



NBPS Newsflash

May 2021

Greetings Team NBPS,

As we are in May we are wrapping up this most unique school year with all classes ending on June 21. This past week we celebrated our awesome teachers with Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you for your dedication and the selfless work that you do everyday. To all our mothers and those serving in that role – life's first and most important teachers – I wish you and those mother figures in your lives, a very Happy Mother's Day.

The FY2022 Budget Hearing is May 10 and I will reiterate my priorities that I shared during the Superintendent Budget presentation in April. Our focus is on targeted areas that will continue to support the teaching and learning process with access through equity as a defining point. We prioritize strategies that have proven to improve student achievement by increasing student access to supports to create more equitable opportunities. This builds off our identified needs over the last two years.

- We will continue to increase staff and targeted supports for our over 3,000 English Language Learners.
- We will hire more service providers and counselors to support our over 13,000 students, but especially our 2,800 students with special and diverse learning needs.
- Expanding access to full-day, high-quality pre-kindergarten for 4-year-olds is critical. Provide research-based early literacy programs in Pre-K and early elementary grades.
- Increase Academic Rigor: Early College programs for high school students.
- Support educators to implement high-quality, aligned culturally relevant curriculum.
- Diversify our workforce through retention and recruitment of staff who reflect our student body.
- Meet students' social-emotional needs by increasing school-based social workers.
- Focus on Facilities upgrades to create healthy and safe school environments.

I am excited that many of our special end of year activities may be able to occur this spring. Please stay proactive even with the relaxed protocols– if the priority is to still wear masks let's do so and keep washing and sanitizing our hands and being appropriately distanced. We cannot let our guard down as the contagiousness of the virus still exists. Thank you for doing your part! Think of others, and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Thomas Anderson
Superintendent



“Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together.”

–James Cash Penney

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Employee Spotlight

Marie Johnson

Kindergarten Teacher

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School



It is clear to see that Marie Johnson treats every student like one of her own. Mrs. Johnson gets right down to her Kindergarteners' level and has done so for 21 years at Lincoln Elementary. She is truly "in it" for the kids!

Mrs. Johnson works hard to provide students with the solid foundation needed to be successful learners as they begin their educational journey. From colors, letters, writing, and counting, Mrs. Johnson, known as the green teacher, gets the job done. From within her classroom, you can hear singing, chanting, and see lots of learning happening! Students are engaged and want to make Mrs. Johnson proud.

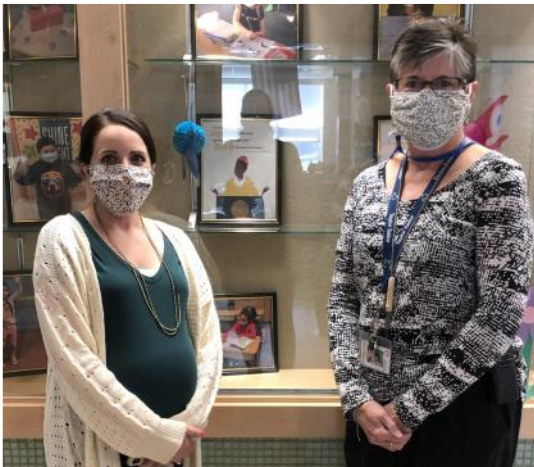


Principal Lina DeJesus stated, "Mrs. Johnson is a compassionate, dedicated teacher, always putting kids' needs first." Mrs. Johnson contributes greatly to our school community and is proud to give back to the New Bedford community. She is known as a great role model and an amazing teacher!

Donna Calderbank & Julie Roy

School Nurse & School Adjustment Counselor

William H. Taylor Elementary School



In this uncertain year, students know that Donna Calderbank & Julie Roy have been on a mission to keep them safe, healthy and in school!

Nurse Donna has been at NBPS for over 20 years! Principal DeFigueiredo shared, "She has done an unbelievable job of keeping our students and staff safe and healthy. She is knowledgeable, detail-oriented and responsible - all characteristics that have become imperative in this pandemic world." She went on to say, "In addition to her medical responsibilities, Nurse Donna is an important part of our attendance team; making sure our students are reporting to school or

are engaging online. The Taylor School community feels safe in her hands!"

Julie Roy is Taylor's School Adjustment Counselor, and she too is doing a remarkable job. She has an open door policy, and is usually found meeting with students/families in person or virtually. Students know that she can provide them a safe space in a judgement free zone. Dr. D. noted, "Julie Roy is exceptionally kind, patient and insightful - all characteristics that are essential in a good counselor, especially now. In addition to ensuring that students' social emotional needs are met she is also a vital part of our attendance team." She tracks attendance, calls students who do not sign on during remote instruction and collaborates with teachers and parents to ensure that students are always ready to learn.

Nurse Donna and Julie also run a board game group after school. Students are invited to join them in the cafeteria every Monday, where they learn skills such as planning, cooperation, problem solving and reflective thinking, all through board games. Nurse Donna and Julie are certainly a dynamic duo; they have gone above and beyond to ensure the success of our students!



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To Register or for more Information Session options, please contact Kelly Foreman at (978) 867-0025 or kforeman@graduateprogram.org



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* License-Only Option Available



Accreditations & Quality

- Endicott College is a non-profit college that is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).
- Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Ed. approved.
- 100% MTEL passing rate among program completers
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IMPORTANT NOTICE:

College policy strictly limits enrollment in each program and accepts reservations on a first-come, first-served basis.

Find us online at:

ExploreEndicott.org

These programs were arranged and made possible by the K-12 Teachers Alliance in cooperation with Endicott College.

*The repayment example set forth above is for illustrative purposes only and was calculated based on a standard amortization Federal Direct Loan assuming a loan amount of \$19,080, a payment term of 10 years, and a fixed interest rate equal to 4.3%. Loan amount of \$19,080 is based on the total tuition price for the 2020-2021 academic year for the Masters of Education (M.Ed.) in Early Childhood program. Your total loan amount may vary based on program selection. The loan calculator used in this example is available at <http://studentloans.gov>. It is your responsibility to verify your eligibility by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid at www.fafsa.ed.gov. All loans are subject to federal student aid guidelines. The actual interest rate may change periodically based on federal regulations. The tuition rate varies depending on your semester start date, plus applicable fees. Endicott College reserves the right to raise tuition costs annually.



THANK YOU Paraprofessionals!



National Principals
May 1
Thank you for all you do!



NATIONAL
SCHOOL NURSE DAY
MAY 12, 2021
School Nurses:
Championing the Whole Student

Thanks a **BUZZ**illion
for **BEE**ing an
amazing
Principal!



SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY

May 7, 2021

artwork: gabriel garratt, j. krosoczka

NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES!
HAPPY TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK!

High School English Learners: New Entrepreneurs

by Christina Sobran, NBHS Educator

During a year when many extracurricular activities had to be curtailed, a group of English learner high school entrepreneurs teamed up for a new venture. In fact, they worked together after school to launch a start-up - while helping make the earth a bit greener.

MundOrganics was the brainchild of eight English Learner New Bedford High School students, whose languages include Spanish, K'iche', and English. The students met online after school for 13 weeks under the guidance of Junior Achievement of Southern Massachusetts. The hands-on program is designed for students to learn all the skills they need to become entrepreneurs while, at the same time, creating a real business.

“It’s about creating your own company together with a team,” explained Mariana, a senior at NBHS, the supply chain director for MundOrganics. “We had to think of a product that solves a problem. In this case, our product helps nature since we sell reusable bamboo bottles.”



The first step was brainstorming - the team had a week to choose both the problem they wanted to solve and a potential product they could create during the amount of time available. Then, they chose their jobs. NBHS ninth grader Aida, who handled human resources, explained, “I learned that it is always important to work in a group, and always to take into account the opinions of others.”

Students quickly learned that their success at building a business together would depend on cooperation and building consensus. Diana, also an NBHS ninth grader and the team’s finance director, explained, “I learned how to work together; it was a little difficult because you can’t just do whatever you want. You have to ask everyone what they think about it.”

Team members agreed that they wanted to create something that would help fight pollution, according to CEO Adelis, an NBHS junior, “Many people use plastic things and throw them on the street, and some people go to the beach and throw plastic into the sea, and this can harm and even kill the sea animals. With this bottle you can keep using it constantly without having to throw it away.”



BayCoast Bank provided the students with a \$500 loan, according to Edith Colón, Company Program Manager for Junior Achievement, who served as the students' mentor. “They had to price out all the expenses; they got quotes for the products and shipping,” Colón said. “They had to start a bank account, create their own website, and figure out how to make purchases, accept payments, and deliver products. They designed their own logo. And Mariana got in touch with a company in China to produce it and ship it here.”



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Feliver, an 11th grader at NBHS, managed marketing for MundOrganics, including the website and Instagram presence. She recalled, “I love the camaraderie that we have throughout the program; my colleagues are all very creative and all their ideas are contributed. I made friends, and I learned that a group of students can do great things and think like entrepreneurs.”



Other NBHS team members included senior student Domingo, marketing manager, sophomore Maynor, finance manager, and freshman Isabel, the supply chain manager who also recorded a marketing video for their product.

After selling all the bottles they made, the students repaid the bank and had some profits left over. “Now they know the steps to take to start a small business; they know how to look for investors,” Colón explained. In fact, the team was so successful, according to Colón, that they paved the way for next year. “Because of their commitment and success, they earned a grant for next year for another group, which could include more students... I couldn’t be more proud. I see so much potential in so many of them.”

What’s your story?

Do you have a story about your school that you’d like to share with the community? Send your idea or suggestion to the communications office:

communications@newbedfordschools.org

You know great things are happening in your school. Sharing them with the community will help raise the profile and reputation of NBPS and foster public confidence and pride (District Goal 5). Any aspect of school life is eligible: great staff, cultural focus, student achievements, collaborating with families, special events and more.



Tell us your school stories...

We’ll take it from there!

Thank You!