

Tornado Times

Volume 14, Issue #24 - Monday, February 27, 2017

Please email me anything you'd like included in Monday's edition by the previous Friday at Noon.

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.

Principal's Note

Winter is the time of disjointedness in terms of the school calendar. We've had a lot more no school than school over the past few weeks, so now it's time to refocus on this seven week stretch (that will hopefully have no more snow days!) until April break and make it the most productive of the year. That said there's a lot to get to this week so I'll spare you my usual anecdotal ramblings. Hope everyone had a restful week.

Mock Trial

Our Mock Trial team continues its path this weekend at the regional competition at Clark University. Monday 2/27 the team will head into the US District Court in Post Office square to hold a practice in front of Judge Frank Bailey, who was kind enough to give his time to give our students some guidance. Congrats to the team and Mr. Tivnan for this honor!

Model UN

A reminder that the two rescheduled days of the MHS Model UN conferences are Monday and Tuesday 2/27 and 2/28. Please refer to previous emails from Mr. Hurley for more information.

Tribe of Fools performance – Miranda Libkin

On Thursday, March 2nd Malden High will be welcoming the Philadelphia-based theater company, Tribe of Fools. The artistic director of the company will be performing his one-man show, *School Play*, for the entire 9th grade. He will then be conducting workshops with the Drama Lit. and Play Pro. classes.

The performance for the 9th grade will be during period 7 (long block) on Thursday March 2nd. All 9th graders should go to first lunch and then immediately to the auditorium. Please note that if you have 9th graders in your 7th period class this is an excused absence. They are responsible to make up all missed work. I'm asking all classes that have first lunch to take a different lunch that day (teacher's choice) so that there's room for the 9th graders during first lunch. There should be some room in the auditorium for other classes and certainly for any teachers who would like to see the show.

It's extremely unusual and lucky for students to be exposed to such high quality theater for free. It should be a very enriching opportunity for all. Miranda Libkin will be creating a brief slideshow about theater etiquette as well as possible post-show discussion questions that she will share with all 9th grade English teachers.

About the show: "School Play is a one-person, comic adventure set in the American educational system. The protagonist is an over-eager 4th grader battling his inability to sit still, his need to ask "silly questions" and his love for "non-academic" subjects. Through comedy and acrobatics the show digs into the emotional life and silent desperation of children who aren't a natural fit for traditional schooling in order to help teachers and other children better understand "trouble-makers" or "annoying kids." In addition to the show, performer Terry Brennan is also available to give a talk-back about his experience in school with undiagnosed ADHD."

Tornado Travelers – Shauna Campbell & Sarah Jones

Hola!

The students from the Puerto Rico Tour had an action-packed week full of many once in a lifetime experiences. For a number of them, this was their first time on a plane and/or first time away from their parents.

The tour started with an afternoon at the beach, with waves higher than they'd ever seen and chance to try surfing and boogie boarding. We had an early wake-up to head out for a 3 mile hike through El Yunque National Forest where the guide pointed out a variety of plants and animals, only native to Puerto Rico. We spent another morning at the Camuy River Caves where water was still visibly dripping to create stalactites.

Students were shocked when the guide shined a green light into a hole in the ceiling to see the huge clusters of bats. Our time in San Juan was sunny and enjoyable. Throughout the week, students got to experiment with Puerto Rican cuisine and learned about the history of the country as well as the ecological diversity. While touring the fort in Old San Juan, we also witnessed the firing of a cannon being shot from the fort wall. The tour ended with walking through a couple types of Mangroves, swimming in a Bioluminescent bay after dark, and snorkeling to find many types of coral, colorful fish, sea urchins, and sea cucumbers.

We hope you enjoyed your vacation as well. We know the students are eager to share their experiences with you.





Harvard Program for ELLs

On Saturday 2/25 we completed our 2nd week of tutoring at Harvard University for about 40 of our ELL students. The students were amazingly enthusiastic and had a great experience. This will happen every Saturday until the end of April.



Schedule for upcoming Mondays

Monday 2/27 – Early Release – Content

Monday 3/6 – Late Entry – Content

Monday 3/13 – Early Release – House meetings re: MCAS administration

MCAS Schedule

On the 10th grade MCAS days (3/21, 3/22, 3/23) non-testing students will have an abbreviated schedule. It will be:

Tuesday 3/21:

10:45-11:15 – Optional Lunch

11:15-12:45 – Period 4

12:45-1:30 – Period 5

1:30-2:15 – Period 6

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Wednesday 3/22:

10:45-11:15 – Optional Lunch

11:15-12:45 – Period 7

12:45-1:30 – Period 1

1:30-2:15 – Period 2

Thursday 3/23:

10:45-11:15 – Optional Lunch

11:15-12:45 – Period 3

12:45-1:30 – Period 4

1:30-2:15 – Period 5

MHS Athletics

Our boys' basketball team is in the state tournament and will open against GBL rival Somerville at home on Tuesday night at 7pm. Please come out to support our student-athletes!