



# NBPS Newsflash

## January 2022

Happy New Year Team NBPS!

I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday break with family and friends and had an opportunity to rest and recharge for a great New Year.

As we begin 2022 and the spring semester, we have much to accomplish. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 virus and its variants remains a concern and at the forefront of our work. As we navigate this unprecedented third year of COVID, despite the weariness we are all experiencing, we should be confident that we will continue to address these challenges with the knowledge gained from what we have learned these last two years along with tools and strategies including proper mask wearing, hand washing, and Test and Stay that are constantly improving.

Based on CDC reports, the positivity rates are expected to continue to rise in the next few weeks. Thereafter, the situation will hopefully begin to improve. With ongoing vigilance and presence of mind, we will get through this together while we continue to focus on excellent teaching and learning.

With hope and optimism, the New Year beckons us to achieve our goals by creating an environment that fosters intellectual capacity – both physical and academic – one which will nurture the social and emotional well-being of all our students.

We look forward to upgrading technology and providing more professional development opportunities in both instructional and leadership areas. This will enable our NBPS team to build upon and expand ways to help students reach their maximum potential to succeed and staff to grow more confident and empowered as we support our students.

We are living in a time of tremendous challenge, but if we connect with another there are no limits to what our students and staff can achieve. If we continue to work together sharing what we know, successes and challenges, and collaborating as a team, NBPS will thrive.

Thank you for your compassion, commitment and dedication to the success of our students. Let us show kindness and compassion toward each other in our efforts to help them to continue to be great learners and good people.

Sincerely,

Thomas Anderson  
Superintendent



“The function of education is to teach one to think intensely and to think critically. Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Employee

Spotlight: 2

Food Services

Update: 3

MTEL Classes: 4

Future Whalers: 5

JET Program: 6

Mindfulness: 7

Notices: 8

# Employee Spotlight



## Ray Jackson

Special Education Tutor  
Congdon Elementary School



“Ray Jackson, a Special Education Tutor for Grades 3-5 at the Congdon Elementary School, has a strong belief that ALL students can achieve at high levels and works hard with every student to help them believe in themselves! In 2019, Mr. Jackson’s students with disabilities subgroup scored in the 97th percentile in the state MCAS. He is a big part of Congdon Elementary School becoming a National Blue Ribbon School. His biggest claim to fame are his skills at recess, especially his expertise at “Doctor Dodgeball.” Mr. Jackson brings a smile or a laugh to everyone in the school community. Whether he’s working with colleagues, students, families, or other staff, Mr. Jackson makes everyone feel happy and supported.”

– Justine Santos, Principal, Congdon Elementary School



## Yolanda Fields

Cafeteria Worker  
Alfred J. Gomes Elementary School



“Yolanda Fields, Cafeteria Worker, has been a staple in the A. J. Gomes Elementary School cafeteria for years. She manages and oversees all cafeteria functions. Ms. Fields prepares and serves the food. She makes sure the cafeteria is spotless before and after all lunch shifts and prepared for the next day. Ms. Fields always has a smile to share with the children as well as faculty and staff. She also performs her job with grace and professionalism and takes pride in her work each and every day. She is a joy to work with and a tremendous asset to the Alfred J. Gomes Elementary School food service team.”

– Ellyn Gallant, Principal, A.J. Gomes Elementary School

## ***FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES UPDATE***

### **NBPS Food and Nutrition Services Awarded “No Kid Hungry” Grant**

In partnership with the Marion Institute, NBPS Food and Nutrition Services has been granted funds through the No Kid Hungry organization for school year 2021—2022!



We plan to use the grant funds to host four community meetings throughout the winter and early spring at the following elementary schools:

**Gomes, Hayden McFadden, Carney and Pulaski Schools**

The goal for the meetings is to gather feedback from students and their families on recommendations for new, culturally-relevant menu items and community recipes. Next we will host celebratory, outdoor community dinners preparing and serving these recipes for students and their families! Any feedback will be collected and considered before serving the recipes district-wide on our regular school lunch menus.

Also, community dinners will take place in mid-late spring at the following elementary Schools:

**Jacobs, Hayden McFadden, Brooks, Pulaski**



Robert Shaheen, Director x14257  
[rshaheen@newbedfordschools.org](mailto:rshaheen@newbedfordschools.org)



# MASSACHUSETTS TESTS FOR EDUCATOR LICENSURE®



UMass Dartmouth will be hosting a series of MTEL preparation courses online this spring. **Cost: \$200 per course. NBPS teachers currently enrolled in the on-site UMD-NBPS MAT program can take any of these course free of charge.** All courses are open to the public. *Participants not currently enrolled at UMass Dartmouth may enroll through guest registration. See link below.*

### **PRD 571 Communications and Literacy Skills MTEL Preparation (test 01)**

Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> 9am-1pm register for section 7202 (class number 13984)

March 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 9am-1pm register for section 7201 (class number 13580)

April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 9am-1pm register for section 7203 (class number 13985)

### **PRD 572 Foundations of Reading MTEL Preparation (test 190)**

March 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 9am-1p register for section 7201 (class number 13581)

### **PRD 575 English as a Second Language (ESL) MTEL Preparation (test 54)**

Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> 9am-1pm register for section 7201 (class number 13986)

April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 9am-1pm register for section 7202 (class number 13987)

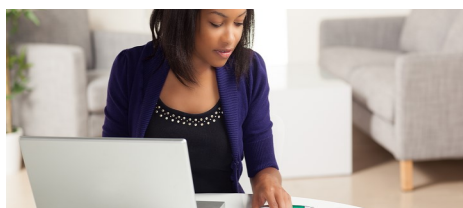
**Use the following link to access the course registration site:**

[https://www.umassd.edu/online/courses/?  
keyword=&subject=&courseDepartments=&courseSession=&courseType=Contin+Ed+Non+Credit](https://www.umassd.edu/online/courses/?keyword=&subject=&courseDepartments=&courseSession=&courseType=Contin+Ed+Non+Credit)

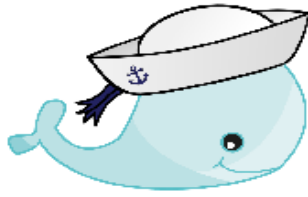
From the PRD 571, 572, or 575 course screen, click on the "+" to view course details

- click "add to cart"
- click "checkout"
- Select Checkout as a Guest student
- Enter name and email.
- Complete the registration form send to the email provided.
- Once the completed form is received, enrollment will be processed.

Questions can be directed to Traci Almeida, [talmeida@umassd.edu](mailto:talmeida@umassd.edu) or 508-999-8098.



# New Bedford Public Schools



## Future Whalers



### **Kindergarten Registration for School Year 2022/23**

Children born on or before August 31, 2017

By appointment only - from *January 24, 2022 to June 24, 2022*

### **Matrícula del Kínder para el año escolar 2022/23**

Los niños que nacieron el 31 de Agosto de 2017 ó antes

Solamente por cita - desde *el 24 de enero 2022 hasta 24 de junio 2022*

### **Matrícula do Jardim-Escola para o ano escolar 2022/23**

As crianças nascidas em 31 Agosto de 2017 ou antes

Somente com hora marcada - Desde *o dia 24 de Janeiro de 2022 até 24 de Junho de 2022*

### **Tz'ibaxik kech ak'lab 2022/23**

Chuw ak' lab' ke xi alxik xuquje' ik o pa ri ik 31 rech Agosto 2017

Chuw ri ruk pixab'anel tack'il-Kmajtik ri 24 rech ri Na'be' ik' 2022

*Kisik ri 24 rech ri Uwaq ik' 2022*

## **Family Registration Center**

**455 County Street, Room 106**

Call now! ;Llame ahora! Chame agora! Ch'abe'j chanem!

**(508) 997-4511 Ext. 14652 or 14653**



**Child Find!**

SCAN ME



[www.newbedfordschools.org](http://www.newbedfordschools.org)





## **JET 2022-2023 Recruitment**

[www.jetintoteaching.org](http://www.jetintoteaching.org)

**Are you a Massachusetts public school paraprofessional without a Bachelor's degree who wants to become a licensed teacher?**

**If so, the JET Program is for you!**

*"Without the JET Program this would have remained a secret dream in my heart. The grant made it possible to pay for school, but the Jet Program helped me finish the path." JET Participant*

**JET** provides a pathway to help you complete your Bachelor's degree, at little cost, and your Massachusetts teacher licensure.

**JET** supports the goals of building local teacher pipelines and developing an educator workforce that reflects the racial, cultural and linguistic diversity of students.

### **What JET can do for you**

- Mentor and support you through your bachelor's degree completion and teacher licensure
- Advise you on teacher pathway programs in Massachusetts colleges/universities
- Help you access financial aid available to Massachusetts paraprofessionals
- Connect you with a cohort of paraprofessionals on this journey to become a teacher
- Provide professional and career development learning opportunities

### **How JET works**

1. Apply online to the JET Program now through March 15, 2022 - two step process
  - a. Fill out the [Interest Form](#) or visit [www.jetintoteaching.org](http://www.jetintoteaching.org).
  - b. **If eligible**, You will be sent a JET application form.
2. Advisement April - June 2022
3. College Admissions
4. Financial Aid
  - a. **FAFSA** <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa> - Must be completed prior to applying for the state grant application below
  - b. **MA Paraprofessional Teacher Preparation Grant**  
<http://www.mass.edu/osfa/programs/teacherprep.asp>
5. Once admitted to college and approved for financial aid, enroll in classes for 2022 Fall Semester
6. Attend **JET** Orientations in June and August 2022
7. Participate in **JET** Mentoring and Support Program from September 2022 - June 2023

### **Eligibility for JET**

- Career goal of becoming a Massachusetts licensed teacher
- Seeking a Bachelor's degree
- Permanent resident of Massachusetts for at least 1 year prior to upcoming academic year
- Employed for 2+ years as a paraprofessional in a Massachusetts public school by June 30, 2022
- Have at least a 2.0 GPA in prior college coursework
- U.S. Citizen or non-citizen eligible under Title IV regulations
- Not in default of federal or state student education loans

**QUESTIONS - Please email [jetintoteaching@gmail.com](mailto:jetintoteaching@gmail.com)**



**Join Us in Practicing Mindfulness and Gaining Clarity**

## **POWER SCULPT**

A Health Improvement Yoga Class

**January 11<sup>th</sup>**

**4:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. ET**

- Power Sculpt is a yoga & HIIT fusion class. We add weights, cardio bursts, and dynamic exercises into our vinyasa flow to tone the entire body
- Think lunges, shoulder presses, squats, & more. We set the flow to a high energy playlist
- Come to class prepared to sweat, get your heart rate up, release endorphins, and grow stronger from the inside out

**Recommended props - yoga mat, a face towel, water & 2-3lb weights**

**(You can use a substitute for weights such a soup cans)**

Click control and link below simultaneously to register

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

To test the software prior to this webinar, go to: <https://zoom.us/test>



MASSACHUSETTS

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## PUBLIC COMMENT DEADLINE: Friday, January 7, 2022

Does New Bedford need another charter school drawing its funding from New Bedford Public Schools? Make your voice known. The deadline for written public comment is **today, Friday, Jan. 7, 2022**. Written comments are to be submitted via email to the Mass. Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education:

[charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu)

For more information on this charter's application, go to Massachusetts Department of Education Office of Charter Schools and School Redesign:

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/news/news.aspx?id=26618>



On Dec. 15, 2021, the state held a heavily attended public hearing on the ICS application at Kilburn Mill in New Bedford. If you were unable to attend, Jan. 7th is your last chance to weigh in on this important issue and its impact on NBPS.

New Bedford High School – Family Engagement Center

## WHALER'S ATTIC

EL ÁTICO DE NBHS WHALERS – O SÓTÃO DE NBHS WHALERS



### Resources – Recursos – Recursos

Clothes, Dry Foods, Backpacks, School Supplies, Toiletries.

Ropa, Alimentos Secos, Mochilas, Útiles Escolares, Artículos de Tocador.

Ropa, Alimentos Secos, Mochilas, Útiles Escolares, Artículos de Tocador.

### Attic Hours for Students

Horas del ático para estudiantes

Horário do sótão para estudantes

Tuesdays from 10:30-12:30

Martes de 10:30-12:30

Terças-feiras das 10h30 às 12h30



### Need something right away? Text Ms. Miller!

¿Necesitas algo de inmediato? ¡Envíe un mensaje de texto a la Sra. Miller!

Precisa de algo agora? Envie uma mensagem para a Sra. Miller!

Come see Ms. Miller at the Family Engagement Center or text her at 860-602-8611

Ven a ver a la Sra. Miller en la familia Engagement Center o envíe un mensaje de texto al 860-602-8611

Venha ver a Sra. Miller na Família Engagement Center ou envie uma mensagem para ela no 860-602-8611



## Winter Weather Notifications

Cancellations & Early Dismissals will be Posted on [www.newbedfordschools.org](http://www.newbedfordschools.org) and sent to the following media:

- NBPS Facebook/Twitter
- NB Cable Ed Channel 9
- New Bedford Guide
- NB Standard-Times
- TV4 WBZ Boston
- TV5 WCVB-TV Boston
- TV6 WLNE Providence
- TV7 WHDH-TV Boston
- TV10 WJAR Providence
- TV12 WPRI Providence
- TV25 WFX Boston
- WBZ 1030AM Boston
- WRKO-680AM Boston
- WSAR-1480AM Fall River
- WBSM-1420AM
- WFHN FUN107-FM Fairhaven