

[Para traducción al español HAGA CLIC AQUÍ](#)

[Para tradução em português CLIQUE AQUI](#)

[Memodiksyon Kreyòl Ayisyen KLIKE ISIT](#)

[للترجمة العربية اضغط هن](#)



Medford Public Schools

489 Winthrop Street, Medford, Massachusetts 02155

Dr. Marice Edouard-Vincent, Superintendent of Schools

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, January 5, 2023

CONTACT:

Superintendent's Office

781-393-2442

superintendent@medford.k12.ma.us

Superintendent Edouard-Vincent announces Action Plan to ensure safety, transparency and accountability at Medford High School

MEDFORD, MA — Superintendent Marice Edouard-Vincent today announced a **Ten-Point Action Plan** to improve safety, enhance transparency, and strengthen relationships at Medford High School (MHS). The Action Plan is designed to address immediate issues related to student behavior as well as longer-term strategies to improve the culture and climate of the school.

“We are confident that the immediate steps we have taken and the steps we will take in the weeks ahead will result in dramatic changes to the culture and climate at Medford High School,” said Superintendent Edouard-Vincent. “The entire community is committed to giving our students the education they deserve in a safe, thriving learning environment.”

The components of the Ten-Point Action Plan (summarized on page 4) are as follows:

1. Assign an additional **School Resource Officer** to the building.

The Medford Police Department will deploy an additional full-time School Resource Officer to MHS for the remainder of this school year. *Tentative Implementation: January 3, 2023.*

2. Institute clear and consistent protocols for **bathroom occupancy and monitoring**.

Staff will be assigned to monitor every accessible student bathroom at MHS throughout the school day, and no more than two students will be permitted to enter at any time. A bathroom schedule has been created and will be posted throughout the school. Most bathrooms will be closed before and after school. *Implementation: January 3, 2023.*

3. Implement clear and consistent protocols for student **identification, check-in, and hallway presence**.

The school has adopted several new protocols to ensure students are in the right place at the right time throughout the school day, including:

- Students who arrive after the opening bell must check in at the main office.
- All students and staff will receive lanyards, beginning on January 17, and must display their school identification cards at all times.
- Hall passes will be granted on a more limited basis and will be color-coded to indicate where a student leaving class has been given permission to go.
- Students will receive progressive levels of discipline for each instance of cutting class.
- All students are required to remain on campus during the lunch period, and eat lunch only in the cafeteria, unless they have a support plan indicating otherwise.

Implementation: Starting January 2023.

4. Ensure all students and adults are aware of procedures related to **bullying** prevention, reporting, and investigation.

All MHS students and staff will receive reminders about district policy and state law pertaining to bullying. *Implementation: January 3-4, 2023.*

5. Establish an **Anonymous Reporting System** for reporting safety concerns.

The school district is partnering with Sandy Hook Promise to adopt its [“Say Something” anonymous reporting system](#), which enables any student or adult to submit a confidential tip via phone, computer, or mobile device, sharing information about concerns related to someone harming themselves or others. Students can also use this Anonymous Reporting System to report instances of hate speech or any other concerns within the school environment. *Implementation: Mid-January 2023.*

6. Update the **Student Handbook** to reflect changes in protocols and procedures.

The school will require every student and parent/guardian to sign an acknowledgment of receipt and agreement to adhere to all existing and revised school rules and regulations. *Implementation: January 2023.*

7. Remind families and students about the range of **counseling support services** available.

MHS has made counseling services available to support students who are dealing with trauma, anxiety, and other issues. The school also has a partnership with [Care Solace](#), which connects students and families to mental health resources.

Implementation: January 3, 2023.

8. Hire an **Administrative Consultant** to support the MHS administrative team.

The Superintendent has hired a school leadership consultant to provide additional support to the MHS principal and administrative team, with a particular focus on issues related to culture, climate, discipline, and safety, for the remainder of the school year. *Implementation: January 2023.*

9. Administer a **confidential school culture and climate survey** among all MHS students, parents/guardians, and staff.

The school district is partnering with [Panorama Education](#) to design and administer a confidential survey among all MHS constituents to gather perceptions and concerns related to school culture and climate, including specific information related to student behavior and safety issues. *Implementation: By February 2023.*

10. Post for and hire a dedicated **Communications Director** for the school district.

District leadership will draft a job posting for a proven communications professional who will design and execute a comprehensive communications plan that prioritizes the needs of the school communities and helps guide district leadership with day-to-day communications functions.

Implementation: By February 2023.

Dr. Edouard-Vincent noted that during the FY2024 budget process, she will recommend to the School Committee additional investments to improve the culture and climate at Medford High School.

###

Ten-Point Action Plan



MEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL

SAFETY • TRANSPARENCY • CULTURE • CLIMATE • ACCOUNTABILITY

January 2023

1	Assign an additional School Resource Officer to the building.
2	Institute clear and consistent protocols for bathroom occupancy and monitoring .
3	Implement clear and consistent protocols for student identification, check-in, and hallway presence .
4	Ensure all students and adults are aware of procedures related to bullying prevention, reporting, and investigation.
5	Establish an Anonymous Reporting System for reporting safety concerns.
6	Update the Student Handbook to reflect changes in protocols and procedures.
7	Remind families and students about the range of counseling support services available.
8	Hire an Administrative Consultant to support the MHS administrative team.
9	Administer a confidential school culture and climate survey among all MHS students, parents/guardians, and staff.
10	Post for and hire a dedicated Communications Director for the school district.

For additional details about the Action Plan, please visit www.mps02155.org.