

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year!!

We are excited to have students and staff in our buildings for another year of learning and growth. We also extend a warm welcome to all new students, parents/caregivers, and staff who are joining us this year.

School start dates and information:

- All PreK, Grades 1 12 students start on Wednesday, August 31, 2022
- All Kindergarten students will begin on Friday, September 9, 2022
- NO SCHOOL
 - o 09/02 No school
 - 09/05 Labor Day (No school)
 - o 09/06 No School Professional Development
- For further dates and information, please see our <u>School Calendar</u>.
- For school start times, please check the links below.

As we are getting ready to return to school, we want to share with you the "Back to School Information" from each of our schools:

- 1. Beebe: Beebe Back to School Information
- 2. Early Learning Center: <u>Early Learning Center Back to School Information</u>
- 3. Ferryway: Ferryway Back to School Information
- 4. Forestdale: Forestdale Back to School Information
- 5. Linden STEAM Academy: <u>Linden Back to School Information</u>
- 6. MHS: Malden High School Back to School Information
- 7. Salemwood: Salemwood Back to School Information

This year, we will continue to fulfill our mission of providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students to cultivate a lifelong joy of learning, achieve their academic potential, and engage as compassionate global citizens. We will do this by leaning on our core values of equity, integrity, resilience, and respect. These key concepts drive our work in our schools and classrooms, each and every day.

Although we know the pandemic remains a factor in our lives, we look forward to continuing our path to a sense of greater normalcy. This includes continuing to follow the guidance of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and Department of Public Health (DPH) in line with the most recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. We will also be prepared to adjust our mitigation measures if we begin to see the rates of positive cases increase as time goes on. As always, we will keep you updated if any changes become necessary.

The safety of our students, educators, staff, and caregivers is a priority. Therefore, we will continue working closely with the Malden Police Department to ensure that ALICE training is conducted district-wide with in-person training in each of our schools. Similar to the previous school year, we will also hold an ALICE training webinar for parents/caregivers and community members.

The Malden Public Schools collaborates with other departments within the city such as the Malden Board of Health, Police, Fire and Facilities to ensure the health and safety of our students.

We are committed to ensuring that you are aware of district updates and opportunities to engage with our school communities. Therefore it is critical that we have accurate contact and medical information for your child. You will be able to update or confirm student information on the Online Student Information portal in ASPEN beginning August 24, 2022 (directions will be available on our website). This portal can also be translated into most languages. Translated paper packets will also be available at each school. While all forms will not be available on the portal, we are hopeful that the online process will reduce paper consumption and support busy families.

Finally, we want to thank you for all your support, understanding, and grace. We could not be where we are without our families and caregivers. Please know that we appreciate you.

I am grateful to move forward on this journey with such an engaged and supportive Malden Public Schools community. Together, we will make 2022-2023 an amazing school year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Noriega-Murphy Superintendent