

## MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Malden Public Schools Parents/Guardians, Staff and Community,

This letter is to inform you of upcoming changes in the Malden Public Schools after school and out-of-school programs. We are committed to meeting your needs, and many of your suggestions have been incorporated into the new initiatives. Other factors that have contributed to the anticipated changes are due to the loss of 21stCCLC grant funding and in response to the changing needs and demographics of the Malden community. The goal of the reorganization is to ensure safe, uninterrupted, value-added, and sustainable afterschool and out-of-school time programming.

The focus of the restructure will be on the following key initiatives for the approaching 2019-20 school year:

- Streamlining the registration process and tuition collection through EZChildTrack, a new online user-friendly management system.
- Adapting the grade levels due to under enrollment of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, we will serve students from Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Adjusting tuition rates based on service hours and comparable programs within Malden and neighboring cities to provide adequate revenue to support program costs.
- Expanding the current sliding scale fee structure to increase access for more families who meet the eligibility requirements of free and reduced lunch.
- Collaborating with Special Education and Principals to identify strategies to:
  - o improve supports for diverse learners after school,
  - o provide training and coaching for staff and
  - o identify and respond to specific schools' needs.
- Standardizing program policies and procedures to improve safety, quality and communication.

The restructuring is a result of a collaboration between the Afterschool Program and Central Office with mindful attention to the impact on program budget. We will continue to provide updates as program information become available through the Malden Public Schools website.

Thank you,

Yohn Oteri Superintendent