



Volume III No. 29
April 24, 2020

THE NEDLAM NEWS

Remote Learning will continue for the rest of the school year

Governor Baker orders closure of school buildings through June for safety, health reasons due to COVID-19 concerns

Governor Charlie Baker on Tuesday issued an emergency order extending the closure of all public and private schools through the end of the school year, and the closure of all non-emergency childcare programs until June 29, 2020 in an effort to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 in the Commonwealth. This order expands the March 25 order suspending normal educational operations at schools and non-emergency child care programs. **More, inside, Page 3**

SUPERINTENDENT OTERI'S MESSAGE to MPS COMMUNITY

Good Afternoon, Per Governor Baker's announcement (Tuesday), the Malden Public Schools will be closed for the remainder of the school year.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be issuing new guidelines by the end of the week regarding expectations for the next phase of remote learning. We will share any required changes to the district's learning plans as soon as they become available.

Thank you.
John Oteri
Superintendent
Malden Public Schools



FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH is AVAILABLE for ANY STUDENT who is a MALDEN RESIDENT @ Malden H.S. (Ferry St. lot, beside CVS) & Salemwood School from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday ... Drive-Up or Walk-up/ Safe pickup

INSIDE: Mr. Mastrangelo has a special, personal message for the members of the MHS Class of 2020 Senior Class, Page 3



UPCOMING @ MALDEN HS:

EFFECTIVE APRIL 21 — Governor Baker has announced that all schools statewide, including the Malden Public Schools, will be closed indefinitely through the end of the 2019-2020 year due to COVID-19. No entrance to the MHS building for any activities will be allowed.



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 vigorous standards for all. We honor the diverse nature of our Malden community, promote social awareness and community involvement and strive to meet the needs of all students through innovative methods and continued continued 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.

MR. MASTRANGELO'S MESSAGE to CLASS of 2020 Seniors following closing of school for rest of year

Hello all,

I am so sorry that this happened during your Senior year. I am sure people have told you things like, "It could be worse," "Get some perspective," " I hope this is the worst thing that ever happens to you", I know you understand all of that but it still hurts! I wish I could snap my fingers and make it normal again. I can tell you that we are working on a plan to assure that you are not stripped of the lifetime memories that you all deserve. I do not have all the answers yet, but I will pass them along when I do.

I can assure you that things will be normal again. I can assure you that we are here for you. I can assure you that the faculty of Malden High School cares for you. If you need someone to talk to, reach out. If you need to get your emotions out, reach out. If you need to send an angry email to someone, send it to me. We get it. You have the right to be upset. You have the right to be disappointed. We will get through this. We will be ok. Stay tuned for email updates from me. I will keep you posted.

Stay safe, be well. You are not alone! **-MR. MASTRANGELO/ MHS Principal**

Governor Baker's press release on continued Remote Learning in Massachusetts public schools

Remote Learning Resources: The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will issue updated guidelines for schools to support remote learning efforts through the duration of the school year, including expanded STEM learning, and will prepare recommendations to strengthen summer learning opportunities for students.

DESE has launched a Remote Learning Essentials initiative, focused on addressing access to tools, Internet connectivity, and educator training necessary to enhance remote learning during school closures.

The department is conducting a survey of school districts to identify barriers that inhibit effective remote learning, including challenges around inequitable access to technology.

An advisory group of administrators, educators, parents, students and business leaders will engage external partners to mobilize resources for schools, including philanthropic gifts and in-kind contributions.

DESE will also solicit input from national and local education vendors regarding the potential to create a statewide online education platform for districts to opt into and customize.

STEM Learning: In partnership with EEC, DHE, the STEM Advisory Council and Regional STEM Networks, DESE has established online STEM education resources to provide continued support for remote learning opportunities. This includes virtual STEM learning opportunities for both students and teachers.





MIAA cancels Spring Sports season and state tournaments for high schools statewide

The clock has run out on high school athletics in Malden for the spring season.

On Tuesday afternoon Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced at press conference that all public and private schools would remain closed for the remainder of the academic year, which for most schools means the third week of June. The decision also ended high school athletics for the year.

The move was not unexpected, but was still dramatic and unprecedented, like many of the events and actions associated with the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic, which has reshaped nearly every facet of our daily lives.

The rapid spread of the virus, which approached 800,000 cases nationwide and 50,000 in Massachusetts alone, has dictated extensive shutdowns and physical distancing in efforts to "flatten the curve" and save lives.

Gov. Baker had originally ordered schools closed from March 17 through May 4, but reassessed the situation in the state in present-day "real time". After consulting with mayors, school superintendents and school committees, came to the conclusion that schools would not reopen this year.

Though school buildings are closed, it does not mean an early start to summer vacation, as Malden High School is in the midst of respective Remote Learning Programs, which they will now continue through the remainder of the school year through June.

Interscholastic athletics, however, will not be held this spring as a result of the pandemic. Already, cancellations reigned in organized sports nationwide with winter season championships canceled at both high school and college levels, collegiate spring seasons ended and all major professional sports seasons suspended indefinitely.

The MIAA Board of Directors on Friday finalized the cancellation of the spring sports season with a 16-0 unanimous vote. Malden High School fourth-year Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics Charlie Conefrey said he and his staff feel for the players both locally and nationwide due to the circumstances.

"It is very unfortunate that our student-athletes will not have the opportunity to compete this spring, but their safety and well-being is always our highest priority," Conefrey said. "That was the thinking behind Governor Baker's decision to close school buildings for the remainder of the year."



Malden High School Tornado sports teams will not be taking the fields this spring due to the COVID-19

Conefrey said Malden High School had been planning a big spring, with good numbers signed up for high school and middle school sports teams.

"We had over 250 student-athletes ready to compete this spring before the pandemic," he

"I feel badly for all of our seniors and those in other communities who were very excited about leading their teams in their last sports this spring, and now will not get that chance."

**—Charlie Conefrey
Director of Athletics**

said. "We were looking forward to our first spring season in the new Greater Boston League as well."

A familiar refrain across the region has been sympathy for the members of the senior Class of 2020, who would have been competing for the last time for their schools.

"I feel badly for all of our seniors and those in other communities who were very excited about leading their teams in their last sports *Cont. Page 7*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FAMILIES with SNAP (Food Stamps) Benefits
... COVID-19 Emergency Monthly Supplements now available

**EMERGENCY SNAP SUPPLEMENTS
FOR ALL SNAP BENEFICIARIES**

All SNAP beneficiaries who get less than the maximum benefit for their household size will automatically get a supplement up to the maximum benefit.

1 PERSON HOUSEHOLDS WILL GET \$194

2 PERSON HOUSEHOLDS WILL GET \$355

Example: John receives the minimum SNAP benefit of \$16 each month. With the COVID-19 emergency supplement John will automatically receive an additional supplement benefit of \$178/mo to bring his total benefit up to \$194

**IF YOU ALREADY RECEIVE SNAP BENEFITS YOU WILL GET
THIS ADDED BENEFIT AUTOMATICALLY**

**IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR SNAP BUT NOT ENROLLED
YOU CAN STILL APPLY.**

CALL PROJECT BREAD FOR ASSISTANCE 1-800-645-8333

**If families are NOT on SNAP...
they can APPLY for SNAP now!**

What if I do not get SNAP at the present time?

If you are low-income we encourage you to apply. If you are approved, you may also qualify for an extra SNAP payment. To apply:

- The fastest way to apply is to apply online/on your smartphone at DTAConnect.com.
- Go to Mass.gov/SNAP to print a paper SNAP application and learn where to send it.
- Call the Project Bread FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-645-8333 to apply over the phone

What if I need meals for my school age children?

While schools are closed, The Malden Public Schools district is providing FREE pre-packaged breakfast and lunch school meals for children. **FREE meals may be picked up at Drive-Through locations at Malden High School in the Ferry Street/CVS parking lot OR at Salemwood School parking lot loop from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. from Monday through Friday.** Children who get SNAP or are approved for free or reduced-price meals will get additional EBT benefits, likely in April and/or May.

MALDEN HIGH SCHOOL'S FINEST! For SURE!



Everyone is getting in on the ZOOM campaign...

The Malden School Committee held its April meeting on a remote ZOOM feed. It went very well and much was accomplished



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO 'THE NEDLAM NEWS'!

LET'S SHARE THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT MHS!

Do you have some good news to share about students, teachers, administrators and other staff members? An extracurricular activity, club or sports team? There is LOTS of Good News @ Malden High School! Let's share it with EVERYONE! Mr. Mastrangelo encourages everyone to email Steve Freker: sfreker@maldenps.org with any news you like to share: stories, snippets, photos, announcement of meetings, events coming... and ones held. **THE NEDLAM NEWS** appears every Friday in your Inbox and is then shared on the District website www.maldenps.org

Happy Administrative Professionals Day!

We salute: Judie Sullivan & Barbara Scibelli (MHS main office; Michelle LeBlanc (Boyle/Holland) & Leanne Glennon (Brunelli/Jenkins; Jeanne Marquardo (Athletics); & Shirley Dorai, Joanne D'Orlando (Central Office)



Hi Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Scibelli! WE MISS YOU!!!

MIAA votes to cancel spring sports season for High Schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 *Cont. from Page 4*

this spring, and now will not get that chance," Conefrey said.

Some in the local sports circles were in agreement that even if schools were allowed to resume sometime in May, it was not etched in stone that athletic teams would be allowed to spring into action, given the needs for physical distancing and many other considerations. Sports teams, in general, are continually in close quarters, whether it is a practice or game situation.

Also, there were issues regarding game conditions, particularly this year, for instance, with new national rules in bases ordering all players and coaches confined to dugouts during baseball games as well as travel, packed into buses for away games.

Malden High head baseball coach Steve Freker said he was also really looking forward to this spring, which would have been his 35th season coaching high school baseball, his 18th on the Tornado sideline.

"We were as ready to go as we could have been and had a really good schedule between our GBL games and our non-league opponents," the Malden coach said, whose team would have been hosting the 7th Annual Christie Serino Memorial Tournament and facing defending champ East Boston today, had the season been played. "Our senior class players were our strength. This would have been one of deepest teams, pitching-wise, with two excellent senior lefties, Ezra Kruckenberg and Devin Killoren and righty Tommy Curran."

Kruckenberg, Killoren and Curran were captains of this year's Malden High team along with senior catcher Makai Patterson. Adam Faulkner and Brendan Rooney were Malden's other two senior players.

"It's a tough call that was made, but the right one," the Malden coach said. "Our seniors were all great kids and we will miss them very much. I know they were really excited about this season and they just can't get it back now."