Memorandum

To: Albert Ganem, Interim Superintendent of Schools
From: Lisa Sequeira, Principal, Tahanto Regional Middle High School
Date: April 8, 2025
Re: Report to School Committee

Tahanto Highlights

Dear School Committee Members,

I am pleased to share several outstanding achievements at Tahanto Regional Middle High School that exemplify our commitment to academic excellence, student leadership, and community engagement.

🌟 Annual MASC Conference (March 5-7) – Gold Council of Excellence & Top Ten Project Award
A special thank you to Danielle Rinker and Emily McCarthy for their exceptional leadership in guiding our Student Council delegation at the Massachusetts Association of Student Councils (MASC) conference in Hyannis, Massachusetts. Our Student Council was recognized with two prestigious honors: The Gold Council of Excellence and The Top Ten Project Award. This recognition reflects the dedication of our student leaders and their commitment to service, collaboration, and school spirit.

🌟 Model UN in 6th Grade Quest
Kudos to Mrs. Barry and Mr. Starsiak for designing and facilitating an impressive Model UN Simulation for our 6th-grade Quest students. Their efforts have provided a unique and academically rigorous opportunity for students to engage in high-level discourse, develop critical thinking skills, and navigate complex diplomatic processes. Witnessing our students confidently use academic language in simulated international negotiations was truly inspiring!

🌟 AP Literature at XIX Carter
A heartfelt thank you to Peter Doherty for creating an enriching learning experience that extends beyond the classroom. Through AP Literature discussions held at XIX Carter, students have built meaningful intergenerational connections within our community. This

initiative not only enhances their literary analysis skills but also fosters valuable conversations between generations.

🌟 **Spring Musical – Beetlejuice Jr.**
We are eagerly anticipating the opening night of *Beetlejuice Jr.* on April 11th at 6:00 PM, followed by two additional performances on April 12th at 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM. Our students and staff have been working tirelessly to bring this production to life, and we look forward to celebrating their hard work and creativity on stage.

🌟 **Successful Completion of ELA MCAS Assessments**
This past month, we successfully administered both the High School and Middle School ELA MCAS assessments. While the transition to the new testing platform has presented some minor differences for students, overall, the process went smoothly. These assessments are an essential tool for guiding instruction, allowing us to monitor student progress toward competency in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. As a school community, we must continue to emphasize the importance of these assessments in shaping our instructional practices and supporting student growth.

🌟 **Mind Matters Club & Guest Speaker Ashley Gustafson**
A special thank you goes to Ms. Dee Gardner and the Mind Matters Club for their coordination of this school-wide event. We are grateful for their commitment to supporting the social and emotional well-being of our students.

We also had the pleasure and privilege of welcoming Ashley Gustafson from *Navigating Through Quicksand* to present to each grade level. This was made possible through the generosity of our PTO! Ashley's engaging presentation on the *Power of Influence* encouraged our students to present themselves with confidence while recognizing the importance of surrounding themselves with people who will support them when times get tough. Ashley's message was not only thought-provoking but very inspiring! Her presentation perfectly captured the spirit of Maya Angelou's timeless words: *"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."*

Thank you for your ongoing support of our students and staff. We are proud of these achievements and remain committed to fostering a dynamic and engaging learning environment at Tahanto.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Sequeira, Tahanto Principal