



**WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Strong Schools  Strong Community

# Family & Community Engagement in WPS 2017 -18

Dr. Susan E. Kustka

Patrick Costello

Betsy Harris



**F.A.C.E.**  
*...Our Future*

"F.A.C.E. ... Our Future" is a Weymouth Public Schools  
Family & Community Engagement Initiative



# Agenda

- F.A.C.E Team & Objectives
- History of District FACE
- District-wide PreK-8/ 2017-18 F.A.C.E. Events
- Highlighting Key Events
- Grades 5-12/ 2017-18 Secondary F.A.C.E Themes
- Connecting Activities
- South Shore Manufacturing Advisory Group
- Chamber of Commerce Partnership
- Positive Outcomes of F.A.C.E.
- Long-term Sustainability of Offerings



# F.A.C.E Team & Objective

- Team meets monthly or bi-monthly
- Comprised of district staff and parent representatives (membership has varied depending upon events)
- Teams meet to plan events and debrief previous events
- Main objective to provide free, equitable F.A.C.E events district-wide for all students PreK-8



# History of District F.A.C.E

- 2014-15 SY District Team led by Patrick Costello, Betsy Harris & Susan Kustka
- 2015-16 SY established new team to work along with parent council reps. to develop equitable experiences district-wide for PreK-6 students at all schools; All day Saturday kick-off 9/26/15
- 2016-17 SY Streamlining of events for PreK-8 (combined STEM Hotspots and FACE Events) to avoid duplication of efforts and saturating needed vendor/ community supports.
- 2017-18 SY expansion of district support team in the hope of long-term sustainability (fatigue factor)



# **STEM Hotspots & Events 2017-18**

- **New England Wildlife Center – 9/16/17**
- **Speaker/Ron Suskind; Movie for Kids – 9/21/17**
- **Screenagers for Parents; BOKS for Kids – 10/19/17**
- **Family Game Night – 11/8/17**
- **Hour of Code: An Introduction to Computer Coding – 12/9/17**
- **Career Showcase Night – 1/24/18**
- **Weymouth's Got Talent! – 4/3/18**
- **Full STEAM Ahead – 6/14/18**



# About the STEM HotSpots...

- The STEM HotSpots targeted the PreK-8 students in the community with opportunities for families to explore various topics within science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- Family engagement opportunities provided a bridge between our local businesses and community for no cost.
- Most held on weeknights this year.
- Between 50-100 families participated each event
- STEAM event expected to have 400+ attending (marketing important)





**Weymouth Public Schools**  
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**New England Wildlife Center**  
Wildlife Hospital & Education Center  
Theresa's Corner

**Saturday, September 16, 2017**  
10:00 am—12:00 pm  
New England Wildlife Center  
500 Columbian Street, Weymouth, MA 02190  
781-682-4878  
<http://wildlifeeducationcenter.com/>

Donations of old towels, sheets, paper towels and bleach are welcome!

\*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\* **FREE—All Welcome!** \*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\*

Learn about our local animals  
Interact with our environment  
Explore a Veterinary Hospital  
Bring your Wildlife Artwork to Display

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**Free! All Welcome!**

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F.A.C.E. - Our Future is a Weymouth Public Schools Family and Community Engagement Initiative

**Thursday, September 21, 2017**  
6:30 pm  
Keynote Speaker for Adults: 6:30 pm  
Movie for Children: Finding Dory  
Book Signing: Life, Animated  
Weymouth Middle School, Adams Campus  
89 Middle Street, Weymouth 02189, Door #2

Children must be accompanied by an adult who is attending the Guest Speaker

Register on-line (above) or return form to your child's school by 9/15/17

Keynote Speaker: Ron Suskind  
Topic: "Life, Animated"  
Book Signing  
Pre-Order Book by 9/15/17  
RSVP On-line Here

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**Thursday, October 19, 2017**  
6:30 pm—8:30 pm  
**Screening of Screenagers**  
for older students and adults  
**BOKS Session**  
available for younger students  
Weymouth Middle School, Adams Campus  
89 Middle Street, Weymouth 02189, Door #2

Children attending BOKS session must be accompanied by an adult who is attending the Screening of Screenagers

Register on-line or return form to your child's school by 10/16/17

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**Wednesday, November 8, 2017**  
5:30—7:30 pm  
Weymouth Middle School  
Adams Campus Cafeteria  
89 Middle Street, Weymouth MA 02189

Encouraging Families to Play Games Together at Home!  
Develop Problem Solving Skills, Communication Skills, Math Skills...and MORE!!!

\*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\* **FREE—All Welcome!** \*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\*

Please Join Us!

**Weymouth Public Schools**  
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**Hour of Code**  
An Introduction to Computer Coding  
CODE

**Saturday, December 9, 2017**  
10:00 am—12:00 pm  
Weymouth High School  
Use Door #36, Gold Security Entrance  
1 Wildcat Way, Weymouth, MA 02190

for K-8 students and families  
BYOD—You MAY bring your own device  
...BUT...it is not required!

No Experience Necessary!!! Facilitators will be available to assist!

Develop Important Skills:  
Use Deductive Reasoning • Logical and Computational Thinking  
Problem Solving • Collaboration • Resiliency • Growth Mindset  
Work together with your child(ren) = Great Fun!

\*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\* **FREE—All Welcome!** \*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\*

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**Oh, the Places You'll Go!**  
Career Showcase for PreK-8

**Great Family Fun! All Welcome!**  
A District-wide Event!

**Activity Stations Demonstrations Exhibits Give-a-ways**  
An interactive event to showcase youth development for College & Career Readiness

**Wednesday, January 24, 2018**  
(Show Date: Thursday, January 25, 2018)  
5:00 pm—7:30 pm  
Weymouth Middle School—Chapman Campus Cafeteria  
1051 Commercial Street, Weymouth, MA 02189

Click Here to Register to host an Activity Station  
<http://bit.ly/2AAd1C>

Contact Betsy Harris, Community Relations Liaison, Weymouth Public Schools  
781-337-7500, x-25201, [elizabeth.harris@weymouthschools.org](mailto:elizabeth.harris@weymouthschools.org)

**Weymouth Public Schools**  
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**Celebrate the Music & Art in you!**  
Weymouth's GOT TALENT

Please join us as we celebrate Music in Our Schools Month and Visual Art K-12!

**Weymouth's Got Talent**  
**RE-SCHEDULED DATE: Tuesday, April 3, 2018**  
Art Show: 5:00—5:45 pm • Concert: 6:00 pm  
Weymouth High School Auditorium  
1 Wildcat Way, Weymouth, MA 02190

Featuring instrumental & vocal performing ensembles and drawings, paintings, sculpture, ceramics, photography, graphic design, & mixed media from all schools grades 4—12

**Free—All Welcome!**

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**F.A.C.E. ...Our Future**  
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**Free! All Welcome!**

**Full STEAM AHEAD**  
Combining STEM and Arts!

**Thursday, June 14, 2018**  
5:00 pm — 7:30 pm  
Weymouth High School  
1 Wildcat Way, Weymouth, MA 02190, Doors #13 & 14

Seeking Activities, Exhibits & Resources—Click Here to Register:  
<http://bit.ly/20QeFE>  
Seeking Sponsors—Click Here to Register as a Sponsor:  
<http://bit.ly/2BKp0as>

Contact: Betsy Harris at 781-337-7500, x-25201, [elizabeth.harris@weymouthschools.org](mailto:elizabeth.harris@weymouthschools.org)



# New England Wildlife Center



**WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
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**Weymouth STEM Hotspot**

- Learn about our local animals
- Interact with our environment
- Explore a Veterinary Hospital
- Bring your Wildlife Artwork to Display



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Donations of old towels, sheets, paper towels and bleach are welcome!

**\*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\* FREE—All Welcome! \*\*\*Great Family Fun\*\*\***

Excellent Community Partner who opens their doors to share information about science, the medical field, and the environment, as well as career opportunities within these industry sectors.





# Ron Suskind

Ron Suskind is a Pulitzer-winning journalist, bestselling author, and the founder of Sidekicks.


Ron's latest bestseller, [Life, Animated](#) (2014), chronicles his family's twenty-year journey raising and connecting to their autistic son. The Suskinds are also the subject of an award-winning [documentary feature](#) of the same name (2016). Their story has driven activism and research about the compensatory strengths of those with autism and others who are "differently-abled" due to distinctive neurology or sociocultural backgrounds. Ron's company, [Sidekicks](#), is leading efforts to build a next generation of augmentative technologies to lift and support these communities.




A promotional poster for a school event. At the top is the Weymouth Public Schools logo with a tiger head and the text 'Weymouth Public Schools' and 'Strong Schools Strong Community'. Below this, it says 'Free! All Welcome!'. The main text identifies the 'Keynote Speaker: Ron Suskind' with a photo of him, and the 'Topic: "Life, Animated"'. It also mentions a 'Book Signing' and 'Pre-Order Book by 9/15/17' with a book cover. The event is on 'Thursday, September 21, 2017' at '6:30 pm'. It includes a 'Keynote Speaker for Adults: 6:30 pm', a 'Movie for Children: Finding Dory', and a 'Book Signing: Life, Animated'. The location is 'Weymouth Middle School, Adams Campus' at '89 Middle Street, Weymouth 02189, Door #2'. A blue box states 'Children must be accompanied by an adult who is attending the Guest Speaker'. A yellow box at the bottom says 'Register on-line (above) or return form to your child's school by 9/15/17'. There are also smaller images of the book 'Life, Animated' and the movie 'Finding Dory'.

(Supporting Social-Emotional Needs of students.)

# Screenagers



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**SCREENAGERS**  
GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

**Free!**  
**All Welcome!**

**F.A.C.E.**  
...Our Future  
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**Thursday, October 19, 2017**  
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for older students and adults  
**BOKS Session**  
available for younger students  
Weymouth Middle School,  
Adams Campus  
89 Middle Street, Weymouth 02189, Door #2

Children attending BOKS session must be accompanied by an adult who is attending the Screening of Screenagers

Register on-line or return form to your child's school by 10/16/17

Video screening and discussion about the pros and cons of social media as well as the consequences for misuse.

This was thought provoking and had poignant middle school student participation in the conversation.

Supporting:

- Digital Literacy
- Social Emotional Behaviors



# Career Showcase



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## Oh, the Places You'll Go!

### Career Showcase for PreK-8

*Great Family Fun!  
All Welcome!*

*A District-wide Event!*

**Activity Stations  
Demonstrations  
Exhibits  
Give-a-ways**

*An interactive event to showcase youth development for  
College & Career Readiness*



Wednesday, January 24, 2018

(Snow Date: Thursday, January 25, 2018)

5:00 pm—7:30 pm

**Weymouth Middle School—  
Chapman Campus Cafeteria**

1051 Commercial Street, Weymouth, MA 02189



Schools in the Community ...  
... Community in the Schools



**Click Here to Register to host an Activity Station**  
<http://bit.ly/2AA0zLC>

Contact Betsy Harris, Community Relations Liaison, Weymouth Public Schools  
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# Career Showcase

- **30 representatives** from a variety of careers available at interactive stations throughout the room
- Many parents, community members and WPS employees (and their families) participated as presenters
- Approximately **150 students and their parents** from WPS families attended
- Many raffle prizes with career readiness provided for student participants
- Sponsored through the efforts primary school principals, **Betsy Harris** and a small group of parent volunteers
- Presenters including: painters, scientists, health services, culinary students and Capstone projects, etc.



# STEAM Expo: Full STEAM Ahead

June 14, 2018



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Family and Community Engagement Initiative



**Free!**

- Activities -
- Exhibits -
- Performances -
- Resources -
- STEAM -
- and More...

**All Welcome!**

**FULL**  
**STEAM**  
**AHEAD**

**Combining STEM and Arts!**

**Thursday, June 14, 2018**  
**5:00 pm — 7:30 pm**  
**Weymouth High School**  
1 Wildcat Way, Weymouth, MA 02190, Doors #13 & 14

In collaboration with



**Weymouth  
Chamber of  
Commerce**  
An affiliate of the South Shore Chamber of Commerce

**Seeking Activities, Exhibits & Resources—Click Here to Register:**  
<http://bit.ly/2DQefEI>

**Seeking Sponsors—Click Here to Register as a Sponsor:**  
<http://bit.ly/2BKpOas>

**Contact: Betsy Harris at 781-337-7500, x-25201,**  
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# STEAM Expo: Full STEAM Ahead

- **STEM was changed to STEAM** to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics
- **40+** facilitators present a variety of STEAM-related activities at interactive stations throughout the lobby, gym and hallway
- 400+ students and parents from WPS families expected
- Opportunities for students to engage in hands-on activities and have discussions with the “experts”
- Many **raffle prizes** with STEAM relevance will be provided for students
- Community members, WPS employees and WHS students participate as presenters





# Secondary Schools 5-12 F.A.C.E. Themes

- Health, Safety, & Wellness: Into the Dark, Awareness Night (9-12+); The Other Talk – Norfolk County DA's Office
- Focus on the Arts: Music in Our Schools; Drama and Chorus Presentation
- Credit for Life Fair for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Career Fair for 8 - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students
- WHS Walk With a Wildcat
- Special Olympics for district-wide special education students (included middle and high school student volunteers)



# 5-12 F.A.C.E Themes

- Community Service expansion:
  - **Adams:** Helping Hand, Wounded Warriors, Pennies for Patients, Make a Difference Club
  - **Chapman:** Breast Cancer Walk, Turkey Basket Drive, Giving Tree, Cradles to Crayons Clothing Drive
  - **WHS:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Weycathlon to promote values of Community Service with students and parents (PreK-12); WHS Capstone Fair – Projects involve much interaction with the students and community. School-Community Partners participated as judges. WHS Career Speakers participated in the Wildcat Way Extended Homerooms.



# Connecting Activities

WPS Career Specialist Paul Meoni works with WHS students and Community Partners through Connecting Activities with the South Shore Workforce Development Board and Betsy Harris.

- Works with students on resume, cover letter development and interview skills.
- Coordinates Job Shadows, Internships, Apprenticeships, Summer Employment and Scholarship opportunities.



# South Shore Manufacturing Advisory Group

- Employers recognize there are not enough employees to meet industry needs.
- Orders turned away due to lack of employee capacity.
- Launching campaign to work with schools, higher education and workforce development to educate people about this growing industry on the South Shore.
- WHS hosted Focus Group with students and Manufacturing Industry representatives to get student input and student understanding (or lack) of the manufacturing industry to better gauge how to attract employee talent.
- Dr. Kathryn Shannon, Cathie Rebelo, Paul Meoni and Betsy Harris are WPS representatives




# South Shore & Weymouth Chambers of Commerce

- Dr. Susan Kustka and Betsy Harris working to promote partnership with Chamber members for support with the WPS FACE: Full STEAM Ahead event.
- Chamber providing feedback about the employer needs of the future so that we can align teaching with industry needs.




# Writing Contests


## Elks Essay Contest & Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher

**WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
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**Essay Contest**

**“Why Our Veterans Are America’s Heroes”**






Weymouth Lodge  
# 2232  
*Elks Care - Elks Share*


**Available to Grades 5, 6, 7, 8**  
Division I: 5th & 6th Graders   Division II: 7th & 8th Graders

**Deadline: December 15, 2017**  
**300 Words Max**


**Entry Cover Sheet MUST accompany every submission**

[Click Here for Rules & Submission Forms](#)

**WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
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**BARNES & NOBLE**  
BOOKSELLERS

**Congratulations to John Pinizzotto!**  
*Science Teacher, Weymouth High School*  
**Winning Essay written by Adam Strohm, WHS Senior**



Please Join Us as we recognize  
Weymouth's Great Teachers!  
**Tuesday, May 1, 2018**  
**Barnes & Noble, Derby Shoppes**  
**Ceremony: 5:00 pm**  
**Bookfair: 9:00 am—9:00 pm**  
**Reference Bookfair ID #12361382**  
**On-Line Ordering Valid through May 6, 2018**  
**In-Store & On-Line Ordering Available**  
**Proceeds to benefit WHS Science Department**

**Congratulations to Finalists:**

St. Francis Xavier School	Ms. Claire Davis, Essay by Michael Flaherty
Weymouth High School	Ms. Andrea Montgomery, Essay by Chloe Stokinger
Weymouth High School	Dr. John Waggner, Essay by Claudia Biagini

**All Welcome!**

### Congratulations to STATE WINNERS:

Grades 5 & 6 Division 1:

**Jack Daley - First Place**

Grades 7 & 8 Division 2:

**Alexandria Rubini-Parker - Second Place**

**Owen Bates - Third Place**

### Congratulations WHS Teacher John Pinizzotto! Essay Submitted by Adam Strohm

Students in grades 5 - 12 express their appreciation through an essay, poem, or letter to the teachers that have positively impacted them.





# Positive Outcomes

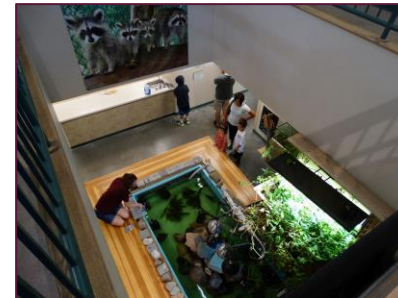
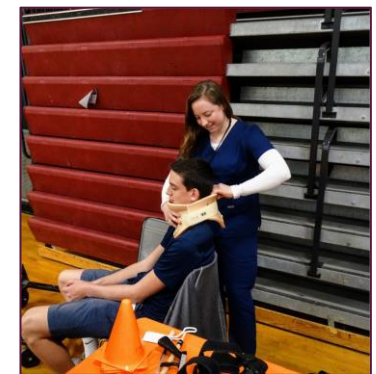
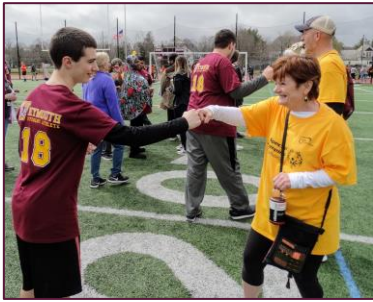
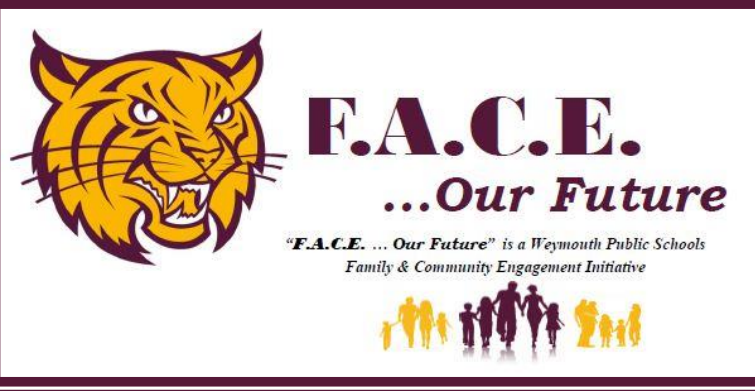
- Fosters community support and community pride
- Encourages volunteerism of students, staff, parents, and community members
- Highlights student talents
- An opportunity to showcase programs; CTE, Academies, etc.
- Enhances family participation w/ larger turnouts
- Connections to College and Career Readiness
- Hands-on activities for multiple academic and enrichment areas
- District-wide participation
- Equity for students at all primary schools
- Promotes **Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math**
- Capstone and Community Service at WHS have shown significant interaction between students and the community



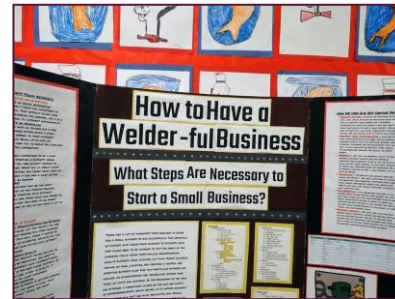
# Sustainability of District-Wide Events

- Overuse of specific community partners and parents for volunteerism and resources
- Quality vs Quantity
- Lack of funds to purchase materials for events
- Coordination & timing of district & community events
- Development of a F.A.C.E. Committee and identifying events to sustain with parent teams who will lead each event
- Promoting consistent Family Engagement PreK-12
- Increased effort to encourage new community partnerships and participants
- Target alumni participation to further sustain F.A.C.E. and promote success of schools
- **Join us on June 14th!!!!!!!**









# Questions about F.A.C.E.

