



NBPS Newsflash

February 2023

Greetings Team NBPS,

We all entered 2023 with joy, excitement, hope and optimism of what the new year would have in store for us. Little did we know that we would again be tested by the two tragic mass shootings in California (Monterey Park and Half Moon Bay) and by the horrific video of the police beating of an unarmed man in Memphis, TN. These situations weigh heavily on our hearts and our minds because they were senseless acts and that's not who we are as a community. They are far reaching because America is one large diverse community of overwhelmingly caring, compassionate and open-minded people.

These latest incidents are especially sensitive and touch me personally because my son Bryce attends college in Memphis. For my immediate and extended family, we have always been very sensitive to situations like the recent Memphis incident. We have been at a critical point for some time in our society and it is far too easy to TALK about equity and fairness, and kindness and compassion. The reality is that positive actions by individuals is the answer. I remain optimistic and operate under the belief that all minds have the capacity to shift and hearts have the ability to embrace change. I stay committed to positively impacting those within my sphere of influence.

I ask that we be honest with ourselves and routinely check who we are at our core. What do we stand for? Do others know what we stand for? People routinely ask me, "What keeps you up at night or what are your stressors?" In my reality, it is balancing what is most impactful versus what is believed to be important. I am committed to leading our school system of close to 13,000 students and their families, our 2,900 staff and the numerous community members in a fair and equitable manner with compassion, understanding, and dignity that cultivates thinking and fosters open mindedness.

It is unfortunate that violence has become commonplace in our daily lives. However, as the 8th largest school system in Massachusetts we will continue to aggressively address this issue, invest in proven supports, and implement strategies to better engage our students to promote overall health and well-being. Let's continue to be optimistic and ask of ourselves, and of those around us - what am I or what are we doing to make a positive impact on those within our sphere of influence? How do we communicate our thoughts and emotions on issues in a respectable manner to one another? We have so much to be hopeful for and each day presents a new opportunity to positively impact the lives of those around us. Let that not be a *special* act – but an *everyday* act embedded in who we are as individuals.

Please continue taking care of yourselves and one another. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Thomas Anderson
Superintendent



The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.

Helen Keller

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Employee Spotlight



Dan Viegas

TLS

Jacobs Elementary School



Dan Viegas is a “MVP”, his colleagues say “Dan Rocks!!!” He’s a ray of sunshine for both students and staff. The energy he brings to his work is unmatched and his optimistic attitude and the outstanding effort he puts forth make him wonderful to work with . He seems to do everything with grace and ease! I feel grounded by his calm demeanor. Dan is readily available to help, encourage, and support everyone. He embodies the meaning of hard work, dedication and teamwork and is a true believer in the potential and success of all students! He’s smart, caring and goes above and beyond. When students were asked about Mr. Viegas, they responded “He’s sweet, fun, kind, honest and respectful; He listens: He’s funny...he really is...especially his corny jokes; He loves turtles and snakes; He’s cool and smart: he’s the best!”

Tim McLaughlin, Principal, Jacobs Elementary School



Caroline Demers

Nurse

Thomas Rodman Elementary School

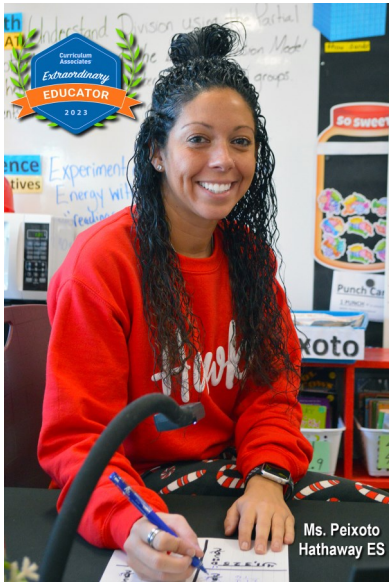
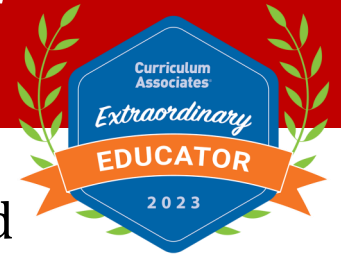


The Rodman School Community and NBPS are lucky to have Nurse Demers as a part of our team. Her professional knowledge, attention to detail, and willingness to do whatever it takes for students, families, and staff is amazing. Mrs. Demers has developed strong relationships with students and meets not only their health needs, but their social emotional needs as well. She has an uncanny ability to be wherever she is needed at a moment’s notice with an appropriate intervention or support. We thank you for all you do for our students, families and staff.

Amy Huston, Principal, Rodman Elementary School

Congratulations, Ms. Peixoto!

Hathaway School



Massachusetts Teacher Named To Curriculum Associates' 2023 Class of Extraordinary Educators

Jessica Peixoto of Ellen R. Hathaway School in New Bedford receives national recognition for her best-in-class teaching and use of educational programs.

North Billerica, MA, February 1, 2023 – Curriculum Associates has named Jessica Peixoto of Ellen R. Hathaway School in New Bedford, MA to its 2023 class of Extraordinary Educators, an annual program that celebrates and connects exemplar teachers in Grades K–8 from around the country. Chosen from hundreds of nominations, Peixoto is among 30 educators from 22 states selected for exhibiting best-in-class use of i-Ready®, i-Ready Classroom Mathematics, and/

or Ready®, illustrating growth and achievement via formal assessments, demonstrating innovation and engagement practices for students, being evangelists for high expectations and student achievement, championing equity, and having taught for at least two years.

“Teachers are true rockstars,” said Emily McCann, vice president of educator community at Curriculum Associates. “This year’s Extraordinary Educators are no exception—they were chosen from hundreds of nominations and represent the best of the best. We are happy to recognize and celebrate Jessica for her amazing work in the classroom and look forward to providing her with ongoing professional learning and networking opportunities to help her continue to grow her craft.”

With nearly 340 years of combined teaching experience, this year’s class of Extraordinary Educators includes classroom teachers, special education teachers, and instructional specialists. All of the educators were ultimately selected by an advisory board featuring leaders from Curriculum Associates, previously inducted Extraordinary Educators, and a college student pursuing a degree in urban education.

The Extraordinary Educators will have continued access to a network of peers from around the country to collaborate, connect, and learn from throughout the year as well as access to professional development opportunities from Curriculum Associates. They will also be invited to participate and present at the Extraordinary Educators Leadership Summit and other professional learning events.

“I am excited to be named an Extraordinary Educator because success matters to me,” said Peixoto. “I have always made sure that I instill and invest the drive to succeed in all my students and to their academic ability. I’m looking forward to learning more about data-driven insights and to engaging and investing in my students’ learning at their highest level.”

This is the fourth year of the Extraordinary Educators program. This year’s class joins 110 additional educators from across the country in receiving this recognition.

Today, Curriculum Associates’ programs are used in two-thirds of Massachusetts school districts.

FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES

UPDATE



FNS School Garden Coordinator

Starting in September 2022, Food and Nutrition Services has filled a new position for a school garden coordinator! Beth Andrews, retired 5th grade special education teacher at Hayden McFadden as of June '22, has filled the position. She has long been involved in the school garden at Hayden McFadden, running the school garden club for 20 years while helping care for the indoor garden in the school's greenhouse.

In this current role Beth implements the Grow Education curriculum developed by the Marion Institute in 6 elementary schools:

- Hayden McFadden
- Alfred J. Gomes
- Carlos Pacheco
- Ellen R. Hathaway
- Thomas R. Rodman
- Irwin M. Jacobs

The primary focus of this curriculum is third grade; however, depending on the needs of each school, she also works with a fourth grade and several second grade classrooms.

When asked what her favorite part of her current role is, Beth replied, "I thoroughly enjoy the teaching process. The students are eager to learn and look forward to the programming I provide." We are delighted to welcome Beth to the Food and Nutrition Services team!

If you are interested in volunteering in your school's garden during the school year or summer, please contact Beth Andrews at bandrews@newbedfordschools.org.



School garden lessons

Robert Shaheen, Director x14257
rshaheen@newbedfordschools.org

Student Spotlight

Congratulations MLK Creative Expression Winners

Avaleeno Donnelly, 1st Place, Poetry, Keith Middle School

Isabella Lima, 1st Place Art, Roosevelt Middle School

Jaslene Quinonez, 1st Place Essay, Roosevelt Middle School (L-R)

They addressed the audience at the City of New Bedford's Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Community Program, representing their respective schools admirably. Well done!



The Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther
King Jr. Day Community Program
"Opening Doors - Creating a Life's Blueprint"



Avaleeno Donnelly
First Place, Poetry



Isabella Lima
First Place, Art



Jaslene Quinonez
First Place, Essay



MTRS employer news



Working after retirement limits are reinstated

As of December 31, 2022, the suspension of the post-retirement hours and earnings limits has expired.

If your district employs retired members of the MTRS or another Massachusetts contributory retirement system, the standard hours and earnings limitations are back in effect for 2023. Please remember, it is the shared responsibility of your employee and you to ensure that the hours and earnings do not exceed the limitations for post-retirement public employment.

For detailed information about these limitations, please visit our webpage on [rehiring a MA public retiree](#). Additionally, you can use the [Retiree Earnings Limit Calculator](#) available in MyTRS to ensure these limitations are not exceeded.

Questions?

Please contact your assigned [Employer Services representative](#).

Community Corner

Volunteers are needed throughout our commu-

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

We create real change

YWCA works every day to eliminate racism and empower women. Through advocacy and local programming, we create real change for women, families and communities.



Racial Justice



Empowerment



Health & Safety

The YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts was founded in 1911. Our Mission speaks to the elimination of racism and the empowerment of women. The organization has undergone major changes nationally, regionally and locally, but it continues "to create opportunities for women's growth, leadership and power." The YWCA adopted its One Imperative in 1970, "to thrust its collective power toward the elimination of racism wherever it exists and by any means necessary." We continue to work to that goal internally and throughout our service area. Our Board of Directors and staff reflect the diversity of the area with a concentrated effort to have many locales served.

The YWCA helps women, girls and their families attain self-sufficiency by providing services to support the vast needs of people from numerous populations.

The YWCA appreciates the generosity of the volunteers/interns that take their time to make a difference to the lives of the women, girls and families we serve.

To volunteer, please go to <https://ywcasema.org/volunteer/>

Or reach out to info@ywcasema.org for more information

**NBPS District Goal #4 – "Increase awareness of staff to the benefits, partnerships, and opportunities to become a bigger part of the greater New Bedford Community."*

CELEBRATE BLACK EXCELLENCE



GUEST SPEAKERS

CALIPH
WILSON
CARVALHO
SHIANNE
COSTA



EMCEE: CHARLIE
PERRY



MELISSA
COSTA
MICHAEL
MONTEIRO
EVENT PRODUCER:
JONNA ALGARIN



HOSTED BY:
DJ FRESCO

Keith Middle
School
6pm-8pm

**THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 16TH**

BUYBLACK NB



SCAN TO
RESERVE YOUR
SEAT LIMITED
TICKETS
AVAILABLE



NBPS Wraparound Services Event Calendar

February 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<p>SCAN FOR OUR WEBSITE!</p> 		1	<p>2 HAYMAC PACE CAFE 10AM-11AM *REGISTRATION REQUIRED*</p> <p>KEITH IAC- APPLYING FOR A LICENSE 4PM-5:30PM</p>	3
6	<p>7 GOMES SCHOOL- TAX ASSISTANCE 10AM-12PM</p>	8	<p>9 ROOSEVELT- "SHARE THE LOVE" EVENT. 4PM-6PM</p> <p>KEITH TAX ASSISTANCE 4PM-5:30PM</p>	10
<p>13 KEITH- UNITED WAY PAINT NIGHT 4PM-6PM</p>	<p>14 <i>Happy valentine's day</i></p>	<p>15 HAYMAC "VALEN-SLIME" EVENT- MAKE SLIME WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY! 4PM-6PM</p>	<p>16 CELEBRATE BLACK EXCELLENCE- KEITH MIDDLE SCHOOL 6PM-8PM</p>	17
<p>20 FEBRUARY VACATION BEGINS!</p>				
<p>27 Wraparound Department- 455 County Street, New Bedford, MA</p>	<p>28 GOMES BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION 1PM-3PM</p> <p>EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION RESOURCE FAIR AT KEITH 4PM-6PM</p>	<p>28 JACOBS "VALEN- SLIME" EVENT- MAKE SLIME WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY! 5PM-7PM</p>	<p>(508) 997-4511 ext. 14154</p> 	

WRAPAROUND SERVICES
Family Engagement • Student Success

NBPS Wraparound Services Event Calendar

February 2023

CELEBRATE BLACK EXCELLENCE

FEBRUARY 16TH 5PM-6PM

We invite you to come and join us as we celebrate black excellence in New Bedford!



SCAN TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS!

SNAP & HOUSING

Keith Middle School & NBHS-
Tuesdays 1:30pm-4pm
Roosevelt Middle School-
Thursdays 1:30pm-4pm
Hayden McFadden - Tuesdays
10:30am-12:30pm
Normandin - Tuesdays 8am-10am
Gomes School- Thursdays 8am-10am
JACOBS- Thursdays 10:30am-12:30pm

DO YOU NEED ESSENTIALS DURING FEBRUARY BREAK?

Scan the QR code below to find local food pantries and services!



COMPUTER CLASSES

NBHS- February 9th & 16th 10am-12pm
Normandin Middle- Every Tuesday 12-1pm
Roosevelt Middle- February 14th & 28th 10am-12pm
Hayden McFadden - February 13th & 27th 2pm-3pm
JACOBS- Fridays 8:30am-9:30am
Gomes- February 15th
*8:00am-9:00am/*12:00pm-1:00pm/2:00pm-3:00pm

WOMEN'S CENTER OPEN HOURS

Hayden McFadden - FEB 9th 9am-10am
Gomes School- FEB 14th 1pm-2pm
ON CALL
JACOBS- FEB 7th 2:30pm-3:30pm

NBHS- FEB 16th 10:30am-11:30am
Keith Middle School- FEB 16th 9am-10am
Normandin Middle School- FEB 9th 10:30am-11:30am
Roosevelt Middle School- FEB 7th 1pm-2pm

Wraparound Department- 455 County Street, New Bedford, MA (508) 997-4511 ext. 14154



Winter Weather Notifications

Cancellations & Early Dismissals will be Posted on 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 WFXT Boston
- WBZ 1030AM Boston
- WRKO-680AM Boston

- WSAR-1480AM Fall River
- WBSM-1420AM
- WFHN FUN107-FM Fairhaven

