



# Paw Prints

E-newsletter for the Franklin Regional School District

## Discovery Ed Wraps Up



Franklin Regional's Discovery Education Digital Ambassadors and Integrators completed their final session after three years of professional development. The professional learning experience supported FR teachers as they integrated technology resources into their educational practices and shared their learning with colleagues. This program fostered teacher leadership, built capacity, and grew a community within a district. During their three years, FR teachers had the opportunity to collaborate with district colleagues, participate in community learning, develop digital media skills, explore leadership opportunities, and grow their professional learning network. Digital Ambassadors and Integrators include: Newlonsburg Elementary - Mary Cartwright-Sill and Jason Miller; Heritage Elementary - Brooke Josephs, Tracy Martin, Megan Melucci, Katie Proviano, and Renee Ryan; Sloan Elementary - Dr.

Linda Brecht, Sue Callihan, Danielle Hartman, Kim Ord, and Allison Smith; FR Middle School - Brandon Aganad, Christy Belgiovane, A.J. Danny, Sara Danny, Jen Joyce, Casey Miskimmin, Margie Ritson, Jen See, Christi Simpson, and Beth Tavaglione; FR Senior High School - Tony Bartolotta, Rebecca Connelly, Stefanie Guffey, Becky Magness, Amy Smith, Dave Stahl, Lynne Stalnaker, and Mark Wolfgang. 🐾

## Four Innovation Grants Awarded to FRSH

The Franklin Regional (FR) Panther Foundation awarded over \$8,000 worth of Innovation Grants to fund various programs at the Franklin Regional Senior High School (FRSH). The FR Panther Foundation conducts various fundraising events throughout the year for the Innovation Grant program. Teachers and coaches have the opportunity twice a year, to apply for available funding for any program that is new, innovative, and not currently being supported by the Franklin Regional School District's (FRSD) general budget.

Mr. Rodger Crider, FRSH busi-



ness technology teacher and coach, received a \$4,555 grant for the "21st Century Strength and Conditioning" program. The program will help produce more successful athletes, by using conditioning software, in conjunction with computers to enhance conditioning. The goal of the program is to help prevent injuries and train athletes to be able to move onto the collegiate level.



The "D.A.C.E. (Diversity and Cultural Education) - The Pittsburgh Project" received a \$1,270.64 grant. After the tragedy at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, students wanted to create a program to raise awareness and tolerances of differences. Coordinated by FRSH Social Studies teachers, Ms. Katherine Ruthertford and Ms. Stephanie Zavacky, the group's goal is to seek ways to prevent hate-fueled violence in the future.

Ms. Monica Graziani will also be starting a new and exciting program, due to a \$1,702 Innovation Grant. "What are YOU eating" is a program that allows students to detect genetically modified organisms in their everyday foods. Students will be



able to extract DNA from snack foods and learn to use laboratory techniques and procedures to conduct the experiment.

Additionally, another science

based program called "Wonder Women Workshop," which received a \$1,115.80 Innovation Grant,

will open opportunities for female students. Science teachers Ms. Monica Bruno, Ms. Rebecca Connelly, and Ms. Maureen Garda have taken initiative in this project. This workshop will allow female students to explore the fields of Science, Technology, and Engineering in a judgment and intimidation free zone. Students will be exposed to circuitry, e-textiles, coding, and computer programming.

FRSD Superintendent Dr. Gennaro R. Piraino, Jr., along with the Foundation's Executive Director Cara Zanella and President Charles Hergeroeder surprised the teachers in their classrooms with giant checks to announce the awards. 🐾

