



Malden Public Schools

FERRYWAY SCHOOL
150 Cross Street
Malden, MA 02148

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

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November 2, 2015

Dear Ferryway Families,

I can't believe that we are already almost at the end of the first quarter of school. As I walk through classrooms, I see teachers working hard to deliver high quality instruction that fosters a love for learning and our students are working hard to learn and apply the new information. Each day our teachers are preparing students for high school, college, jobs and careers that are ever changing!

As you know, last year students in grades 3-8 participated in the PARCC pilot for ELA and Math. Results from this test will be released from the state to the school and parents/guardians. There will be more information to come. If your child was in grade 5 last year, you should have received the Science and Technology MCAS results that were sent home last week!

The past several weeks we have had numerous situations where students have been receiving and/or sending inappropriate messages over social media. It is very important that you are monitoring **social media apps** and talking to your child about the consequences and implications of using them as a primary means of communications. Please ask your child and familiarize yourself with social media apps like **Instagram, Kick, Snap Chat, Oovoo, or text messages.**

Attendance Policy- Please make sure that you have reviewed it!

*If your child is absent from school, he/she should bring in a note from a doctor, court officer, or any other official who can explain the absence. Excused absences are limited to the following: an illness or injury upon receiving a doctor's note, a death in the immediate family, or court appearances, or religious holidays.

*Students in grades 7& 8 who have more than 3 unexcused absences in one term per class will be receiving a failing grade of a 59 for that term.

***From the Nurse's Office-** If the school nurse dismisses your child due to an illness, we will record it as an excused absence. However, if you choose to dismiss your child from the nurse's office, it won't be considered excused.

*We are monitoring excused and unexcused absences very carefully. **School attendance is essential** for a successful year.

Please join us at the next **PTO meeting** which is **November 10** at 6:30 in the Ferryway library. We are looking for parent volunteers...we appreciate any and all help. Remember you put the P in PTO!!

Please join me at my next "**Parent Coffee**" session which is Friday, November 20 at 8:15! In addition to our open agenda, we will be looking at our new website. Hope to see you there!

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

Sincerely,

Ms. Gordon, Principal