



NBPS Newsflash

April 2024

Greetings NBPS Team,

April is full of promise and expectation as all of nature’s beauty emerges anew. It is also when district budgets for next year emerge after months of planning. As we all know, the history of school budgets is a tale of challenging times and difficult decisions. In truth, that is not a bad thing. Clear budgeting and priority setting are challenges to be embraced to ensure the largest investment our city makes is well considered and well managed. In New Bedford, as we look ahead to next year, our pattern is to examine our enrollment trends, review state revenue trends, and make reasonable projections and forecasts, testing whether our current level of services align with these forecasts for what will be FY25.

For next year, the figure to keep in mind is \$251 million. That is our estimated local budget for FY25, which runs 7/1/24 to 6/30/25. This significant investment is divided in two main categories: personnel, goods and services.

The good news in recent years is that thanks to the advocacy of community members, educators and so many others, Massachusetts is in the midst of a six or seven-year process known as the Student Opportunity Act, whereby districts like New Bedford benefit from an improved and more equitable state funding formula. This additional, more stable and predictable funding allows us to present a balanced, forward-looking series of investments. The new formula better recognizes the costs associated with special education, English learner services, and actual employee costs.

You are of primary importance in this process. As I visit classrooms, I have seen firsthand that New Bedford educators are the best in the state. In addition, support staff in our schools, including para-educators, intervention specialists, those in coaching roles, and building leaders are daily dedicated to student support, with their eye on ensuring our students flourish, thrive, and grow all throughout the school year.

Budgeting is a year-round process, and I would be happy to hear any questions you have as we continually monitor and build our budget. Feel free to reach out and email superintendent@newbedfordschools.org with any general or specific inquiries about your school budget.

Sincerely,

Andrew O’Leary
Superintendent



April is Autism Awareness Month



*Courage doesn't
always roar.
Sometimes
courage is a
quiet voice at the
end of the day
saying "I will
try again
tomorrow."*

Mary Ann
Radmacher

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Employee Spotlight



Andrew DaCunha

Reading Specialist, Abraham Lincoln School



“Today, we shine the spotlight on an invaluable team member, Mr. Andrew DaCunha, our amazing Reading Specialist. With his passion for literacy and dedication to enhancing reading skills, he has been an instrumental asset to Lincoln School. Mr. DaCunha brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our team. His background in education, particularly in literacy instruction, has enabled him to make a significant impact on the lives of our students. Whether he's conducting assessments, developing personalized reading plans, or providing one-on-one support, he approaches each interaction with empathy, patience, and encouragement. Mr. DaCunha stays abreast of the latest research and best practices in literacy instruction, and readily shares his

insights with colleagues through professional development and collaboration with teachers. His willingness to share his expertise has enriched our team and contributed to our collective success. Beyond his contributions to Team Lincoln, Mr. DaCunha is also an adjunct professor for Regis College where he prepares current and future educators to increase their knowledge in literacy, while fostering a love for teaching along the way. Thank you, Mr. DaCunha, for all that you do.”

– Silvia Gamboa, Assistant Principal, Abraham Lincoln School



Carlos Perpetua

HCS Representative, PRAB



“It is with great pleasure we nominate Carlos Perpetua for the April 2024 Staff Spotlight. Carlos serves as Human Capital Services Representative in the HCS office at PRAB since joining the District from GNBVT in November of 2021. While Carlos’ work focuses on supporting staff based out of Facilities and PRAB as well as all staff at our Alternative Schools/Programs, he works tirelessly to ensure all staff, District wide, are assisted quickly when questions arise. In addition to these responsibilities Carlos also manages the Staff ID badge process, which has allowed many of our District staff the pleasure of meeting Carlos either in person or via email/phone. Carlos’ commitment to providing superior customer service to all District staff does not end there. He consistently works to go above and beyond for staff when they contact HCS with questions on benefits, changes to

their personal information and much more. Carlos is quick to step in to lend a hand to a colleague and to assist the District switchboard operator when needed. Nimue Washburn, a Lead HCS Representative, shared that “Carlos is constantly checking in with his team members to ensure they feel supported. When we are overwhelmed with work, Carlos offers to assist with our tasks and offers meaningful, genuine encouragement that uplifts our spirits. When I started, Carlos was there to answer every question, and it was his guidance that has truly allowed me to excel as an HCS Representative. No matter how difficult the day, we can always count on Carlos to put a smile on our faces.” Carlos’s positivity, approachable demeanor, sincerity, and commitment to serve others is truly commendable and he is a tremendous asset to New Bedford Public Schools. “

– Heather Emsley, Executive Director, Human Capital Services

Student Spotlight

NBHS Lexi Thompson 2024 Dave Cowens Awardee



Coach Jordan Pina and Lexi Thompson.
Photo courtesy: Ryan Feeney, Standard-Times

Lexi Thompson 2023-24 Stats: Points Steals Assists Rebounds 334 79 93 135 19.6 ppg (2nd in SEC) 4.6 spg (1st in SEC) 5.4 apg (1st in SEC) 7.9 rpg (5th in SEC) Points Steals Assists Rebounds 805 203 250 408 Career Stats: It is with great pleasure that New Bedford High School nominates Lexi Thompson as our 2024 Dave Cowens nominee. Over the last four seasons, Lexi has been an absolute pleasure to watch on the court, night-in and night-out. Whether it be her ability to get to the rim and score, create turnovers with her tenacious defense, or watch her set up her teammates for easy baskets, Lexi did it with confidence and

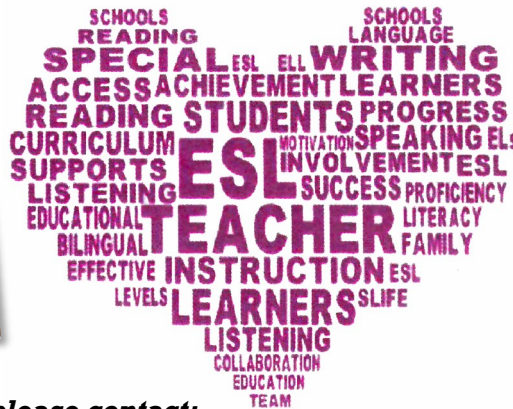
ease. Lexi is truly one of the most competitive girls to put on the Whaler red and white in quite some time. "As a four-year starter and two-year captain, Lexi was an integral part of our success during her career," said Coach Jordan Pina. "Lexi has totaled 35 wins including leading the Whalers to a 55-44 win over Brockton which was the schools first State tournament win in 12 years."

As a senior, Lexi took over the reins as the team's leader, and lead she did. Lexi scored a team high 334 points, produced 79 steals, handed out 93 assists, and gathered 135 rebounds. These stats led her to finish amongst the top of every major statistical category in a very competitive Southeastern Conference. Lexi finished 2nd in scoring, 1st in steals, 1st in assists, and 5th in rebounds. Lexi managed to accomplish these statistical feats all while missing two games due to an injury. In fitting Lexi fashion, she capped off her high school career with a 68-60 win over Old Rochester, a game in which she finished with 29 points, 9 steals, 8 assists, and 8 rebounds. Lexi departs New Bedford High with 805 Points, 203 steals, 250 assists and 408 rebounds, placing her 1st in each category since 2014. Lexi's career has earned her a spot on the *2023 Standard-Times Super Team*, and *2023* and *2024 SEC All-Star*. She will also be representing the Whalers once again in the Rick Jalbert All-Star Game at the Boys & Girls Club, a game in which she was last year's MVP. She has truly left her mark on this program and we are forever grateful for her contributions to the New Bedford High community. Lexi has also excelled academically. As a member of the Academy of Honors Program, she has maintained a 3.3 GPA and currently ranks 45th in a class of over 600 students. In addition to her academic achievements and her basketball accomplishments, Lexi is also a member of the Girls Lacrosse team and has volunteered her time with Unified Basketball and served as a youth coach during the Future of New Bedford Basketball program. Following graduation, Lexi remains undecided on where she will attend college but plans to major in Sports Management and minor in Psychology.

— Jordan Pina, NBHS Guidance Counselor; Coach, Girls Varsity Basketball

ESL Teacher Academies — Cohort 12

New Bedford Public Schools ESL ACADEMIES Cohort 12



For more information please contact:

Sonia Walmsley, 508-997-4511, ext. 14650

Heather Emsley, 508-997-4511, ext. 14350

**Is teaching English
Learner students in
your future? Welcome!**

New Bedford Public Schools offers an ESL Academies Program designed for teachers who seek to become licensed to teach English Learners (EL). New Bedford District also offers preparation for the ESL Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL), high quality district-based 150 hours *ESL Internship* to be met by the teachers who have passed the ESL MTEL, and special credit courses for a professional learning continuum and new licensure competencies on ESL instruction.

All our professional instructors are the Massachusetts Educators of ELs professional learning team: MATSOL (Massachusetts Association of Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages)

Important Note Prior to Commitment:
There are no make-up sessions for any of the courses or alternate make up work projects. Missing any date or session will mean missing substantial content. Therefore, participants **must attend all sessions** to receive PDPs or graduate credit. **Please ensure you can attend all sessions and times at the point of commitment. No exceptions.**

ESL TEST PREPARATION Course I

Overview of English as a Second Language (ESL) foundational knowledge, content, and skills. Review of English as a Second Language (054) test format and study tool development. This course is only open to participants who commit to the full two graduate courses of *New Foundations for Teaching ESL* and district-based ESL internship.

Module 1- Asynchronous online assignments due 5/9/24

Module 2-Thursday 5/9/24 Synchronous 3:45 pm -6:30 pm ZOOM

5/10/24 through 5/22/24 Asynchronous

Module 3- Thursday 5/23/24 Synchronous 3:45 pm -6:30 pm ZOOM

Module 4- Asynchronous online assignments due 6/6/24

Module 5-Thursday 6/6/24 Synchronous 3:45 pm-6:30 pm ZOOM

Certificate of Completion: Attendance at all course dates, and completion of all assignments will enable participants to earn 18 (MATSOL) PDPs.



BUILDING NEW FOUNDATIONS FOR TEACHING ESL Course II

This course will address the foundational competencies, knowledge, skills and subject matter of ESL teaching, the MA ESL licensure and subject-matter knowledge. Theory and research in first and second language acquisition; practical applications related to new roles of the ESL teacher and ESL instruction. Collaborative practices required of ESL and content teachers. Methodologies and development of materials for ESL curriculum, instruction and assessment. Instructional practices for academic language development.

Dates:

Friday, 9/20/24 4:00 pm-7:30 pm
Saturday, 9/21/24 8:30 am-4:15 pm

Friday, 11/1/24 4:00 pm -7:30 pm
Saturday, 11/2/24 8:30 am -4:15 pm

Friday, 12/6/24 4:00 pm -7:30 pm
Saturday 12/7/24 8:30 am -4:15 pm

Plus, online tasks to equal 36 hours

Graduate Credit Option and PDPs:

Graduate credit projected/pending. 3 graduate credits on a transcript translate into 67.5 PDPs per MA Recertification Regulations. For participants opting to earn a Certificate of Completion, 45 PDPs will be offered. (1 hour per PDP with final project). These courses are designed in concert with new Massachusetts Professional Development Standards and Indicators.

NEW FOUNDATIONS FOR TEACHING ESL WITH FOCUS ON LITERACY Course III

This course builds on Course II, focusing on theory and practice in literacy development in ESL instruction. Topics include: oracy; academic language development, reading and writing in a second language; disciplinary literacy and expectations associated with key academic practices across content; effects of first language; literacy on second language learning and literacy; instructional practices and tools to support literacy development of EL students.

Dates:

Friday, 2/7/25 4:00 pm -7:30 pm
Saturday, 2/8/25 8:30 am -4:15 pm

Friday, 3/7/25 4:00 pm-7:30 pm
Saturday, 3/8/25 8:30 am-4:15 pm

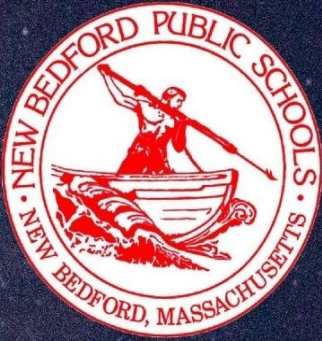
Friday, 4/4/25 4:00 pm-7:00 pm
Saturday, 4/5/25 8:30 am-4:15 pm

Plus, online tasks to equal 36 hours

Graduate Credit Option and PDPs:

Graduate credit projected/pending. 3 graduate credits on a transcript translate into 67.5 PDPs per Massachusetts Recertification Regulations. For participants opting to earn a Certificate of Completion, 45 PDPs will be offered.





Educator Job Fair!

Come join us:

Date: May 4, 2024

Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm

Location: Keith Middle School

225 Hathaway Blvd New Bedford, MA 02740

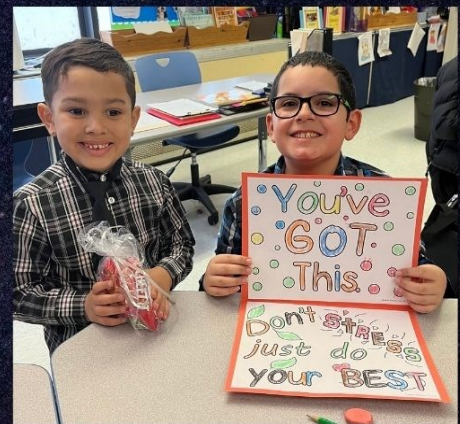
Educators who join our team qualify for:

- Course reimbursement
- Mentoring and induction program for new teachers
- NBPS paying 75% of your medical insurance plan.



On-Site Interviews:

Speak with Principals & Leaders
Arrange to tour our schools



SCAN
FOR
OPPORTUNITIES



For more information contact:

Kleidy Oliveira

Equity, Diversity and Recruitment Manager

Ksoliveira@NewBedfordSchools.org

508-997-4511 ext. 14351



Boston University School of Social Work

Join the Fall River Off-Campus Program and the Trauma, Violence and Justice Specialization for a Free Workshop



Highlighting the Hidden Intersection: Exploring the Connection between Trauma and Disability

with **Sara Rodrigues, DSW, LICSW**

Executive Director for Balanced Learning Center

BUSW Lecturer

April 10, 2024 | 12-1:30 pm (ET) | Zoom Webinar

1.5 Massachusetts social work CEUs pending

[Register Here](#)

This 90-minute workshop will explore the unique challenges faced by disabled individuals who have experienced trauma, including barriers to accessing supports and services and the potential for re-traumatization. Additionally, we will discuss trauma-informed approaches to care, including strategies for creating safe and inclusive environments, promotion of opportunities for empowerment and self-determination, and the development of intervention skills that can be used in direct practice.

You will also learn more about the [Fall River Off-Campus MSW Program](#) and the BUSW [Specialization in Trauma, Violence and Justice](#).

*This event is co-sponsored by the Fall River Off-Campus MSW Program and the Trauma, Violence and Justice Specialization as part of the Off-Campus and Hybrid Programs **Spring Workshop Series**.*



Dr. Rodrigues (she/her) is the Executive Director of Balanced Learning Center in Massachusetts and a lecturer at Boston University School of Social Work with over 20 years of experience working in diverse settings. Specializing in developmental clinical needs and disability justice issues, she is dedicated to building integrated, sustainable support teams based on wraparound principles that value the unique strengths and needs of each individual and family.



BSU Regional Center for Emergency License Holders

Bridgewater State University has been awarded substantial grant funding from the Department of Early and Secondary Education allowing educators possessing an emergency license to have the opportunity to earn an initial teaching license at no cost in one of the following fields.

- **Special Education, Moderate Disabilities PreK-8 or 5-12 (cohort model)**
- **Secondary Education (Biology, Chemistry, Dance, Earth and Space Science, English, History, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Spanish, Theater, Visual Arts)**
- **Early Childhood and Elementary Education**
- **Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages**

After completion of their licensure coursework and teaching practicum, candidates can move seamlessly into one of our MEd programs at BSU.

Candidates will take part in the following throughout their program:

- **Proactive and Appreciative advising for each participant**
- **Access to free MTEL preparation opportunities at BSU and free MTEL test vouchers**
- **Coursework leading to initial teaching license**
- **Participants will be able to use coursework towards their applicable MEd at BSU**

For more information:



THE NORMANDIN MIDDLE
SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB
PROUDLY PRESENTS

INTO THE WOODS JR.

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by JAMES LAPINE

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine

Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

Original Broadway Production by

Heidi Landesman Rocco Landesman Rick Steiner

M. Anthony Fisher Frederic H. Mayerson Jujamycn Theatres

Originally Produced by the Old Globe Theatre, San Diego, CA

\$

Admission
by Donation

April 10th & April 11th
7pm
Normandin Middle School

Director
Olivia Marques

Music Director
Stefanie LaFontaine

Choreographer
Elizabeth Fournier

Technical Director
Shea Lowney

Into the Woods JR. is presented through special arrangement with
and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, New York, NY
(212) 541-4684 mtishows.com

**The NBHS Drama Club and
Show Choir present**

Singing In The City

April 5&6 @ 7pm

April 7 @ 4pm

Double Bill! One ticket, Two shows!

Visit our.show/nbhsrevueandsix

For more information



SIX

THE MUSICAL

TEEN EDITION



This program is supported in part by a grant from the New Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

SIX: Teen Edition by Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss

SIX: TEEN EDITION is presented by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

Voices

from the history of New Bedford Public Schools

Ray Greene Huling (1847–1915)

Ray Greene Huling was New Bedford High School Principal from 1886 to 1893. During that time, he was one of the founders of the New England Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools, which changed its name in 1944 to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. (NEASC), today's gold standard of accreditation for "quality assurance and institutional improvement work" of high schools and colleges. New Bedford High School earned its reaccreditation in 2017. NBHS staff and students greatly admired Dr. Huling. In 1893, he left New Bedford, becoming Headmaster at Cambridge High School. He served NEACPS/NEASC as president and treasurer.

A published historian and recognized expert in pedagogical theory and practice, Dr. Huling lectured widely later in his career. In 1899, he became a lecturer on the organization and



management of schools at Harvard University; in 1900, he became an examiner and trustee at Boston University.

Dr. Huling served as president of the Massachusetts Teachers Association and was a member of the American Institute of Instruction, Madison Conference on History, New England Conference on History, and New England History Teachers Association, among others.

When institutions of high learning endeavor to achieve the highly sought NEASC Accreditation, it is a point of local pride that New Bedford High School had a role in its establishment through the work of its Principal, Dr. Ray Greene Huling.



new bedford
whaling museum

Enjoy a free family membership at the Whaling Museum



Students from DeValley Elementary School learning about whaling

The New Bedford Whaling Museum has extended **free family membership benefits** to all New Bedford Public Schools staff.

Just show your **school ID** at our Front Desk to receive **free admission** for you and your family (two adults and up to four children or grandchildren) all year round. As a member, you'll also enjoy **10% off in the museum store** (use the discount code MEM10) and **50% off ticketed public programs** (use the discount code NBTEACHER).

Sign up for our monthly newsletter to learn more about educational offerings, upcoming programs, current exhibits, and other membership benefits:

Newsletter Sign Up

Look for a letter that has all the membership details. Questions? Contact Victoria Hughes, Associate Director of Museum Learning
vhughes@whalingmuseum.org | (508) 717-6886



whalingmuseum.org | 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford | (508) 997-0046

NBPS Wraparound Services Event Calendar

April 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Wraparound Department- 455 County Street, New Bedford, MA (508) 997-4511 ext. 14154	2	3 COLLEGE BOUND SERIES CONT. 4/3 & 4/10 5:30-7PM AT NBHS	4 COLLEGE FAIR AT NBHS 11AM-2PM	5
8 GOMES PAINT NIGHT 4PM-6PM	9 SUMMER PROGRAM/ JOB FAIR AT NBHS! 5PM-7PM	10	11	12
15 Spring Break Begins!	16 CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!	17 QR CODE	18 BIRD	19 BIRD
22 PROM DRESS POP UP SHOP ALL WEEK @ NBHS BOOK CLUB AT JACOBS ELEMENTARY! 5PM-6PM	23 "ENOUGH IS ENOUGH" HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP SERIES ON ZOOM! 6PM-7PM	24 FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT NORMANDIN 5:30PM-7:30PM	25	26 LAST DAY OF PROM DRESS POP UP!
29 "I SEE YOU" SUPPORT GROUP ON ZOOM 6PM-7PM	30			