



Mashpee

A Connected Community

January 2019 Update

Superintendent Patricia DeBoer

It's GREAT to be in MASHPEE for you, for me, for us.



The Mashpee School community is heartbroken over the sudden passing of Mashpee Middle-High School teacher and coach Christopher Perkins. Mr. Perkins was an outstanding Mashpee Public Schools educator for over twenty years—highly valued and greatly respected by his colleagues and students. He cared about the success and well-being of each and every one of his students. He will be missed so very much. We send our thoughts, prayers, and love to his family. **Visiting hours are Friday, 1/11 from 3:00 – 7:00 PM at the John Lawrence Funeral Home on Route 28 in Marstons Mills.** A GoFundMe account has been established by his family to provide support for his two sons, Sam and Charlie, and also to establish a scholarship in Chris' name—Mr. Christopher "Perk" Perkins Legacy Fund:

<https://www.gofundme.com/mr-christopher-perk-perkins-legacy-fund>

Every day is precious. Together we can make 2019 a year of amazing moments! With the arrival of a new year comes a time to reflect on the past year and to make resolutions or goals for the future. People who set goals are more likely to succeed than people who do not. Setting a goal is about making a commitment in words, and words have the power to create a better future. Goals communicate, to ourselves and to others, the belief that we are capable of overcoming obstacles. For 2019, let's each commit to being a better version of our 2018 self.

We are very grateful to our caring "Connected Community" for the support provided to our Mashpee families in need during the holiday season. An amazing outpouring of generosity made the holidays brighter for so many families. It's great to be in Mashpee. Just a few of the very generous organizations that provided support to our families: Mashpee Police Department, Kiwanis of Mashpee, Residents of Southport, Salon 151—staff and customers.

Thank you also to community partner Botello Lumber Company for their generous donation of PVC pipe supplies. This gift will provide 130 fifth graders with the opportunity to design and build underwater rovers.

Attendance matters! As of today, we have completed 81 days or 45% of school year 18-19. If a student has been absent more than 8 days so far this year, he/she is considered to be chronically absent and academically at risk. Chronic absence is a powerful predictor of achievement because it measures the amount of instructional time a student has missed over the course of the school year. Research findings have documented the positive relationship between time and learning. Chronic absenteeism — missing 10 percent or more of a school year (18 days) for any reason—can translate into third-graders unable to master reading, sixth-graders failing subjects, and ninth-graders dropping out of high school. Absenteeism and its ill effects are cumulative and often start early. Students who experience poverty are four times more likely to be chronically absent than others often for reasons beyond their control, such as unstable housing, unreliable transportation, and a lack of access to health care. When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating. We will continue to work closely with each family to improve attendance with the shared goal of every student being present as many days as possible for the remaining 99 days of school year 18-19. For more information about the impact of student absenteeism on learning, please visit <https://www.attendanceworks.org>.

All are welcome to join us tonight at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Government Center to cheer on our MMHS boys' and girls' varsity basketball teams as they play Randolph. The girls' game begins at 5:00 PM, and the boys' game begins at 6:30 PM.

Coombs School Highlights

In STEM, our Coombs engineers were given a DESIGN CHALLENGE! After learning the basics about how and why skyscrapers are built, students worked in teams to design, build, test, and improve the tallest Jenga tower that will hold an apple on top without collapsing! Grade 2 students applied the Engineering Design

process and measured their towers to the nearest half inch using a tape measure. The concepts of gravity, force, columns, beams, and foundation were also introduced and investigated. This has been a great teamwork challenge as it involved taking turns, sharing and explaining ideas, and thinking outside of the box!

We are very excited about the collaboration between MMHS students and Coombs Students as they plan and create a miniature golf course that will be used during recess. Coombs students drew their ideas for each hole; MMHS technology and engineering students then refined the plans and constructed the components of each hole to match with the KCC students' shared vision. Students from both schools are involved in the painting and final details. We are excited about the upcoming shared experience of programming robots to successfully navigate their way through each hole.

Please join us on Thursday, January 24th, for our Math "Around the World" Family Night from 6:00 – 7:30 PM.

Quashnet School Highlights

Congratulations to the following Quashnet School educators who have been selected to receive Cape Cod Five Educational Foundation Mini-Grants: Kari Pons/Jamie Whiddon/Sean O'Connor; Greta McCue; Elizabeth Babich; Kris Hill/Alaina Boyd; Emily Pimental/Coleen Blount; Jessica Blackwell; Lucinda McKay. Cape Cod Five selected 105 projects to fund from 44 schools throughout Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, and Southeastern Massachusetts. The Quashnet School will receive a total of \$3,400 to support seven special projects. We are very appreciative of this community partner for helping us to provide enriched learning experiences for our students. All grant recipients have been invited to a reception at the Tilden Arts Center at Cape Cod Community College on January 16th at 4:00 PM.

Thank you to fifth grade teacher and National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) Advisor Elizabeth Babich for organizing last Monday's induction ceremony. This event was student-centered with powerful and meaningful messages for both the students and their families. The Quashnet Chapter of the NEHS welcomed 24 new members. Congratulations to fifth graders McKay Auger, Jack Borowski, Eve Catala, Andrew Flaherty, Deliyah Fortes, Rory Glen, Clara Gouveia-Silva, Makayla Johnson, Gavin Lakatos, Alex Malone, Qamar Mustafa, Theresa Provencher, Harlee Rohrer, Hayden Ruthven, and Michael Valois; and to sixth graders Sam Bartlett, Talia DiMaggio, Camden Frazier, Mariele Henley, Emma Kelley, Mackenzie O'Sullivan, Vincent Pinetti, Ayesha Shafi, and Paige Shvonski.

The Quashnet School renovation project is 99.6% complete. At this point, the contractor is addressing a very small number of punch-list items. We are very grateful to Principal MaryKate O'Brien, the staff and students at the Quashnet School, Department of Public Works Director Catherine Laurent and her staff, Town Manager Rodney Collins and his staff for working together on this project—a project that has created a beautiful and improved learning environment for our children. Thank you to the voters of Mashpee for supporting this project.

Mashpee Middle-High School

Congratulations to the MMHS Robotics Team who competed in the VEX Robotics Southern New England Qualifier last Saturday. Our Mashpee High School Robotics Team I took second place and has qualified for the New England Championship in Worcester on March 2nd and 3rd. We currently have three robotics teams—high school, middle-high school all girls, and middle school. All three teams will continue to compete hoping to qualify and advance to additional competitions. Our goal is to have all of our teams qualify for the Worlds in Kentucky. The teams will be competing again on Saturday, January 26th at North Andover High School and again in February. We would like to recognize that the success of our team would not be possible without the countless hours provided by parent volunteer and mentor Jon Ware and by MMHS teacher Amanda Hough. Members of our Robotics Team include Jamie Hughes, Katrina Mayen, Isabella Eagan, Samantha Rozum, Samantha Kersey, Colin Spencer, Nathan Ware, Samantha Morry, Callia Eaton, Jordan Willis, Richard Lucas, Robert O'Neill, Neil Howard, Camden Perry, Ethan Lu, Sean Ware, Mia Dermalid, and Andrew Kelly. Underlined students are members of the MHS Robotics Team I.

Congratulations to MMHS senior football player Xavier Gonsalves for being named to the "USA Today" All-USA Massachusetts First Team as a defensive lineman. Senior Devaun Ford was named to the "USA Today" All-USA Massachusetts Second Team as a defensive back. Both Xavier's and Devaun's selection came just days after they were named to the All-State Super 26 by the state football coaches' association.

Congratulations to MMHS senior and talented artist Jessica Dillis. Her artwork titled “Thorns and Roses” is among 74 artworks chosen for inclusion in the 2019 National Art Honor Society/National Junior Art Honor Society’s Juried Exhibition Virtual Gallery which will be showcased on the National Art Education Association’s website. The Virtual Gallery will be available for viewing beginning on January 28, 2019 at: <https://www.arteducators.org/opportunities/naea-studio-gallery-exhibitions/current-exhibitions>.

Thank you to MMHS teachers Kristen Deschamps and Aphrodite Purdy and some of our Art Club and Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) students for visiting the Royal Cotuit Nursing and Rehabilitation Center just before the holidays to spread holiday cheer. They sang to residents and worked with them to create holiday cards. We are looking forward to reuniting for some Valentine’s Day activities.

Please join us on Tuesday, January 15th for the MMHS Science Fair from 5:00 – 7:00 PM followed by the “Soup-for-the-Soul” Fundraiser and All-Instrumental Music concert.

There are many reasons to be proud of the Mashpee Public Schools. Our students continue to excel in every arena—in the classroom, on the athletic field, at conferences, at robotics competitions, in the arts, through extracurricular activities, and in their service to others. We are well resourced with highly-skilled and caring staff members, with instructional materials and technology, and with well-maintained facilities. Adding to this wealth is our positive partnership with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, our supportive Mashpee community, our families, and, of course, our wonderful students.

We are grateful for the opportunity we have been given to serve the families of Mashpee. A multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) framework is how we ensure 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.

PLEASE STOP IN AND VISIT US AT #WeAreMashpee, OUR OUTREACH SITE LOCATED AT 12 CENTRAL SQUARE AT THE MASHPEE COMMONS. Thank you to the Mashpee Commons for renewing our partnership for another year! We welcome Christina Ball as our new Outreach Coordinator. She is a Mashpee resident as well as a Mashpee graduate.

It’s GREAT to be in Mashpee for YOU, for ME, for US. We are a Connected Community.

STAY CONNECTED TO US

Mashpee Public Schools’ website: <http://www.mpspk12.org>

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MashpeePublicSchools/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mashpeepublicschools/>

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

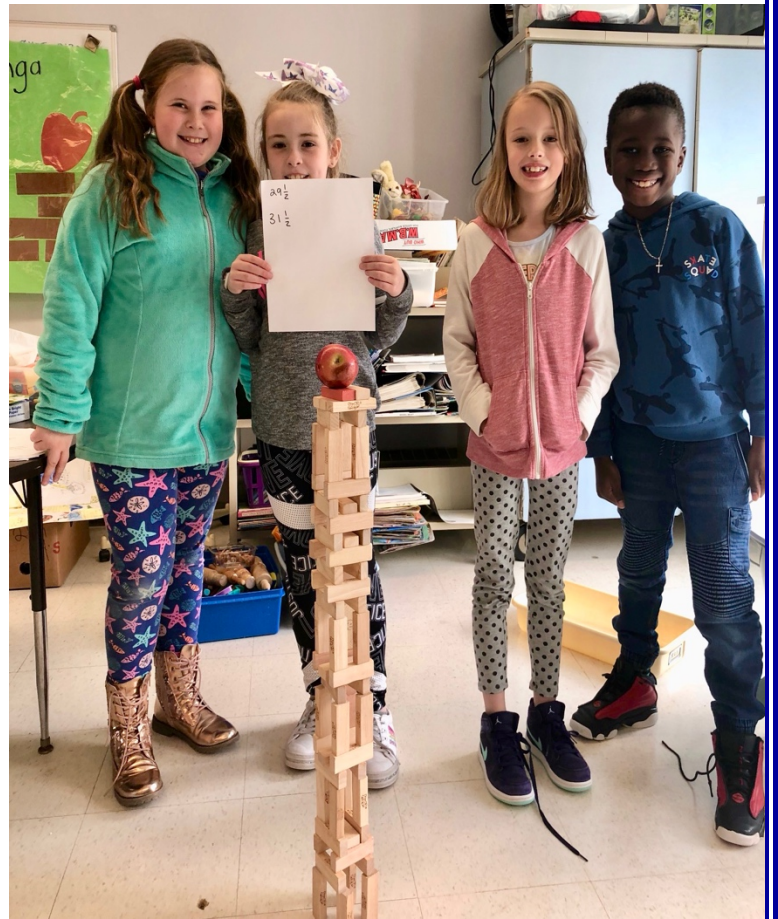
MMHS Online Newspaper—The Falconer: <https://www.thefalconer.net/>



MMHS Robotics Team Members: L – R Back Row—Jamie Hughes, Katrina Mayen, Isabella Eagan, Samantha Rozum, Samantha Kersey, Colin Spencer, Nathan Ware, Samantha Morry, Callia Eaton, Jordan Willis, Richard Lucas, L – R Front Row—Robert O’Neill, Neil Howard, Camden Perry, Ethan Lu, and Sean Ware (Not pictured: Mia Dermidal and Andrew Kelly)



MMHS Senior Jessica Dillis' artwork: "Thorns and Roses"



KCC—STEM Class: Caoimhe Assad, Lily Ross, Lorelei Coffey, and Nicholas Alade



This year's inductees into the Quashnet School's Chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society.