



Volume V No. 13
February 11, 2022

THE NEDLAM NEWS



Happy Lunar New Year! YEAR of the TIGER



*MHS main lobby looking festive on Feb.1 ...
the first day of the 'Year of the Tiger'!*

February is 'Black History Month'; Join our entire school community in the month-long celebration! February is also the time to say: 'Happy Lunar New Year!'

Greetings to the Malden High School Community:

February is upon us and a memorable highlight at Malden High School each year is our school wide recognition of Black History Month. For the first time in two years, we are able to host an exciting, month-long celebration of Black History — history that touches each and every one of us, every day— live and in person. This year, in conjunction with the MHS Black Culture Club and its

advisors, Taysia Holmes-Maxwell and Kristy Magras, Malden High School's Black History Month has three major components to our school wide celebration. First is the return of our popular and amazing Door Decorating Contest, where small teams of creative, artistic students go about the building, decorating the classroom and office doors of MHS educators and administrators. For the decorative artwork, they choose themes and topics related to the centuries of Black History, which have shaped our nation and world. Also on tap is the weekly HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Spotlight, a brief presentation which has been ongoing on Wednesdays in the outer cafeteria hall during all four lunch periods. The third part of the celebration is "Wellness Wednesdays," where Ms. Magras and Ms. Holmes host sessions on specific discuss topics such as "Break Down the Stigma," "Coping Skills," (held Wednesday, Feb.7) and the final one, "Black Joy" on Wednesday, February 16, all sessions held in the Pathways Office, Room H101 from 2:20-3:30 p.m. If you have any questions, or would like some more information or some that you want to share, *Cont. P.7*



Mr. Mastrangelo



#Black Lives Matter

THANK YOU, SCHOOL COUNSELORS, FOR HELPING ALL STUDENTS SUCCEED





UPCOMING @ MALDEN HS:

Thursday, February 10— Parent-Teacher Conferences held virtually beginning at 6 p.m.

Monday, February 14— Happy Valentine's Day! Remember your 'Special Someone'!

Wednesday, February 16—"Wellness Wednesday" hosted by the MHS Black Culture Club from 2:30-3:30 in the Pathways Office/ H101. Topic: 'Black Joy'

Friday, February 18— February School Break begins at the end of the school day

Monday-Friday, February 21 -25— February School Break is held

Monday, February 28— Classes Resume



MISSION 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.

Here's this week's schedule for February 14-18, 2022

Monday, February 14 BLUE DAY
7:45-9:10 a.m. PERIOD 1
9:15-10:40 a.m. PERIOD 2
10:45 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 3)
12:50 p.m.- 2:15 p.m. PERIOD 4

Tuesday, February 15 GOLD DAY
7:45-9:10 a.m. PERIOD 5
9:15- 10:40 a.m.- FLEX BLOCK
Enrichment 9:15-9:45 a.m./ Joy 9:50-10:35 a.m.
10:40 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 6)
12:50 p.m.-2:15 p.m. PERIOD 7

Wednesday, February 16 BLUE DAY
Monday, February 14 BLUE DAY
7:45-9:10 a.m. PERIOD 1
9:15-10:40 a.m. PERIOD 2
10:45 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 3)
12:50 p.m.- 2:15 p.m. PERIOD 4

Thursday, February 17 GOLD DAY
7:45-9:10 a.m. PERIOD 5
9:15- 10:40 a.m.- FLEX BLOCK
Enrichment 9:15-9:45 a.m./ Joy 9:50-10:35 a.m.
10:40 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 6)
12:50 p.m.-2:15 p.m. PERIOD 7

Friday, February 18 BLUE DAY
Monday, February 14 BLUE DAY
7:45-9:10 a.m. PERIOD 1
9:15-10:40 a.m. PERIOD 2
10:45 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 3)
12:50 p.m.- 2:15 p.m. PERIOD 4

*Valentine's Day is MONDAY, FEB. 14!
Don't Forget Your 'Special Someone'!*

It is Said... at MHS

—That the steady stream of new students at Malden High School continued after the return from Winter Break in January, as over a dozen more transfer students joined our ranks.

—That former longtime Malden High School principal Dana Brown, who also served as Varsity Girls Basketball Coach for several seasons in the early 2000s, visiting the Roy Finn Gym one night last week to take in girls basketball game.

—That everyone was waiting with anticipation Wednesday morning for the announcement from Gov. Baker on upcoming changes in the school mask policy.

—A poll by an MHS student taken right after the return from Winter Break determined that 11% of our students preferred a return to remote learning due to an isolated spike in COVID-19 cases internationally, even though the newest omicron variant of the virus was causing just mild illness in over 95% of the positive cases identified.

—That the FLEX blocks for the immediate future are going to be two-weeks long instead of three weeks, as they have been for most of the school year.

—That many students will be receiving some additional resources when the Acceleration Academy sessions are held during the upcoming February Vacation week (Feb. 21-25), staffed by MHS educators.

—That Spring Season for Athletics is right around the corner, beginning with tryouts and practices Monday, March 21.

Addition of Flex Block has enhanced appeal of clubs at Malden High

By Fatima Dahbani
For the MHS Blue and Gold

Malden High School's new-this-school-year Flex Block has proven to be a valuable asset to extracurricular side of the school community.

On "Gold" days, Flex is incorporated into the schedule where it is a period session

divided into two blocks: Enrichment and Joy session. It is a time where students can have time in their day for enrichment and support because school can be stressful for some students. Flex is used by—and is very popular with students and staff—for a variety of reasons, and a key benefit is that previously is that previously "after-school only" clubs are taking advantage of this block is to find more time

to meet.

One newly-formed group in particular that now uses Flex Block for its meeting time is the Spanish Heritage Club. "

"This club was designed by students... a group of students proposed the club and needed an advisor so I volunteered my Flex block so that they could organize and run

the club," explained MHS guidance counselor Ms. White, the club's advisor.

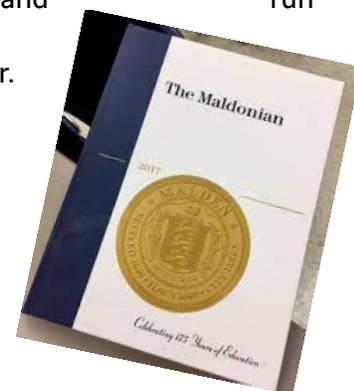
"Because this club runs during Flex Block, it allows for students who may have other obligations after school to participate in a club during school hours," White stated. "When the club was proposed, the students requested that it take place during Flex rather than after school."

The club's members are reasonably self-sufficient. They spent the previous cycle choosing themes they wanted to cover, playing games and making posters to hang around the building to promote the club.

Mr. McKenzie, an MHS Special Education Math teacher and the advisor of the Literary Society, is also using Flex Block to enhance the operation of his extracurricular club.

McKenzie said that he "spoke with Mr. Gallagher about taking over the Literary Society... It's been a fun diversion from some of the stresses of this school year." "When a student approached me about advising The Oracle, the magazine that

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**MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

AUGUST 2021				
(0 Day)				
M	T	W	T	F
30*	31*			

8/30* First Day for All Staff
8/31* Prof Dev Day - All Grds

SEPTEMBER 2021				
(20 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
		1*	2	X
X	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

9/1* First Day of School for Grades PreK, 1-12
9/1-9/7 Kindergarten Orientation/Screening
9/3 No School
9/6 Labor Day
9/8 First Day of School for Kindergarten

OCTOBER 2021				
(20 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
X	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

10/8 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12
10/11 Columbus Day
10/18 Late Entry Day MHS

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

11/1 Late Day Entry MHS
11/2* Prof Dev Day-All Grds
11/11 Veterans Day
11/24 11:00 Dismissal - Thanksgiving
11/25-26 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 2021				
(17 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	X
X	X	X	X	

12/6 Late Entry MHS
12/23 11:00 Dismissal
12/24-1/1 Winter Vacation

JANUARY 2022				
(20 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
				X
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
X	18	19	20	21
24	31	25	26	27
		28		

1/3 School Resumes
1/10 Late Entry MHS
1/14 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12
1/17 Martin Luther King Day

FEBRUARY 2022				
(15 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
X	X	X	X	X
28				

2/4 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12
2/7 Late Entry MHS
2/21-25 February Vacation

MARCH 2022				
(22 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11*
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

3/7 Late Entry MHS
3/11 * Prof Dev Day-All Grds

APRIL 2022				
(16 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
X	X	X	X	X
25	26	27	28	29

4/4 Late Entry MHS
4/15 11:00 Dismissal - Good Friday
4/18-22 Spring Vacation

MAY 2022				
(21 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
X	31			

5/6 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12
5/9 Late Entry MHS
5/30 Memorial Day

JUNE 2022				
(11 Days)				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
X	21	22	23	24

6/3 PD Early Dismissal PreK-12
6/17 Last Day of School right now with 2 snow days used
6/20 Juneteenth
6/23 Last day w/five snow days -11:00 Dismissal

First Day for All Staff – Monday, August 30, 2021

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

Here are some suggestions for MPS Black History Month resources

The following resources were made available for use districtwide through Superintendent Noriega Murphy and the Central Office

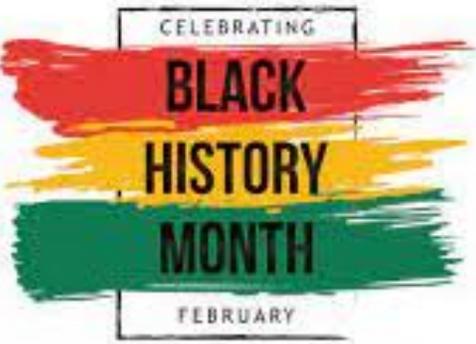
I AM BLACK (<https://youtu.be/EV197KRDER4>) spoken word (J. Hedrington, MPS Staff)

Kids Explain Black History Month (2min): <https://youtu.be/Lzt3gFgYVYk>

Why Do We Still Need Black History Month (3min): https://youtu.be/_-ndvkdU_j8

History of Black History Month (4min): <https://youtu.be/2CToEEwgNNk>

Okalani Dawkins - Black History is American History (8min): <https://youtu.be/9VINtKSpbXw>
The Significance of Black History Month in 2021 (10min): https://youtu.be/yMrYp_LjBcM
TedTalk - Working Backwards to Solve Problems (5min - consideration): <https://youtu.be/v34NqCbAA1c>



youtu.be/v34NqCbAA1c

On Daily Show (5min - the winner imo): <https://youtu.be/r0hPfbn-2DE>

Maurice Ashley Plays NYC Trash Talker (4min): https://youtu.be/U5vnpOp0U_g

How to start playing Chess (8min): <https://youtu.be/IOynnlJBsU>

Black Histories, Black Futures: The past, present, and future of Black experience in the United States.

The following links are for educators and were made available earlier this week in the MPS email

Celebrating Black Authors (slide deck, Y. Marquez)

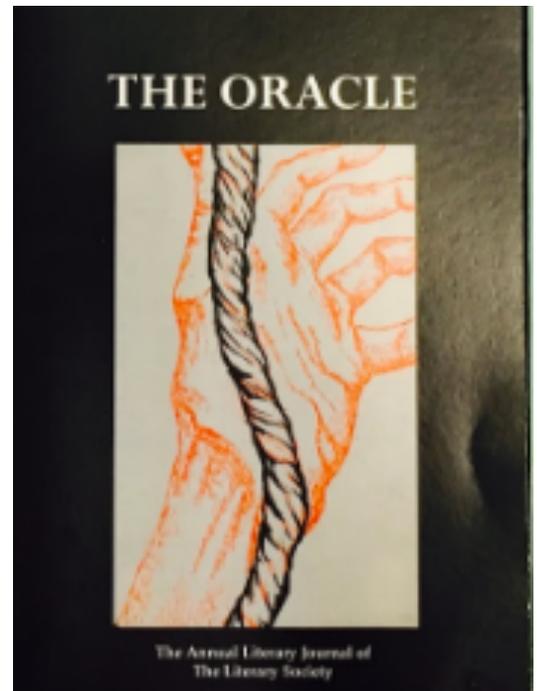
The following links are available Black History Month Artists & Artworks

Black History Month Films

Teacher Vision Black History Month Resources

Scholastic Magazine Black History Month Resources

We Are Teachers Black History Month Resources



The Oracle is the annual publication of the MHS Literary Society. The group has benefited from the addition of Flex Block to the MHS curriculum.
Courtesy Photo

Flex Block *Cont. from Page 3*

the Literary Society produces every year], he was the only returning member. Joy block seemed like a convenient and low stakes way to encourage students to participate on a trial basis," McKenzie explained.

He believes that artistic undertakings are an excellent method for kids to express themselves and share their perspectives. More students have the chance to learn about themselves and from one other by having a secure area where they may discuss their work.

In addition, the yearbook club is also utilizing Flex block to meet. Mr. Valente, who is the co-advisor, expressed that "The Maldonian, like The Blue and Gold, is a class that meets on the schedule of assigned students...The idea of using the Flex block to meet with those students as an extra way of getting the work done was always appealing." Valente went on to say that they needed the time to meet "so that the co-advisor to the class, Co-Advisor Mrs. Horwitz could be in with the group where this year she is not in the actual course, and she is vital to the course because she is the financial advisor and works with us to raise the \$28,000 we need to make the yearbook."

"We needed the time with our co-advisor to create fundraising opportunities for the yearbook," Valente said. Flex has overall been a great way for students to be productive and get extra academic help when they are not able to come after school.

February is... MALDONIAN MONTH @ MHS!

*Win prizes in BIG giveaways
if you pre-order a Yearbook!*

Please consider pre-ordering a copy of the 2022 Malden High School Yearbook, *The Maldonian*, in the month of February. The deadline for ordering your copy is approaching! It is only \$85 and that is just part of the actual overall cost of producing the Yearbook. IF you order this month, you will be eligible for entry into many prize giveaways. Maldonian staff members are selling pre-orders each day of Feb. at lunch!

**SIX MORE WEEKS of
WINTER...Phil saw his
Shadow!!** PUNXSUTAWNEY,
Pa. - Punxsutawney Phil,



Pennsylvania's most famous groundhog, awoke Tuesday mornings February 2, and saw his shadow — which, according to folklore, means there will be six more weeks of winter.

Each year on Feb. 2, thousands descend on Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to watch the giant rodent make his annual weather prediction at dawn with the help of his "inner circle."

According to the legend, there will be six more weeks of winter if he sees his shadow. If he doesn't, spring comes early.

"Winter has been bleak, and bereft of hope, yet winter is just another step in the cycle of life," one of Phil's top-hatted inner circle members read from a scroll. "I couldn't imagine a better fate. With a shadow I have cast... six more weeks of winter!"

Two days after Phil made his prediction, Malden Public Schools got its SECOND 'Snow Day' due to a ice and sleet storm which froze up the whole city!

Principal's Message

Cont. from Page 3

Continued from Page 3

let me know.

Along with the celebration of Black History Month, February is also known for other important cultural happenings. On February 1, many of our students of Asian descent celebrated on the first day of the Lunar New Year. This year is "The Year of the Tiger" and when all of our students arrived in the morning of February 1, they were greeted with a festive display in our main office lobby commemorating the Lunar New Year with its distinctive Red and Yellow themed colors. Thank you to Coach Frek for taking the time to decorate the lobby and assisting our MHS community in acknowledging this important holiday for hundreds of our students and their families. The Lunar New Year is single most important date on the calendar for many of East and Southeast Asian descent and it is celebrated in China, Vietnam (as Tet), South Korea, Thailand, Cambodia and the Philippines, among other countries. Over 5 million people celebrate Lunar New Year in the United States and worldwide, over 2 billion people take part in the festivities!

This week we held our Parent-Teacher Conferences, virtually, following the distribution of our Second Quarter report cards last week. To all of our

educators, guidance counselors, administrators and support staff, please accept my sincere gratitude for the supreme amount of patience and compassion you exhibited regarding the handling of grading, Mid-Year Assessments and all related matters for the Second Quarter. We have faced and handled so many challenges since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared and here was another set of obstacles and another sea of uncertainty from just about the time the Second Quarter began, until it came to a close. In December, COVID-19 positive cases began to climb among students and staff, due to the omicron variant, and this trend continued right up until the Winter Break. When school resumed, there was an unwelcome — but expected — spike in cases. Still, Malden High School was not hit as hard as many communities in our region as to staff and student absences. After much thought, discussion and planning, we came up with what we believe was a fair, compassionate and equitable plan regarding grading and the Mid-Year Assessments. Once again, thank you to EVERYONE who shouldered extra time and tasks to see our students and families through these rough waters and on to the second half of our school year. Always remember, you are not alone!

Mr. Mastrangelo- MHS Principal

For district updates &
information go to the
Malden Public Schools
website: www.maldenps.org





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

NEDLAM NEWS is published and distributed digitally on a regular basis. Past editions available at www.maldenps.org under the Malden High School Resources Tab/Principal's Newsletter. Any questions? Contact Steve Freker @ : 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 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



**MALDEN GIRLS
BASKETBALL
STILL IN HUNT
for POSTSEASON**

Clockwise from top left, Seniors Yasmine Alayan and Lissette Curran Below Navaeh Charles and Angie Colon. *Henry Huang pix*



Changing Lanes

Bowling Tournament

This event supports

The Golden Tornado Club

A booster organization that provides support for the student athletes of Malden High School.

WHEN:

Thursday May 26, 2022
6 - 8 pm Bowling
8 - 9 pm Raffles & Trophy Presentations

WHERE:

Town Line Ten Pin
665 Broadway
Malden, MA 02148

www.townlinetenpin.com

For more information contact Jeanne @ jmarquardo@maldenps.org

Thank you to Town Line Ten Pin for once again being a Corporate Sponsor and generously donating the venue.

The Golden Tornado Club is the Booster Club for ALL Malden High School sports teams!

To become a member... and help support MHS teams, contact Ms. Marquardo in H101-Athletics Office 7am-3pm jmarquardo@

Do not delay! sign up for MHS Spring Sports like this... Student-Athletes May Register on: finalforms.com