



Malden Public Schools

FERRYWAY SCHOOL
150 Cross Street
Malden, MA 02148

Rebecca A. Gordon, M.Ed., C.A.G.S.
Principal

Michael F. Ciampa, M.Ed., C.A.G.S.
Assistant Principal

Carol J. Weldin, M.Ed., C.A.G.S.
Assistant Principal

September 1, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer! We are so excited to begin the 2015-2016 school year and have spent the past couple of months preparing for the opening of school and are now ready for your child!

This year we welcome the following new staff members to the Ferryway team:

Carol Weldin - Assistant Principal (Grades 1, 3, 5, 7)

Meaghan Darragh- Gr. 7 Student Support Teacher

Hilary Ewing- Kindergarten Teacher

Kendall Hill- Gr. 1, 2, 5 Student Support Teacher

Erin Landrigan- Grade 7 Science

Stephanie LeSaffre- Grade 4 Teacher

Jessica Poirier- Grade 3 Teacher

TBD-Team Chair Person

In addition, Ms. Emily MacLeod will remain in grade 2.

To eliminate classroom interruptions, disturbances to the learning, and foster our Core Value of *Responsibility*, the secretaries will not be permitted to call into classrooms during the day unless there is an extreme emergency. Please help us by doing the following: **Any changes in students' dismissal routines need to be sent in writing to your child's teacher in the morning. If you drop off homework, snack, etc, the item will be kept in the office and an email will be sent to the teacher.**

The "Gold Book"- This year we are highlighting the Core Value of ***responsibility- take ownership for one's actions and words***. When a teacher or staff member feels that a student has been "caught" demonstrating ***responsibility*** or any of the core values, the student may be sent to the office to sign the "Gold Book". Each student that signs the "Gold Book" will receive a certificate and their name will be announced over the loud speaker during Monday morning announcements.

Attention all parents... I am looking for a volunteer to join our **School Council**. The School Council meets monthly and serves as an advisory council for the Principal. You will get lots of firsthand information and be able to voice your ideas and suggestions. The first meeting is October 8 at 6:00! Please contact me ASAP!

Congratulations to **Ramneet Chahal**! Ramneet has been declared a winner of the 2015 MTA Red Sox Reading Game by submitting a completed reading pledge form. Ramneet and Mrs. Bouchie, her grade 3 teacher, each received 2 tickets to the September 5 game against the Philadelphia Phillies.

Just a Reminder:

School starts at 7:45 and students are marked **late at 8:00**. It is very important for your child to be on time!

If your child is going to be absent, please call the main office at 781-388-0655 (grades K-4) or 781-388-0659 (grades 5-8). Following his/her return to school, we need a note from a parent/guardian, doctor, court officer, or any other official who can explain the absence.

Please review the **Attendance** and **Retention Policies** in the Student/Parent Handbook for specific information. **Students in grades 7 and 8** will fail their courses for the quarter if they have more than 3 unexcused absences. We will be monitoring excused and unexcused absences carefully. **School attendance is essential** for a successful year.

To ensure the safety of our students, in the morning **please don't leave your car running and unattended in the fire lane** as this is a live drop-off. In addition, **please keep one line of cars next to the curb** so students aren't crossing in the street. In the afternoon, please **follow the posted parking signs** and **do not enter the parking lot**. Parking is available on Walnut and Ferry Streets.

Back-to-School Night is Thursday, **September 17** from 6:00-7:30 for grades 1-8! Teachers will host 2 sessions at 6:00 and 6:45. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to learn the routines, procedures, expectations, and curriculum that your child will be participating in this year!

I welcome you to attend my monthly "Parent Coffee" sessions beginning on Friday, September 25 at 8:15 where it will be an open forum to talk with me about the topic of your choice. Hope to see you there!

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gordon