Memorandum

To: Albert G. Ganem Jr., Interim Superintendent of Schools
From: Cinthia D. Sykes, Principal, Boylston Elementary School
Date: February 6, 2025
Re: Report to School Committee

BES Highlights-February, 2025

1. **Academic Highlights**
    a. *After School Support:* In a wonderful collaboration between four Tahanto students and BES teachers, select 5th grade students and one 3rd grade student are receiving after-school support in Math and ELA. This dedicated group is generously giving their time to help strengthen core academic skills, build confidence, and provide valuable test-taking strategies. The BES teachers are offering this support on their own time, while the Tahanto students are volunteering to make a meaningful impact on younger learners. Beyond academic growth, this partnership provides the 5th graders with a unique opportunity to connect with older students and hear about the many amazing experiences and opportunities that await them as they transition to Tahanto. This mentorship fosters excitement and eases the transition, helping them feel more confident about the next step in their educational journey. This incredible opportunity was made possible through collaboration between BES and the administrative team at Tahanto, who reached out to the National Honor Society to gather volunteers. Their support helped bring this initiative to life.

    b. Chess Club: Sixteen BES students are participating in the Chess Club, an exciting enrichment opportunity designed to challenge and engage young minds around the game of chess. The club, led by Chess Wizards, has met three times so far, and the students have given it an enthusiastic thumbs up. BES provides the classroom space, allowing students to develop critical thinking and strategic skills in a fun and supportive environment.