



Volume III No. 30
May 1, 2020

THE NEDLAM NEWS

DESE has provided new guidance for remaining phase of Remote Learning

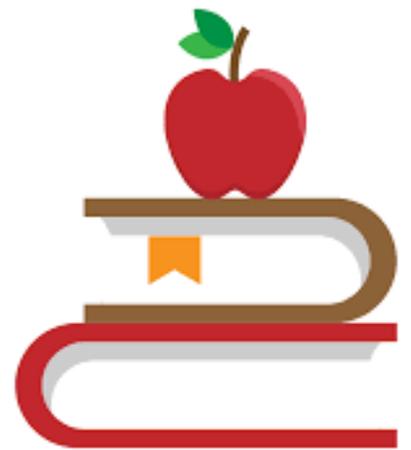


NEW LOOK MAIN OFFICE

Just before we departed MHS, the Main Office wall got a nice spruce up with some classic art & motivation

OFFICE RULES
DO. BE. THINK.
positive
GIVE IT YOUR
BEST
Be passionate
PATIENT
SERVICE
WORK HARD
HAVE FUN &
EXPECT SUCCESS
Communicate with
IMPACT
& empathy
THINK OUTSIDE
THE BOX

On Friday, April 24, Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Commissioner Jeffrey Riley released additional guidance on remote learning that builds on the initial guidance released on March 26, with a deeper focus on two areas:
—Further defining the recommended elements of a quality remote learning program, including a focus on teaching the content standards most critical for student success in the next grade level, and
—Encouraging districts to move all students towards successful engagement in remote learning, with a focus on addressing fundamental needs.



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: Two MHS football seniors were selected for 42nd Annual Shriners All-Star Game

Unfortunately COVID-19 led to its cancellation, P.4



Superintendent Oteri's Letter to the Malden School Community

Dear Malden School Community,

I want to thank you for your continued support during this pandemic. We are all navigating these uncharted waters together. These are extraordinary times and we will pull together as a school community to help make Malden stronger. As we have seen in the past six weeks, this situation is fluid and we are constantly making adjustments to our plans. During this time, two words may help you understand how we are working with our school community: patience and safety. Many of you are trapped at home and looking for answers. It may look like things are not moving quickly on the outside; however, I can assure you that inside our team, we are going very fast. Please be patient and understand that the decisions we make are made with safety as the first priority.



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.

As we heard on Tuesday, April 21, Governor Baker extended the closure of all schools in Massachusetts through the end of the school year. For Malden, our last day of Remote Learning will be Friday, June 19, which was the scheduled 185th day of the school year. Using the suggestion of DESE Commissioner Jeff Riley, School Districts would not be required to go beyond the 185th day of the school year. During the press conference announcing the school closure, Commissioner Riley also noted that the next phase of remote learning will follow. Late Friday evening, April 24, DESE released the new guidelines. We expect to receive further communication from DESE early next week. When we receive that guidance and direction of the next phase of remote learning, we will then begin to work on that plan.



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.

We will aim to have the plan ready by May 8, but please keep in mind that there are multiple steps involved in the process: writing the actual draft, vetting the proposal with several groups for feedback, scheduling discussions with union representation, and sharing with school - all of which must be completed before sharing it with staff and the larger learning community. In the meantime, the current Remote Learning Plan is still in place and resumes on Monday, April 27. Activities for the week of April 27th were developed and shared with teachers before the April break, so we are ready to go on Monday.

We know that access to technology is needed now more than ever. In early April we distributed over 750 Chromebooks to families who lacked a device. This is in addition to the 1800 that are already part of a 1:1 initiative in Malden High School. We surveyed families, created appointments, secured and labeled devices, and had over a dozen administrators don protective gear to distribute these devices over four days. The priority was to families who needed technology at home and did not have it. We are very proud that we have over 2,500 devices out in the hands of our students.

We realize that there are some families who did not sign up at the first round of Chromebook distribution. We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a second and final distribution of Chromebooks. Currently we are surveying and capturing information of families who may still need a device. By the middle of next week we will have a new survey for families who need a Chromebook. We will be delivering these Chromebooks instead of doing a pick-up distribution. **See Page 6**



Two Malden High seniors awarded roster spots for Shriners Football Classic

One player who wore the Blue and Gold this past fall was the only standout in Massachusetts to score a touchdown five different ways and throw for a sixth. The other local star was a prolific scorer who caught more TD passes than any Malden player in decades. Malden High seniors Jerry Mervil and Jamari Youman were the key cogs to the 2019 Tornado football season which started slowly and finished as well as could be hoped for, with a pair of decisive victories. The Malden co-captains capped the season with a resounding win over archrival Medford High, 29-0, in the 137th game in the historic Thanksgiving Day Classic.

Postseason honors rolled in for the pair, with both Mervil, a 5-10, 200 lb. strong safety on defense and "all-purpose" standout offensively and Youman, a 5-11, 165 lb. safety and stellar split end.

The two Tornado seniors were chosen for the Greater Boston League (GBL) All-Conference Team, a select group which included just 12 players among the over 220 who comprise the four GBL teams' rosters.

Recently, still another postseason honor came their way, when both Mervil and Youman were selected to the play in the 42nd Annual Aleppo Shriners' Football All-Star Game.

Each year the the Aleppo Shriners of Massachusetts and the Mass. High School Football Coaches Association (MHSFCA) co-sponsor an Eastern Massachusetts All-Star Football Game. For the past 41 years, graduating high school seniors from the North and South area high schools have played the Shriners All-Star Football Classic.

All proceeds from the game are donated to the Shriners Hospital in Boston. Through the years, the MHSFA, which runs the site on game day, is proud to have donated over \$1,000,000 to this worthy charity.

The game had originally been scheduled to be played on June 19 at Bentley University, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the organizers of the popular All-Star game decided to cancel the game for this year. This does nothing to detract from the prestige of their selection, according to their coach.

"It is a great honor for two very deserving players," said second-year Malden High head football coach Steve Freker. "Every game out, no matter what the opponent and whatever the end result, Jerry (Mervil) *See Page 6*



Above, Malden High senior Jerry Merrill looks for an opening in the 2019 Thanksgiving Game. Below, Jamari Youman hauls in pass against Medford. *Courtesy Photos*



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.

SUPT. OTERI's Letter to the Malden community

Continued from Page 4 The delivery is made possible due to many Malden volunteers of the Malden Neighbors organization and some community partners. Deliveries will take place between May 7 and May 11. We are very thankful for our volunteers to assist in this. This will be the last opportunity to request a Chromebook, so please make sure you fill out the online request form.

We also are aware that some families lack Wifi connectivity. The state is aware of this and is trying to leverage their influence with internet providers to provide free hotspots. There are several free hotspots in Malden. We will be looking to see what we can do to help with this as well.

We consult daily with our Public Health Department and with our Emergency Management Team in Malden. They are the experts in this pandemic and safety is the top priority of the Malden Public Schools. We will err on the side of safety. I know many of you are hoping to get into the school buildings (which have been sanitized) and retrieve personal belongings. We will not be able to do that until there is a relaxing of the restrictions in Malden. Hopefully we will be able to have people enter the buildings in June, but it will be a highly coordinated and strictly regulated process with our public health and safety partners. When we reach this point of re-entering the buildings to retrieve belongings we will notify you.

We know that there are many more questions than there are answers. We know that you are now entering your seventh week of being home, in many cases trying to work from home, trying to balance your time and your children's time on learning. We understand that this is difficult for you. It is difficult for us as well. In a few weeks, we switched hundreds of years of education to a new paradigm. We know it is not perfect. We also know that nothing will replace our traditional school. If there is a positive during this pandemic, it is that our educators entered the field because of a love of students. This unplanned six week absence has only reinforced to our staff that they are truly committed to, and sorely miss our students.

Stay safe and healthy,

John Oteri

Malden Public Schools Superintendent

MHS PLAYERS SELECTED for SHRINERS ALL-STAR CLASSIC Continued from Page 4

(Mervil) and Jamari (Youman) gave us a chance to compete.

"Our best games of the year, against Whitter Tech (21-14 loss), Newton South (triple OT loss, 35-33) and the two wins over Tech Boston (40-14) and on Thanksgiving had their names all over it," Coach Freker added.

Mervil was all over the field, all season for Malden. Due to both his ability and some roster injuries which dictated a quality infusion of talent, he played no less than five different offensive positions (slot receiver, split end, tailback, fullback and quarterback), as well as four positions on the other side of the ball defensively, at times (strong safety, free safety, cornerback and linebacker).

"What an athlete! He (Mervil) did everything we asked of him, and more," the Malden coach said. "We will never forget some of his biggest plays of the year, especially in our last two games, when he scored both offensively and defensively, as well as on special teams."

"Against Tech Boston and Medford, he (Mervil) dominated the game, along with Jamari (Youman)."

Mervil became the only player in Massachusetts to create a touchdown in six different ways: he rushed for two touchdowns, caught three TDs, returned a kickoff for score, returned a punt for six points and had a pick-6 interception return for a touchdown. Mervil also threw a TD pass this past season.

Youman, a speedy and gifted receiver, caught 15 TD passes this past season, the most for a Tornado receiver in decades. "Jamari (Youman) transferred here from the Gulf Coast of Florida over last summer and just blended right in and was an immediate impact player. We did not know what we were getting at the time, but it turned out to be a lot," Coach Freker said.

"Every time we needed a big play, it seemed like Jamari (Youman) was right there," he added.

Youman ended up catching a TD pass in nearly every game on the Malden schedule and also did a superb job defensively, returning three intercepted passes for TDs on the season, including one each in three out of the last four games for Malden High.

"Both of these guys will play at the next level," the Malden coach said, "They will end up fine with the talent they have though."

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

Stay in School Writing & Art Contest

sponsored by Boston Celtics and Arbella Insurance

DEADLINE for ENTRIES- Mon., May 4 ACT Quickly!

STUDENTS: Do you take P.R.I.D.E. in yourself? Do you take P.R.I.D.E. in your family? Do you take P.R.I.D.E. in your community? The Boston Celtics take immense P.R.I.D.E. in being a part of the fabric of the city of Boston and the state of Massachusetts. This is your chance to rise to the challenge and show us your creativity, artistic ability and what P.R.I.D.E. means to you!

The Boston Celtics and the Arbella Insurance Foundation are challenging artists and writers in Massachusetts to a writing and art contest. All entrants will receive a free downloadable poster. The top 50 submissions will win a basketball signed by members of the Celtics 2019-2020 team!

WHAT DOES P.R.I.D.E. MEAN?

Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Decisions, Education

**Parent or guardian (18+) must enter on behalf of any minor child. See submission details below.*

Contest Timeline:

The contest will be open for submission until 5pm THIS MONDAY 5/4/2020.
Submissions made after 5pm on 5/4/2020 will not be considered.

Submission Rules:

—Ensure that a valid email address is listed on the submission as that will be the method of distributing prizes

—Participants are allowed to submit writing, artwork or both

—Writing submissions can be uploaded using a word processing file or can be hand-written and uploaded via a photo or scan – please ensure legible writing if handwritten

—Two-dimensional or 3-dimensional artwork can be submitted by taking a photo or video of the piece or scanning and uploading the image

Contest Judging:

The contest will be judged by a committee of the Celtics and Arbella Insurance Foundation representatives and/or designees.

Prizing:

The top 25 writing submissions will receive a basketball signed by members of the Celtics 2019-2020 team

The top 25 art submissions will receive a basketball signed by members of the Celtics 2019-2020 team