



NBPS Newsflash September 2022

Greetings Team NBPS,

Welcome back, New Bedford Public Schools Community! I hope that all of you had a wonderful summer enjoying time and making lifelong memories with family and friends. A special welcome to our Kindergarteners - the graduating class of 2035 - and to our many new staff who are joining our team this year.

We're off to an excellent start to the school year and I want to thank you for ensuring that we had a smooth opening. We take special interest and care in all of our students in New Bedford Public Schools and I am honored as we welcomed them back for the 2022-2023 school year.

Over the last two weeks we welcomed students into all our buildings. In my visits to all schools I saw some exciting interactions in a variety of areas. It was great to see students thinking critically and collaborating with their classmates.

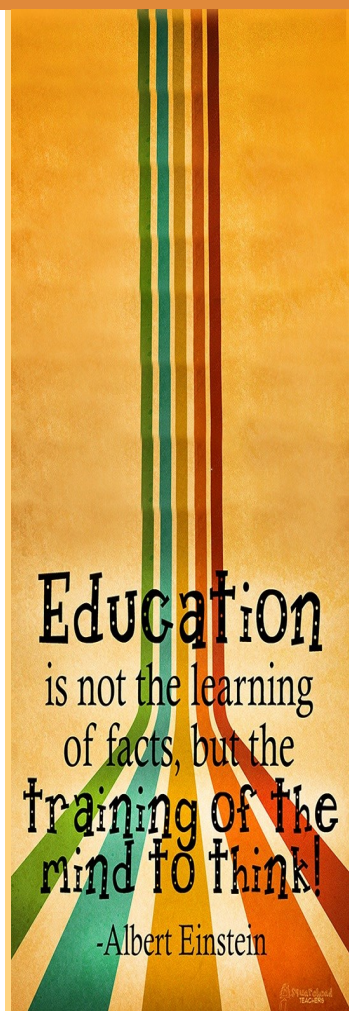
We are opening this year much differently than we have in the previous two years with students and staff attending fully in person classes. While masks are no longer required, we support those students and staff who choose to wear them because of health issues. NBPS continues to follow updated protocols and guidance from federal, state and local health departments, including regular handwashing and hand sanitizing.

With the strong foundation that we have built over these past four years, we continue to shape our District to be an example of excellence. I strongly believe that we must prepare all students to understand the world around them from a cross-cultural perspective, so they can compete in the global workplace, collaborate across differences of culture, perspective, or ideology, and be a leader in their community.

I look forward to working with you and have great confidence in the work you have undertaken, which is the most formative responsibility that anyone has in society -- to equip students with the necessary tools to navigate the challenges of life - to make informed decisions that will benefit their future and those around them. We have some exciting times ahead. As always, thank you for your continued effort and for your support!

Sincerely,

Thomas Anderson
Superintendent



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Employee Spotlight



Julie Mador

Registrar
Family Registration Center



“Julie Mador is a compassionate, thoughtful, caring leader who always does what is best for her families’ needs and always goes above and beyond. She is understanding about what we do daily, and is constantly working to ensure our community needs are met. No matter how challenging the situation, Julie works diligently and with compassion to do what’s best for our students and their families. Not only an incredible supervisor, she is also an incredible human being who understands and treats her employees with respect and empathy. Her leadership makes this department feel like a Home. She always motivates them to improve themselves and to grow within the department. Julie is passionate about New Bedford

Public School families, doing everything possible to ensure just outcomes for all, no matter how long it takes or the effort it might require. It is a pleasure to work for and with her as we register and provide support to our families.”

– Trish Morck, Assessment Specialist, Center for Initial Screening and Assessment



Kristyn Bedard

1st Grade Teacher
Hathaway Elementary School



“Kristyn Bedard is a first grade teacher at Hathaway Elementary School. Mrs. Bedard has taught at Hathaway for six years. She is loved by all her students, parents, and staff. Kristyn is a true Hathaway Hawk. She is always responsible, respectful, and prepares her lessons and presents them to her students in an engaging and friendly way. Her classroom is always decorated with colorful graphics and her students’ names; this underscores the welcoming atmosphere she fosters every day. Mrs. Bedard emphasizes her supportive role in student growth and organizes the day’s learning plan to keep her students engaged and learning! A careful listener, Mrs. Bedard

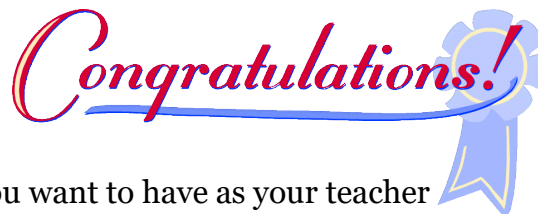
always works to collaborate with her students in their learning process, with patience and adaptability. Perhaps most importantly, she communicates her expectations to students while making sure they can count on her to help them throughout day. This culture of teacher-student confidence can only be earned by the daily expression of human qualities such as empathy, caring, kindness and humor... all of which Mrs. Bedard has aplenty. Thank you Mrs. Bedard for all you do, for your students and for the Hathaway School community!”

– Alexander Pella, Principal, Ellen R. Hathaway School

Massachusetts public school paraprofessionals can become licensed teachers and do it through the JET Program, as these successful JET graduates have done. JET provides a pathway to help you complete your Bachelor's degree, at little cost, and your Mass. teacher licensure. JET supports the goals of building local teacher pipelines and developing an educator workforce that reflects the racial, cultural and linguistic diversity of students.

Maria Coe

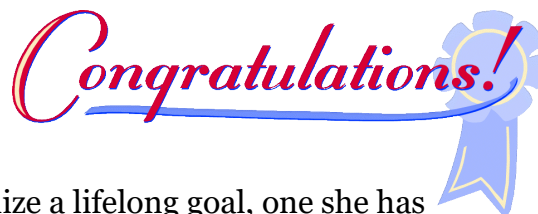
Grade 6 Math/Science Teacher
Roosevelt Middle School



Maria Coe is the type of person you want to have as your teacher – energetic, enthusiastic and passionate about education! She is about to begin her career as a Grade 6 Math/Science Teacher at Roosevelt Middle School and can't wait to get started. One of her goals is to help her kids love to learn and to be happy in the classroom. Teaching has been a lifelong dream and it shows. She is grateful to the JET Program and the mentoring and support she received from them. "I'm super excited. It feels good to be a fulltime teacher." Ms. Coe began her employment with the District in February 2004 as a Substitute Teacher and continued in this role until she was appointed as a Special Education Paraprofessional in September 2015. She transferred as a Paraprofessional to Roosevelt as of SY 2016/17 and has remained there since.

Stephanie Kirby

ESL Teacher
Jacobs Elementary School



Stephanie Kirby is excited to realize a lifelong goal, one she has aspired to since childhood – to teach. She taught her first class when she was eight years old, in her backyard, under a grapevine. She prepared lesson plans and held class for her best friend. She is a positive person who is excited to meet her students and work with them. She looks forward to preparing lesson plans and playing a very active role in the classroom. Stephanie began her employment with the District in February 2015 as a Per Diem Substitute. She was later appointed as a Building Based Substitute and worked in this position at both Rodman Elementary School and Hathaway Elementary School for a brief time. She was then appointed as an ESL Paraprofessional at Jacobs Elementary School in August 2019 and has remained there since. She has been appointed as an English as a Second Language Teacher effective for this coming school year. According to Stephanie, "One of the best things about teaching is being able to be more involved, to be able to help with the planning." She is thrilled her father got to see her achieve her longtime goal.



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR
FALL STEP CHALLENGE!

Only employees who subscribe to our BCBS health insurance can participate.

Enrollment period for the Fall Step Challenge is from
September 5, 2022 to September 18, 2022
Challenge begins September 12, 2022
and ends October 24, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

To successfully complete this challenge, you will need to log 294,000 steps within 6 weeks, an average of 7,000 steps a day, using a pedometer, Fitbit® or other device to keep track of steps. Steps must be entered into ahealthyme.com, either on the website, through the **HealthyNow app**, or through a connected Fitbit® device, to be counted toward the challenge goal.

Step challenge instructions are available on the district website click on this link: [BENEFITS](#)

All employees and dependents that join the challenge will be entitled to the Fitbit Inspire 2 if they did not receive one on the previous challenge while supplies last!

Please contact **Marcia Tome** in the Benefits Office at 508-997-4511 Ext. 14355 or email mtome@newbedfordschools.org to claim your Fitbit.

Employees who complete the challenge will be eligible to receive a \$25.00 gift certificate!



Gift certificates will be issued to employees only.

**NEW BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL'S
36th Annual
NESBA
Marching Band
Competition**



*\$10 adults
\$8 students/seniors*

Sunday, October 2, 2022
1:00PM
McCoy Field, New Bedford



E. Stivanos Photography

***See and hear some of
New England's Top
High School Bands!***

New England Scholastic Band Association

For more information contact Lynn Souza, Director of Fine Arts, NBPS 508-997-4511 x14104

New Bedford Festival Theatre

Presents



A Celebration of 50 years

of the theatre of Marchand and Charbonneau in New Bedford!

October 22, 2022 at 7:00 PM

New Bedford High School's Philip Bronsiegel Auditorium

50 Years of Theatre at New Bedford High School!

Welcome to the Theatre! will be a full evening's entertainment including:

- The premier of *Legends Among Us*, a short documentary film about Armand Marchand and George Charbonneau shot in November 2019.
- Musical performances featuring current and former NBHS Drama Club members along side professionals.
- Historical footage from New Bedford High Drama Club, Zeiterion Musicals, and Festival Theatre shows.
- Special tributes from alumni and special guests.
- A preview of the exhibit *I Could Be Happy With You: New Bedford and the Theatre of Marchand and Charbonneau*.

Welcome to the Theatre! One Night Only! October 22, 2022 7:00 PM
at New Bedford High School's Phillip Bronsiegel Auditorium.

General Admission Seats are \$35

Tickets can be purchased online at nbfestivaltheatre.com, by phone (508) 994-2900, or in person at the Zeiterion Box Office 68+ Purchase Street New Bedford, MA 02740.

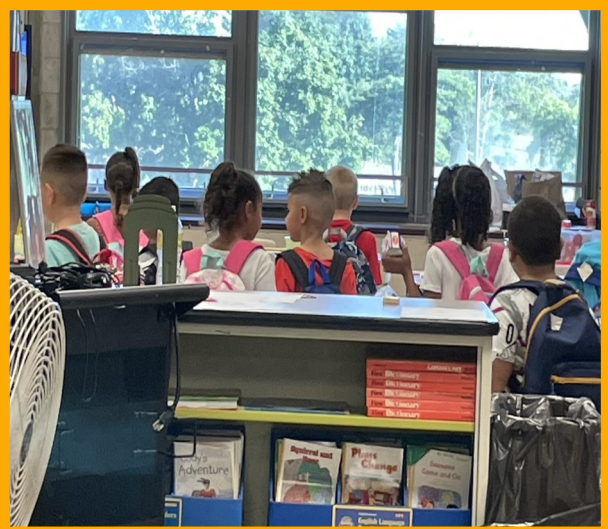
National School Backpack Awareness Day Sept. 21, 2022



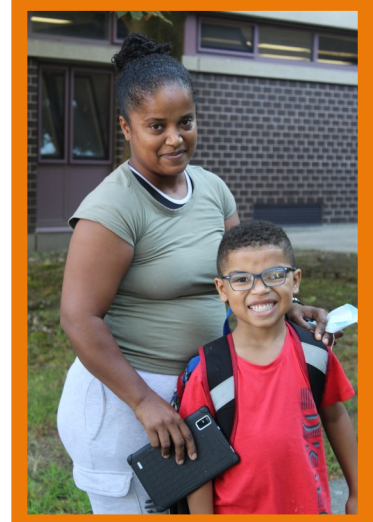
**Thanks to all staff who helped with
backpack sorting and distribution**



Around Our Schools



First Day of School was a success! Lots of smiling faces in anticipation of a great academic year!



Community Corner

Volunteers are needed throughout our community*



Day of Caring September 16, 2022



The Day of Caring brings together volunteers from local businesses who give their time and services by assisting nonprofit agencies with various projects that they may not otherwise have the staff or resources to accomplish. This not only provides agencies with valuable support, but it also allows volunteers to see first-hand the tremendous work being done in the community. Day of Caring is held every September.

This year's Day of Caring will take place on Friday, September 16, 2022.

[Click here to register.](#)

Volunteer SouthCoast

Volunteer SouthCoast is a FREE online database that connects volunteers with opportunities locally. VSC is a partnership between United Ways of Greater Fall River, Greater New Bedford, and Greater Plymouth County, making it a regional effort to promote volunteerism. At any given time, more than 200 volunteer opportunities are listed on the site. You can search by distance from your home, interest area, or organization to find something that is right for you. [Learn more.](#)

Contact: Victoria Grasela at 508-994-9625, ext. 210 vgrasela@unitedwayofgnb.org

***NBPS District Goal #4 – “Increase awareness of staff to the benefits, partnerships, and opportunities to become a bigger part of the greater New Bedford Community.”**