Especia!

Iris de León, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Maria Dias - Dunning Elementary School



Maria is an invaluable asset to the Dunning community. Over the years she has made it possible for countless incoming families to settle into Dunning. She forms strong bonds with students, parents, and staff across the building. These relationships make it possible for students and families to fully engage in the Dunning community. This may include supporting students in classrooms, translating for students, greeting students at the beginning of the day to make them feel connected, or making phone calls to families to gather information or answer questions. In addition, she goes above and beyond to provide communication for students and families who don't speak English by utilizing her skills of bilingualism to translate information.

Maria's caring and calming demeanor allows others to feel comfortable working with her. Her flexibility, professionalism, and expertise allow her to work with a variety of students, spanning across all grade levels, cognitive abilities, and languages. She is a valued member of our school community who is quick to help or do any job asked of her and is always ready to do whatever is necessary to support a student or fellow colleagues. She approaches every situation with a positive perspective; striving to provide the most supportive and successful impact that she can.

Maria truly embodies all the hallmarks of the "You Are Special Award"! Her kindness and dedication for helping others illustrates why she is such a beloved member of the Dunning Community.

Maria Dias, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Victoria Dutcher - Brophy Elementary School



Though Victoria "Tori" Dutcher has only worked at Brophy School for three years, she has made a profound impact on our school in this short time. Tori began her work with us as a Grade 3 SEI teacher where her students excelled both academically and socially. For the past two years, Tori has worked as our Literacy Coach and, for a short time, has filled in as our Math Coach when we were between coaches. Tori's work and effort is tremendously respected by her colleagues and by our students.

Tori is a true leader in that she is very skilled at her work, but she is always willing to learn and she leads by example. For instance, in the past 3 years, we have done a lot of work with the DESE as we have spent considerable time trying to improve the experiences of all our students. Though this work is hard and challenging, Tori has approached it with a passion and has swiftly become a person both the District and our staff go to to be a thought partner, solve problems, and get things done. Though the bulk of Tori's work is working with staff, she still works with groups of children and kids work hard so they can earn time with her. Brophy School is grateful to have Tori as a leader in our school.

Tori Dutcher, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Dana Feingold - Potter Road Elementary School



You might say Dana Feingold was destined to be an educator. Her mother was a classroom teacher and her father was an educational consultant in leadership.

Her experiences as a child were vast and varied--growing up traveling all over the world, living in Paris for a year and sailing around South America in a tall ship during high school.

A graduate of Wheaton College with a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from UMASS-Lowell, Dana has held numerous roles in education since she began her career in 2002. From teaching at independent schools in San Francisco to starting a program for dyslexic students, Mrs. Feingold always puts students at the center.

She came to Potter Road in the Fall of 2016. Since becoming Potter's literacy coach, Mrs. Feingold has worked to ensure literacy is at the forefront of all students and teachers do. Through her work using the multi-tiered system of supports to her consistent presence in the classroom working with all educators to improve literacy instruction, she's always figuring out how to do what's best for all students. Dana says she loves working in Framingham and is always learning from her colleagues.

When not in school, you can find her hiking, biking, or doing some yoga with her husband Rob and their two children Ali and Camden.

Dana Feingold, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Gabriel Garcet - Stapleton Elementary School



Mr. Garcet is being saluted by the staff at Stapleton for going above and beyond "the call of duty." Not only does he take excellent care of the building, but he is also a positive role model for the students, who he interacts with frequently. He has a great attitude and is always willing to help in any way he can. He is always positive and kind. He is funny. He is someone staff and students look forward to seeing each and every day.

Gabriel Garcet, You Are Special!



"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Mark Goldschmidt - Framingham High School



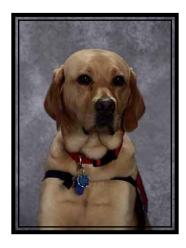
Mark Goldschmidt is in his 16th year at FHS. Mark started his career as an English teacher before transitioning to the Coordinator of the Resiliency for Life program.

Mark possesses the skills, experience, and positive mindset required to genuinely impact the lives of students every day. Mark teaches his students the habits of mind that are essential to academic and personal achievement. He is a visionary educator who thinks strategically about how we can best support academic, social and emotional success for our students.

Mark is a strong advocate for the RFL program reaching beyond traditional ideas to bring innovation and inspiration to our school community.

As a result of Mark's efforts, Nala joined our staff during the 2018-19 school year. Together, Mark and Nala bring comfort, peace, and happiness to our school community.

Mark Goldschmidt, You Are Special!



"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Sabrina Gravanti - King Elementary School



Sabrina Gravanti is a highly respected and invaluable member of our school community. As one of the original Kindergarten teachers when King opened its doors 6 years ago, she immediately took on the role of a teacher leader, serving in many roles including PTO executive board member, community event organizer, mentor teacher, provider of school-based and district professional development, and FTA building representative. Additionally, along with her grade level team, Sabrina created the foundation of King's STEAM program and has continued to partner with her colleagues to strengthen its role within the school community. In her role as an FTA Representative, Sabrina has been an attentive and active listener partnering with staff members to work through concerns, offering thoughtful guidance and support.

Over the years, Sabrina has developed many close bonds with students and staff and easily builds connections with parents and guardians as well. In fact, former students and their families continue to have special relationships with her long after their children have left her classroom. Sabrina consistently exhibits a strong work ethic and a commitment to the students she serves. She believes that all students can succeed and communicates that message to them each and every day, instilling in them a stronger sense of self-confidence. It is evident that Sabrina truly enjoys working with children, just as they enjoy working with her. Sabrina Gravanti serves as a positive role model in children's lives and we are fortunate to have her at King Elementary School.

Sabrina Gravanti, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Monica LaBran - Potter Road Elementary School



Monica LaBran came to the United States from Natal, Brazil in 2006 and never looked back. Beginning her career as an au pair, Mrs. LaBran lived with a family and worked with their teenage son, who was on the Autism Spectrum. She kept him active, drove him to piano lessons, and kept him engaged socially. This experience turned Monica on to the idea of working with special education students.

Monica received a Bachelor's degree in Management Studies from Cambridge College in 2010. Not long after, Mrs. LaBran started a job at Bank of America in Waltham. Working in business wasn't fulfilling enough so she decided to move on and make a difference in the world for children. In 2011, she began a Master's Program at UMASS Boston with licenses in Elementary Education, ESL, and Moderate Disabilities.

During this time, Monica completed a teacher residency program at the Roger Clap Innovation School in Boston. Upon graduation in 2012, Monica joined Potter Road as a first grade SEI teacher. The following year she joined Potter's special education team.

Throughout her time at Potter, Monica has been an integral part of students' lives. She's always willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done and ensure that students reach their highest potential. With her positive attitude, compassion, bright smile, and her bilingual skills, she never gives up on students. Monica makes her home in Southboro with her husband, Andy and their son Victor.

Monica LaBran, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Nicole McCormack - Framingham High School



Nikki McCormack started her work at FHS in 2011 as the English teacher for the Phoenix program. From here she transitioned seamlessly into the Bridge program. Beyond her work in the classroom and Bridge she coached in the Girls' Soccer Program from 2012-2017 and traveled with two groups of Student Global Leaders to Europe in the summer of 2016 and 2017.

Nikki's work exemplifies her tireless effort to help students reach their potential while they simultaneously work on their own mental health needs. She is able to pull strengths from students and help them individualize their academic plans to move forward after extended absences and always thinks creatively in her approach being mindful of meeting the student where they are emotionally. Without question, Nikki's positive and caring approach has been the determining factor in the success of a multitude of Bridge students since the inception of the program.

Nikki McCormack, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Elena Nardizzi - McCarthy Elementary School



Elena became a member of our school community as a proud parent of four boys who all attended McCarthy School in the early 2000's. She loved McCarthy so much that in 2007 she became our cafeteria monitor. Quickly recognizing her many talents, Elena was asked to transition to the office staff and has been our Office Manager Extraordinaire since 2014!

Elena is the glue that keeps McCarthy School together. She ensures we are up and running everyday and is the fixer of all things broken, the coordinator of all things happening, and the organizer of all events planned. She has a warm smile and listening ear for our students and staff, is always welcoming and ready to assist parents, families and visitors, and she does it all with grace, compassion and kindness. Elena Nardizzi, we are blessed to have you and from the bottom of our hearts, want you to know how special you are.

Elena Nardizzi, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Colleen Rogers - Cameron Middle School



Colleen is unshakable, confident, steady, and comforting. As the Cameron Middle School nurse, she wears many hats in a very busy environment. Not only does she provide medical support for students, families, and staff, but she is quick to provide social-emotional support as well. Colleen is always honest and transparent with families, providing a listening ear, helping to arrange outside services, or having difficult conversations as needed.

Colleen has a smile for everyone and is always calm, cool and collected in even the most challenging situation. She is an integral part of our Student Support Team and shares her experiences and expertise to help with difficult student circumstances. Colleen is a strong advocate for the Cameron community, seeking out donations of clothing, winter coats, and sneakers to ensure our students have what they need during the school year.

She has a sense of humor that is much appreciated after a very busy day and is quick to offer a thank you to colleagues who work closely with her. You have to be a special kind of person to be a school nurse at a middle school and Colleen Rogers you are that kind of person.

Colleen Rogers, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Elisa Sadulsky - Walsh Middle School



Lisa Sadulsky has spent her entire career at Walsh Middle School teaching French and Spanish. Over the past forty-eight years, she has taught a countless number of students. Lisa is passionate about language and her students.

As the World Language Department Head, she mentors teachers, assists with substitutes, ensures that the curriculum is up to date, and is a fierce advocate for world language. Lisa is considered a "tough" teacher that gets results. A student recently commented, "This is a class where I always have to use my brain." Her students receive numerous national awards each year. Many Walsh alumni frequently come back to visit Mrs. Sadulsky and they continually thank her for preparing them for high school and beyond.

Lisa not only makes a positive impact on her students, but she also provides support for her colleagues and the entire Walsh community. Lisa is always visible at the band and chorus concerts, drama productions, school dances, 3 on 3 basketball tournament, and the robotics competitions. Lisa is always there for the students.

Merci Lisa! Muchas Gracias Lisa! We salute you and your many years of dedication to the students of Framingham.

Lisa Sadulsky, You Are Special!

"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Dan Sirpenski - Framingham High School



Dan Sirpenski is in his 20th year as a passionate FHS science teacher. Dan works tirelessly to get the most out of all his students. His positive attitude and ability to build relationships with his students and collaborate through teamwork with colleagues is commendable.

Last year, Dan selflessly volunteered to sacrifice his prep periods to help tutor a senior ESL student who had not yet passed the science MCAS. After a month of consistent support from Dan, this student passed the Biology MCAS and was awarded his diploma from FHS. Thank you Dan!

Dan Sirpenski, You Are Special!



"You Are Special" Write-Ups submitted by School Principals

Mable Su - BLOCKS Preschool



Mable Su began as an Assistant Teacher in Framingham Public Schools in January 2008 at Stapleton School and in August of that year she joined the BLOCKS Preschool Program. Given her knowledge, professional training and experience as an educator, Mable is a team player who works collaboratively as if she were a co-teacher. She is always willing to help, share ideas and take the lead in whatever is needed.

Aside from Mable's professionalism and educational training, it is her personal qualities that are so engaging to children, families and staff. Her caring and respectful manner is always evident when interacting with others. She is always friendly greeting her students with a warm hello. When witnessing the way she interacts with students, she is always interested in what children are doing and in what they have to say encouraging her students to take risks and supporting them as needed.

At her core you will always see Mable respond with compassion, empathy and kindness to all. She always puts others first, and finds ways to support children, families and colleagues by accessing resources both in school and in the community. Mable is our gift... wrapped up in a small package with tremendous amounts of generosity, thoughtfulness and kindness that she offers to all.

Mable Su, You Are Special!

One - Liners

Congratulations, Jazlynn! We're so proud of you!

Congratulations Sam! We're so proud of you!

Congratulations Nicholas, we are so proud of you! <3 Mom, Dad + Memere

You are Daddy's Girl and Momma's World, so proud of you Sammie Bauer! Love Dad, Mom & Max

Hannah Pearce – We are so proud of you! Love, Your Family

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