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Superintendent of Schools

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

1/8/16

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

- I am pleased to announce that I have appointed Mr. Frank Kowalski to the role of Interim High School Principal through June 30, 2016. Mr. Kowalski was eager to accept this position and with his experience at Swampscott High School I am confident that his leadership for the remainder of the school year will be a smooth transition for both students and staff.
- We have had numerous applicants for the joint general government and school department Director of Facilities position. All applicants will be screened this coming Monday, January 11th to identify the most qualified candidates to move forward in the interview process that will soon follow.
- There are currently 32 applicants for the High School Principalship. Of the 32, I have already screened out over 3/4 of the candidates. To say the caliber of applicants is very disappointing is an understatement. They do not match my vision for SHS or the Swampscott Public Schools, which is why no interview committee has been formed to date. The posting closes on January 29th and I will keep you informed of next steps at that time.
- I attended the monthly Board Meeting of the Swampscott Education Foundation (SEF) this week. If you are new member of our staff and are not familiar with this Foundation please visit their website at: <http://swampscottfoundation.org/> and please pay particular attention to the grants page: <http://swampscottfoundation.org/grantInformation.htm>
- SEF distributed over \$23,000 in grants to our teachers/schools last year not including *Special Projects*.
- SAVE THE DATE for this year's Summer Soiree which is already scheduled for Saturday evening, July 16th.
- In my November 23rd issue I spoke of the safety and security updates that would be occurring in the early part of the New Year. I am pleased to report that intercom and swipe card systems have been installed here at the Middle School. It won't be long until these systems are connected and staff will be using swipe cards to enter the building. We continue to make the safety of our students our number one priority and each small project we successfully complete is a positive step towards that end.
- Finally, the Clarke School Handicap Accessibility Project is nearing completion and the building facade looks beautiful. I am incredibly proud of everyone involved in this project and I am forever grateful to the town and community for the financial support to make this a reality for our students, staff, and community members.



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