

# From the Desk of the Superintendent

Volume I No.8 MAY NEWSLETTER May 31, 2018

Twitter: @maldenpublic



## IT'S PROM SEASON at MALDEN HIGH SCHOOL

Over 400 were in attendance at the Malden High School Class of 2018 Senior Prom, which was held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel.

Above, "dressed to the nines" are MHS seniors, Jasmine Gray and Juan Buenrostro. *Courtesy Prom Photos/ Mr. Valente. More Photos, Inside on Page 7*



Superintendent John Oteri

### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all,  
There is a reason we call our high school and college graduation ceremonies by their longer, more formal name: commencement. It really is a new beginning for our graduates, a chance to start a new chapter with a fresh slate. Whether they are continuing their education in college or joining the working world, we wish all of our high school graduates true success after this Sunday's Malden High School commencement. Please represent us well and remember you will always be welcome here as a Malden Public Schools graduate. We already miss you!

Follow us on Twitter: @maldenpublic



### SPECIAL OLYMPICS TURNS '50'; MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOSTS EVENT

The Malden Public Schools staff and students served as the perfect hosts for the 50th Annual Special Olympics

### 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 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.



Panelists at Malden Access Television-sponsored “Conversation on Race” included, from left, Brendan Kiely, Kelly Greenidge, Neil Swidley, and Keith Knight. *Photo by Ajithaan Sathiyendra/Malden HS Blue & Gold*

# Malden Reads hosts ‘Conversation on Race’ @ Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy

## *Superintendent Oteri participated in event held this month*

**By Sabrina Monteiro and  
Ajithaan Sathiyendra  
Malden High School *Blue and Gold***

Malden Reads, as a part of Malden Access Television (MATV) week, hosted ‘A Conversation on Race’ with guest moderator Kelli Greenidge at the Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy as guests of the Malden Public Schools. Panelists included Keith Knight, a rapper, cartoonist, educator and social activist, Brendan Kiely, co-author of *All American Boys*, which was one of this year's Malden Reads companions books in addition to the main selection, *The Hate U Give*, a novel about police brutality. The event was facilitated

from Malden Reads, and Anne D’Urso-Rose from MATV along with Neil Swidley, a staff writer for the Boston Globe Magazine and award winning author of seven books.

Superintendent of Malden Public Schools, John Oteri greeted those in attendance and opened up the discussion for the night. “This is something that we see nationwide, as well as globally

“This is something that we see nationwide, as well as globally and I think in order to address some of these issues, Malden and other communities need to have confident and honest conversations to open up that dialogue.”

—Superintendent John Oteri

The audience included Malden Public Schools Superintendent John Oteri, Malden local and state elected officials, teachers and administrators from Malden or other school systems, students, and Malden Reads staff.

and I think in order to address some of these issues, Malden and other communities need to have confident and honest conversations to open up that dialogue,” Supt. Oteri said.

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# Supt. Oteri joins Mayor Christenson and state legislative leaders in hosting forum on the future of funding public schools in Mass.

*Despite existing underfunding, speakers say there is optimism for the future with Ch. 70 proposals*

*Excerpted from Malden Observer*

Superintendent John Oteri joined Mayor Gary Christenson, teachers, state and local lawmakers for a panel discussion at Malden High School on the future of public school funding and education in Massachusetts. Taking a lead role in the discussion were three levels of teachers' advocates, including a representative from the National Education Association (NEA), Princess Moss. Deb Gesualdo, President of the Malden Education Association (MEA) and MEA Vice President Laura Vago were on hand as was Barbara Madeloni, President of the Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA).

A common theme was the state of perennially underfunded schools with



**Participating in the panel discussion on the future of public education funding in Massachusetts included, from left, state Sen. Jason Lewis, D-5th Middlesex; Malden Education Association (MEA) President Deb Gesualdo; Barbara Madeloni, President of the Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA); Malden Mayor and School Committee Chairman Gary Christenson; Princess Moss, secretary-treasurer of the National Education Association (NEA); Malden Public School Supt. John Oteri; and MEA Vice President Laura Vago** *Courtesy Photo/Malden Observer*

growing class sizes and services that are shrinking. They also pointed to optimism in the ranks as well, in the form of changes to state law that may be on the horizon. Superintendent Oteri and Mayor Christenson greeted

those in attendance and each agreed that more public school funding was vital to ensure Malden students and those across the Commonwealth receive the education they deserved. *Continued Next Page*

# Panel Discussion Held at Malden High School on the Future of Public School Funding in Mass.

Continued from Previous Page

Malden Education Association President Deb Gesualdo said advocating for adequate school funding is a collaborative effort. "Our collective voices should be used to work toward making sure our schools are fully funded," she said. "Our students should have access to enough guidance and adjustment counselors, our students should be able to walk into libraries that are stocked with great literature and are staffed by full-time librarians. They should have access to culturally diverse curricula. We should have class sizes here that foster the one-to-one instruction that all students need and deserve." She continued, "I knew since I was a young child that I wanted to be a music educator, because music brings me such great joy that I wanted it to bring that joy to other people," she said. "It's great social and emotional support for many people, I know it was for me my whole life. Music is a great communication skill for a lot of people to learn. It helps people learn how to work collaboratively with one another, which is a skill that you have to have in every single field. Music helps us learn to embrace other cultures and ethnicities, it helps us to understand different religions better." Princess Moss, secretary-treasurer of the National Education Association and a fellow music teacher, argued for retaining the arts in general. "The arts changed my life, so I know firsthand the importance of the arts in educating the whole student," Moss said. "The arts help our students build confidence, it helps students who might not excel in the other classes. I cannot underscore enough the importance of the arts." Moss said movements to increase school funding across the country are aimed not at enriching educators but at serving students. "It's not about salaries or benefits for the employees that work in the schools, it's all about creating the environment that our students need in order to learn and be successful," she said. "Some of our educators are using their own hard-earned dollars to pay for school supplies for students. I've heard how they're seeking alternatives for funding. That shouldn't be. Education funding is the responsibility of the local, state, and national [governments], and everyone, every entity, needs to do their part."



Changes at the state level may soon change the landscape of Massachusetts education, with the Legislature currently contemplating a major adjustment to the Chapter 70 funding formula. Recommended by a special commission, the adjustments could significantly increase the size of the pie. "If those recommendations ... had been implemented for this past year, it would've meant \$1.4 billion more in our public schools," said Barbara Madeloni, president of the Massachusetts Teachers Association. "That's how much we're underfunding our public schools." State Sen. Jason Lewis (D-Fifth Middlesex), voicing support for the commission's recommendations. "That was long overdue, that we have all of the stakeholders spend a year really studying the state of our school finance system, hearing from parents and teachers and superintendents and everyone," Lewis said. "Once those recommendations are accepted and passed into law, and the formula is updated, that means the state is going to be responsible for putting anywhere from \$1 billion to \$2 billion of additional funding into our public schools, as we heard tonight funding that is badly needed across our state." "We do need additional revenue," Lewis said. "This is not, as our governor sometimes likes to say, that we have a spending problem. We don't have a spending problem. The problem is that we don't spend enough. We have a revenue problem. We do need more revenue to be able to fund our public schools, and the best opportunity that we have ahead of us is the so-called Fair Share Amendment or Millionaire's Tax."



## Multicultural Night drew over 200 attendees from across the city for a night of entertainment and fine cultural fare

The Malden High School Multicultural Club hosted its annual "Multicultural Night" and the event attracted over 200 from across our community. Those in attendance were treated to a night of entertainment from a variety of cultures as well as tasty dishes served to show what pleases the palate in other parts of the globe. It was a true international evening!



All across the Malden Public Schools administrators thanked teachers during National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 8-12) . Superintendent Oteri sent bundles of cookies to EVERY Malden school on May 8.

# Ferryway School students are visited by Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) staff & Mayor Christenson

## *Students and educators have talk on mindfulness*



The Malden Public Schools has a strong working relationship and partnership with Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) on health issues and information. Recently CHA staff joined with Mayor and School Committee Chairman Gary Christenson, top, at center, and students and educators at the Ferryway School in Malden for a talk on mindfulness. Students display books that CHA staff distributed during their visit.

### **Researchers: Mindfulness training can help young students gain skills to enhance learning**

There is an emerging body of research that indicates mindfulness can help children improve their abilities to pay attention, to calm down when they are upset and to make better decisions. In short, it helps with emotional regulation and cognitive focus. Mindfulness is a big word for young kids to understand. Put simply, mindfulness is awareness. It is noticing our thoughts, feelings, bodily sensations, and anything that is around

us and happening right now. The purpose of teaching mindfulness to our children is to give them skills to develop their awareness of their inner and outer experiences, to recognize their thoughts as “just thoughts,” to understand how emotions manifest in their bodies, to recognize when their attention has wandered, and to provide tools for impulse control. —*Sara Rudell Beach*

# 2018 Malden High School Prom Night



**Malden High School Senior Class President Manny Quesada Nysten with his date Lisa Greige**



**From left, seniors Eric Toh, Belisson Cius and Joey Costa take a break from the festivities on Prom Night. *Courtesy Prom Photos/Mr. Valente***



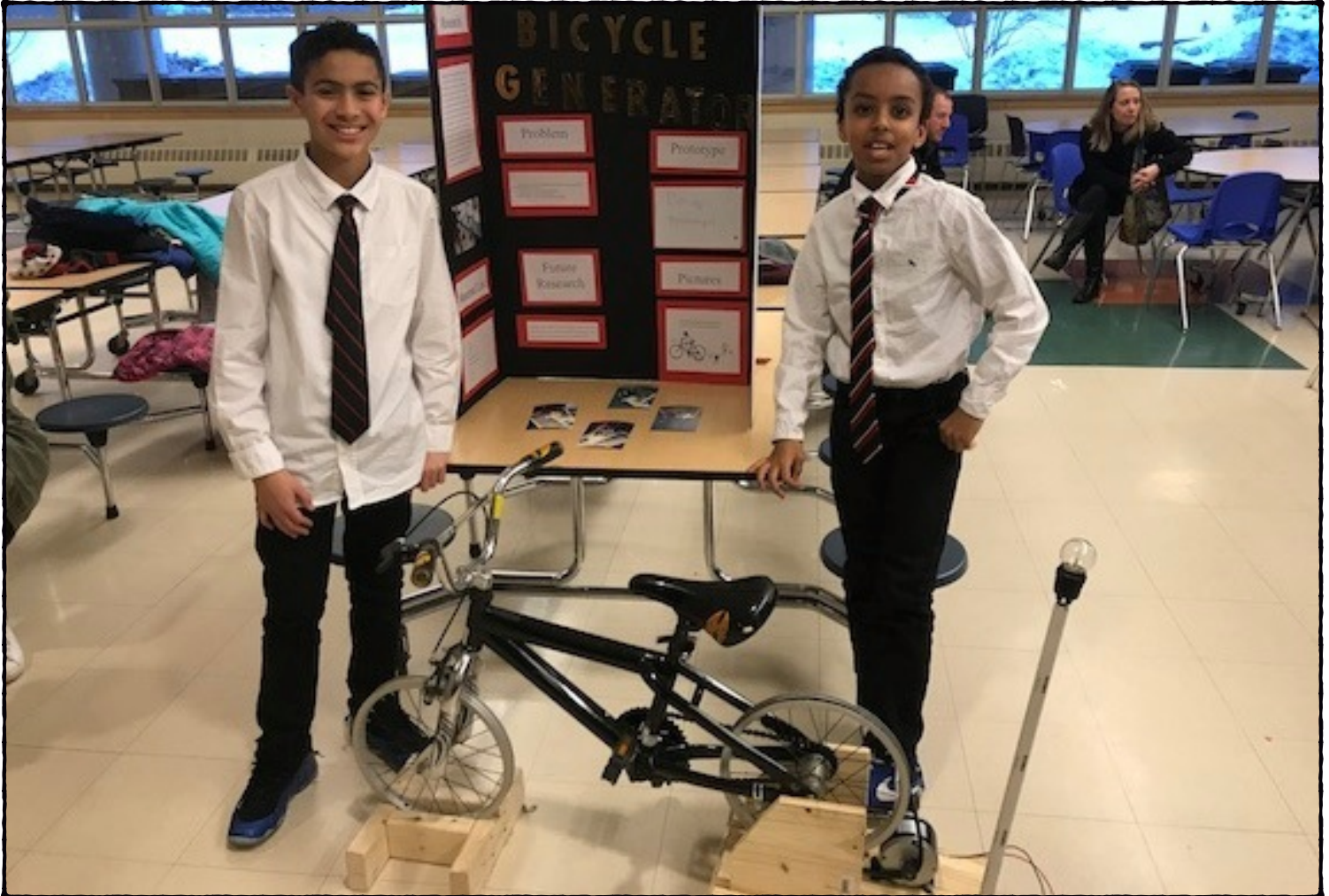
**Malden High School Class of 2018 Advisor Ms. Haskell is shown above with MHS senior Nyke Blue, who was named a member of the “Prom Queen’s Court”.**



**Andre Camara with Camila Paralicci at the Malden High School Senior Prom which was held at the Park Plaza in Boston.**

## 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.



These sharply-dressed young men display their bicycle-driven energy maker at the recent Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy Science Fair. Over 50 exhibits were on display.

## 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.



# Beebe School Second Grade Class performs 'Celebrating Freedom' to mark Memorial Day



Students in the Second Grade Classes at Beebe K-8 presented the concert "Celebrating Freedom" as part of a program to mark Memorial Day at the school.



'SWITCHING IT UP'— What a great idea for decorating this traffic light switch box located the corner of Commercial and Charles streets.

Malden Kiwanis in combination with Malden Reads  
Presents:

**Bubbles and Books**

With the help of MVRCS Key Club, Builder's Club and MHS Key Club

**Saturday, June 2, 2018**  
**Miller Park (Harvard St and Sammett St), Malden**  
**2:30 pm-5:30pm**

A Great Family Day Free to All!  
(Rain Date: Sunday June 3, 2018)

Join us for :

- Free recycled children's books
- Slush
- Face Painting
- Bubbles by Bubble Artist James Dichter (4:00 - 5:00)
- Lindsay's Puppet Pals (3:00-4:00)

**Special Thanks to our Sponsors:**

Nobel Prize For Literature \$100.00	Pulitzer Prize \$75.00	Newberry Medal \$50.00	Caldecott Medal \$25
In Memory of Ginny Yardumian	Marilyn Holland	State Representative Steve Ultrino	Tana E. Tselepis
Lorraine & Joe Danca	The Savings Bank	Mystic Valley Regional Charter School	Lisa Mendelson
Mallon Insurance	Donnelly & Reed Insurance Agency		Maria Sentance
Dairy Delight	Schapiro & Hender		Margaret Raymond
Mayor Gary Christenson	Weir-MacCush Funeral Home		
Malden Trans, Inc.			

*This program is supported in part by a grant from the Malden Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.*



## **'Once Upon a Lily Pad' at the Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy**

Students from Grade 2 at the Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy in a musical production, *Once Upon a Lily Pad*. The audience really enjoyed the students' performance.

### **Malden SEPAC hosted workshop on Mass. Anti-Bullying Law on May 31**

The Malden Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) hosted a workshop **Thursday, May 31** on the topic of: Massachusetts Anti-Bullying Law: IEP and Schoolwide Strategies to Prevent Bullying of Students with Disabilities. The workshop was held in the Forestdale School Cafeteria, 74 Sylvan St., Malden.

The following topics (and more) were discussed:

- The legal obligations of a school district in addressing bullying for students through the IEP process
- The need for intensive, coordinated services for students with autism and other disabilities to make effective progress and be able to address bullying so the student can feel safe at school

The workshop was directed and presented by Johanne Pino, Project Coordinator, Massachusetts Advocates for Children. This workshop addressed the state's anti-bullying law, focusing on both school-wide efforts to create safe and supportive school environments for students with disabilities.

## **'Conversation on Race' is hosted by Malden Reads and the Malden Public Schools at Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy**

### **Continued from Page 2**

During the first half of the discussion, questions were brought up and moderated by Kelli Greenidge. One of the questions asked was "what was everyone's reaction after reading *The Hate U Give* and *All American Boys*?" Brendan Kiely felt that both books are "speaking to young folks in particular because [the characters in the books] are speaking in a language that older people are not accustomed to hearing". Kiely also mentioned "the race consciousness the characters had in the book" stood out to him while reading the book. Swidey said he felt as if *The Hate U Give* "dealt with very heavy issues that were emerging in a very authentic way throughout the book which is very difficult to do in a writing standpoint."

For the second half of the discussion, the audience had the chance to share their opinions and questions with the panelists.

Kelli Greenidge said "whenever a conversation starts about race or any equality or injustice, (for some people) it becomes (a situation) 'that makes them feel that they are being excluded from the conversation when that's a historical argument which has nothing to do with the problem. One of the problems with the country is that [people] tend to think that it's all about feelings ,when structurally that's not what or where history is (at that time)."

Jodie Zalk, the co-facilitator of the event, said that "having an expert panel really helped to give some facts in a real basis for conversation, especially with the historical context that the moderator, Kelli Greenidge, was able to give because she is a history professor."

Malden Reads is continuing to provide programming for Malden , recently holding its final community dinner. They host a few more events which includes 'Bubbles & Books' and 'Summer Storytimes for School Success'. Go to [maldenreads.com](http://maldenreads.com) for information about these topics. Visit the Malden Read's discussion page and share any opinions or thoughts.



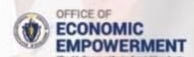
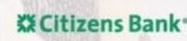
**HAPPY HAITIAN FLAG DAY!:** On May 18, Malden High's Stanley Dorvil and many Malden Public Schools wore traditional native clothing to commemorate Haitian Flag Day. What a colorful ensemble!

## **WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT SERIES**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018**  
9 AM - 1:30 PM

Anthony's of Malden  
105 Canal St. Malden, MA 02148

The Women's Economic Empowerment Series provides free educational sessions focusing on wage negotiation, money management, retirement, and investment strategies for women of all ages, ethnicities, economic backgrounds, and levels of fiscal knowledge.



Our Community Partners for this workshop include; State Representative Steven Ultrino, Mayor Gary Christenson, YWCA Malden, Zonta Club of Malden, and American Association for Arab Women of Malden

Lunch will be served and registration begins at 8:30 AM  
To register & for information visit [weesmalden.eventbrite.com](http://weesmalden.eventbrite.com)

# Probability Carnival @ Forestdale School

*The Possibilities are Endless...Probabilities are Calculable*



Students at the Forestdale School displayed a variety of projects they worked on, creating ways to show how to assess and forecast probability. It was a great way to show how mathematics, science, artistic creativity and competition can be intertwined to come up with solutions. Courtesy Photos/City of Malden

# Malden leads Mass. in Advanced Placement course participation rise

## *Malden High see a 300% increase in students in AP courses in past 10 years*

**The Boston Globe published an informative article recently which documented the rise in Advanced Placement course participation. The students and staff at Malden High School, which has one of the highest participation rates in Mass., were highlighted in the story. Some of it is excerpted below:**

Malden High student Marcelo Junior knew early on in high school that he would have to challenge himself to stand out to colleges. The Malden High School senior took three Advanced Placement (AP) classes and thinks the rigorous courses have given him an edge.

"I wanted colleges to see that I was pushing myself, not that I was just settling to get by and graduate," said Junior, who will be attending UMass Boston in the fall.

Junior is among a growing number of Massachusetts high school students taking AP — college-level — courses and tests developed by the College Board. Over the past 10 years, the number of students has more than doubled. In the 2006-07 school year, 26,169 Massachusetts students took 44,357 AP tests. In 2016-17, that



Hajar El Khalfouni, left, takes part in an Advanced Placement course at Malden High School. She is one of nearly 500 MHS students taking over 600 AP courses at the school in 2017-18.

number rose to 54,078 students taking 98,355 tests. Malden, for example, went from 118 students taking 204 tests to 480 students taking 910 tests — a

years, Zeiberg decided to tackle economics even though he'd had little previous exposure to the subject. "I always go towards things I'm

**From 2007 until 2018, Malden Public Schools went from 118 students taking 204 tests to 480 students taking 910 tests — a fourfold increase in participation.**

fourfold increase in participants in the same time frame. Malden's Harrison Zeiberg has taken six Advanced Placement courses and he's not slowing down in his senior year. After focusing on English and history during his sophomore and junior

interested in and I've always been confident in my ability to handle those classes," said Zeiberg. "It's my last year. Why not take on the challenge?"

# MALDEN WISHES A VERY HAPPY 50th ANNIVERSARY to SPECIAL OLYMPICS!



From left, student volunteers Fern Berard, Manuel Queseda Nylen and Mike Moscato ready to greet at the gate.



Superintendent Oteri addresses Special Olympians and volunteers on hand at Macdonald Stadium.



Malden High's Batoul Khaloiki recites "The Athlete's Pledge."





## **Mayor Christenson declares month of June as Immigrant Heritage Month here**

Mayor Gary Christenson has declared the month of June as Immigrant Heritage Month in Malden and issued a proclamation in support of the effort. The nationwide effort is an opportunity to celebrate immigrants and immigration, our heritage, and the countless contributions that immigrants have made and continue to make to our communities. Spearheaded by the “I Am an Immigrant” campaign, this year marks the fifth annual Immigrant Heritage Month.

As the majority of Americans have an immigrant story, whether family members came to this country recently or more than a century ago, our immigrant heritage has helped to shape who we are. The #IAmAnImmigrant and #IStandWithImmigrants public awareness campaigns honor each family’s sacrifices, struggles and successes, because America’s strength is reflected in its diversity built over generations. This June, individuals, companies, and public leaders are encouraged to take action to celebrate immigrants in America, share stories of the crucial ways that diverse communities enrich our society, and join a growing coalition across the country to proclaim that #IStandWithImmigrants.



**These happy young ladies who attend Malden High School are proud to display their heritage with some colorful native clothing on Haitian Flag Day. Many students across the Malden Public Schools also celebrated that day.**

**Malden High School Senior Scholarship Night:  
Over \$111,000 in scholarships & over 100 awards  
for Academic Department Excellence are given**



**Superintendent Oteri addresses  
over 400 in attendance on May 29.**



**Forestdale School Principal Don Concannon distributed scholarship  
awards to four Malden High seniors who were Forestdale “alumni”.**



**Malden Education Association (MEA) President Deb  
Gesualdo, right, presented MEA scholarships to seniors.**



**Malden Public Schools Director of Athletics Charlie  
Conefrey bestows scholarships to Student Athletes of  
Year Patrick Pereira and MacKenzie Furlong.**





**National Honor Society Program lists graduating members and the new inductee at Wednesday's ceremony.**



**Superintendent Oteri, right, speaks at ceremony Wednesday night.**

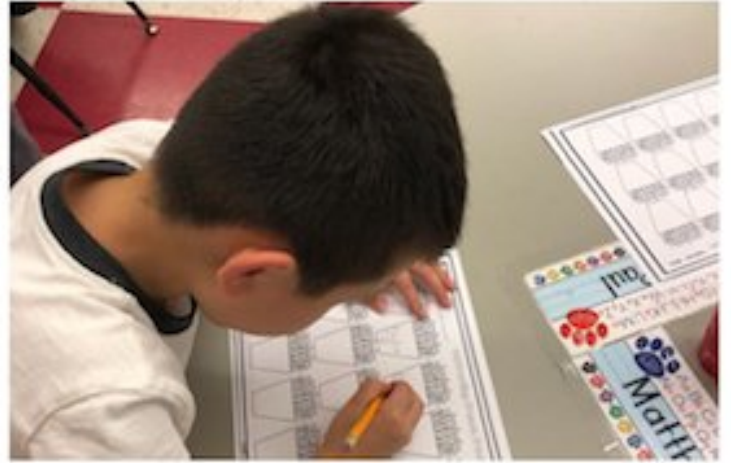
## **Malden High School's 91st Annual National Honor Society Induction Ceremony**

The 91st Annual Malden High School National Honor Society Induction Ceremony of the John Hutchins Chapter was held Wednesday night in the Jenkins Auditorium. Supt. Oteri, Mayor Christenson and MHS Principal Christopher Mastrangelo helped bid adieu to 24 graduating seniors and welcome 43 new members to the National Honor Society, which includes the students demonstrating this highest academic excellence and character at MHS.



**National Honor Society officers perform the official candle lighting portion signifying the opening of Wednesday's 91st Annual Induction Ceremony.**

# Math Celebration at the Salemwood School was a big success this month



The month of May featured a Math Celebration at the Salemwood School coordinated by Ms. Mercurio, Ms. Cooley and their amazing students. Mayor and School Committee chairman Gary Christenson visited. *Courtesy Photo/City of Malden*

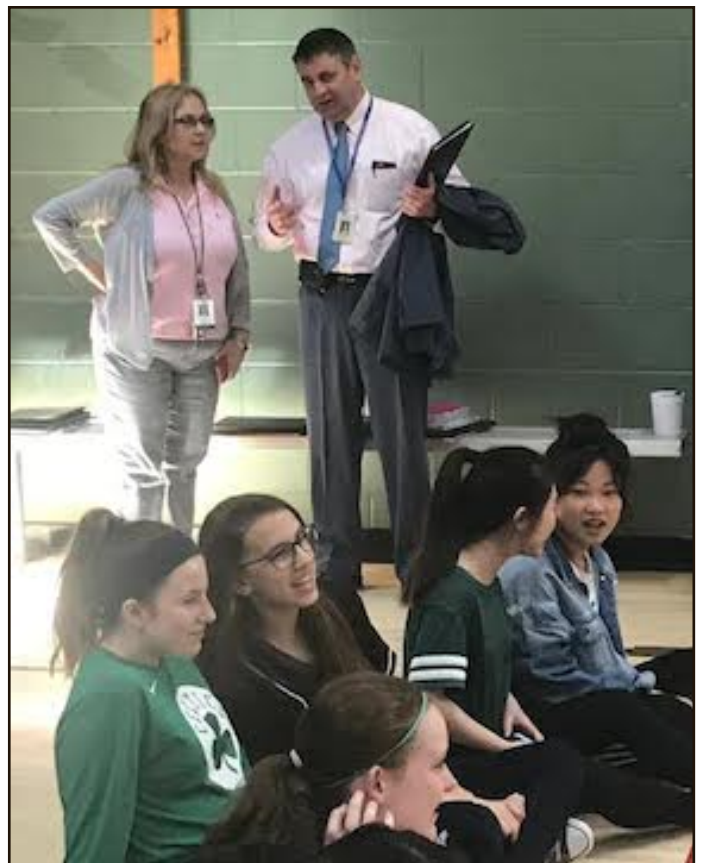


Former Boston Celtics star Dana Barros talks to students at the Beebe School on nutrition and fitness.

**FORMER CELTICS STANDOUT DANA BARROS & 'GIVE and GO' FITNESS REPS VISIT BEEBE SCHOOL:** Malden's Beebe School selected for participation in the "Give and Go" Nutrition and Fitness Program that will feature a school wide competition for all the students in the school.



Some student prize winners with "Lucky" the Celtics mascot and Dana Barros



Supt. Oteri was on hand for the presentation @ Beebe.

*Congratulations to 2018  
Graduates of Malden H.S.  
Pathways Program*



Supt. Oteri addresses graduates and families at the Pathway ceremony on Thursday, May 31.



Mayor Christenson speaks to the graduates at the Pathways Graduation ceremony.

**There were 26 Senior Graduates  
honored at this year's Ceremony**



Pathways director Mr. Janowicz receives a gift.