



Mashpee

A Connected Community

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



Dear Mashpee Community,

The very BEST students attend the Mashpee Public Schools. They are kind, respectful, intelligent, and hard-working. From the youngest members of our team to our seniors, our students teach me something new every single day. They are creative problem-solvers and critical thinkers. As of today, we have already completed 25.6% of school year 17-18. On a daily basis we strive to ensure that academic engaged time is maximized for each student and that each student is able to demonstrate growth. In my visits to classrooms, I am impressed with the instructional strategies being used to improve learning outcomes for all students. 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.

The School Committee has developed two goals for school year 2017-2018, aligned to the District's Blueprint for Progress. Goal #1 states that throughout the 2017 - 2018 school year, the Mashpee School Committee will ensure, through budget and policy, that every student has access to instruction, curriculum, and an environment that ensures achievement of his/her academic and social/emotional projected growth. Action steps for this goal include developing a strategic financial roadmap for fiscal planning; establishing protocols to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the School Committee; and adopting policy guidance oversight from MASC (Massachusetts Association of School Committees). Goal #2 states that throughout the 2017 - 2018 school year, the Mashpee School Committee will enhance and nurture effective and collaborative relationships/partnerships with all Mashpee stakeholders. To accomplish this goal the School Committee is developing a data-driven inclusive stakeholder public relations plan that enhances collaboration.

Mashpee Public School leaders are very grateful for the opportunity we were given to attend the national RTI Innovations conference in October. This is a vendor-free, skills-focused conference "for doers by doers" during which effective practices in the implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) are shared. MMHS Principal Mark Balestracci and Director of Guidance/College & Career Readiness Lindsay Kett partnered to present two 90-minute workshops at the conference on implementing MTSS at the secondary level. Many additional tools and strategies returned with us to Mashpee.

Community Connections

The Coombs School is very grateful to be entering the third year of its Crewmates and Classmates program, a partnership with members of the United States Coast Guard. Through this collaboration, physical fitness and STEM learning are enhanced for our second graders. Pictured are (L-R) Principal Paul LaBelle, CWO Joseph Rohrer, AMT3 Matt Turcotte, Coombs PE Teacher Margie Mitchell, AET2 Daniel Todd, Lt. Michelle Simmons, AMT3 Maria Marino, and STEM teacher Katie Martin.

On October 30th, members of the Mashpee Public Schools' Leadership Team met with members of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe at the Tribal Government Center. This was the first of many meetings planned as follow-up to the School Committee meeting held on October 4th. At this meeting, we developed our vision: We envision a positive and productive partnership between the Mashpee Public Schools and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe that includes and values the Tribe's rich heritage and culture. Our mission statement is: In partnership, we advance the academic growth and social/emotional well-being of our Wampanoag students through an emphasis on culture-based education principles and practices. All Mashpee educators and students will continue to learn about the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's history and culture, resulting in expanded cultural knowledge and awareness.

Last Friday we held the inaugural meeting of our "Falcon Friends" a coalition of Mashpee Public School leaders and Mashpee community members. A "Falcon Friend" is a leader and influencer within the Mashpee community who, in partnership with school leaders, develops opportunities for growth, and communicates the

accomplishments and needs of the Mashpee Public Schools to the residents of Mashpee. The meeting took place in the Falcon Café at Mashpee Middle-High School after a brief tour that highlighted some of the outstanding programs available to our students. This group will be meeting quarterly. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 26th, from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM at the Coombs School. If you would like to join this group, please email pdeboer@mpspk12.org.

Following the October 20th tour of our schools by our Southport Falcons, we are now in the planning and coordinating phase of matching each Southport Falcon with a specific volunteer opportunity. We are very grateful for this new partnership and the possibilities it presents to enrich learning experiences for our students and to enrich the lives of all involved.

Congratulations to the Quashnet School for receiving the “Making a Difference” award from the Heroes in Transition Foundation at its 8th Annual Fall Gala held on November 3rd. Present at the gala to accept this award were William Chapman, Jocelyn Cohen, Gabriella Santos, and Maia Brainson—last year’s 6th grade student council officers. The Quashnet School reached its goal of raising \$14,000 to cover the cost of providing a PTSD service dog to a veteran.

Highlights

MMHS students Sydney Puchol, Caesar Hendricks, Cassie Baker, and Kobi Howerton, together with Counselor Deanne Almeida, recently participated in a day-long workshop called *Game Change: The Patriots Anti-Violence Partnership* at Gillette Stadium. *Game Change: The Patriots Anti-Violence Partnership* is an innovative approach to healthy relationship and violence prevention education. The program, launched in 2015 by the New England Patriots Charitable Foundation and the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, is providing training in anti-violence strategies to students, faculty, and coaches at public high schools across Massachusetts.

On October 20th, MMHS students Sarah McNamara and Madison Eagan, together with MMHS Social Studies Department Head Brian Brodie, participated in the Engaging Youth in Voter Participation workshop at Cape Cod Community College. About 30 participants from across Cape Cod brainstormed ideas for how to increase registration and voting rates among young people. Under a new Massachusetts law, students can preregister to vote as early as 16 years old. Sarah and Madison plan to use their senior project to focus on voter registration as well as to increase student awareness of current events. Thank you to the League of Women Voters for the Cape Cod area for sponsoring this event.

We are very proud of MMHS students Maxwell Burke, Bobby Nasuti, Shane LaCroix, and Zach Landry for sharing their knowledge and skills at the MassCUE conference held at Gillette Stadium on October 25th and 26th. Thank you Mr. Nocella, Mr. Looney, and Mrs. Hough for guiding these students in their learning.

Congratulations to the following MMHS seniors who have qualified for a John and Abigail Adams Scholarship which provides a tuition waiver for up to eight semesters of undergraduate education at a Massachusetts state college or university. To be eligible for the scholarship, students must score at the Advanced performance level on one of the three high school state assessment tests, and score at the Proficient level or higher on the remaining two high school state assessment tests, and have combined scores from the three tests that place them in the top 25 percent of students in the graduating class in their district. We are very proud of the following students: Ian Ahearn, Jack Baker, Chyla Bingham-Hendricks, Brooke Bridges, Maxwell Burke, Toren Burton, Brianna Cheatham, Sydney Costa, Rumen Dzhulev, Jaedyn Eurenus, Maia Fudala, Ashley Geiszler, Theodor Goisan, Myranda Goveia, Meghan Howard, Celia Krefter, Shane LaCroix, Nathan McCarthy, Kevin Pultz, Alexia Santos, Danielle Shay, Remi Shea, Grace Shinn, Joshua Vinitzky, and Grace Whipper.

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.

WHERE SHOULD YOU BE TONIGHT AT 7:00 PM? AT MASHPEE MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORTING OUR FOOTBALL TEAM AS THEY FACE ABINGTON IN THE DIVISION VII SOUTH TITLE GAME. GO FALCONS!

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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>

Town of Mashpee—Calendar of Events: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=02649>



