

**Tornado Times**  
**Monday, December 21, 2015**  
**Volume 13, Issue #17**

Go Malden!



*The Tornado Times is put out at the beginning of each school week.*

*The contents of the Tornado Times are intended to inform Malden High School students and staff as well as the greater Malden High School community. If you would like to add something please submit the contents to Principal Dana F. Brown, [dbrown@maldenps.org](mailto:dbrown@maldenps.org). Stories, pictures, reminders, club, activity, and class notes are all welcome.*

### **Malden High School Vision Statement**

*The Malden High School community believes in the potential of all students to learn, to grow, and to become active, conscientious participants in the 21st century global society. We believe that students learn most effectively in a safe, respectful environment that encourages diverse viewpoints, promotes critical thinking and perseverance, and establishes rigorous standards for all. We honor the diverse nature of our community, promote social awareness and community involvement, and strive to meet the needs of all students through innovative methods and continual professional development. We are committed to ensuring that Malden High School graduates are thoughtful, independent, purpose-driven, lifelong learners. We seek to equip all students with the skills and habits necessary to successfully navigate and contribute to our ever-changing world.*

**Good morning,**

**Please accept my wishes for a great week. As we head into the vacation I want to wish all who celebrate a Merry Christmas. I hope the vacation is refreshing for all of us. The New Year brings all sorts of good possibilities.**

**We hope to see all of you this afternoon at our faculty and staff gathering.**

Day#	Date	Rotation	Notes of interest
72	Monday, December 21, 2015	3,4,5,6,1	Early-release, All staff meeting
73	Tuesday, December 22, 2015	2,3,4,5,6,7	
74	Wednesday, December 23, 2015	1,2,3	11:00 Dismissal, Breakfast, No Lunch

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**For anyone who would like to walk; Grab your sneakers and get a head start on your 2016 New Year's Resolutions. Walking the Gym, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6:30 A.M. to 7:30 A.M.**

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**Members of the Malden High School Choral Arts Society led by Todd Cole were kind enough to share their talents with ESE staff again this year, and a few students even joined our ugly sweater contest!**

**Thank you to all!**



**Under the direction of Deb Kumar and Brian Morrison the following girls participated in the 13th Annual Women in Science Competition at Bedford High School yesterday; *Cleverina Cong, Alex Lombardi, Sam Forestier, Joylyn Norris, Jackie Smith and Kaitlyn Gibson.* The Malden High School team came in 4th place out of 40 teams, competing in three separate challenges in the morning. In the afternoon session they launched their self-propelled vehicles that they designed and built over the past few weeks. Congratulations to the girls and thank you to Ms. Kumar and Mr. Morrison!**

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Hello all,

Thanks to you, our first week of the ELL after-school tutoring program has been successful. This is just a reminder to all teachers that a tutoring program is now available for ELL students in the subject areas of history, computer literacy (learning how to use Chromebook, Google Drive software, etc), ELA, and biology.

While students are welcome to drop in without a referral, filling out the Google form at the link below is beneficial to us, helping us reach out to students in the most need.

<http://goo.gl/forms/UM2uJao2Nl>

Several MHS teachers are available Tuesdays-Fridays after school (individual schedules will vary by teacher.) The tutoring sessions are immediately after school (at 2:15), and are available to any ELL student, current or former. If you have an ESL student you believe would benefit from tutoring, please fill out the form above with relevant information (you can fill this out more than one time if need be). A tutor will contact you in order to set up a schedule with your student.

Thank you again for helping us reach out to students!

-Jess Haralson

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## **MHS Staff**

### **Annual Cookie (or dessert) Time Get Together**

**Monday, December 21, 2015**



**2:00 PM**

**Gallery**



If you don't want to bring anything in, but would like to contribute to the purchase of paper goods, decorations, and other items, you can send \$5.00 to Mar Marjoma (J278).

### **Raffle Ticket**

Please consider purchasing raffle tickets (\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00) for the chance to win fabulous prizes.

Prizes:

Some of the prizes are three home décor holiday items, parking spots, Dunkin Donuts Gift Cards, "Good Spirit" Basket, etc..



All the proceeds from this raffle will go to the gift card fund at MHS that is organized by Judy Sullivan in the main office. This fund supports giving needy students a gift card for the holiday season.

Tickets can be purchased from Judy Sullivan in the Main Office.

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Hi, all. Before each long vacation, I put free books outside my door for students to take home so they can keep up their literacy during the break. It's open to all, and some kids really look forward to it. This year, the free books will be available on Dec. 22 and Dec. 23.

If you have any books to donate please feel free to give them to me. I can also come and get them from you.

Any books the students don't take are saved for another giveaway or given to the Malden Public Library for their used book sales.

Thank you!--Abbey Dick

Ms. Abbey Dick

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EdCamp Malden: ELL Succes

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## **MSSAA Board of Directors endorses statewide leadership coalition addressing student and faculty mental health**

**The MSSAA Board of Directors under the leadership of President Tara Bennett unanimously approved the endorsement of a statewide educational leadership coalition described below:**

On December 4, representatives of the MA Elementary School Principals Association (MESPA), the MA Secondary School Principals Association (MSSAA), the MA Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) the MA Association of School Superintendents (MASS), and the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) met to discuss growing concerns about student and faculty mental health, including social and emotional well-being. Bill Gaine, Executive Director of MSSAA/MIAA organized and convened the meeting at which MESPA President Denise Franius, MSSAA President Tara Bennett, MASS President Andre Ravenelle, MASS Executive Director Tom Scott, and MASC Executive Director Glenn Koocher participated.

The group recognized that many factors have exacerbated the implications for mental health and emotional stress for students and faculty including societal factors, the economy, poverty, challenges to the family, and academic pressures from testing and accountability measures. It was noted that as students age, the factors grow to a greater or lesser extent, but that a general level of stress is growing at a measurable rate.

There was clear consensus the issues of mental health and social/emotional well-being of both students and faculty members need to become a major priority for public educators including principals and central office administrators and that the associations should collaborate in a strategy to make this happen. Further, there is a sense of urgency because of the growing degree to which stress and other social and emotional factors are emerging in both public and private schools.

### **The key goals of a collaborative effort would be to:**

- Educate the public at large.
- Inform public policy makers, including the legislature, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), and local officials about these issues the implications of failing to address them.
- Develop and implement specific strategies to address the issues.

### **General strategies might include:**

- Development of a coordinated master plan including a communications strategy.
- Commit resources including financial support and human capital at a level to be identified.
- Integrate organizational messaging and initiatives around the issues.

- Focus organizational events and activities around these issues in addition to other priorities
- Adopting formal organizational goals as priority objectives of the associations.
- Agree on a legislative advocacy agenda to be determined.

It was agreed that partner organizations might include MASS Inc. and the Rennie Center, among others to be determined.

**Strategic tactics might include such steps as:**

- Identifying the staffing patterns necessary at the school and district level to address the issues including rethinking traditional roles and descriptions of some positions.
  - Sending letters to the community from educational leaders as a "call to action."
  - Developing a consensus advocacy and financial master plan.
  - Make Student and Faculty Well-Being and Mental Health a theme for organizational programming including state conventions, regional meetings, and legislative advocacy.
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