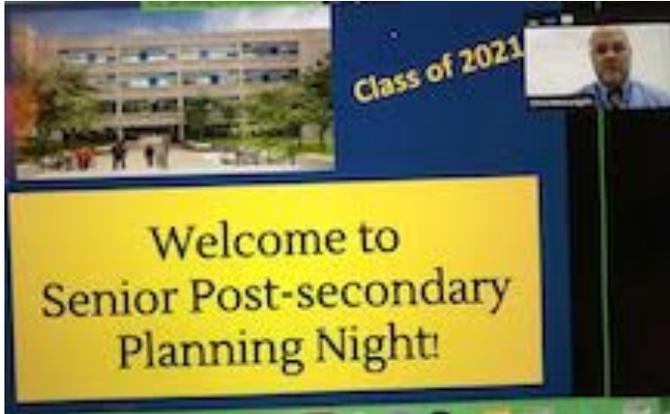




# THE NEDLAM NEWS

Volume IV No. 11  
November 13, 2020

Malden High Seniors and their families got lot of info and assistance at Senior Post-secondary Planning Night, held virtually on Thursday. Hosted by the Guidance Department.



**NOW SHOWING:** At the Blue & Gold Gallery, Malden HS Holiday Exhibit at Commerce Plaza, 350 Main St., Malden Square

## School communication technology moves to the forefront during the pandemic

**By Steve Freker**  
For the Malden Public Schools

The head of the city's information technology (IT) department got right to the point Monday night.

"In the midst of a pandemic, we've been turned on our heads — but we've responded," Anthony Rodrigues said, as he began a detailed report to the School Committee on the status of the city's IT system as it pertains to the Malden Public Schools. *Continued on Page 7*



Over 6,000 Chromebooks have been made available by MPS districtwide.



# #Black Lives Matter

# Lining up with the present and looking ahead to the future were both part of this week

## Greetings to the Malden High School Community:

A welcome, mid-week break was a boost to all of us. On Wednesday we observed one of our country's most important holidays, Veterans Day, honoring those who served in the military in the past and those who serve and protect us today. There were none of the usual parades and similar events, but the spirit and passion of the day were certainly with us. This week also marked the end of the First Quarter of our academic year, as grades close today. It has been a challenging quarter, to say the least. We value and appreciate your dedication, commitment and passion you bring every day for our students, while facing obstacles on many kinds all too regularly. Let's work together to get off to a positive start in the Second Quarter and keep it going right through the holiday season into January. Here are some present-day highlights from the week, with one of them tied into our students' futures.

—Congratulations to our Art Department and Mr. Luongo, Ms. Seager and Ms. Mullane for curating the new Malden High School Holiday Art Exhibit now on display at the Blue and Gold Gallery, location in 350 Main St, Malden Square (across the street from Walgreens). What an incredible job getting our students' artworks on display after missing out on our regular exhibit this past spring due the pandemic!



Mr. Mastrangelo

#SteppingUpforOurKids

—Last night (Thursday) our Malden Public Schools Guidance Department, Director Ms. Craven, our MHS Guidance Counselors and special staff hosted a fantastic Senior Post-secondary Planning Night for our Seniors and their families. It was chockful of the information our Class of 2021 students need to help plan for their futures. Whatever path they may choose, college, professional training, a job or perhaps the military, our Guidance staff every fulfills the MPS motto, "You Can Get There from Here!"

—Also on Thursday, the Greater Boston League voted to accept Lynn Classical and Lynn English as members of the GBL beginning in the 2021-22 school year next September. We now await word from their hopefully former league, the Northeastern Conference (NEC), who will vote on whether they will release the two schools on Nov. 20. Have a great weekend. everyone!



## Malden High School Aspirational Instructional Focus Statement

Malden High School educates an inclusive and equitable community of diverse learners whom we are preparing to be Communicators, Collaborators, Critical Thinkers, Innovative Learners, Empowered Citizens, and Persistent Individuals. As such, MHS instructional practices present authentic and relevant experiences that are intellectually engaging, student-centered, inquiry-based, cognitively complex, process-oriented, and encourage productive struggle. Furthermore, these instructional practices encourage students to pursue their interests, leverage their strengths, and explore unfamiliar concepts that prepare students for life in our ever-changing modern world.



# **Here's the Class Schedule for the Week of November 16-20**

Monday, November 16 BLUE 1-2-3

Tuesday, November 17 GOLD 4-5-6

Wednesday, November 18 BLUE 1-2-3

Thursday, November 19 GOLD 4-5-6

Friday, November 20 BLUE 1-2-3

## **UPCOMING @ MALDEN HS:**

**Friday, November 13** — Grades closing for the First Quarter

**Wednesday, NOVEMBER 25** — Early Dismissal 11 a.m.: Thanksgiving

**Thursday/Friday, NOVEMBER 26-27** — HAPPY THANKSGIVING!  
No School

## **MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS 'HELP DESK' for STUDENTS/ FAMILIES is READY to ASSIST EVERYONE!**

**Family Chromebook Support is available from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday-Friday in Six translatable languages CALL 781-709-8080**



## **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.

**For updated information go to the Malden Public Schools website: [www.maldenps.org](http://www.maldenps.org)**

**\*\*\***

**Follow Malden Public  
Schools on Twitter:  
[@MaldenPublic](https://twitter.com/MaldenPublic)**

# Greater Boston League votes to accept Lynn Classical & Lynn English as members as of 2021-22

The Greater Boston League on Thursday voted unanimously, 6-0, to accept Lynn Classical High School and Lynn English High School as full members for the 2021-2022 season, beginning in September, 2021.

The next step towards this merger will take place on November 20, 2020, when the Principals and Athletic Directors of the Northeastern Conference come together to hold a vote that could allow Lynn Classical and Lynn English to officially leave the NEC and join the GBL.

"It was an easy decision and we are thrilled as a league that Lynn Classical and Lynn English wanted to become part of the Greater Boston League," said Malden High School principal and GBL president Chris Mastrangelo. "We will become a stronger, eight-team league with these two great additions. Moving forward, we believe the GBL will be the premier, urban-based league in Massachusetts."

"The GBL has always been a league that understands the importance of healthy interscholastic competition and the role that it plays in providing student-athletes with crucial supports that are needed to achieve academic success," Mastrangelo added.

With the addition of Lynn English and Lynn Classical, the GBL would move forward as an eight-team league in September, 2021. When the league was reconstituted in June 2019, it included Everett, Malden, Medford and Somerville, Revere left the Northeastern Conference shortly afterward and joined the GBL for the 2019-20 school year.

Chelsea High School is an independent school for athletics this year and will join the GBL as a full member in September, 2021. The addition of Lynn Classical and Lynn English would make it an eight-team league.

"This is a dream addition for us," said Revere Director of Athletics Frank Shea. "That was part of the vision



a couple of years ago when we broke away from the Northeastern Conference. If we add Chelsea and the two Lynn schools, it gives us an excellent urban league."

Malden Director of Athletics Charlie Conefrey echoed these sentiments. "The Lynn schools are a great fit for the Greater Boston League in so many ways. The diversity and demographics of these schools with our existing GBL is basically a match," said Conefrey, who serves as GBL Commissioner for the league. The Malden AD is also a member of the MIAA Board of Directors, as well as MIAA District 5 chairperson.

"Over the past several years we have developed an affinity with Lynn Classical and Lynn English, their ADs, coaches and players, over mutual and similar challenges we face, and goals we seek to achieve as urban-based schools and athletic programs," Conefrey added.

# DID YOU KNOW?

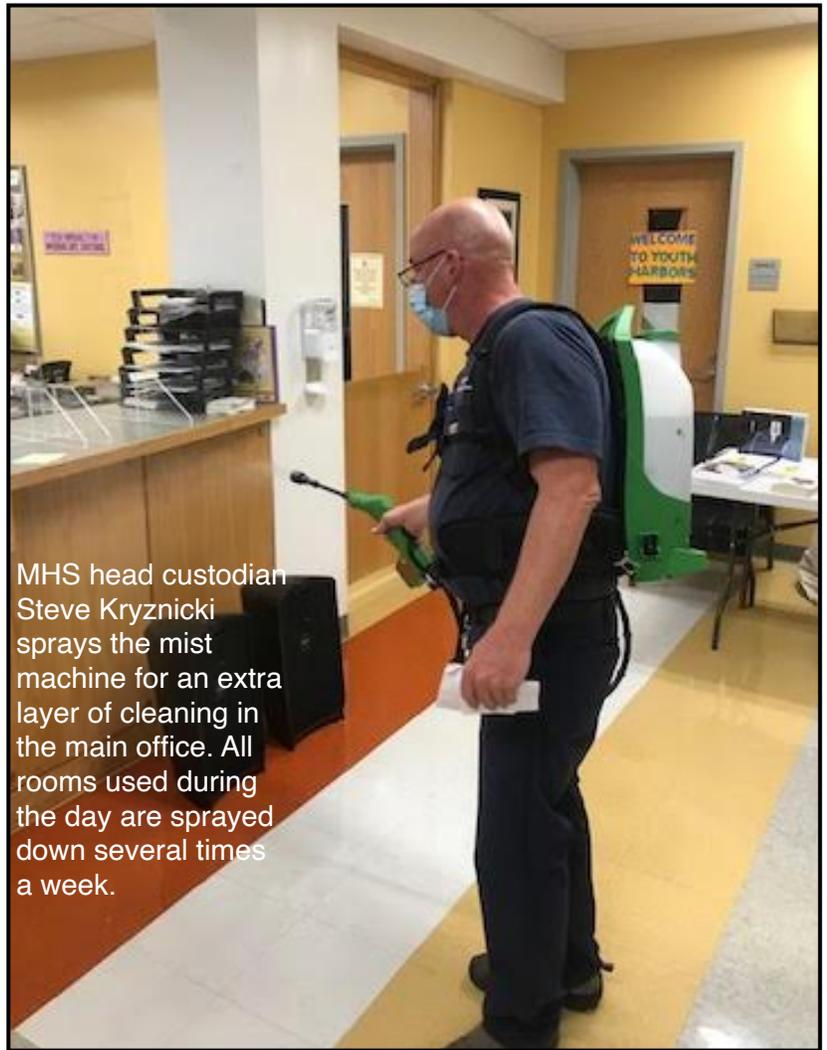
That all these teams were members of the Greater Boston League at one time or another since the GBL's inception in 1959:

Charter members...

Chelsea	Everett
Malden	Medford
North Quincy	Quincy
Haverhill	Revere
Arlington	Somerville
Peabody - Joined in 1974	
Cambridge- Joined in 1986	
Waltham- Joined in 1986	

\*\*\*\*

Chelsea due to return in 2021  
Lynn Classical voted in for 2021  
Lynn English voted in for 2021  
(\* Lynn teams pending 11/20 NEC vote)



MHS head custodian Steve Kryznicki sprays the mist machine for an extra layer of cleaning in the main office. All rooms used during the day are sprayed down several times a week.

**PLEASE  
CONTRIBUTE TO  
'THE NEDLAM  
NEWS'!  
LET'S SHARE THE  
GOOD NEWS  
ABOUT MHS!**

NEDLAM NEWS is published and distributed digitally every Friday. Past editions available at [www.maldenps.org](http://www.maldenps.org) under the Malden High School Resources Tab/Principal's Newsletter Any questions? Contact Steve Freker, Editor @ : [sfreker@maldenps.org](mailto:sfreker@maldenps.org)

*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](mailto: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](http://www.maldenps.org)*

# Check out the newly-revised 2020-21 MPS Calendar

## MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST 2020				
(0 Day)				
M	T	W	T	F
31*				

8/31\* First Day for Teachers

SEPTEMBER 2020				
(11 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1*	2*	3*	X
X	8*	9*	10*	11*
14*	15*	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

9/1-15\* Prof Dev Days - All Grds  
9/4 No School  
9/7 Labor Day  
9/16\* First Day of School for Grades PreK, 1-12  
9/17-18 Kindergarten Orientation/Screening  
9/21 First Day of School for Kindergarten

OCTOBER 2020				
(21 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
X	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

10/9 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12  
10/12 Columbus Day  
10/19 Late Entry Day MHS

NOVEMBER 2020				
(17 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3*	4	5	6
9	10	X	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	<del>25</del>	X	X
30				

11/2 Late Day Entry MHS  
11/3\* Prof Dev Day-All Grds  
11/11 Veterans Day  
11/25 11:00 Dismissal - Thanksgiving  
11/26-27 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 2020				
(17 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	<del>23</del>	X	X
X	X	X	X	

12/7 Late Entry MHS  
12/23 11:00 Dismissal  
12/24-1/1 Winter Vacation

JANUARY 2021				
(19 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
				X
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
X	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

1/4 School Resumes  
1/11 Late Entry MHS  
1/15 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12  
1/18 Martin Luther King Day

FEBRUARY 2021				
(14 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12*
X	X	X	X	X
22	23	24	25	26

2/5 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12  
2/8 Late Entry MHS  
2/12 \* Prof Dev Day-All Grds  
2/15-19 February Vacation

MARCH 2021				
(22 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12*
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

3/8 Late Entry MHS  
3/12 \* Prof Dev Day-All Grds

APRIL 2021				
(17 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	<del>2</del>
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
X	X	X	X	X
26	27	28	29	30

4/2 11:00 Dismissal - Good Friday  
4/5 Late Entry MHS  
4/19-23 Spring Vacation

MAY 2021				
(20 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
X				

5/7 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12  
5/10 Late Entry MHS  
5/31 Memorial Day

JUNE 2021				
(12 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17*	X
21	22	23	24	25

6/4 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12  
6/16 Last day w/o snow days (170 Days) - 11:00 Dismissal  
6/17 \* Prof Dev Day-All Grds  
6/18 Juneteenth (No School)  
6/25 Last day w/five snow days -11:00 Dismissal

**First Day for Teachers – Monday, August 31, 2020**

**Please note that five (5) additional days are built into the calendar in case of inclement weather**



Early Release PreK-12



Late Entry Dates for High School

## Malden High students can pick up **THREE MEALS (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) @ MOST SCHOOL** in the city, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.



**ATTENTION MALDEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:** The Free Breakfast and Lunch Program for all will continue now that school has begun, but students may now pick up meals at ANY SCHOOL in the city (including MHS) except the Early Learning Center. from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Both meals may be picked up at once and an adult may pick up meals for multiple kids and families. On Fridays, additional meals may be picked up for the weekend days as well.

Students may now go to the school closest to their home for free Breakfast Lunch & Dinner: MHS, Beebe, Ferryway, Forestdale, or Salemwood schools, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Linden School location is temporarily closed! Get ALL THREE MEALS at once.

## School communication technology Continued from Page One

Rodrigues appeared at Monday night's virtual School Committee at the request of Superintendent John Oteri in concert with a desire by school board technology committee chairperson Joseph Gray for an update.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and schools nationwide reverting to remote learning for the last few months of the school year this past spring, school communication technology has moved to the forefront.

The trend has continued at the start of the school year and into the fall as approximately 55 percent of school districts nationwide have remained in remote learning mode, including Malden Public Schools.

More reliant on technology and how it is used

"We've become more reliant on technology and in the way we use that technology in our schools," said Superintendent of Schools John Oteri. "We introduced Chromebooks districtwide, we upgraded our WiFi system and switched to an entirely new method of instruction without the benefit of any long-term planning."

Rodrigues explained how the dichotomy of the information technology network for the school system has dramatically shifted with the introduction of the remote learning model.

Since the start of the remote learning model in the spring until the present, the Malden Public Schools have distributed personal laptop computer Chromebook devices to all of its just over 6,200 students.

Previously, the school department's information technology system was set up to deal with internal communications, with about 3,000-4,000 devices communicating internally, as high school students had about 1,800 devices in use as well as in-school devices in some of the younger grades.

With the advent of remote learning districtwide, the number of communication points and the "direction" of the delivery and interaction shifted dramatically.

With remote learning, all of the monitoring and interaction was shifted externally, outside of the

the school buildings and this was a change that happened in a very short time period, Rodrigues said.

IT Director Rodrigues: 'It was uncharted territory'

"It was uncharted territory, but we adapted," Rodrigues said, explaining that upgrades and changes were made, including the increased use of "cloud" technology. Cloud use is when digital resources are stored in the virtual space by way of networks, often satellite networks. It allows people to share information and applications across the internet without over-taxing or being restricted by physical equipment or locations.

The main use of the cloud technology is in external authentication, Rodrigues said, which enables the IT system to identify quicker and more efficiently the increased number of points of contact that are now in play externally.