

# From the Desk of the Superintendent

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Twitter: @maldenpublic



School opened smoothly Aug. 30 for 6,602 Malden Public School students including those at the Linden S.T.E.A.M.

**RESTORATIVE PRACTICES INFO NIGHT  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 23 from 6:30-8:00  
at the Forestdale School. 74 Sylvan**

Malden Public Schools invites all families to attend an information session on a new practice being instituted district-wide for justice & discipline

Superintendent John Oteri

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all,

Thank you for the opportunity to reach out to all of you with the first edition of what will be a monthly newsletter.

I am excited, honored and humbled to serve as the Superintendent of the Malden Public Schools and sincerely pledge to devote my full efforts and consistent focus on helping to steer our school system to steady progress and expectation of great achievements.

We are fortunate to have an extremely talented and dedicated staff across the district as well as energetic and motivated students at every grade level. Let's have a great first quarter and fall season!

—Superintendent John Oteri

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## Malden Public Schools Mission Statement

The Malden Public Schools are a place where students are encouraged to follow their dreams and become well rounded members of our community. The Malden Public Schools prepare students to be independent thinkers and enthusiastic learners who: Work hard; Respect others Cherish our diversity; Seek challenges; Discover and develop their individual talents; Strive for academic excellence; and look to demonstrate personal and social responsibility. Malden Public Schools graduates are prepared to be active participants in our economy and democracy.

# Malden High School becomes a courthouse for a day: Some 353 new citizens from 47 different countries are sworn in during ceremony



Mayor Gary Christenson, left, and Supt. John Oteri, right greet a new citizen on the steps of the Brunelli Building at Malden High School. More than 350 candidates from 47 different countries were sworn in as American Citizens at Malden High School's Jenkins Auditorium. The naturalization ceremony was presided over by the Honorable Frank J. Bailey, Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Massachusetts and member of the Immigrant Learning Center Board of Trustees.

## Welcome to the Malden Public Schools! 59 first-year educators came on board here to start off 2017-18





**The Malden Public Schools: ‘Our Diversity is Our Strength’**  
The Malden district is near the top as one of the most diverse in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with Malden High School rated the #1 most diverse secondary education school overall. Throughout the district we embrace our diversity and strive to progress as one.

## **Call it Malden's own 'SCHOOL of ROCK': Salemwood School is beneficiary of Ernie Boch Jr.'s 'Music Drives Us' Foundation**



**Well-known auto empire magnate Ernie Boch Jr. is shown above greeting students at the Salemwood School where he presented a grant to the school for the purchase of rock band instruments.**

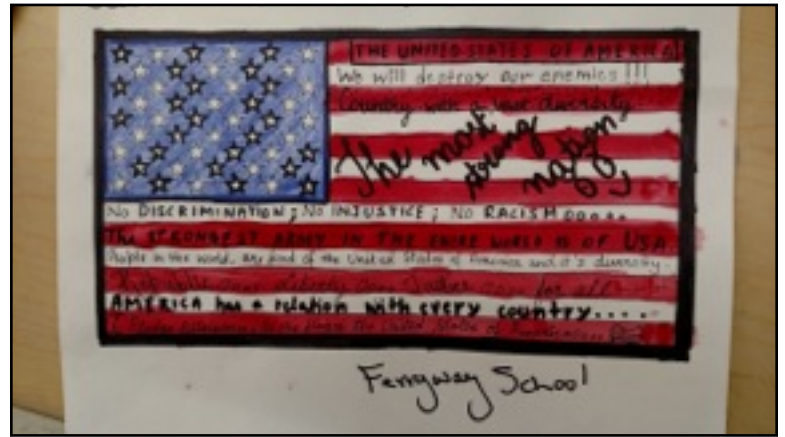
**C**all it Malden’s own version of “School of Rock”! About a year ago, Salemwood School music teacher Brian Sheehan applied for a grant from car giant Ernie Boch Jr.’s “Music Drives Us” Foundation. Guess what? Ernie Boch Jr. himself came to the Salemwood recently to personally present the grant which Mr. Sheehan (AKA Jack Black) used to purchase rock music equipment including two electric guitars, a bass guitar, electronic drums and a keyboard. At Mr. Boch’s visit, students performed a classical music song and also a contemporary Bruno Mars hit for him as well as Mayor Gary Christenson, Supt. Oteri and Salemwood principal Rebecca Gordon. **ROCK ON, SALEMWOOD MUSICIANS!!**



(From left) Malden Superintendent of Schools John Oteri, German Consulate in Boston Representative Liz von Wagner, Stolpersteine Exhibit Curator Anne Thomas, and Mayor Gary Christenson

**M**alden High School students recently learned some new lessons about the Holocaust from Anne Thomas, Director of the Berlin, Germany-based “Stolpersteine” Exhibition, *Stumbling Stones: Remembrance and Social Sculpture*, an exhibition honoring victims of the Holocaust. Mayor Gary Christenson, Superintendent of Schools John Oteri, Malden High School Principal Ted Lombardi and several teachers and students joined Ms. Thomas and Boston German Consulate Representative, Elizabeth von Wagner in hosting the special presentation at Malden High School. Curator Thomas explained to the audience of more than 300 students that the best way to honor the victims of the Holocaust is to keep their names alive in the present.

Stolpersteine, whose English translation is “Stumbling Stones,” describes a now 22-year-old movement in Europe where metal plates are constructed by hand by a craftsman in Germany and then affixed to a cobblestone on a sidewalk or street of the last residence a Holocaust victim held by their own choice before falling victim to Nazi terror. The Stolpersteine movement was begun by one man, artist Gunter Demnig, as a dedicated art project to provide families a means to remember their loved ones killed in the Holocaust. Demnig initiated his quest in 1995,



A Ferryway School seventh-grader created his own tribute to the Flag during the District-Wide celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the ‘Pledge of Allegiance... & its MALDEN roots!

## **Who knew? The ‘Pledge of Allegiance’ was co-written by a MALDEN resident: 125th Anniversary was marked by Malden Public Schools Oct. 12**

**O**n Wednesday, October 11, Malden Public Schools students district-wide acknowledged the 125th Anniversary of the “Pledge of Allegiance” which has Malden roots. Also on October 12, a group of Malden residents, city and school officials joined members of the Malden Historical Society in gathering at one of the city’s most historic spots on October 12 to honor the 125th anniversary of what is largely a little-known part of Malden history. A ceremony was held at Forest Dale Cemetery to mark the memory of a native son, James Bailey Upham, who is recognized as one of two men most significant in the birth of the Pledge of Allegiance back on October 11, 1892 when he collaborated with Francis Bellamy.



# 'Dancing with the Teachers' wows 'em with electric performances

At left, Malden High's Astha Llama was part of Ms. Erin Mazza's winning dance troupe at the popular "Dancing With the Teachers" show on October 12 at Malden High's Jenkins Auditorium. At right, Malden High Class of 2018 advisor Ms. Kate Haskell's tallies up the votes. She also led a dance group in the show Under Ms.Haskell's direction for the third straight year, over 400 students, MPS staff, friends and family turned out for the show!



**MALDEN'S A 'SOCCER TOWN'!** Both Malden High boys and girls varsity teams MIAA State Soccer Tourney Bound! Boys soaring to 13-1-2... Girls solid at 8-3-1



# Safety of students and staff, proper sharing of accurate information is paramount in Malden Public Schools

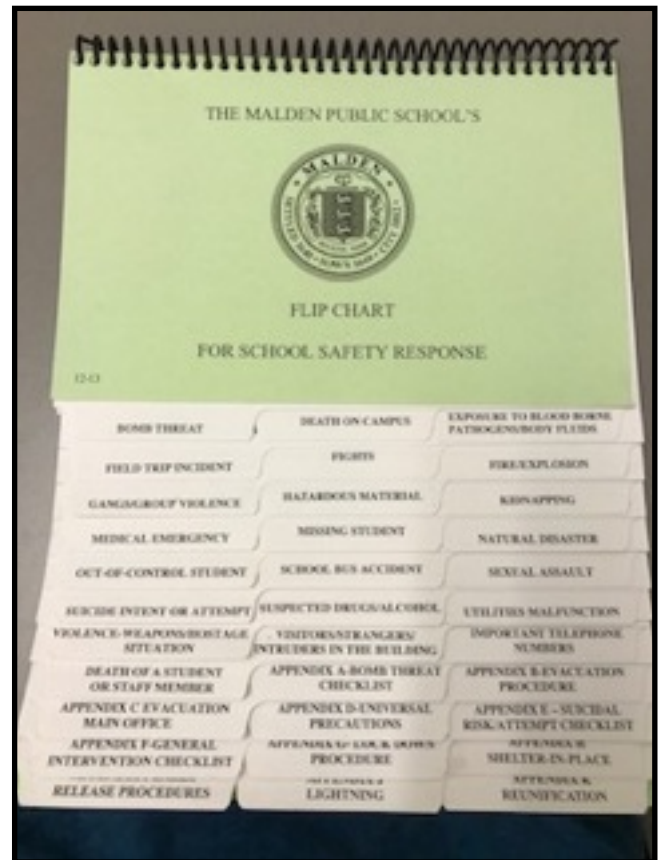
*The following is an open letter to all staff members of the Malden Public Schools*

**Dear MPS Staff,**

One of the tenets of my administration is open, honest, transparent and collaborative communication. During my time here so far, I am pleased to say that I have found there to be a cooperative spirit and open, transparent communication between the schools and various departments in the City. I firmly believe that this is necessary in order for all of us to be successful. I thoroughly enjoy working here and truly appreciate the commitment of both our staff and members of other City departments.

To that end, I would like to address an issue that, unfortunately, is becoming all-too-familiar in our society, an emergency situation. We are quite fortunate in Malden to have a manual that covers nearly every situation that we could potentially face in the Malden Public Schools. As you know, we have detailed protocol and procedural steps that are to be taken in case of an emergency. The building principal remains in contact with Central Office (me, unless I am unavailable) and our public safety officials. It is critical that when an emergency situation arises, we as educators, listen for the next steps. Unless instructions and pertinent information comes directly from my office and our public safety officials, then it is not true.

Please remember, our commitment is to first



**A copy of the regulatory, mandatory emergency response protocol of the Malden Public Schools is available in every classroom and office districtwide**

keep our students and staff safe. If we commit to this, then I am confident we should not have any issues. I look forward to our continued partnership towards safety, student achievement and constant communication that supports all of our goals. Stay well and stay safe! Truly,

**—Superintendent John Oteri**