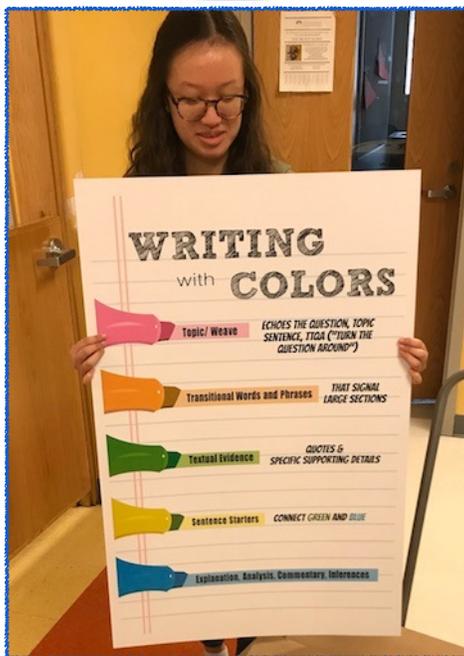


# From the Desk of the Superintendent

Volume I No.4 JANUARY NEWSLETTER January 31, 2018

Twitter: @maldenpublic



## DISTRICT-WIDE: Malden Public Schools Spreads Word on the Writing with Colors Program

Writing with Colors is a proven program to help teach students how to organize their writing and the program has been adopted for implementation in the Malden Public Schools. Kelly Weng helps distribute posters at Malden High.



Superintendent John Oteri

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all,

First off, I sincerely hope that all of you who make up the Malden Public Schools, teachers, staff, administrators and our students, had a terrific start to your New Year in 2018.

It is hard to believe the 2017-18 school year is officially half completed and that we are in the "stretch run" toward June! We are proud to say much progress has been made in many areas in the first five months of the school year. Together, we can work to ensure this achievement continues and that we continue to effectively and aggressively pursue our collective goals. Thank you, all!

—Superintendent John Oteri



## Go FORESTDALE FALCONS!

Malden Ward 7 School Committee member Cathy Bordonaro, right, joined Forestdale K-8 School Asst. Principal Karie Carpenito, left and THE Forestdale Falcon at a school gingerbread cookie making event

## 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 HS Entrepreneurship teacher Debra Buckley named NFTE's 'New England Educator of the Year'

## MHS Educator now in running for National NFTE honor

MALDEN — After nearly two decades of teaching teenagers the finer points of how to establish themselves in the business world, there is not much that can surprise Debra Buckley. Even when she was summoned, along with her class of students, to the office of Assistant Superintendent Carol Keenan on the last day of class before winter break, the longtime Malden High School business teacher did not feel there was much out of the ordinary. “If the assistant supt. calls, you come,” Buckley said with a smile. “(Ms. Keenan) has a lot of interaction with students in general, so we just came downstairs to the Central Office.” When Keenan presented her with a gigantic bouquet of flowers as she walked into the office, which was filled with city officials and school administrators, Buckley knew



Ms. Buckley joined by students, Supt. Oteri and Mayor Christenson at ceremony honoring her. Malden Public Schools Photo

something was up. “She got me!” Buckley said. In a first for the Malden Public Schools and the region, Buckley was presented the New England Enterprising Educator of the Year Award. On hand to present the award was Jennifer Green, New England director of the global organization Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE). “We are proud to have educators like Deb Buckley working with students and preparing them for the world”  
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Superintendent John Oteri, right, was joined by Malden Mayor Gary Christenson, second from right, Assistant Supt. Carol Keenan, left, at a ceremony honoring Malden High School Business Department teacher Debra Buckley, at podium, as “New England Enterprising Educator of the Year”. Malden Public Schools

# First 'Meet the Superintendent' Night held with many ideas, opinions shared

*First-of-the-year event held at Malden HS library; Supt. Oteri says it will be a regular series and at different location in future*

First-year Malden Public Schools Superintendent John Oteri has met and interacted with hundreds of parents and staff members, all over the city, since he took the reins as head of the school system last June.

This time around, at his first "Meet the Superintendent" night, held at the Malden High School library, it was a more intimate setting. It was also highly interactive as about 30 in attendance shared ideas and opinions on many workings of the Malden Public Schools.

For Superintendent Oteri, the night was highly positive and for a major reason. "Most of the issues and concerns raised by parents and others in attendance, especially those that would require action through my office, we were already working on," Oteri said.

"It was a great forum. Our parents received an opportunity to express their concerns and also to give credit to a lot of the positives in the Malden Public Schools," the Superintendent said. "We were especially pleased to hear a lot of praise for the teachers in our district who are educating their children."

Supt. Oteri opened the evening by greeting those in attendance. "I am honored to be



**Superintendent Oteri speaks to the audience of mostly parents of Malden Public Schools students who attended his "Meet the Superintendent" night on January 24.**

Superintendent of the Malden Public Schools," he said. "I was raised in Malden and I am a Malden High School graduate. This is my dream job." Oteri explained he started his professional career as a social worker and then entered the education field, having spent the last 10 years as an administrator and the past five as Somerville High School principal. He was named Superintendent by the Malden School Committee in June 2017. **Continued Next Page**



**'We have to address the basic needs of our students, first. No student learns to his or her potential if he or she is in fear, is hungry or does not feel safe. We must take care of those basic needs first.'—Supt. John Oteri**



**At 'Meet the Superintendent Night' in the 'What is Good' category included staff, demeanor/ caring nurture of staff; special education operations; the atmosphere of inclusion in the very diverse Malden schools; and the way that Malden High School and Malden school administrators in general fight for programs**

# 'Meet the Superintendent' Night is Held @ MHS

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Oteri noted that during his tenure at Somerville High School, the statewide rating improved from Level 3 to Level 1. "That is something I am very proud to have been a part of in that community and the goal here is the same: make our district the best in the State."

At present the Malden Public Schools are rated Level 3 for academic accountability. Oteri said the immediate goal is to improve overall achievement. "We've already made progress in the way Malden schools go about our business. We are working to create a style that is collaborative and transparent."

"These students are all of our kids. There are a lot of measurements of their academic status and achievements. We can and we will show progress," Oteri said. "We, in the schools, have to think of ourselves as customer service providers. We have to accelerate learning and we have to address the basic needs of our students. No student learns to his or her potential if he or she is in fear, is hungry or does not feel safe."

"We must take care of those basic needs first," Supt. Oteri said.

As part of his event, the Superintendent used a whiteboard to list two categories about the Malden Public Schools as offered by those in attendance: "What is Good" and "Challenges". As the evening went on, some of items that were placed in the "What is Good" category included staff, demeanor / caring nature of staff; special education operations; the atmosphere of inclusion in the very diverse Malden schools; and the way that Malden High School and Malden school administrators in general fight for programs and students' needs. "Challenges" included a perceived lack of diversity in staff members; updating of online school calendar; inequalities in various areas among schools. Oteri said he was pleased to hear opinions on both spectrums and noted the challenges were mostly all being worked on already.

"This has been an excellent night and we are glad to hear from everyone," Oteri said. The Superintendent added he would be holding similar meetings at other school locations as the school year continues.

## 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.



Malden Public Schools 8th graders Omar, Eli and Jayden take a break between games at the 79th Annual Al Locke Basketball League which is held every Saturday morning by the Malden Rec. Dept. @ the Salemwood.School.

**THERE ARE 49 DAYS LEFT OF WINTER... NO MATTER**

**WHAT PUNXSATAWNEY PHIL SAYS THIS FRIDAY!!**

**Be first to get ALL of our weather-related school news on**

**TWITTER: @MaldenPublic**

# MS. BUCKLEY HONORED AS 'NEW ENGLAND EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR' BY INTERNATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP ORGANIZATION NFTE

*Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) is an international organization*

*Continued from Page 2*

through teaching entrepreneurship as she has been doing so effectively for the past 10 years,” Green said to the packed office. “She is well deserving of this award.” A Business Department teacher at Malden High School since 1999, Buckley was instrumental in ushering in the NFTE program to Malden in 2007 and has taught the class, called “NIFTY,” to hundreds of Malden High students since then NFTE was founded in 1987 and has grown from a dropout prevention program in one New York City high school to the largest entrepreneurship education program for youth in the world, educating more than 500,000 students to date.

The organization partners with all the major public school districts in the U.S. to bring entrepreneurship into the classrooms, including Boston, New York, Washington, D.C., Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, and more, as well as



Malden High School teacher Debra Buckley, seated, surrounded by her entrepreneurship class students and Jenkins House Principal Shereen Escovitz, left, are shown at a ceremony honoring Ms. Buckley held recently in the Superintendent's office. Malden Public Schools Photo

schools in those metro areas. In Massachusetts, NFTE has entrepreneurship programs in schools in Boston, Malden, Lawrence, Lowell, Chelsea, Worcester, Framingham, Quincy, and New Bedford. NFTE provides a curriculum which is integrated into an entrepreneurship class at the high school level with each school putting their own mark on it to fit their students.

“(Buckley’s) gone above and beyond in the classroom and out of it for these students, hundreds of them through the last 10 years,” said Keenan, who is directly responsible for curriculum and instruction in the Malden Public Schools.

Malden Superintendent John Oteri also praised Buckley. “This award is the culmination of a lot of great work,” Oteri said. “In our world, it is increasingly a global marketplace and the skills they learn in the entrepreneurship class will be very valuable in the workplace.

“With the infrastructure and the hard work of Mayor Christenson and the City Council, Malden has become a hub of business which is using the varied backgrounds and diversity of our residents as a strength. Getting this training here at Malden High School is giving our students a real

***Ms. Buckley has taught in Malden since 1999***

leg up on the next stage of their journey. We are blessed to have someone like Ms. Buckley leading the way.”

Buckley said she was proud of her students through the years. “We have great kids and they work very hard,” she said. “We have been lucky that the NFTE program has received tremendous, consistent support from the Malden Public Schools and I know that will continue.

# MALDEN HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM PLAYED IN TD BOSTON GARDEN AND WON A THRILLING 2-OT GAME!



**MALDEN HIGH ATHLETIC DIRECTOR (and former GoldenTornado Basketball Captain) Charlie Conefrey:**

I wanted to share a picture and a quick story about our boys basketball team. The experience alone for our student athletes and fans would have been enough. Playing on the most prestigious court in our state, having access to behind the scenes such as locker rooms, press conference room, The Legends Club, etc., was an experience everyone involved will surely remember forever. To top it off, our boys put on a show winning in double over time versus a very good Pembroke High School basketball team! What a GREAT DAY for MALDEN!! **Courtesy Photo/Jim Valente**



**SOME MALDEN HS STUDENTS WHO EARNED PRE-APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATES which will greatly enhance their entry into the working world when seeking jobs.**