# From the Desk of the Superintendent

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#### March was a historic month for rallies and leadership by Malden students & millions nationwide for school safety

Malden students marched outside their high school on March 15 to support school safety and denounce gun violence, joining millions of other students nationwide and around the world.



**Superintendent John Oteri** 

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all,

March has turned out to be perhaps the most eventful month of the school year so far. In between an unprecedented series of three Nor'easter storms, each bringing plenty of snow, there were many highlights and achievements across the district.

Congresswoman Katherine Clark participated in a forum on school safety, attended by over 150 students. Also this month, a major statement was made by our high school and some lower grade students in the form of a walkout Continued on Page 4



Sunday, April 1



Begins March 30 — through April 7

#### 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.

#### 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.



Aspiring Malden High Tornado freshman baseball players participated in preseason workouts this week at the spacious Salemwood School fieldhouse, the largest athletic facility of its kind in the region.

## A POSITIVE SCHOOL CULTURE

IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMON LANGUAGE USED. EXEMPLIFYING THE BELIEFS, VALUES. STRENGTH IN RELATIONSHIPS AND RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY IN THE COMMUNITY.



Malden High student Birukti Tsige addresses a question to Congresswoman Katherine Clark at a school safety forum held at the school March 1 that was attended by nearly 200 students and staff.

## U.S. Rep. Clark joins Supt. Oteri, Mayor Christenson and nearly 200 students at school safety forum

Superintendent, Mayor & Congresswoman tell students 'You are leading this nation in making a change' in school safety

The message was clear and simple to over 150 students who turned out for a forum on school safety and gun violence prevention held on March 1 at Malden High School: "You are the ones who are leading this nation in making a change."

This was a point made by all of the school and city leaders who spoke at the forum, including Superintendent of Schools John Oteri, Malden Mayor Gary Christenson and Malden High interim principal Mr. Mastrangelo, all of whom helped organize the special forum. Local Congresswoman Katherine Clark, a nationally-recognized proponent Cont. Next Page



U.S. Rep. Clark speaks at the Malden Public Schools safety forum.

## Well-attended school safety forum held at Malden High

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of gun laws reform said she had been looking for an opportunity to interact with students on the issues of school safety and gun violence in wake of the tragedy in Parkland, Fla. and appearing at Malden High School was a tremendous opportunity for her to accomplish that goal.

Superintendent Oteri welcomed Congresswoman Clark, Mayor Christenson and all of the students and staff. "It is so impressive that students have taken the lead in this movement for school safety," Superintendent Oteri told those in attendance. "It is a historic time for you and for this nation and it will be very exciting for you to be part of this movement. It is truly grassroots power in action."

Oteri stressed that the safety of students and staff on an everyday basis was the top priority of the administration of the Malden Public Schools. He noted that major investments had been made in security upgrades on doors and cameras. Fire drills, school lockdown drills, and shelter in place scenarios are conducted in all of the city's schools. "With all the improvements and enhancements we have made, safety relies most on communication and we urge everyone to share information to keep us all safe," he told those at the



U.S. Rep. Katherine Clark, D-5th Middlesex, speaks to students



Mayor Christenson speak as Supt. Oteri, at left, and Rep, Clark listen

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

#### **Continued from Page One**

from classes for 17 minutes to memorialize the 17 students and staff who lost their lives in Parkland. This past weekend, more Malden students again joined millions nationwide and internationally in the March for Our Lives rally, with local students joining those in Boston, with over 800,000 on Boston Common.

In addition to these demonstrations of civic and community engagement, there were many more notable achievement across the district in every one of our schools in the form of fundraising for causes; creative performances, some award-winning, at both the local and regional levels; and some great work by all of our staff to navigate through the weather issues and schedule changes that followed. Our educational and administrative personnel as well as the true heroes of the stormy periods and cleanups, our facility and custodial staffs, worked to keep our schools operational and our students and staff members safe during the record-setting series of March Nor'easters. Thank you to all and here's hoping it will be a great month of April for everyone!

Superintendent John Oteri

## Ferryway Fundraiser Extraordinare!

Kindergartener Alex Vasquez raises over \$1,000 for American Heart Association

Ferryway School kindergartener Alex Vasquez may be small in stature but he made some pretty big goals when he set out to raise funds for the American Heart Association. Vasquez, who is shown at right with Supt. Oteri, his parents, Ferryway principal Abdel Sepelveda and the Malden School Committee, raised \$1,310 for the American Heart Association. He is shown, at right, center, with his parents, Supt. Oteri and members of the Malden School Committee.





#### Ferryway School says, 'Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!'

Malden School Committee chairman and Mayor Gary Christenson, top right and Ward Seven School Committee member Cathy Bordonaro ("Cat in the Hat," rear, center) joined with students from the Ferryway School to celebrate "Dr Seuss's" 114 birthday on March 2. The late Dr. Seuss was born in 1904 in Springfield, Mass.!

### 'Math Night' held at Salemwood School by Title I program; Many parents in attendance







A Salemwood School teacher displays an exhibit for parents



Entertainment and refreshments were provided for the children of parents at the Title 1 "Math Night" presentation

A well-attended 'Math Night' presentation was held by Title I at the Salemwood School with a number of interesting exhibits that night by Grace Basile (Beebe), Chris Fitzpatrick(Salemwood), Kim Gibbs(Linden), Marta Lunden(Forestdale), and Kim Riordon(Ferryway)



From left, Malden Public Schools STEM Director Dr. Dias, Title 1 Director Janice Raymond and Superintendent Oteri at the Title 1 "Math Night" at the Salemwood School earlier in March

# Linden STEAM Academy comes out in force to raise \$800 for Alzheimer's Association research



The students and staff from the Linden STEAM Academy rose up in "purple force" and collected \$800 to help support the Alzheimer's Association and its research.

SUPERINTENDENT SALUTES: Beebe grade 8 teams deserve recognition as Ms. Susan Byrne, Grade 8 ELA teacher and the entire seventh grade team (Leslie Morrison-Science, Carolyn DiSalvatore, and Sean Weldon-Math) bring social issues within their grade level curriculum alive for our students.

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MORE SALUTES!: Big thanks and salutes to the Second Grade Team at Forestdale School... Rocchina Bello, Colleen Phinney, Rachelle Fitzpatrick, Stephanie Band, Chelsey Powell, and Suzanne Millett, this second grade team has been the model of collaboration, flexibility and teamwork for the past month, keeping their students needs first and providing much need emotional support during some unexpected transitions. Great job! ... Thank you to Christine Cannatelli and Kelly Rufo: These Early Learning Center Educators led an outstanding professional development session for their peers in March. This training will help educators better prepare their students for Kindergarten and move those students that are struggling much quicker to a better place!