



NBPS Newsflash

December 2020

Greetings Team,

First, Happy Holidays! The joy and the weather of the season are upon us, as we can see from Tuesday ☺. With 2019 fall semester nearly behind us, I want to thank you for the work you do every day on behalf of our students. On the horizon, the New Year beckons us brightly; it is the gift of a lifetime and our opportunity to help young lives grow in all their potential.

Over the last several months I've shared my focus for strengthening all our programming with additional attention on enrichment opportunities which includes accelerated learning in elementary schools, dual enrollment and foreign language offerings at the middle schools and expanding the current Honors Academy at the high school. Although the middle grades have the dual enrollment structure with the high school, we are working to develop a stronger connection to the elementary programs. This work is in conjunction with and parallel to supporting all staff in increasing our capacity to enhance our standards based instruction.

Feedback is a critical component of the educational process and to each of us as individuals. We typically focus on how to provide feedback and not so much on how to effectively receive the information. I know there are several factors that impact the effectiveness of the process and we must have an open mind to continue our own personal and professional growth. We must adjust our thinking so we are receptive to all feedback.

I believe that self-reflection allows me to focus on what's most important and plow through any mental barriers that may impede my progress. However, I do expect that that all feedback is constructive, actionable and respectful. Even though that is not always the case, it is imperative that as an NBPS team we filter and focus on the intent of the feedback and relate it to the work at hand.

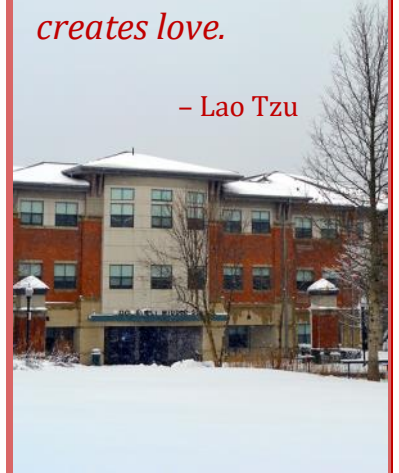
I'd like to extend my best wishes for happiness and health to you and your families this Holiday Season. May you truly enjoy the company of family and friends at this festive season. No matter how you celebrate, always remember to Be Kind!

All the best,

Thomas Anderson
Superintendent

*Kindness in words
creates confidence.
Kindness in thinking
creates profoundness.
Kindness in giving
creates love.*

– Lao Tzu



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Employee Spotlight

Karen Mello

Paraprofessional

Sgt. William Carney Memorial Academy



Karen is one of our amazing Paraprofessionals, serving students with Special Education needs at Carney Academy. She has been employed with NBPS since 1998! Karen goes above and beyond the call of duty, taking the initiative of lending a helping hand without being asked. She is dependable and consistent in how she interacts with students. Principal Maria Reidy states “She has high expectations for all students and will do what it takes to ensure their success in school. It has been a privilege watching Karen grow each and every day and making a difference in the lives of our students at Carney Academy!”



Joyce Sioch

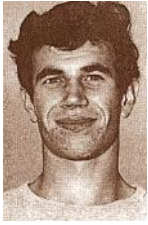
6th Grade ELA/SS Teacher

Roosevelt Middle School

“**Joyce** is outstanding! An incredibly kind person who truly loves each and every one of her kids. "Joyce Sioch has the natural ability and years of experience in engaging her students with creative lessons that spark interest as well as challenge them to think critically.” Daniel Bossolt, Principal of RMS states. “But more than anything else, she provides a warm and safe environment for her kids where they feel loved and supported every day.”



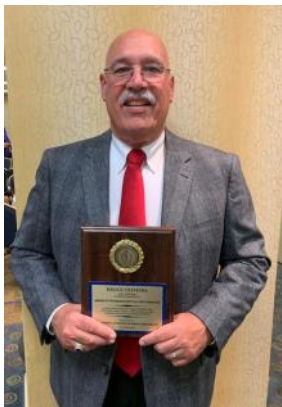
Around Our Schools



The Manuel F. Matos Memorial Soccer Field was dedicated to legendary Whalers Coach **Manny Matos** with a sign unveiling on October 29, 2019. The ceremony took place at the Dr. Paul F. Walsh Soccer Stadium on the campus of New Bedford High School. NBHS athletes, city and school officials, members of the Matos family and friends attended.

Mayor Jon Mitchell noted “Manny broke the old rule that says great players don’t turn into great coaches. He did both. He was a fabulous player at every level from youth leagues to the high school to the college level and professionally. He was amazing. He was a playing legend. Then he turned it into a great coaching career and his record speaks for itself.”

Thomas Tarpey, NBHS Athletic Director recalled “I grew up in New Bedford and I remember coming here with my father as a little, little boy to watch football practice. He would always say to me, ‘Watch that man coach over there and play soccer.’ I didn’t know anything about soccer. I remember coming over when they had people all around the field and watching coach Matos and his teams battle against the best teams in the state and watch what a class act he was.”



MASC recognizes Bruce Oliveira

Congratulations to Mr. Bruce Oliveira, New Bedford School Committee Vice Chair! Mr. Oliveira was named to the Massachusetts All-State School Committee for his many years of dedication to the work of improving the

education of all students. The presentation was conducted on Nov 8th at the Massachusetts Association of School Committees’ annual conference in Hyannis. Mr. Oliveira works tirelessly, always putting the needs of students first.

MASC and Mass. Assoc. of School Superintendents hosted the conference of state education leaders. The annual gathering included panel sessions, group discussion on critical education issues of today, exhibits, demonstrations on instruction, management best practices, leadership development and legislative updates.

Brooks weaves a web of reading



E. C. Brooks School recently hosted a family literacy event in which the children’s classic *Charlotte’s Web* was the book of the night. The school was decorated in a farm-
yard theme filled with reading and art activities. Scores of families attended the fun-filled event.

Around



Our



Schools



Around Our Schools



STEM Week at New Bedford High School



New Bedford EATS *News from Food & Nutrition Services*

Farm to School

NBPS Food and Nutrition Services department is partnering with NBPS teachers, the Marion Institute and Coastal Foodshed to create a Farm to School Program for NBPS. In late October, the team attended the MA Farm to School Institute at the Hancock Shaker Village in western MA where they collaborated on strategies for implementing Farm to School initiatives in NBPS cafeterias, classrooms, gardens and communities.



Did you know that the roasted butternut squash from our Thanksgiving meal on November 26th was locally-sourced? It was grown at the Noons Farm in Rehoboth, MA, just 22 miles away, and peeled at the Cabral Farm in Dighton, MA!



Professional Development

On the district-wide professional development day, Tuesday, November 5th, the food and nutrition services department gathered at the high school for food allergy and civil rights training. Participants learned how to manage food allergies, celiac disease, food intolerances and sensitivities in the cafeteria setting including safe food handling and preparation and recognizing and responding to food allergy-related emergency situations. Participants also received Civil Rights training. View our menus and nutritional information on www.NBPSmeals.com or through the smartphone app, "Web Menus by ISite Software."



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Around Our Schools

First Regional Young Men's Leadership Meeting a Big Success

The first regional Young Men's Leadership Meeting was held at the New Bedford Whaling Museum. Young men representing Brockton, Fall River, New Bedford, and Taunton High Schools, accompanied by their respective principals and superintendents, participated. Each district selected five young men in their senior year to participate in interactive discussions.

Welcoming attendees, Superintendent Thomas Anderson also thanked the Whaling Museum for hosting the conference, which took place throughout the museum complex.



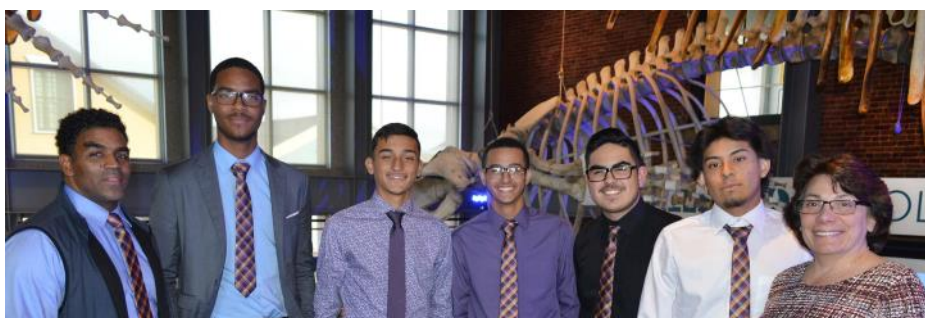
Dr. Robert E. Johnson, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Chancellor and SouthCoast Chamber President Rick Kidder spoke to the assembly about leadership. Dr. Johnson remarked that "good leaders understand that they are only as good as the individuals that they have on their leadership team, those who really carry out the work from day to day." On the importance of always expressing gratitude to others, Dr. Johnson noted that a hallmark of every good leader is that they thank the people they work with "on a daily, regular, ongoing basis."

Rick Kidder noted "a leader's role is infinitely less about talking than it is about listening, and that it is a learned skill; it is not about control. It is about helping others to execute, and it is never about casting blame, but always about praising those doing the work."

Breakout sessions included discussions on Masculinity & Gender Identity, Leadership to Combat Drugs & Alcohol, Race & Education Disparity, and Bullying & Social Media. Sessions were guided by Brockton Superintendent Michael Thomas, Fall River Superintendent Matthew Malone, New Bedford Superintendent Thomas Anderson, and Taunton Superintendent John Cabral.



After luncheon, the groups reconvened to give feedback and discuss next steps. The goal of the conference in part is to give students a better understanding of the issues impacting their lives and their communities, and exercise their voices to develop an action plan to address these issues when they return to their schools. A follow-up meeting will be planned in the spring.



Around Our Schools

Family Institute for Student Success graduates 60 parents!



A graduation ceremony on Dec. 5th recognized 60 parents' commitment and hard work on behalf of their children's education. The ceremony was held at Hayden McFadden Elementary School. With their children officiating, parents received certificates for their completion of the 9-week course of the Family Institute for Student Success, a program designed to ensure student success by strengthening the relationship between home, school and community. Congratulations, parents!



This Weekend! New Bedford High School Drama Club presents

Letters to Sala

By Arlene Hutton

December 6 & December 7 7:00pm
December 8 2:00pm

NEW BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL
BRONSPIEGEL AUDITORIUM
230 Hathaway Boulevard

Tickets available at the door
\$10 student/seniors
\$12 general admission

Produced by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Reminder!

William H. Taylor Elementary School
Be the "I" in KIND

Change starts with me!
be kind
New Bedford Public Schools

New Bedford Public School
Kindness Day
is Monday, Dec. 9, 2019

On this day, classrooms will discuss the importance of being kind. Superintendent Thomas Anderson, in his [YouTube](#) message on kindness, notes: "It's very easy to be kind to everyone, especially when everyone is doing it. Misbehaving and treating others badly can be taken as bullying. I don't think anyone really wants to be mean to another person or to be considered a bully. I know that we can all exercise good judgement in what we say to one another, how we interact with one another, and how we even look at one another. Please think about what it means to be kind, how you feel when you're kind to other people, and how it makes you feel when other people are kind to you. Remember, change starts with the individual."

Change starts with US! Be Kind!



New Bedford Public Schools Fine Arts

EVENTS



2019-2020

NBHS Drama Club

"Letters to Sala"

December 6th - 7:00pm
December 7th - 7:00pm
December 8th - 2:00pm

NBHS Bronsiegel Auditorium



NBHS Winter Concert

December 10th - 7:00pm
NBHS Bronsiegel Auditorium



NBPS District-Wide Choral Festival

December 17th - 7:00pm
NBHS Bronsiegel Auditorium



NBHS Pops Night

March 3rd - 7:00pm
NBHS Main Gymnasium

NBHS Drama Club

"Freaky Friday"

Presented with permission from MTI, Music Theatre International

April 3rd - 7:00pm
April 4th - 7:00pm
April 5th - 2:00pm

NBHS Bronsiegel Auditorium



NBPS District-Wide Band Festival

April 8th - 7:00pm
NBHS Main Gymnasium



NBHS Instrumental Showcase

April 30th - 7pm
NBHS Little Theatre

NBHS Choral Cabaret

May 14th and 15th - 7:00pm
NBHS Little Theatre



District-Wide Art Show

May 14th 4:30-7:00pm
Paul Rodrigues Administration Building



All-City Ensembles "Potpourri" Concert

May 26th - 6:00pm
NBHS Bronsiegel Auditorium



For more information about these and other New Bedford Public Schools' Fine Arts events, please contact Lynn Souza, Director of Fine Arts at: lsouza@newbedfordschools.org (508)-997-4511 ext. 14104 or visit our website at: http://www.newbedfordschools.org/depts_programs/office_of_instruction_curriculum/fine_arts



**THANK YOU for all that
you do! All of your hard
work and dedication is
truly appreciated.**

THANK YOU! from Superintendent Anderson

happy, merry, joyous



CHRISTMAS

HANUKKAH



KWANZAA



RAMADAN

From New Bedford Public Schools

Winter Weather Notifications



With winter here, we have to be ready for the inevitable weather related interruptions. Information about **Cancellations** or **Early Dismissals** will be posted/broadcasted at the following: New Bedford Public Schools'

website: www.newbedfordschools.org and Facebook page, Local Cable Channel 9, The Standard-Times' website: www.s-t.com, Channel 4 WBZ-TV/1030 AM, Channel 5 WCVB-TV, Channel 6 WLNE, Channel 7 WHDH-TV, Channel 10 WJAR, Channel 12 WPRI, FOX 25 WFXT, and Radio Stations WRKO-AM, WSAR-AM, WBSM-AM, and FUN107-FM.