

SUPERINTENDENT GOGUEN'S NEWSLETTER

September 3rd, 2021

Dear Students, Staff and Families,

The first week of school certainly has been a busy one, but we have all enjoyed seeing all our students for in-person learning this year!

First Day of School for PreK and Kindergarten:

Our teachers and staff are eager to meet our youngest learners on Tuesday, September 7th!

As a reminder there is no school on Monday, September 6th as it is Labor Day.

The student school hours are as follows:

Bartlett High	7:25 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Webster Middle	7:35 a.m. to 2:10 p.m.
Park Avenue Elementary	8:35 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

Social Emotional Supports:

As our students develop new routines for the new school year, like getting up and going to bed a bit earlier - it's important to remember that shifting from *summer fun schedules* to *school schedules* takes conscious work and time to develop.

Our school staff recognizes very quickly when students are having difficult times with transitioning back to school. If your child/children are struggling, our school counselors and nurses are here to help parents/guardians by offering some strategies that may help at home.

Curriculum and Instruction:

As we gear up for this wonderful new school year, our focus is on teaching grade level content and using student data to address learning loss. Principals and Instructional Leaders at each school are developing weekly, monthly and quarterly data points to use as evidence of student learning. We are working closely with the SSOS Team from DESE, and coaches from Hill Literacy and DESE through the Early Literacy and GLEAM Grants we received.



The goals of our Literacy Reset are:

1. To conduct a thorough needs assessment on literacy across the district
2. To support teachers and staff with the use of researched based curriculum
3. To train teachers and staff in the science of reading
4. To develop a district-wide cohesive Literacy Plan that ensures all students learn to read



Sports & Extra-curricular Activities:

We are fortunate to offer co-curricular clubs and athletic programming for our middle and high school students.

Last night Athletic Director Paranto held the Annual Chemical Health Awareness Program for athletes. Should you have missed it, or your child/children is just deciding today that they want to try sports please reach out to Mr. Paranto at tparanto@webster-schools.org.

There are some sports teams in need of more players!

Your Principals will be sharing the extra-curricular activities that will be offered at the middle and high schools in the next few weeks. These clubs are great ways to make new friends and develop skills and talents!

Before and After School Care at Park Avenue:

The Webster Public Schools Before and After School Program offers before and after school care for school age children from Kindergarten through Grade 6. Located at Park Avenue Elementary School. The program provides activities that will address the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional needs of all of the participants.

The Before and After School Program operates when school is in session. The program opens its doors for the morning session at 6:30 AM and will provide care until 8:20 AM each day. The afternoon session begins at 3:05 PM and runs until 6:00 PM daily. Fifth and sixth grade students are bussed at the end of their school day from Webster Middle School to Park Avenue Elementary School.

The Before and After School Program is a self-sustaining program, tuition is charged. Please contact the program for rates. We accept state vouchers. These child care vouchers are issued through Child Care Resources, An Affiliate of the Seven Hills Foundation in Worcester, MA.

A light, nutritious snack is available as part of the Before School Program for students who arrive before 7:15 AM and an afternoon snack will be provided as part of the After School Program.

ltaylor@webster-schools.org

dhealy@webster-schools.org

508-808-1887

21st Century After-School Program:

The Park Avenue Elementary School will operate the Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Centers - Supporting Additional Learning Time Grant at the Park Avenue Elementary School. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education 21st CCLC Program will serve students in the hours after school and during the summer. The program offers students in Kindergarten through the fourth grade the opportunity to improve their academic and social skills by making a connection to the school day learning through project based activities. School day concepts are reinforced through targeted academic instruction using high quality engaging curriculum. Students participate in physical fitness activity and a nutritious snack, lunch or dinner is served.

For more information please contact the Webster Public Schools 21st CCLC program.

kludwig@webster-schools.org

ltaylor@webster-schools.org

508-808-1887

Adult Education Program:

Webster Adult Basic Education *Linkages* is now enrolling for GED/HiSET classes! Daytime, evening, and remote options are available in Webster. Enrollment is on the spot, so don't delay...call today! Please contact Jenna Gouin for more information:

508-949-8282

Bartlett High School Renovation Project Update:

On August 25th, the Massachusetts School Building Authority Board voted to support us moving into the Preferred Schematic Design phase for the Bartlett Renovation Project!

This is an exciting time as the vision for advancing our educational programming and the redesign of spaces at Bartlett begins to morph into more specific and detailed plans. The next School Building Committee is September 16th at 6:00 p.m. and we continue to meet frequently with our OPM and Designer on this important phase of this project.

Open Houses/Save the Dates for In-Person meetings/More to come from Principals:

September 16th	Bartlett High School
September 23rd	Webster Middle School
September 30th	Park Avenue Elementary School



Enjoy the long weekend ahead,

Dr. Ruthann Petruno-Goguen, Superintendent