

THE NAVIGATOR

January Edition, 2020



Newsletter

This Newsletter is a monthly letter that will update on all matters connected to Cohasset Public Schools. This letter is sent as part of a District initiative focusing on communication.

Important Upcoming Events

Osgood & Deer Hill Read A Thons: 1.10.20 - 1.31.20

1/10/20 - Winter Semi-Formal 8:00 PM Town Hall

1/13/20-- Screenagers: The Next Chapter movie and panel discussion (6:30PM in the Middle and High School Auditorium

1/20/19--Martin Luther King Day...NO SCHOOL

1/20/20-- MLK Breakfast (9:00AM-11:00AM at St. Stephens Church)

1/21/20 - 1/23/20 - Semester Exams (early release for the HS)
1/24/20--The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind Day (Grade 6 Project-Based Learning Event)
1/24/20--Deck Out In Your Favorite Decade Spirit Day: Deer Hill
1/27/20 - 1/31/20 - Distractology (CHS)

School Start and Ending Times Confirmed for 2020 - 2021 School Year



The School Start and Ending Times for the 2020 - 2021 School Year have been confirmed. Below, please find the start and ending times that will be put into place for next year. Please note that the adoption of these start and ending times means that students K-5 will ride the buses together next year. Thank you to everyone who collaborated and provided voice during this process. In the upcoming months, further information will be shared about before and after school offerings, bus routes, bus stops and student drop-off and pick-up.

School	Total	Teacher Start Time	Student Start Time	Student End Time	Teacher End Time	Early Release
CHS	6 hours 40 minutes	8:15AM	8:15AM	2:55PM	2:55PM	12:30PM
CMS	6 hours 40 minutes	8:15AM	8:15AM	2:55PM	2:55PM	12:30PM
DHS	6 hours 30 minutes	9:05AM	9:05AM	3:25PM	3:35PM	1:15PM
JOS	6 hours 30 minutes	9:10AM	9:10AM	3:30PM	3:40PM	1:20PM

News Release



Cohasset Public Schools Placed on the College Board's 10th Annual AP® District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Student Access and Success

Cohasset Public Schools is one of 250 school districts in the U.S. and Canada being honored by the College Board with placement on the 10th Annual AP® District Honor Roll. To be included on the 10th Annual Honor Roll, Cohasset Public Schools had to, since 2017, increase the number of students participating in AP while also increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher. Reaching these goals shows that this district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP.

"I am so proud of the staff and their hard work in preparing the students and even more impressed with the effort and perseverance of the students", Cohasset Superintendent Dr. Patrick Sullivan.

National data from 2019 show that among American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students with a high degree of readiness for AP, only about half are participating. The first step to getting more of these students to participate is to give them access. Courses must be made available, gatekeeping must stop, and doors must be opened equitably. Cohasset Public Schools are committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds.

"With more students participating and succeeding in AP in this district, more students are getting a head start on college by earning college credit during high school," said Trevor Packer, senior vice president of AP and Instruction at the College Board. "We are pleased to honor the teachers and administrators who have worked to clear a path for more students of all backgrounds to advance through AP."

Helping more students learn at a higher level *and* earn higher AP scores is an objective of all members of the AP community, from AP teachers to district and school administrators to college professors. Many districts are experimenting with initiatives and strategies to see how they can expand access and improve student performance at the same time.

In 2019, more than 4,000 colleges and universities around the world received AP scores for college credit, advanced placement, or both, and/or consideration in the admissions process. Inclusion in the 10th Annual AP District Honor Roll is based on a review of three years of AP data, from 2017 to 2019, looking across 38 AP Exams, including world language and culture.

For inclusion on the 10th Annual AP District Honor Roll, districts must meet the following criteria:

- Increase participation/access to AP by at least 4% in large districts, at least 6% in medium districts, and at least 11% in small districts;
- Increase or maintain the percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students taking exams and increase or maintain the percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students scoring 3+ on at least one AP Exam; and
- Improve or maintain performance levels when comparing the 2019 percentage of students scoring a 3 or higher to the 2017 percentage, *unless* the district has already attained a performance level at which more than 70% of its AP students earn a 3 or higher.

When these outcomes have been achieved among an AP student population in which 30% or more are underrepresented minority students (American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander) and/or 30% or more are low-income

students (students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch), a symbol has been affixed to the district name to highlight this work.

CONGRATULATIONS, STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND LEADERS!

AP District Honor Roll

apcentral.collegeboard.org

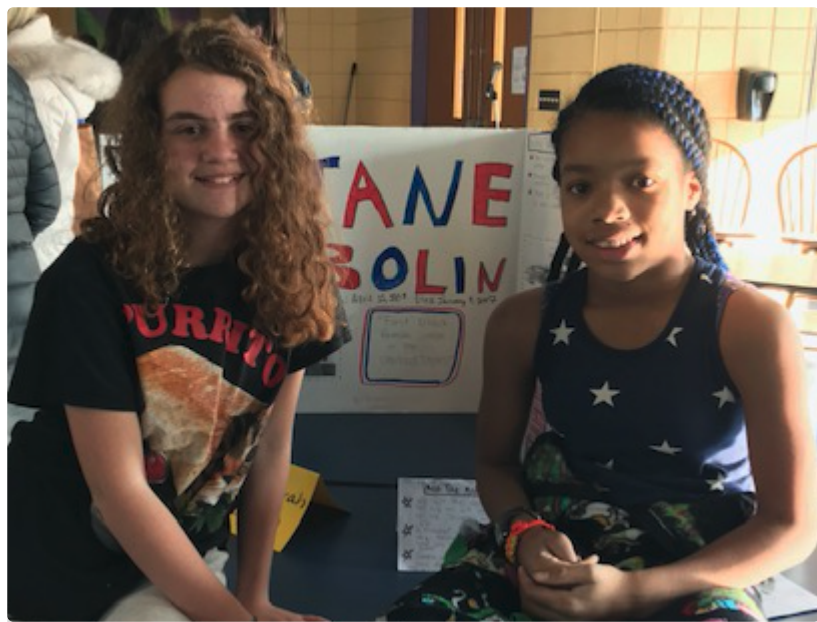
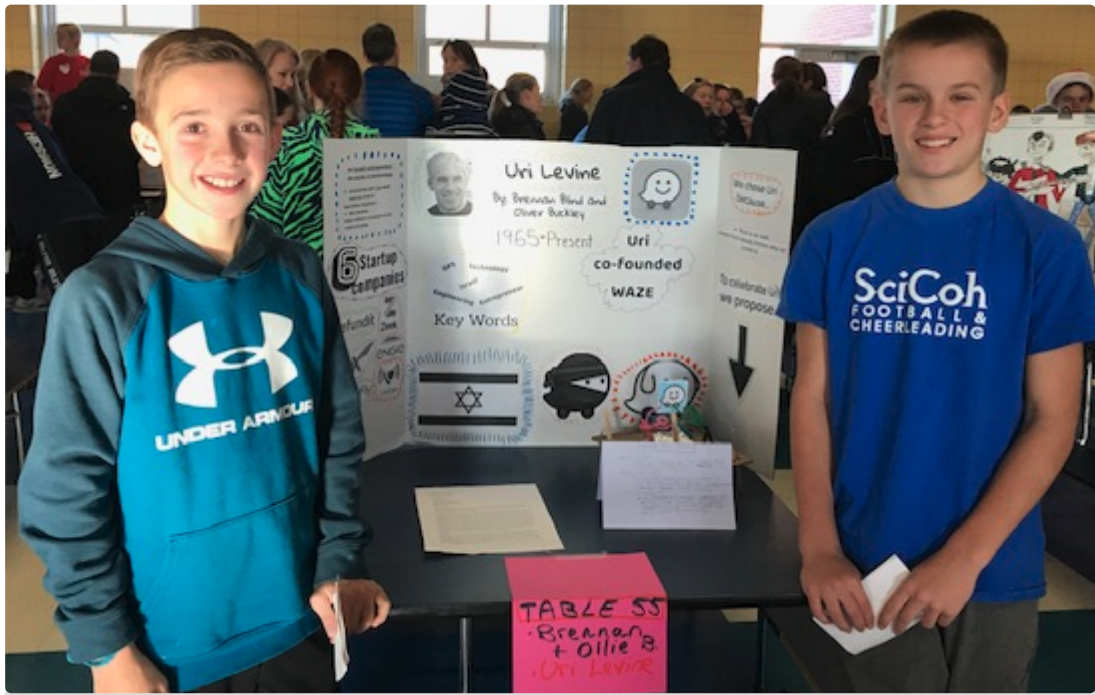
The AP District Honor Roll honors districts across the U.S. and Canada for increasing access to AP while maintaining or improving scores on AP Exams.

December Recap

Grade 7 Hidden Figures PBL Unit

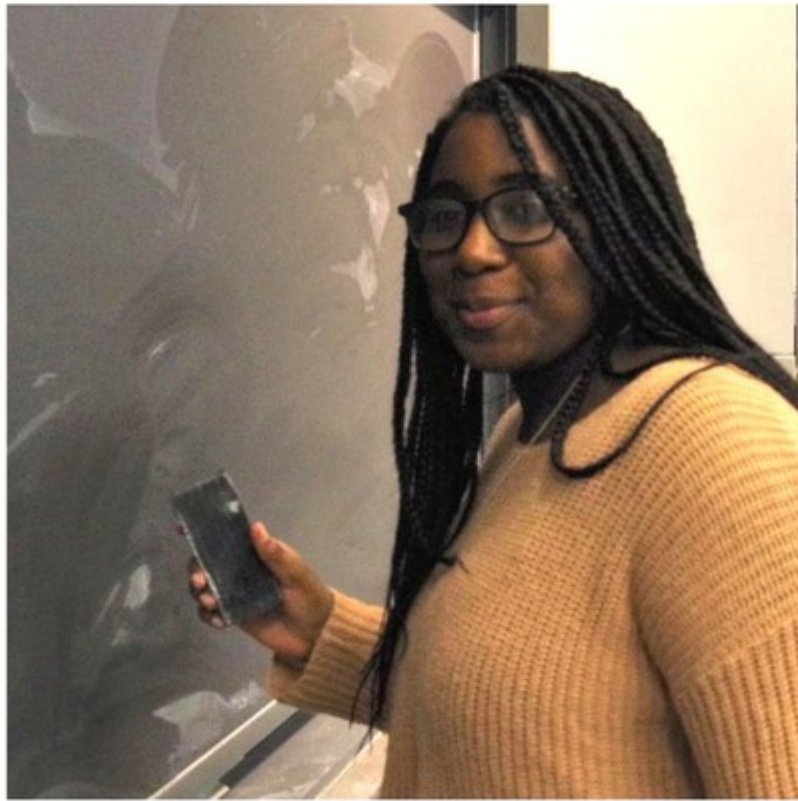
Just before winter break, Grade 7 hosted a Celebrating Hidden Figures Showcase. This was a culmination of a PBL unit which involved an interdisciplinary approach to Margot Lee Shetterly's book, [Hidden Figures](#). This unit began with a launch back in mid-November where students rotated through teach-lead workshops which were designed to deepen students' learning and heighten engagement by helping students discover cross-curricular connections. The workshop topics included moon lander challenge, REAL moon rocks from NASA, evaluation of gender demographics in STEM-related fields, and creating history for the future, just to name a few.

The students showcased their research and knowledge by reporting out on an "unknown" person who has had an impact in the world. Students Brennan and Oliver researched Uri Levine, the creator of WAZE and Maggie, Maddie and Grayson studied Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller who wrote countless songs for some of the largest names in music such as Elvis Presley and the Rolling Stones. This was a wonderful teaching and learning experience for students, staff and families. Great job, staff and students!



COHASSET METCO /BOSTON STUDENT ACES CALCULUS PROJECT

METCO students ace math test for Calculus Project



A number of METCO districts partner with The Calculus Project, a program that provides Black, Hispanic, and low-income students with intensive summer math courses to ensure they are prepared for STEM careers. Recently, two students in its peer teacher program achieved a significant milestone when they passed the Massachusetts Teachers Test for middle school math. **Aiko White** (Cohasset High School, *left*) earned a qualifying scores (alongside only a third of African-American test-takers), clearing one hurdle to become certified math teachers if they choose to become educators. Meanwhile, they are using their deepened math knowledge to provide younger METCO students with the experience of learning from a math expert who looks like them. Congratulations on your accomplishment, Aiko! You can learn more about The Calculus Project and BU Leadership Academy, and its founder **Dr. Adrian Mims** by **clicking on the link below**.

The Calculus Project -...

www.camb-ed.com

The Calculus Project (TCP) is a grassroots-style initiative to dramatically increase the number of students of color and low-income students who complete AP Calculus in high school.

METCO Directors Meeting Hosted by Cohasset and Aleisa-Gittens Carle

This past month, METCO Director Aleisa Gittens-Carle hosted all of the METCO Directors from across the state for their monthly METCO Directors' Meeting. Thank you, Aleisa for your efforts to help all of our students by leading this wonderful and important part of the Cohasset Public Schools.



Student Council and National Honor Society Students raise \$1,100 to benefit the Jimmy Fund by hosting a screening of Elf. Congratulations to the students and supportive adults who helped make this happen.



Thank you to high school students Kira Jameison and Evelyn Dickey for their work with the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids!



**THANK YOU, OSGOOD COMMUNITY FOR PARTNERING WITH
COHASSET POLICE TO "FILL A CRUISER" WITH TOYS FOR
TOYS FOR TOTS.**



**Fabulous Concerts Took Place just before winter break at
Osgood, Deer Hill, CMS and CHS. Thank you to our amazing
music and arts programs and to all who made these concerts
special for the students.**

Happy Hanukkah...Osgood First Grade



Let it Snow...Osgood Second Grade



"A Million Dreams"... Deer Hill Chorus



[Alexandra L. Sullivan ...](#)

twitter.com

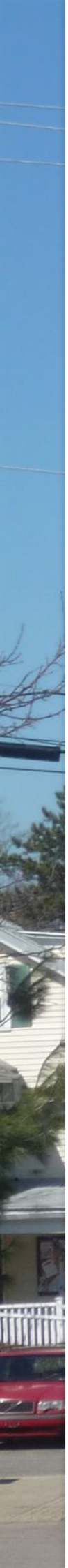
Mamma Mia...High School Choir



"Ain't No Sunshine When She's Gone" CHS Jazz



Here are a couple of the beautiful works of art displayed at the middle school art show and concert





Here is an encore performance from the over 200 middle school chorus students at last month's concert

"Believe"...Full Cohasset Middle School Chorus



Last month Our Deer Hill Lego Team Competed at UMASS Boston and our Middle and High School Robotics Teams Competed at WPI. Great job, students, Suzi Corkhum, Bob Erlandsen and everyone who helped out.





Middle School Robotics on Action



Middle School Math Competition with Scituate Middle School



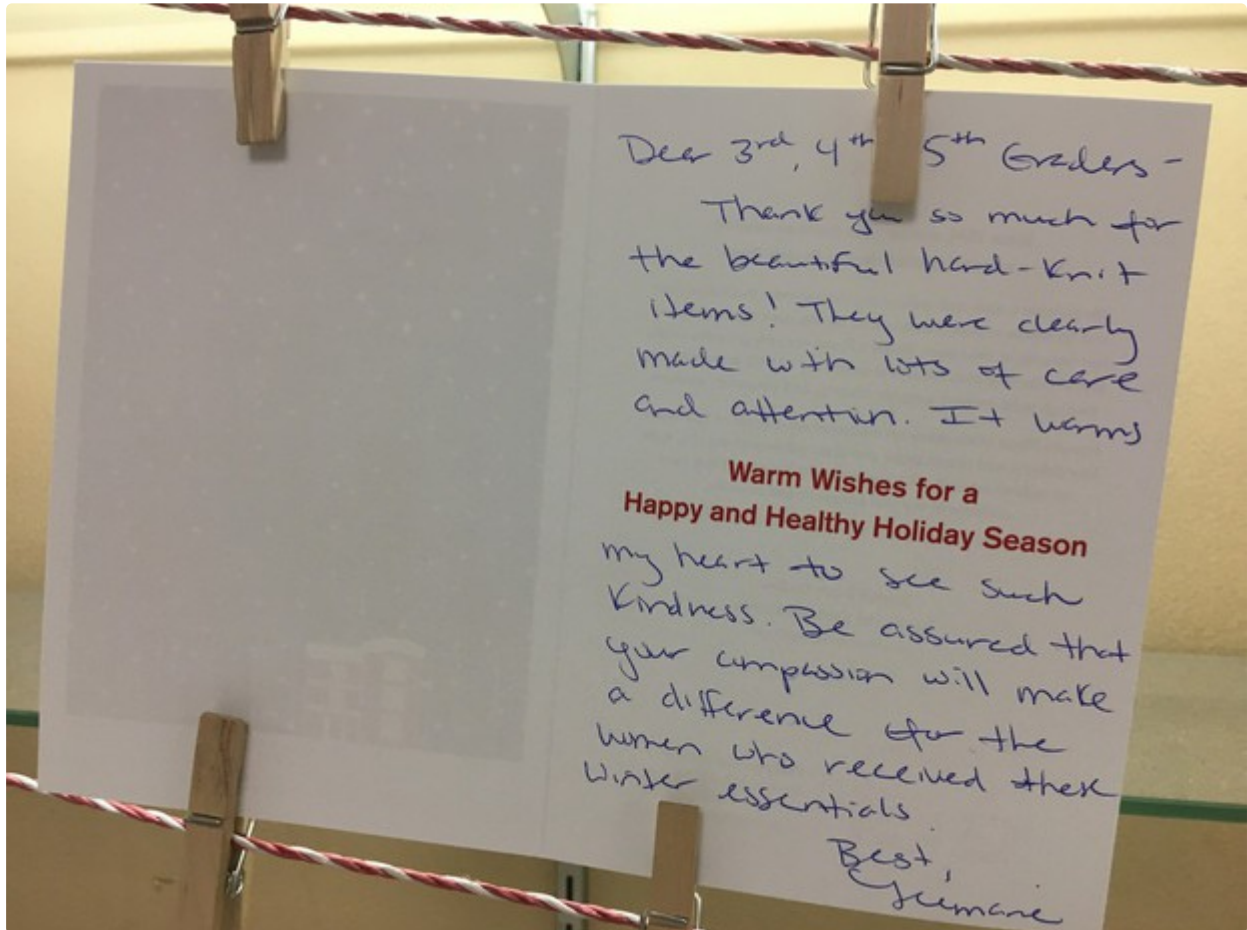
This past week "CMS mathletes" competed against Scituate Middle School in the first of what we hope to be many friendly competitions. This was a nice opportunity for our students to form friendships and

to celebrate their love for and learning of math. Thank you, CMS team for making this a reality for the students!



Rosie's Place

Deer Hill students continued a long tradition of knitting hats to donate to Rosie's Place. This past month, Mrs. Berman received a handwritten, heartfelt thank you from the director of this program. What a wonderful way for students to be recognized for the contributions to others. While the clothesline may currently be bare, students are already busily at work on hats for next years donation!



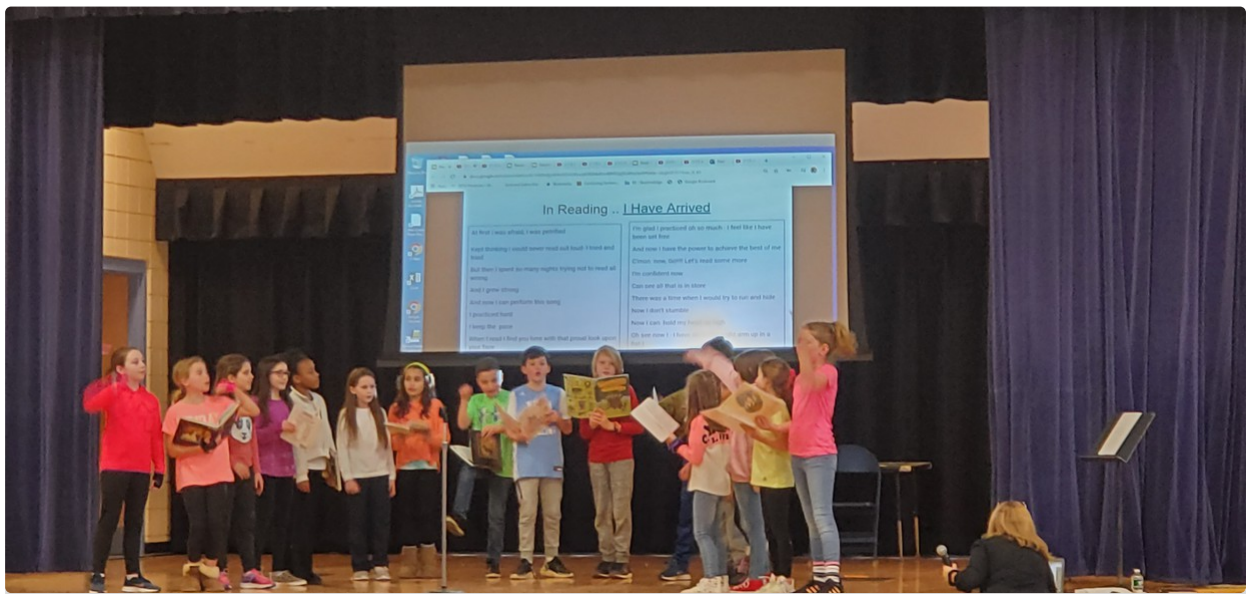


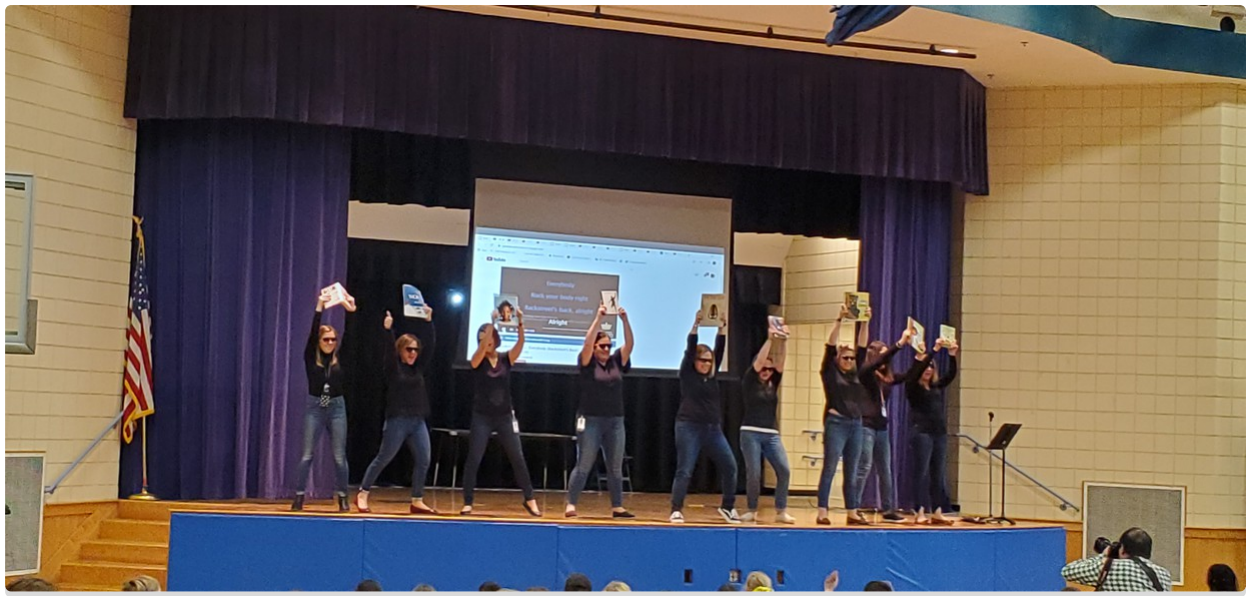
Winter Sports Teams off to an amazing start, including Wrestling winning the Annual Cohasset Wrestling Tournament





Read-A-Thon Kickoff at Osgood & Deer Hill. Thank you,
Students, Staff and PSO!







(In case you missed it) Challenge Day at Cohasset High School

On December 4, seniors (almost all of the class of 2020) participated in a meaningful event called Challenge Day. Challenge Day seeks to build a pathway to empathy by challenging participants to

embrace acceptance, allow forgiveness and to empathize with the common and differing experiences of those around them. The expert facilitators brought the students and the over 20 teachers and community members who volunteered through a variety of self-reflection, trust-building, and social awareness activities. This authentic experience allowed students to see the importance of Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) through an emphasis on the Collaborative of Academic and Social-Emotional Learning (CASEL) competencies (self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, relationship building and responsible decision making). It was one of the more powerful educational and social events I have experienced in my 23 years as an educator. Thank you to Challenge Day, Principal Scott, the CHS team, adult volunteers and students for making this ground-breaking and important day a reality for our students. I am confident that the personal and cultural benefits of this day will resonate throughout the CHS school community.



Challenge Day Statistics

Over 92% of students said that Challenge Day was important to do and 94% recommended that others do it as well. Below is a compilation of students who answered "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" to the following questions.

	Before Challenge Day	After Challenge Day	% Change
I am aware of what life is like for my schoolmates.	16.85%	80.90%	64.05%
I feel connected to the students and adults at my school.	24.72%	85.40%	60.68%
There are people at my school who understand my feelings or experiences.	26.96%	77.53%	50.57%
I feel I can be myself and freely express myself at school.	26.97%	70.79%	43.82%
I believe that I am not alone.	50.56%	91.01%	40.45%
I ask for help when I am having a hard time emotionally, academically or socially.	25.84%	62.92%	37.08%
I trust the adults and students at my school.	35.95%	73.03%	37.08%
I have tools to help me be aware of my feelings.	43.82%	78.65%	34.83%
There are adults and students at my school that I can talk to about my feelings and experiences.	40.45%	74.16%	33.71%
I have strategies to help me control my emotions and behaviors.	51.69%	83.15%	31.46%
My school is a supportive learning environment.	44.95%	74.16%	29.21%
I believe talking openly about my life is a helpful way to relieve stress.	51.69%	80.90%	29.21%
I feel empowered to influence change at my school, in my community and/or in the world.	61.79%	88.77%	26.98%
I am respected by, and offer respect to, everyone in my school community.	58.43%	85.40%	26.97%
I feel compassion and empathy for my schoolmates.	69.66%	95.51%	25.85%
I understand why people bully others.	55.06%	80.90%	25.84%
I actively contribute to making my school feel safe and inviting for everyone.	64.05%	89.88%	25.83%
I know that unexpressed emotions can lead to violence and self-harm.	74.16%	95.50%	21.34%
I have supportive and positive connections with friends, teachers and family.	70.79%	91.01%	20.22%
I feel confident in my ability to set and reach my goals.	60.68%	79.78%	19.10%
I understand the impact of my actions on others.	78.65%	95.50%	16.85%
I feel supported in making responsible decisions.	69.66%	83.14%	13.48%
I am accepting of people who are different from me.	95.50%	97.75%	2.25%

Other Important Information

OSGOOD PLAYGROUND TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF
THE SCHOOL YEAR (HOPEFULLY SOONER)



Here is a sketch of the playground.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Compass: Assistant Superintendent Leslie Scollins, Ed.D.

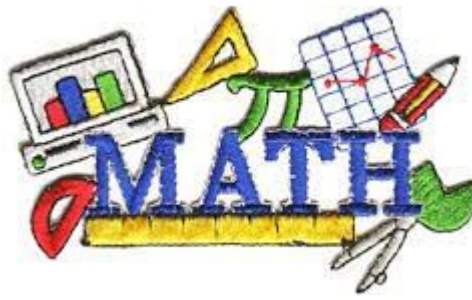


MCAS Presentation

MCAS

A presentation of the 2019 MCAS results was made at the December 18th School Committee meeting. It was an overview of the results and how we are using the data to inform our teaching and learning. Here is the link to the [MCAS presentation](#).

Elementary Math Pilot Update



The Elementary Math Textbook Adoption Process is in full swing. Teachers are teaching a unit from each program over the next few months. To help with the pilot, both companies provided professional development for the staff on December 13th 1/2 Day PD. Teachers received an overview of the programs and had the opportunity to ask questions.

On January 8th there was a presentation to update the School Committee on the Elementary Math Pilot process. There will also be a presentation at the Deer Hill PSO meeting on January 14th at 9:30am.



As you know, the District has implemented Learning Walks this year as a way to find trends and patterns to improve the teaching and learning. Learning Walks have taken place at both elementary schools and at the high school, and it has been a pleasure to see all the work of both staff and students. The Leadership team is excited to continue the process at the middle school later this month.

From the Office of Mary Buchanan, Director of Student Services

Student Services

Office of Student Service:

Peer Preschool Applications

Preschool Applications for morning and afternoon sessions are now available at the Office of Student Services or on Cohasset Public Schools website. There will be a lottery, if there are more students who register for preschool than seats available.

**From the Director of Finance and Operations...Michæl
MacMillan**



CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Special Town Meeting in November approved three school capital projects:

- - Upgrading the Middle School Entrance.
- - Purchasing a 7D vehicle for student transportation.
- - Replacing the Middle / High School Auditorium Projector

The work is now underway to select the vendors for these projects and to get the work done. However, we can't rest on our laurels as the process for selecting the capital projects to be voted on in the Spring Town Meeting is now underway. We started work on list this by touring each building to review the

condition of the building and it's major components, we have created a comprehensive list of items which are now prioritizing before we submit our requests to the Town Capital Committee.

Highlights of the list are roofs, classroom furniture and technology and repairing the CMHS sidewalks and roads and the Alumni Field and Track. Though not all of these will be tackled in this year.

FY 21 BUDGET PROCESS

Work has begun on the school budget for next year. We presented a "first pass" of the budget to School Committee at the December 18 School Committee Meeting.

The presentation from our recent Fiscal Forum is now posted on the website along with other important budget information. Please see below link.

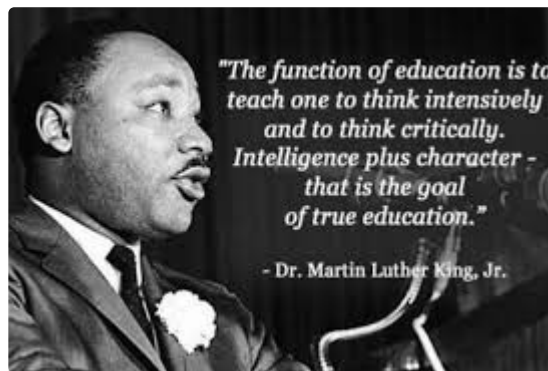
 **Business / Business ...**

www.cohassetk12.org



METCO UPDATE FROM METCO DIRECTOR MS. ALEISA GITTENS-CARLE

Save the Date:



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast
Monday, January 20, 2020
9:00AM - 11:00AM

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
16 Highland Avenue

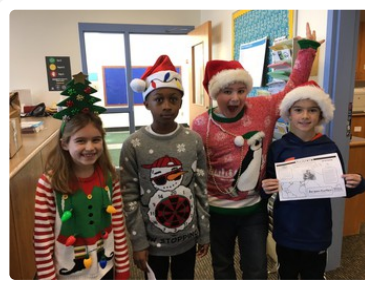
\$5.00 per person & \$15.00 per family

 **METCO / METCO**

www.cohassetk12.org

Feel free to contact Ms. Aleisa Gittens-Carle or Ms. Atisha Winslow at (781)383-6117 with any additional questions.

Holiday Fun



Cohasset High School Carolers

Cohasset High School Carolers





On Monday, January 13 at 6:30PM in the Middle and High School Auditorium, Safe Harbors and Cohasset PSO are collaborating to show ScreenAgers the Next Chapter. This film is shown in an effort to help students and parents of those students navigate the often stressful times in which we live. Please see the flyer below for information regarding tickets.

SAFE HARBOR COHASSET & COHASSET PSO PRESENT

SCREENAGERS **NEXT** CHAPTER

UNCOVERING SKILLS FOR STRESS RESILIENCE

JANUARY 13TH

6:30PM

COHASSET HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

HIGH STRESS, ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION ARE EXPERIENCED BY MILLIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE. WE FOLLOW PHYSICIAN AND FILMMAKER, DELANEY RUSTON, AS SHE DISCOVERS SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVED ADOLESCENT WELL-BEING IN THE DIGITAL AGE.

screenagersmovie.com

REGISTER FOR FREE TICKETS AT
WWW.SAFEHARBORCOHASSET.ORG

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SHARE EXPERIENCES · EXCHANGE PARENTING IDEAS · ASK QUESTIONS



Safe Harbor's
Monthly Parent Coffee
With Principal John Mills,
Cohasset Middle School
(Facilitated by Alison Bryan, LMHC)

January 22nd
9:15am

2nd Congregational Church
43 Highland Ave, Cohasset, MA

Seabird
COFFEE & CO.

Thank You To Our Friends at Seabird Coffee for
Providing the Coffee for our Monthly Coffee Hour!

WWW.SAFEHARBORCOHASSET.ORG

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PLEASE JOIN SAFE HARBOR & SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FOR A
FREE MOVIE NIGHT!

FEATURE FILM:
LOVE, SIMON

FRIDAY
JANUARY 24TH
6:45 PM-9:15 PM

FREE MOVIE

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
43 HIGHLAND AVE
COHASSET

STUDENTS GRADES 7-12

FREE POPCORN

WWW.SAFEHARBORCOHASSET.ORG

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SHARE EXPERIENCES · EXCHANGE PARENTING IDEAS · ASK QUESTIONS

Safe Harbor's
Monthly Parent Coffee
(Facilitated by Alison Bryan, LMHC)

Next Coffee:
January 29th
9:15am

2nd Congregational Church
43 Highland Ave, Cohasset, MA

Seabird
COFFEE & CO.

Thank You To Our Friends at Seabird Coffee for
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SAFE HARBOR COHASSET

COHASSET STUDENTS GRADES 7-12

AFTER SCHOOL HANGOUT

STARTING ON OCTOBER 7TH

MONDAYS
& TUESDAYS

AT PAUL PRATT
MEMORIAL
LIBRARY

2:00^{PM} - 5:00^{PM}

Come Hang With Your Friends &
Make New Ones. Computers, Music,
Books, Gaming, Board Games & More...



WWW.SAFEHARBORCOHASSET.ORG



We are excited for Cohasset's 250th Celebration





[Cohasset 250](#)

cohasset250.com

Happy New Year! We are excited for the tremendous year ahead for Cohasset Public Schools!



Please follow me on Twitter for daily updates from the Cohasset Public Schools

[@SuperCohasset](#)

psullivan@cohassetk12.org

[781 383 6111](tel:7813836111)

cohassetk12.org/

Follow me at Wordpress Superintendent Blog

