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THE NEDLAM NEWS

Happy Halloween!



From left, Jessie, Apu and Gabby looked awesome in their costumes they and their families took the time to create for Friday's Halloween Day at Malden High. Many students and staff took the time to "dress up" and brighten up our Friday. *Steve Freker Photo/ Malden Public Schools*



Malden City Councillor at large Stephen Winslow, left recently visited Malden HS and greeted MHS Principal Chris Mastrangelo with a donation of four refurbished bicycles and six new helmets, which will be used in the new Flex Block Biking Club, part of a very successful addition to the MHS curriculum. *Steve Freker Photo/Malden Public Schools*

'Joy' of Biking at MHS

The addition of the new Flex Block to the Malden High curriculum, with "Enrichment" and "Joy" sessions, has helped bring the students and staffed closer and help them build new relationships. *Story, inside on Page 4*

#Black Lives Matter

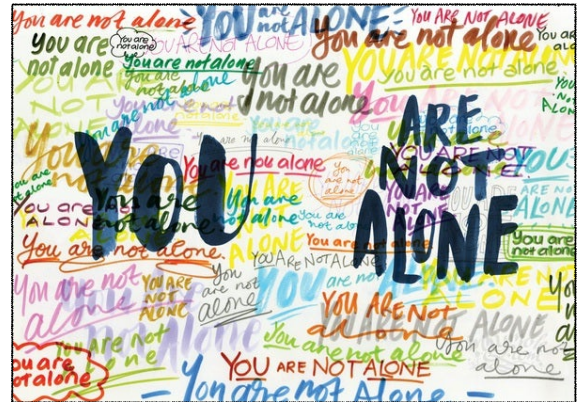
Some days seemed longer, some days seemed shorter... but the First Quarter has indeed been memorable

Greetings to the Malden High School Community:

When our school reopened to fully in-person learning on September 1, it was the culmination of many months of planning and preparation with plenty of protocols and other measures in place. The goals were to provide our students and educators with a safe learning environment with health and well-being the highest priority. With the diligence and conscientiousness of everyone in the Malden High School community, we are very pleased to say these goals have been achieved as the First Quarter academic marking period officially draws to a close today. The first Report Cards of this 2021-22 school year will be distributed on Monday, November 8 in homeroom at the end of the school day. While some of the days this First Quarter have seemed long and some have seemed short, it has been a memorable nine weeks. We welcomed not only a brand-new freshman Class of 2025 of over 450 students to our building, but also a sophomore Class of 2024 as well, many of whom have spent very little time if any at all inside MHS for classes yet. We also said “Welcome” to nearly 30 new educators and staff members as well as over 125 new transfer students, from near and far, since school began. Also since the start of the school year, an exciting introduction to our curriculum has been the Flex Block, which has drawn a tremendous amount of positive feedback from students and staff. This past month we also coordinated a successful school wide administering of both the PSAT exam our Grades 10-11 students and the SAT for our seniors — all at no charge to any of them or their families. Recently we also made time for our students to participate in the second annual Youth Truth Survey, where they were able to relay their own thoughts, opinions and analyses of their own Malden High School experience. We are proud to say we have already received responses from 97 percent of our students and staff and expect to be even closer to 100 percent when all responses are recorded, a valuable tool for assessment of our school climate, particularly in the realm of equity and inclusion, as we plan for the future. We can’t wait to see what the Second Quarter and November will bring! *Mr. Mastrangelo*



Mr. Mastrangelo



**‘MASKING UP’ @ MHS!
If ‘NEDLAM’ can do it...
so can all of us!
Be Safe... Be Healthy
and help protect your
classmates & teachers!**



Here's this week's schedule for November 1-5, 2021

UPCOMING @ MALDEN HS:

Tuesday, November 1— No School for Students; Districtwide 5DP Professional Development Day for educators
—Municipal Election Day in Malden

Wednesday and Thursday, November 3 & 4—Picture Day! All Students and Staff will have Photos taken for IDs. Parents may purchase photos of their underclassmen (Gr. 9,10,11) students.

Monday, November 1 GOLD DAY (Late Entry)

9:40=10:40 a.m. PERIOD 6
10:45 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 6)
12:50 p.m.-2:15 p.m. PERIOD 7

Tuesday, November 2
NO SCHOOL for Students
Professional Development day for educators and staff districtwide

Wednesday, November 3 GOLD DAY

7:45-9:10 a.m. PERIOD 5
9:15-10:40 a.m. Flex 1 (9:15-9:55) Flex 2 (10:00-10:40)
10:45 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 6)
12:50 p.m.-2:15 p.m. PERIOD 7

Thursday, November 4 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

Friday, November 5 GOLD DAY

7:45-9:10 a.m. PERIOD 5
9:15-10:40 a.m. Flex 1 (9:15-9:55) Flex 2 (10:00-10:40)
10:45 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. LUNCH BLOCK (and PERIOD 6)
12:50 p.m.-2:15 p.m. PERIOD 7

The First Quarter academic period closes today, Friday, October 29. Report cards will be distributed on Monday, Nov. 8 in homeroom



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.



From left, Kevin Pham, Slade Harding, Jason Chen and Gabriel Garcia get ready for another ride as part of the Flex Block Biking Club. *Steve Freker Photo/Malden Public*

The 'Joy' of Biking comes to Malden High

By Steve Freker
For the Malden Public Schools

The three freshmen had never met before they arrived at their new school in September.

Like all ninth-graders, they had a lot to take in, going from top of the heap middle school kids to first-year students in a freshman class of over 450.

Who knew that high school newcomers Deric Tse, Gabriel Garcia and Slade Harding would have even more in common?

When Malden High School principal Chris Mastrangelo and his MHS administrative team and faculty teamed up to introduce a state-of-the-art curriculum enhancement called "Flex Block" for the 2021-22 academic year, they just had to have students like Deric and Slade in mind.

The Flex Block is split into two separate, 40-minute sessions of varied academic pursuits, one entitled "Enrichment," the other "Joy". The Flex Block runs in three-week cycles, is built into the class schedules on alternating days and is assigned to each of Malden

High's 1,800-plus students entirely by choice.

Enrichment is closer to the traditional "nuts and bolts" of academia, with session offerings surrounded by coursework and academic support. Joy is, well, just as it sounds: Students selecting something they either already love to do,,, or would like to try,

So what brings Deric, Gabriel and Slade "Joy" on their "Gold Days"? Well, it involved two wheels and some pedals: Biking. Both new-to-MHS ninth-graders signed up for educator Mitch Abbatessa's bicycling "Joy" session — outdoors, course— the very first time it was offered. *Continued on Page 6*

From left, ninth graders Gabriel Garcia, Slade Harding and Deric Tse became fast friends and now go on biking rides together on the weekend after first meeting as member of the new "Joy" session Biking Club at MHS. *Steve Freker Photo/Malden Public Schools*



**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
6/15 Last day w/o snow days (180 Days) - 11:00 Dismissal
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



GBL Goodwill with Malden HS & Revere Field Hockey

When the Malden High Coed Field Hokey team honored its lone senior, Lydia Li, second from right, on Senior Day, they also created instant Greater Boston League (GBL) Goodwill by inviting the Revere High seniors and coaches into the ceremony and presenting them with flowers as well. *Steve Freker Photo/ For the Malden Public Schools*

MHS 'Flex Block' curriculum addition already helping students build new relationships; Biking Club fostering lots of goodwill from start

Continued from Page 4

Every other day, the ever-growing bicycling Joy Session students gather and go out and explore the Malden Northern Strand Bike Path which runs adjacent to the Malden High building.

They are now repeat customers, and have continued to "Flex" their interests.

Furthermore, on a recent sunny Tuesday morning, Slade and Deric relayed an anecdote from the past weekend. "We met up over the weekend and went on a ride all around Malden and the paths near Encore in Everett," Slade revealed, noting that other members of Mr. Abbatessa's Bicycling Joy Session class hooked up for the ride with him and Deric as well.

"Yeah, we have all become friends pretty quickly," Deric confirmed. "We all like to ride around and it's fun to see each other on the weekends now, since we started biking together in school."

For MHS principal Chris Mastrangelo, who recently learned of the students' narrative, this was simply jackpot material. "That is a fantastic early result of the Flex Block program and really personifies the types of goals we have been hoping to achieve," Mastrangelo said, "I can't wait to share that with our team as we continue to monitor and review the program.

"Fortunately, we have been getting lots of positive feedback from everyone associated with Flex Block, most importantly our students," Mastrangelo added. "Helping students build relationships with both their peers as well as with their mentors has been at the top of our list from the start."

The bicycling program got a welcome boost recently through a

founded by longtime Malden resident, City Councillor at large Stephen Winslow.

During one of his recent visits to MHS, Councillor Winslow presented principal Mastrangelo with a generous donation of four refurbished bicycles suitable for young adult riders as well as six new bicycling helmets. Winslow said he got some assistance from local students from the Malden Teen Enrichment Center (MTEC) fixing up some bicycles that had been in storage at the Malden Police Station and the helmets were donated by Bike to the Sea.

Councillor Winslow said he was excited to hear of the new Malden High program and its emphasis on bicycling, "I have been a bicycling enthusiast since I was these students' age and I'm very pleased to see our local high school students involved in programs such as these," he said.

Bike to the Sea was instrumental in moving forward the push to build the Malden portion of the Northern Strand Bike Path, which stretches from the Everett-Malden line on Medford Street, across the city to the Malden-Revere-Saugus town line, and is used by the MHS students.

"We are so grateful to Councillor Winslow and his generous donation which will enable students who may not have their own bike to now take part in this class," Mastrangelo said. "We truly value community partnerships such as these with our school and district."

PARENTS & CAREGIVERS: Here is an update on MHS COVID Protocols

Hello all,

Just a reminder: Our school nurses are still seeing a lot of kids coming to school with symptoms. If your child is sick, please keep your child home and notify the nurses and get the child tested for covid 19. The absences will be excused once the nurses receive a COVID test result.

— If your child has been told to stay home by one of the nurses, they need to be cleared by the nurses before they can return to school.

— We expect cold and flu symptoms to increase as we continue into the fall and winter seasons. Please be vigilant about checking your child before they go to school to see if they are sick. This is critical to preventing the spread of covid 19 in school.

— We encourage all families to have your students vaccinated for both flu and COVID -19.

There will be pool testing available at MHS on Monday November 1. Registered Students can participate in testing from 10:45-12:45 in "T" area outside of Cafeteria B, near the Main Office.

— Malden High School Principal Chris Mastrangelo



*** FREE COVID-19 Pool Testing begins at Malden High School, hosted by our district, on MONDAY, November 1. Students MUST be registered to be tested! Register at: www.maldenps.org**