

From the Desk of the Superintendent

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Superintendent John Oteri



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all,

For all of us, students, staff and our families, the holiday season brings out the spectrum of human emotions.

As educators and caretakers of our large and diverse school population we realize it is imperative to take extra care at this time of year to nurture our students, be vigilant and meet them where they are at this point in their lives. I commend everyone going "the extra mile" this holiday season to ensure our students feel safe, positive and cared for by our staff. Happy Holidays!

—Superintendent John Oteri

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Malden Public Schools Mission Statement

Malden Public Schools is 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 & 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 PARADE of HOLIDAY TRADITIONS HIGHLIGHTED the MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Malden High School senior Thays Almeida presents Future Tornado Aidan with his very own Elf at the Annual Malden Parade of Holiday Traditions. *Story, More Photos, inside*



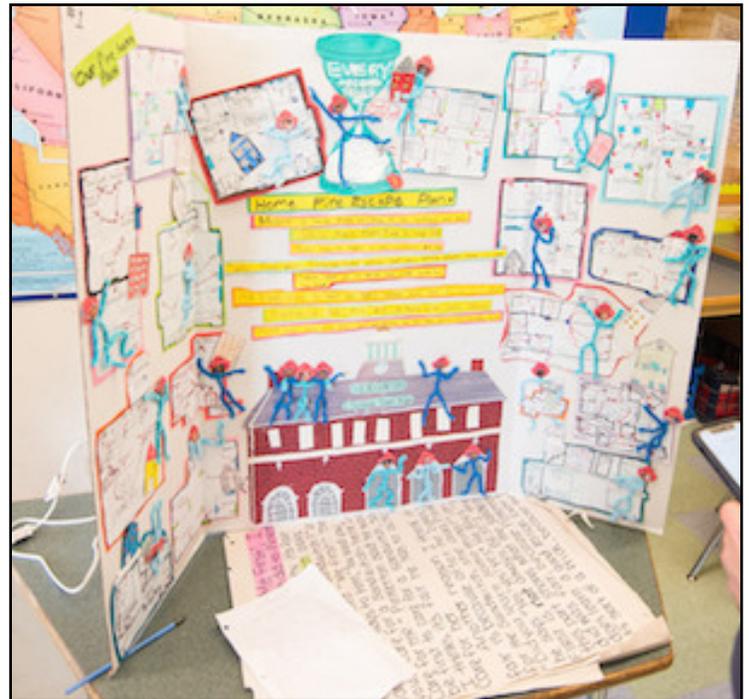
SAFETY FIRST! Ms. Hall's 3rd Grade Class at Beebe School is Fire Safety Poster Winner



Superintendent Oteri, left, was joined by Malden Mayor Gary Christenson, fourth from left, Malden Fire Chief Kevin Finn, third from right, some Malden firefighters, teachers and students from Ms. Hall's 3rd grade Class at the Beebe School in celebrating the Fire Safety Poster Contest winning entry.

Theme: Every home should have a Fire Escape Route plan

Fire safety is an important part of all of our everyday lives. That is why it is essential our students know about fire safety and how it impacts their decisions and actions. Recently Malden Fire Chief Kevin Finn joined with his firefighters, Mayor Christenson and Supt. Oteri in honoring Ms. Hall's Third Grade class from the Beebe K-8 School which created one of the Massachusetts winning entries in a New England-based Fire Safety Poster Contest. Many Malden students took part in this contest and Ms. Alyssa Hall's 3rd Grade class was tops!



Malden's 2017 MCAS results explained in a presentation to the School Committee

Supt. Oteri delineates Next Generation MCAS results from Grades 3-8 which 'establishes a baseline'; H.S. results also discussed

In these times where educational choices seem to be increasing and evolving, Malden Superintendent of Schools John Oteri is quite clear on the primary goal for the school system he oversees.

"Here's what success looks like," Superintendent Oteri told the members of the Malden School Committee at its regular monthly meeting. "(It's) when every Malden student's parent sends their child to the Malden Public Schools."

Oteri voiced this sentiment during his preamble to an overview of the latest Malden MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment Test) results, part of which were achieved under the new Next Generation MCAS, for the grades 3-8 students.

Overall, Supt. Oteri said, Malden's MCAS results were positive, when measured against the Massachusetts state average, from top to bottom. He explained the high school MCAS test takers participated in the "old" system, the so-called traditional MCAS test which is a different format and has a different expected result from the Next Generation MCAS test.

At the high school level, the numbers were close to or exceeded the state average in



Superintendent Oteri explains results of the Grades 3-8 Next Generation MCAS test as well as the Malden High School results at the December Malden School Committee meeting

most categories. "Overall we turned in a pretty good performance. Our students' average scores were right there with the state average and of course a lot of them were above others at the state average," Oteri said.

Supt. Oteri said the results from the 3-8 Next Generation MCAS were also "not terribly behind the state average," but again stressed that "the results are not factored into accountability, it's our baseline. This is the set we will use to evaluate our progress moving forward."



TODAY is the FIRST OFFICIAL DAY of WINTER!

Be first to get ALL of our weather-related school news on Twitter: @MaldenPublic

FORESTDALE HOLIDAY CONCERT

Students from Grade 5 @ the Forestdale School give a beautiful rendition of 'Believe' at the annual Holiday Concert. Each grade gave a performance.

Malden School Community:

I would like to remind everyone that school is dismissed at 11 AM on Friday, December 22. Breakfast will be served, but not school lunch. There are no after school programs on Friday and the Early Learning Center will not have afternoon classes. We would like to wish all of you Happy Holidays and a healthy and Happy New Year. School will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

As the winter season is upon us, please note that any school cancellation will be announced using this Blackboard Connect phone call, news media, and our website as well as on Twitter. As a reminder, you can follow me on Twitter @MaldenPublic where I often make announcements regarding our wonderful students and schools.

Superintendent John Oteri



Grade 1 students perform @ Forestdale Concert



Grade 3 students perform @ Forestdale Concert

Ferryway School wins 'Top Float' @ Annual Parade of Holiday Traditions this year!

Theme of parade was 'Malden Schools: The Future Begins Here'



This year's Annual Parade of Holiday Traditions honored our schools with the 'Malden Schools: The Future Begins Here' theme for the event. Every Malden public school participated in the parade and Supt. Oteri said the Mayor believed this was the first time ever! The Ferryway K-8 School with its 'Back to the Future' Delorean float won 'Best of Parade' honors and will get a \$350.00 donation to the school's Art Department. Congrats to the Ferryway students & staff and Principal

Supt. Oteri writes

Congratulations to Earl Fitzpatrick who oversaw The Ferryway School's version of Doc Emmett Brown's car from "Back to the Future" which was a replica of the flying DeLorean Time Machine that was the Award Winning Float of Malden's 2017 Holiday Parade. They wowed the audience and the judges with this beautiful creation. Congratulations, Earl and the entire Ferryway Team!



Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy was well-represented

MALDEN HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RAYMOND JIANG SWORN INTO U.S. MARINE CORPS BY THE NATIONAL COMMANDANT IN BOSTON

He is quick with a subtle smile and fairly soft-spoken, but there is also a visible intensity just under the surface when you talk with Raymond Jiang, a Malden High School senior. Jiang has a plan, one he began formulating half a decade ago in his early teens, uncommon for most students his age.

While most of his classmates are agonizing over college essays and mulling over options for future academic pursuits Jiang has already made the biggest decision in his life to date: He wants to be a career military man. Recently Jiang was formally sworn in as a member of the United States Marine Corps. If that was not a big enough leap, the icing on this cake was that the 18-year-old was given his oath by the nation's top Marine, four-star General Robert B. Neller, the Marine Corps Commandant who was in Boston in early November.

“It was a very exciting day and I feel honored to have been able to say my oath before the Marine Commandant,” said Jiang, a lifelong Malden resident who was born in the Linden neighborhood where he still lives. “I feel very lucky and it is something I will never forget.” “I knew when I was lot younger this is what I wanted,” said Jiang, who attended the Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy in Malden before attending Malden High School. “I had a teacher, Mr. (Joshua) Titcomb in the seventh grade who talked about his military career and it really got my interest.”

He was hooked. From then on, Jiang says, it was important to research more information. Jiang spent a lot of time learning about every branch of the service and when it became apparent this would be life's path, he decided he wanted to a United States Marine. “I visited every recruiting center and asked a lot of questions.



Superintendent Oteri recently congratulated Malden High School senior Raymond Jiang on the event of his being sworn into service with the U.S. Marine Corps

“I decided the Marines are for me,” Jiang said.

Superintendent Oteri recently met with with Jiang and learned of his choices. “We are proud of Raymond, both for his choice to serve his country and that he was inspired by a Malden Public Schools teacher. We encourage our students to explore all options and careers available to them following high school graduation.”

WINTER SPORTS SEASON UNDER WAY for MALDEN HIGH SCHOOL GOLDEN TORNADOS

The winter season has begun for the Malden High School Golden Tornado teams. At right, Malden boys coach Don Nally tells his team of a historic feat in registering their first-ever NEC Conference win in school history, 72-56 over Revere Tuesday! Below, the Malden coed swim team is also off to a strong start this season.



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.

FOR EDUCATORS...Summer opportunity: The National Endowment for the Humanities offers tuition-free summer programs for educators across the country. Participants receive stipends to help cover travel and living expenses. Applications are due March 1, 2018 for 2018 NEH Summer Programs in the Humanities for School Teachers and College and University Faculty

Each year, NEH offers tuition-free opportunities for school, college, and university educators to study a variety of humanities topics. Stipends of \$1,200-\$3,300 help cover expenses for these one- to four-week programs. WWW.neh.gov or contact Ms. Keenan in the Central Office via email ckeenan@maldenps.org



Salemwood School celebrates Diwali at Winterfest