



Mashpee

A Connected Community

April Update
Superintendent Patricia DeBoer
It's GREAT to be in MASHPEE!



As a reminder, the very BEST students attend the Mashpee Public Schools. I ask that you embrace them and celebrate what makes each one special. As of today, we have completed 73% of the school year 17-18. We strive to ensure that academic engaged time is maximized for each student and that each student demonstrates growth. The success and well-being of every student in our district are always at the forefront of our daily work and every decision we make.

I encourage all parents, grandparents, caregivers, and those concerned about the children of Mashpee to read the following article: "The Silent Tragedy Affecting Today's Children" by occupational therapist Victoria Prooday—linked here:

https://yourot.com/parenting-club/2017/5/24/what-are-we-doing-to-our-children?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=email_this&utm_source=email

"Children today are in a devastating emotional state!" Today's children are being deprived of the fundamentals of a healthy childhood, such as: emotionally available parents, clearly defined limits and guidance, responsibilities, balanced nutrition and adequate sleep, movement and outdoors, and creative play, social interaction, and opportunities for unstructured times and boredom. Instead children are being served with digitally distracted parents, indulgent parents who let kids "rule the world", a sense of entitlement rather than responsibility, inadequate sleep and unbalanced nutrition, a sedentary indoor lifestyle, endless stimulation, technological babysitters, instant gratification, and absence of dull moments. Parents/Caregivers, implement these recommendations if you want your child to grow into a healthy and happy individual: be emotionally available to connect with kids and teach them self-regulation and social skills; set limits and remember that you are your child's parent, not a friend; offer kids a well-balanced lifestyle filled with what kids NEED, not just what they WANT; don't be afraid to say "no"; provide nutritious food and limit snacks; spend one hour a day in green space; have a daily technology-free family dinner; play one board game a day; involve your child in one chore a day; implement a consistent sleep routine to ensure that your child gets lots of sleep in a technology-free bedroom; teach responsibility and independence; don't overprotect them from small failures; teach delayed gratification and provide opportunities for "boredom" as boredom is the time when creativity awakens. In her practice, the author of this article shares that hundreds of her clients report seeing positive changes in their kids emotional state within weeks (and in some cases, even days) of implementing these recommendations.

Community Connections

We are very grateful to Mashpee Commons for providing the Mashpee Public Schools with a beautiful retail space (rent-free) that will serve as our **#WeAreMashpee** community outreach site. Through a valued partnership with the Mashpee Commons, the Mashpee Public Schools will showcase our outstanding PreK - 12 programs and opportunities, highlight the accomplishments of our students and staff, and offer school-related/school-created items for sale to Mashpee residents and visitors. We anticipate there being student performances, interactive exhibits, virtual tours, and opportunities for students to apply their knowledge and skills at our **#WeAreMashpee** community outreach site. A year-round venue in the Mashpee Commons provides the Mashpee Public Schools with an off-campus outreach opportunity, providing easy access for our connected community to learn more about our schools. This partnership is a collaborative effort promoting "Why it's great to be in Mashpee." The grand "soft" opening of our **#WeAreMashpee** outreach site located at 12 Central Square in Mashpee Commons is scheduled for **tomorrow, April 7th, from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**. Special events are scheduled throughout the day. From 10:00 – 11:00 AM, MMHS Senior Celia Krefter will present information regarding the Mashpee Humanitarian Mapathon, an event taking place on April 10th; from 11:00 - 12:00 noon the MMHS Jazz Band will perform; from 11:00 – 1:00 PM the MMHS "Vex Gods" Max

Burke, Shane LaCroix, and Bobby Nasuti will provide a presentation on integrating 3D printing with augmented and virtual reality; from 12:00 – 1:30 PM, student “Techsperts” Olyn Jacobson and Jonah Erdman will be available to answer basic technology questions regarding cell phones, iPads, Kindles, and more; from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM you can enjoy singing performances from Anna Josselyn (Ariel) and William Henley (Sebastian)—members of the Blue Falcon Theatre Company who were part of *The Little Mermaid* cast; from 3:30 – 5:00 PM there will be an AP Studio Art Showcase—the senior project of Raijean McFarlane. Join Raijean and other artists as they engage in dialogue about their work.

We are also very grateful for our partnership with our Southport Falcons and are happy to highlight some of our recent connections. Kindergarten teacher Evelyn O’Keefe appreciates Southport Falcon Josephine Matlak who works with a small group of children in the WIN (What-I-Need) intervention program. Ms. Matlak plays games with the students to help them learn letter sounds and how to blend sounds together to create words. Mrs. O’Keefe and her students look forward to Ms. Matlak’s time in the classroom. Coombs School Title One teacher Jennifer Kenney greatly appreciates Southport Falcon Janet Looney who is working with first and second graders during their WIN groups. She conferences one-on-one with the students and helps them to become more active readers by teaching them comprehension strategies. She also works with students on reading responses and fluency activities. Lynn Harris is another Southport Falcon working with small groups of students in the first grade WIN group. Ms. Harris has helped students with their writing skills within the authors and illustrators center. Mrs. Kenney reports that the students love working with both of these Southport Falcons. Ms. Harris, together with Southport Falcon Jocelyn Bradburn read to 3rd grade classes on Read Across America Day at the Quashnet School. Ms. Harris has volunteered to be the Read Across America liaison for next year. Gretchen Maloney is a Southport Falcon who supports an after-school knitting club for students at the Quashnet School. Club advisor, Mrs. Geggatt reports that Mrs. Maloney looks up projects, helps get some knitters started, untangles yarn, has an abundance of patience, and always comes with a smile. She even bought each knitter a bag in which to store their project. MMHS teacher Amanda Hough is grateful to Southport Falcon Rich Ragin for arranging for MMHS students Kristina Dillis, Aiden Levangie, and Matthew Bowen to use the Southport pool to test the two underwater Remote Operated Vehicles (ROV) that they designed and built. The time at the Southport pool is integral for them to be successful at tomorrow’s SeaPerch Competition at New Bedford High School. This is the first time Mashpee students will be participating in this competition. An important factor in each of the highlighted connections is the positive relationship being developed between MPS students/staff and residents of the Town of Mashpee. We so value being a “connected community.” More stories to come.

Thank you to the following community member-artists for participating in this year’s “Visiting Artists” program for second graders at the Coombs School. Each community artist worked with a class of second graders to create a mural depicting a scene from a selected children’s book: Jackie DeFonso worked with Mrs. Cullum’s students to create *A Critter Book* mural; Jeremy Steele worked with Mrs. Charette’s students to create a *Pete the Cat* mural; Michelle Law worked with Mrs. Cogswell’s students to create *A Snowy Day* mural; Betsy Payne Cook worked with Mrs. Penney’s students to create a *Flat Stanley* mural; Kathy Timmins worked with Ms. Alberico’s students to create the *Matisse’s Garden* mural; and Jessie Nickerson worked with students from Mrs. Goulart’s class to create *The Mitten* mural. The mural unveiling ceremony with the artists and the second graders will take place on Friday, April 13th, from 2:15 – 2:30 PM in the Coombs School library. We are so grateful for the generosity of these talented individuals.

We are grateful to The Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank for its generous support in underwriting this year’s Credit for Life Fair held at the Mashpee Middle-High School this past Wednesday. Thank you also to the many community volunteers who made this event such a successful learning experience for our MMHS seniors.

“Mature” Residents of Mashpee—You are invited to a breakfast and tour of the Coombs School on Thursday, April 12th. Please contact Maria Fisher at 508-539-1520, Ext. 5102 if you are able to attend. We guarantee that you will leave feeling better than when you arrived! The Mashpee community is also invited to the Mashpee Middle-High School on Thursday night, April 12th, at 6:00 pm for the Class of 2020 Talent Show. All are welcome to attend the annual Quashnet School Spelling Bee on Thursday, April 26th. The preliminary

rounds begin at 5:30 PM. The community is encouraged to attend the Cape Cod Mini Maker Faire taking place all day on Saturday, April 28th, at Mashpee Middle-High School.

Just to clear up any misconceptions that might be out in the community in regards to the planned MPS sign/community message board, please know that we do not intend to damage or deface the town's image or visual quality in any way. The proposed MPS sign/message board is not a double-sided movie screen, nor is it monstrous; it will not include flashing or oscillating lights. We plan to work with the Town's Sign Design Review Committee to ensure a positive outcome. The current Mashpee High School sign located along Route 151 will be relocated to the horseshoe area at MMHS so that students can continue to manually put up messages for MMHS students and their families. The replacement sign/community message board will be located where the old sign was along Route 151. The illuminated portion of the sign will be lit with LED lights that dim during the evening. School announcements as well as announcements from the police, fire, and town hall will be displayed. Our goal is to create a connected and informed community. We are not a for-profit entity; our sign will not be advertising a product for sale or a business. The schools are a very important part of the Town of Mashpee and our having the ability to easily communicate events and announcements to the residents, not just to our families, will enrich involvement and build stronger connections. We want to regularly communicate "Why it's great to be in Mashpee."

Reminder: A Bay State Textiles White Collection Box has been placed at the Mashpee Middle-High School and also at the Coombs School. These boxes provide an easy opportunity for families to discard unwanted clothing (including shoes), purses, household linens, stuffed animals, etc. The items donated are picked up on a weekly basis. Based on the weight of the textiles collected, a rebate is paid to the Mashpee Public Schools. This is an easy way for our connected community to eliminate unwanted textiles from their homes and at the same time support our students and our programming.

Mashpee Middle-High School (MMHS)

Congratulations to the following MMHS students for being recognized in the 2018 Classroom Times, a publication produced by the Cape Cod Times: Katrina Mayen won 2nd place for the Sports category—grades 7/8; Robert O'Neill won 3rd place in the News/Features category for grades 7/8; and Kasey Boettger won 3rd place in the Opinion category for grades 7/8. We are very proud of these students and their work.

Congratulations to MMHS teacher Celeste Reynolds who has been selected by the Massachusetts Council for the Social Studies as the recipient of the John Reilly Award for Teaching Excellence in Geography. Mrs. Reynolds consistently goes above and beyond to create engaging learning activities for her students—activities that require critical thinking, problem-solving, and an understanding of historical and current day perspectives.

We would also like to celebrate the following MMHS student-artists for the recognition their work received in the "Beginnings" exhibit at the Cape Cod Art Center: Xavier Jones won First Place, Jessica Dillis won Second Place, and Maddy Wessell received an Honorable-Mention.

Congratulations to MMHS scholar Tahj Bohun who earned 2nd place in the 13th "Chinese Bridge" speech contest for U. S. high School students held in Boston last Saturday. We are so proud of Tahj and very grateful that Mandarin teacher Ms. Cheng is a member of Team Mashpee.

MMHS hosted its 7th annual Higher Education Fair on March 23. Thank you to Mrs. Kett, Ms. Catalina, and the guidance department for their efforts in providing this very informative event to our students. Over eighty colleges, universities, and military branches were represented.

All of our 7, 8, and 10th graders have now completed their 2018 English/Language Arts MCAS assessment. We are proud of our hard-working students. They displayed excellent effort and persistence.

Congratulations to Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach Rick Boulrisse and his team of hard-working and dedicated student-athletes for making it to the Division IV Eastern Massachusetts Title game held at the T.D. Garden in Boston. This was the first time in school history that our boys' varsity basketball team won the Division IV South title. The team finished the season ranked #2 in the state for Division IV. We are so grateful for the joy that this team brought to the Mashpee Public Schools as well as to our community. They were so fun to watch!

Quashnet School (QS)

The Quashnet School's Kiwanis K-Kids penny drive for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society raised \$2,919.38. Mrs. Porter's third graders won the Gold award and an Olive Garden luncheon by raising \$300.97. Three other classrooms raised over \$200, and nine classrooms raised over \$100.00. The students at the Quashnet School and their families are always working to make the world a better place.

Congratulations to Quashnet School 4th grader Hayden Shvonski for winning first place in the 2018 Classroom Times, a publication of the Cape Cod Times. Hayden won in the Sports Writing (Grades 4-6) category. We are very proud of Hayden and her accomplishment.

All third – sixth graders have completed their 2018 English/Language Arts MCAS assessment. We appreciate the outstanding effort our students displayed.

Thank you to Quashnet teacher Ms. Forsberg and to the Quashnet School Student Council for leading an initiative that collected and organized over 4,000 books for donation to the Boston Children's Hospital. Thank you also to Quashnet teachers Ms. Ali Keohane and Ms. Brett Keohane for organizing the free skate event at the Gallo Rink in Bourne for Mashpee families. It was a well-attended and fun community event.

The Quashnet School roof/windows/doors/bathroom upgrade project is moving forward on schedule. Four classrooms will be temporarily relocated at the end of next week to another part of the school building as window and related work is done in these rooms. Principal O'Brien expects that the classes will return to their homeroom locations within three weeks. Once these rooms are completed, the next round of temporary relocations will take place. Safety and security protocols have been developed and are being followed.

Coombs School (KCC)

Kindergarten registration is currently underway at the Coombs School. Children currently enrolled in our pre-school program do not need to register for kindergarten. Children MUST be 5 years old by August 31, 2018 and be cleared by the health office prior to the start of kindergarten. They must have their 5-year-old immunizations, current physical, lead and vision screening submitted BEFORE the start of school in September, 2018. Parents/Guardians may submit updated physicals and immunizations as soon as they are completed to the health office. If you are unsure about what health information your current preschool student will need, please call Nurse Stacey at 508-539-1526.

Congratulations to 2nd grader Greenley Davis for her efforts to organize a collection drive to support the needs of the MSPCA's Centerville shelter. We know that the animals will be very grateful for the many donations received from KCC.

Thank you to music teacher Brian Montgomery for his efforts in preparing our first-grade choir for the district's recent Music-in-our-Schools concert. Their performance was outstanding! Thank you to Coombs School Librarian Meg Smith and her team of staff volunteers for last week's Dr. Seuss Night. This was a fun family event and a great way to celebrate and share the joy and value of reading.

We are grateful for the opportunity we have been given to serve the families of Mashpee. We are continuing our district-wide implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) so that every student has access to instruction, curriculum, and an environment that ensures achievement of his/her academic and social/emotional projected growth. Thank you for trusting us with your children.

It's GREAT to be in Mashpee—A Connected Community.

Please explore these links to stay connected to us:

Mashpee Public Schools' new website: <https://www.mpspk12.org/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PDeBoerMPS> or <https://twitter.com/MashpeeSchools>

Mashpee Public Schools' Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/MashpeePublicSchools/>

Mashpee Public Schools' Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mashpeepublicschools/>

Coombs School Principal's Blog: <https://kccfalconeye.blogspot.com/>

Quashnet School Principal's Blog: <http://qsmashpee.blogspot.com>

MMHS Principal's Blog: <http://mmhsprincipal.blogspot.com/>

MMHS Athletic Schedules: <http://miaa.net/schools/public/MashMa>

MMHS Online Newspaper—The Falconer: <https://www.thefalconer.net>



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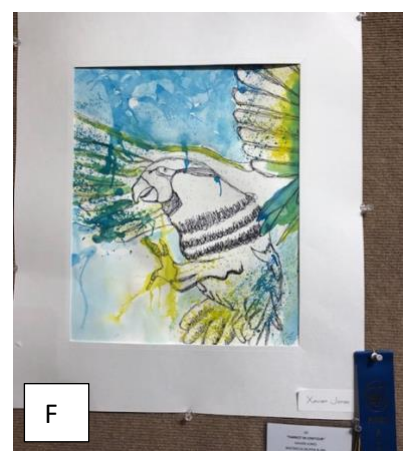
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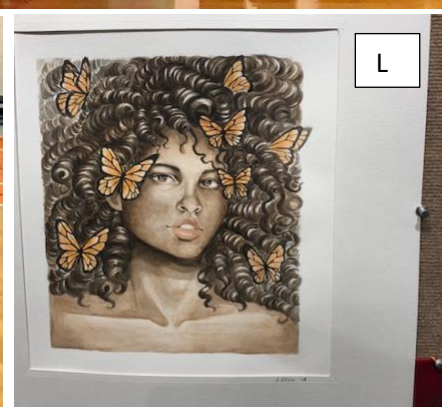


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- A: Tahj Bohun
- B: Hayden Shvonski
- C: Artist in Residence: Jeremy Steele
- D: Artist in Residence: Michelle Law
- E: Coombs First Grade Choir
- F: Xavier Jones' First Place artwork



G: Carmen Bartlett—QS Talent Show
H: Jaziah Charles at Dr. Seuss Night
I: MMHS Seniors—Last Production
J: Logan Puma--Family Skate Event
K: Division IV South Champions
L: Jessica Dillis' artwork