

Spring Student Life Updates

Amanda Cence
Vice Principal
May 7, 2026



Our Spring Focus

Our focus this spring has been:

- Stenghtening student engagement
- Creating age - appropriate experiences
- Strengthening school culture
- Reducing disruptions while maximizing impact

Recent Field Trips

- New England Aquarium and Quincy Market (entire Grade 9)
- Connections Conference (US students)
- KyleCares Conference (US students)
- High School Leadership Conference (HS Student Gov and Principal's Council)
- Lower School Leadership Conference (LS Principals Council)
- Student Government Day at Massachusetts State House
- American Heritage Museum (AP History)
- Kimball's Farm Field Trip (entire Grade 7) - next week May 14th!

Lower School Balance Day

- **What is it:** A day to get out of the classroom and take care of mental wellness. Students had the opportunity to select 3 workshops
- **Who:** Students grades 6 - 8
- **When:** April 17th
- **Organized by:** Grade Level Team leaders
- **Workshop offerings:**

Board games, legos, bracelet making, open gym, origami, quiz show, tai chi, karaoke, puzzles, knitting, paint a pot, therapy dogs, a rescue animal workshop And much more!



6th Grade Olympiad

- What is it: Friendly competition including a quiz bowl game and Olympic style games (shot put, javelin, chariot race, etc)
- Who: Grade 6 students
- When: May 1st
- Organized by: Ms Morin, Grade level leader



Revisiting a Long - Standing Tradition

- Our traditional field day combined all grade levels (grades 6 - 12) with close to 1000 students
- The day included outdoor and indoor activities at Forekicks, bouncy house, dunk tank, lawn games, etc.
- This has been on the last day of school in the past, then moved to multiple other dates in May.
- Large-scale, multi-grade structure created **supervision challenges**
- Duty assignments were **spread across a wide area**, limiting consistency
- Opportunities to improve **event flow, coverage, and cleanup procedures**

US Balance Day: Spring Edition

When: May 26

Who: Students grade 9 -11

A day for students to celebrate seniors in the morning with a pep rally and car parade and see them off! Ending the day with time at FK for indoor and outdoor activities as well as a chill zone!

LS Field Day

When: June 17

Who: Students grade 6 - 8

A day for students to celebrate the end of the school year with our traditional field day sponsored by the PTO. Outdoor games, activities, snacks, bouncy houses. As well as indoor sports/activities.

Collaborative Approach to Change

- Gathered input from **faculty and staff** on logistics and supervision
 - a. Presented the two new events to Grade level leaders (grades 6 - 12)
 - b. LS teachers gathered feedback from a survey
- Considered **student engagement and experience**
 - a. Presented LS field day and Spring US Balance Day to high school Student Government and Lower School Principal's Council
- Met with PTO to discuss changes
- Met with Head of PE Department to review Forekick maps and supervision
- Collaborated with **school leadership** to align with broader goals
- Used feedback to design a more structured, effective model

Impact on US

- Increased upper school participation and buy-in
- More age-appropriate and meaningful activities
- Maintained school spirit while reducing logistical strain
- Created space to celebrate seniors while supporting all students

Impact on LS

- Maintained a **dedicated Field Day experience** designed specifically for younger students
- Increased **age-appropriate activities and pacing**
- Improved **supervision and safety** with more focused staff coverage
- Reduced overwhelm by eliminating a large, multi-grade environment
- Created a more **joyful, engaging, and developmentally appropriate day**

Looking Ahead

- Continue refining student experiences through **thoughtful, data-informed adjustments**
- Maintain a focus on **student engagement, safety, and developmentally appropriate programming**
- Build on successful changes to strengthen **school culture and community**
- Remain committed to **collaborative, stakeholder-informed decision-making**

