

Randolph Public Schools
"Building Tomorrow, Today"



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MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
 MAY 13, 2016

"Public sentiment is everything. With public sentiment, nothing can fail. Without it, nothing can succeed."

- Abraham Lincoln

Greetings Randolph Public Schools Parents and Community,

It's hard to believe that we are close to ending another excellent year in Randolph Public Schools, but it's refreshing to know that the warm weather is here and summer is around the corner. The class of 2016 will graduate in three weeks and will wow the world with their talents.

Over the last two years we have continued to intensify our focus on increasing student achievement by implementing targeted supports for students on all levels and interventions for those who need it the most.

Our most recent benchmark assessment data (NWEA), illustrates that our students are continuing to grow from year to year. Each school demonstrated success in ELA and Math in multiple grades. These targeted areas are being analyzed so that principals can continue to enhance classroom instruction by adjusting supports for individual students. As you can see in the snap shot charts below, we are moving in a positive direction.

Elementary: Grades K – 5 growth (2015 to 2016)	
MATH	RPS Overall 5% increase from 2015
ELA	RPS 10% overall growth in Kindergarten from 2015
Secondary: Grades 6 – 12 growth (2015 to 2016)	
Math	RPS Overall: 14% increase from 2015
ELA	RPS Overall: 10% increase from 2015

RPS GOALS

- 1: Enhance the Teaching and Learning Process
- 2: Improve Accountability Structures
- 3: Increase the Quality of Engagement
- 4: Human Capital Management

As we are being more strategic in supporting staff to increase their capacity and strengthening the overall teaching and learning process, we have made some decisions to ensure we can sustain the quality of our supports and overall programs.

Non-Discrimination Policy

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We are almost through the FY2017 Budget process and your support and understanding of the process has been excellent. We continue to be responsible and make choices that will benefit all of our students. This includes right-sizing our schools, aligning staff and making reductions in areas that have not typically been impacted. Please know that every decision is based on the positive impact that it will have on student achievement. As I shared in the FY17 Proposed Budget Presentation, we are asking for a 3.5% increase (\$1,353,000.00) after we have streamlined and made some reductions to enhance the overall quality of education that exists in Randolph Public Schools.

Throughout this year and last, and included in the FY17 budget process, I have stated that we need to ensure that our students are receiving the highest quality instruction in every school. Although we continue to “right-size” our schools and prepare to provide more quality professional development for our staff, the needs of our students come first.



As the superintendent my goal is to effectively and responsibly use our allocated budget to increase student learning. Our students continue to demonstrate the skills that they are learning as students in the class of 2016 were accepted into 90 colleges and universities. This is a testament to the quality of instruction they are receiving throughout their academic career.

Our trajectory for pre-K-12 success is dependent on a combination of efforts that can only be achieved through quality engagement of students in the classroom and parents to support the academic process.

Reminder:

As we prepare for the 2016-2017 school year, our educational priorities remain strategically focused and student-centered. We will continue to support the capacity building of our staff to enhance our students’ academic skills and socio-emotional growth.

To give you a better view of RPS from the inside, allow me to share a few items helping to enhance classroom instruction – not only in our schools – in all areas within the district.

Curriculum Update

Randolph Public Schools continue to look forward as we develop alternative ways for students in our district to accelerate their learning. This year Massasoit Community College offered 4 credit-bearing courses to students in the district. These courses included Spanish, EMT Licensure, Chemistry and Child Care courses. The grant agent who provided the funds recognized the chemistry course as an outstanding model. The district is committed to continuing and expanding college course access to our students.

Teachers are in their final stages of creating district-determined measures (DDMs). These are common assessments across grade levels and subjects that will help teachers to better understand the progress your child is making academically. We are proud of the work our teachers have done. As of September we will have DDMs created for every subject as well as for support personnel to measure their impact on student’s progress in learning as well.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEETINGS)

The meetings below have been scheduled by each school to solicit feedback and support around the planning for the new District Strategic Plan. Please contact your child’s school for specific times.

- May 10 – Young ES
- May 10 – RCMS

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- May 16 – Randolph HS
- May 16 – Donovan ES
- May 17 – Lyons ES
- May 17 – JFK ES

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

- SEPAC continues to be a support and resource to parents with concerns regarding the special education process. However, please continue to contact your child’s school with any specific questions related to the IEP process.

ELL

- The Multicultural Family Night on April 28th was a huge success. Students and teachers from elementary, middle and high schools and their families took part in doing project-based work focused on language and culture, performing song, dance, drumming, poetry and a multicultural fashion show. For the first time our adult ESL students shared their stories of what it was like for them coming to the United States. The chair from the Multicultural Parent Advisory Council, who is also a professional dancer from Haiti, volunteered countless hours to teach dance. A presenter from Harvard University spoke about the importance of bilingualism. An all Asian women's group (Gund Kwok) performed the Lion Dance. The evening culminated with ethnic food and touring the student expo.

Language Assessment Team Annual Spring Review

- Beginning immediately each school's Language Assessment Team is preparing for the annual spring review to determine English Language Proficiency. Actual meetings will take place with parents starting at the end of June. These meetings are facilitated to determine when a student is ready to move from one language proficiency level to the next as well as determine who is ready to transition out of the ELL program. Decisions about future supports for the following school year are decided during these meetings. Every ELL student's needs are addressed. Parents are invited to attend these meetings.

Title III After-School Support

- The after-school programs are continuing in different schools. ELL students are receiving academic support in English and Mathematics. Schools are being creative so that students’ interest is engaged and students are motivated to participate in after-school academics.

Title III Summer School Planning

- With help from federal Title III Immigrant funding, ELL students will receive a week of instruction prior to the start of the regular summer school program to prepare them for a productive month of learning. The week will preview curriculum so that students are introduced to vocabulary, language and concepts, and will culminate with a field trip to Boston Harbor Museum.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MyON Reader

All students in our elementary schools have access to myON Reader via any device that has internet access. A personalized literacy environment, myON Reader engages students at all reading levels with its library of more than 10,000 enhanced digital books. Titles are recommended to students based on individual interests and reading level using the Lexile Framework for Reading. MyON Reader measures time spent reading, number of books read and reading growth. *Please contact your child’s teacher if you would like more information.*

SUMMER PROGRAMMING

RPS is in the process of finalizing details for summer programming at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Information will be forthcoming soon.

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Upcoming Events:

- **May 17-18, 2016** - Global exchange with Filipino educators and RPS teachers (location: across the district SPED Programs).

Randolph High School

- Graduation: June 5, 2016, 1:00 PM
- Academic Achievement Awards Night: June 16, 2016, 6:00-8:00 PM

Athletic Department

- Seventy-five spring student-athletes made the honor roll for the 3rd term (Scholar-Athletes).
- Two of our students, Sarah Chu and Linden Vo, will be recognized by the South Shore League as scholar-athletes on Wednesday at a Ceremony at Southers Marsh. Linden is #1 and Sarah is #2 in the senior class. To be eligible for the league-wide award one must be a multi-sport athlete in addition to a high academic achiever.
- The Varsity Wrestling team has been awarded the MIAA academic excellence award with a team GPA of 3.438. Visit <http://bluedevelopathletics.com/2016/05/02/wrestling-receives-miaa-team-academic-excellence-award/>
- Harbor One is once again supporting the Athletic Department and has increased their sponsorship from \$1,500 to \$2,000 this year.

RANDOLPH CHILDCARE CENTER

The Randolph Childcare Center is a service provided by the Randolph Public Schools. We service children from infants to preschoolers. The center operates the same days as the regular student school calendar year. It is open to residents of the Town of Randolph. For tuition rates and more information, please visit our website or call 781-961-6207.

PARENT ACADEMY – MAY 21, 2016

Randolph Public Schools' Office of Family and Community Engagement will hold its first Parent Academy on Saturday, May 21, 2016, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at RCMS located at 225 High Street, Randolph, MA 02368. This effort will serve as a continuous engagement tool to further connect families with resources in our school system and the local community. Workshops that day will include: Financial Literacy, Health and Wellness, Curriculum and Instruction and Special Education. In addition, there will be a resource fair, prizes and raffles and a live radio broadcast. Register online using **Eventbrite: rpsparentacademy.eventbrite.com**.

Childcare service will be available for children ages 5-14 to those who have requested it by completing the online registration to secure a reservation. The first 100 respondents to RSVP will be entered to win a tablet on the day of the event. Parent or guardian must be present at the event on **Saturday, May 21, 2016** in order to claim the prize. Questions may be directed to the Office of Family and Community Engagement at 781-961-6220, ext. 558. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you on **Saturday, May 21, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.**

FINANCE

This is a reminder that, as indicated by the audit and required by Federal Law, we will increase the price of our meals by \$0.40 on average. This may seem like a large increase but, after many years of no increases, we need to adjust the price so we are in compliance with the federal required average cost of meals in order to receive the available federal reimbursement that pays for a large portion of our program. Again, we stand ready to assist families in evaluating their financial need to determine whether your family qualifies for a free or reduced meal price. The new prices will be in effect next September, and we will be sending more information home in the next few months.

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Our students are working to reach new heights every day under the direction of our very capable and caring staff. We have a lot in which we should be proud and with your support and participation in your child's education there are no boundaries for students in Randolph Public Schools.

Let us always remember that our schools are all Levels 3 and 2:

LEVEL 2: Randolph HS

LEVEL 3: Donovan ES

LEVEL 3: John F. Kennedy ES

LEVEL 3: Lyons ES

LEVEL 3: Young ES

LEVEL 3: Randolph Community MS

Please access our website: <http://www.randolph.k12.ma.us/> for updates and more information regarding school performance data and events.

As always thank you for your support and for entrusting us with your most prized possession, your children.

With Randolph pride,



Thomas Anderson, Superintendent
Randolph Public Schools



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