



# NBPS Newsflash

## May 2022

Greetings Team NBPS,

This week marks National Teacher Appreciation Week, but every day presents opportunities for us to express appreciation to one another throughout the year. The Dalai Lama said, “When you practice gratefulness, there is a sense of respect toward others.” Your dedication to the ongoing task of cultivating our students’ talents and helping them to achieve their hopes and dreams makes us all proud. THANK YOU for the IMPACT that you are making each day!

With the spring break recharge behind us, we’ve left our last pit stop in the rearview mirror, fueled up and headed for the home stretch. Every minute of teaching and learning counts in the few weeks that remain of the 2021 – 2022 school year.

Let’s continue to learn from and about one another by taking the time to hear different perspectives. We talk about equity and it is essential that we continue to appreciate others by listening to what they have to say. Just pause and think – when we know someone as a person, we tend to listen more – we don’t have to agree, but we should be respectful and understanding of their point of view.

With summer days on the horizon, final planning for next year is at the forefront, with a focus to provide the appropriate resources to ensure that our students are getting the support and acceleration that they need. The draft FY23 Budget is an investment proposal, which represents an 11.9 percent or \$22M increase over last year’s total budget (\$215 million) to maintain and increase support in several areas.

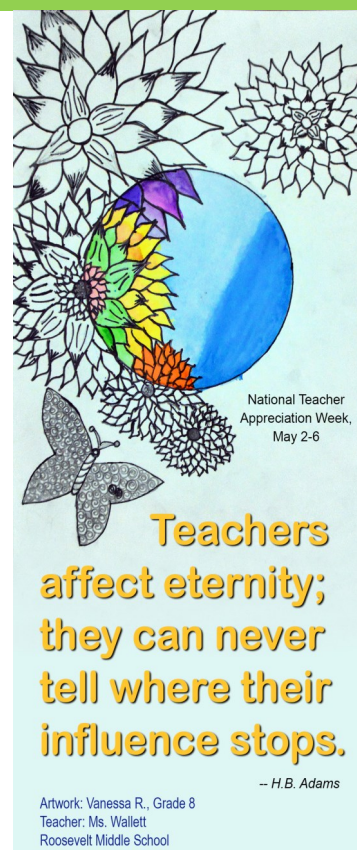
Our Priority Programs that we included in our Student Opportunity Act plan are aligned with our consistent areas of focus, which include eliminating the opportunity gap for all children and increasing student ACCESS to Supports by creating more equitable opportunities.

One last point, although masks are optional, the virus remains a concern and we must continue to be wise and take care of ourselves and those around us by practicing good hygiene.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Thomas Anderson  
Superintendent



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# Employee Spotlight



## Shauneen Milton

Teacher and Interventionist  
William H. Taylor Elementary School



Mrs. Milton worked as a 2nd grade teacher at the Taylor School for many years until last year when she decided to take the leap and become our interventionist. As a 2nd grade teacher she was able to provide her students with exemplary instruction each and every day. Her students adored her because she was engaging, fun and motivational. Now she is able to provide that to all our students!! As an interventionist, she services kindergarten to 5th grade. Her groups change every 6 weeks, so she has the opportunity to provide outstanding instruction to many of our students! When Mrs. Milton walks into a classroom you often hear excited voices asking - “Are you taking me?” “Do I get to go with you today?” “When do I get to go with you?”. As an interventionist Mrs. Milton is now instilling the love of literacy in students in every grade.

Aside from being an amazing educator, Mrs. Milton is also a fantastic colleague. She collaborates with her coworkers, and even mentors new teachers. She is someone her colleagues know they can count on for educational advice, brainstorming sessions or just to simply listen. Her positive disposition is contagious and influential to all that work with her.

Mrs. Milton was loved by her 2nd grade students for many years – now she is loved by students from kindergarten through 5th grade! She is a true asset to Taylor School and NBPS!

– Dr. Rafaela Defigueiredo, Principal



## Rebecca Isidorio

Clerk  
John B. DeValles Elementary School



In this nomination, Principal Tara Montembault offered high praise and much appreciation for this value staff member:

“Ms. Rebecca Isidorio is a critical part of the John B. DeValles team. She continues to provide a tremendous amount of support, guidance and compassion to all our students, their families, the staff and the greater DeValles community. Ms. Isidorio always greets everyone with her positive energy and can-do spirit. She is self-driven and an amazing problem solver. She manages and oversees all clerical, technical and logistical functions in our school throughout the school day. DeValles appreciates all that she does for our school and community.”

– Tara K. Montembault, Principal



# SATURDAY, MAY 7 - NORMANDIN MIDDLE SCHOOL



## NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS TEACHER RECRUITMENT FAIR



**SATURDAY, MAY 7 TH**  
**9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**  
**NORMANDIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**81 FELTON STREET NEW BEDFORD, MA**  
**ON-SITE INTERVIEWS**

- **Speak with principals** and other school leaders from our 25 schools.
- Find out **what principals are looking for** in teacher candidates.
- Arrange to **tour our schools** and our city.
- **Vacancies include** but are not limited to:
  - o Elementary Education
  - o Special Education
  - o English as a Second Language
  - o Middle and High School positions (Math, Science, Special Education)



For more information, contact  
Kleidy Oliveira at  
508-997-4511 ext. 14351 OR  
[ksoliveira@newbedfordschools.org](mailto:ksoliveira@newbedfordschools.org)



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

New Feature!

# Student Spotlight

## Diego Serra

Senior

New Bedford High School



*Student Spotlight* is a new feature of the NBPS Newsflash District Newsletter because excellent teaching and learning is an interactive process. “A vibrant, productive classroom environment is essentially a series of effective conversations.” (Bowman, 2014) In coming issues you’ll meet some of our remarkable students.

“Hi, my name is **Diego Serra**. I am currently a senior here at New Bedford

High School. I have played Baseball and Golf throughout my four years here. I am a part of the national honor society and the great outdoors club. I am attending Emmanuel College in the fall where I will be majoring in sports management and playing golf.”



Miss New Bedford Megan Sylvia congratulates Diego Serra after his winning the Mr. Whaler title April 30.



**REMINDER** to all those participating in the Spring Step Challenge:

**Challenge ends: May 23, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.**

*... so get moving !*

There’s still time! To successfully complete this challenge, you will need to have logged a total of 294,000 steps during the duration of the challenge using a pedometer, Fitbit® or other device to keep track of your steps, which must be entered into [ahealthyme.com](http://ahealthyme.com), either on the website, through the **HealthyNow app**, or through a connected Fitbit® device, to be counted toward the challenge goal.

**Employees who complete the challenge will be Eligible to receive a \$25.00 gift certificate.**

Gift certificates will be issued to employees only.





*FEC Summer Camp Fair • Don't Miss It • Last in the Series • May 23, 4-6 pm • Keith MS*



# New Bedford Public Schools Family Engagement Centers

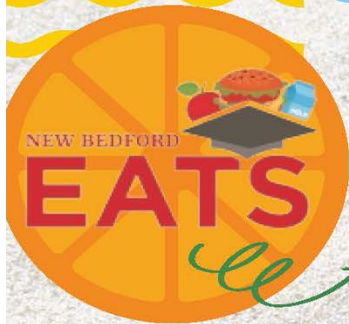


**Invites you!**

# SUMMER CAMP FAIR

**Event Series**

Food will be provided to students thanks to NBPS Food and Nutrition Services.



Bring recipes from your culture!



**KEITH MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
May 23rd  
4pm to 6pm

LEARN ABOUT ALL THE FUN NEW BEDFORD HAS TO OFFER FOR SUMMER 2022!

NBPS will have summer school this year, check with your school what options are available for your children. Language support will be provided.



**Community Boating Center**  
41° 36' 30.91" N, 70° 55' 56.20" W  
NEW BEDFORD, MA



## *Voices* from the history of Education

**“Appreciation can change a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary.”**

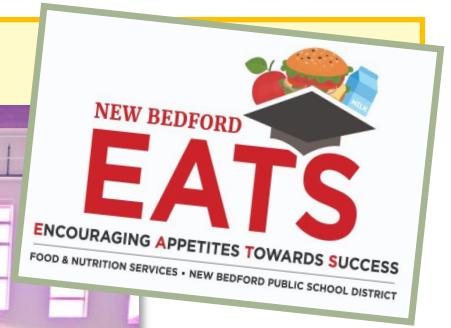
– **Margaret Cousins** (1878-1954), an Irish-Indian educator, suffragist and Theosophist, she established the All India Women's Conference in 1927 in order to improve education for women and children, and to begin addressing women's rights issues in that country.





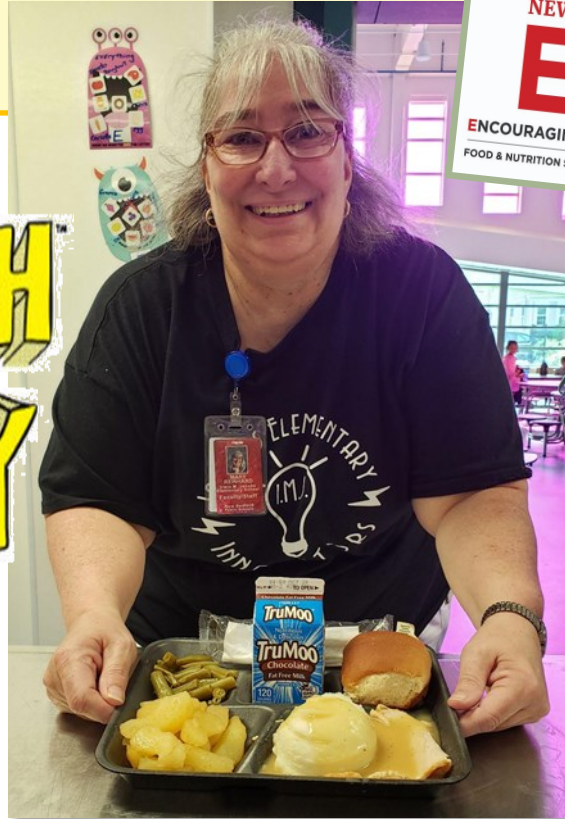
# Food & Nutrition Services **UPDATE!**

Robert Shaheen, Director, ext. 14257  
[rshaheen@newbedfordschools.org](mailto:rshaheen@newbedfordschools.org)



## Friday, May 6th is **SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY**

School Lunch Hero Day is a chance to showcase the difference school nutrition professionals make for every child who comes through the cafeteria. The Food and Nutrition Services department is extremely proud of the work of our team! Between preparing healthy meals for New Bedford's students, adhering to strict nutrition standards, navigating student food allergies, and offering service with a smile, school nutrition professionals are true heroes. **Please THANK your School Lunch heroes today for all they do!**



*“Now that’s a pick-me-up!”*

Jacobs School’s Mary Reinhard serves up lunch with a smile!



Left: Brooks ES – (L-R) Maria Martins, Cidalia Sousa, Bernadette Brockelhurst, and Cynthia Vick.

Top: Roosevelt MS – (L-R): Eugenia Mette, Kayla Alferes, Karen Greenburg, Sherri Rodericks, Lynsey Medeiros, Iesha Pina, Irina Correia, and Maria Branco Andrade.





1. Hayden McFadden – Patricia Wolinski with Principal Morgan. 2. PRAB – Shalynn Brooks, Food Corps member. 3. Maria Brito, Admin Assistant Armando Diaz-Calero and Jayne Peitavino. 4. Carney Academy – Maria Vieira & Alexandra Camara. 5. Food Services Admin Assistants Catherine Hendriques & Armando Diaz-Calero.



## The Harvest of the Month for May is **Seafood!**

The Food and Nutrition Services department began participating in the MA

Farm to School Harvest of the Month Program in April! Under this program the department offers a locally-sourced menu item 1 -2 times per month.

On May 16th, we will be offering "sole-o's" - zesty fish nuggets made of sole, haddock, pollock, rice and spices! The sole-o's are purchased from [NorthCoast Seafoods](#) and some of the fish in the nuggets is caught off the coast of Boston. The sole-o's product is made in New Bedford, MA!

## Call for Summer School Programs That Are Seeking Student Meals This Summer!

*Are you planning to provide school programming throughout the summer?*

If so, the Food and Nutrition Services department may be able to provide meals!

If you are interested in making meals available at your school summer program, please contact [FNS Director Rob Shaheen, ext. 14257](#) as soon as possible so that MA DESE "sites" can be established before the approaching deadlines.





*It's back! ... In person! ...*

# NBPS Annual Districtwide ART SHOW

**Thursday, May 12 - 4:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Paul Rodrigues Admin. Bldg., 455 County St., New Bedford**



### Join the Massachusetts Farm & Sea to School Conference

During the week of May 16-May 21st, Mass. Farm to School will hold the 6th statewide Massachusetts Farm & Sea to School Conference. The conference will feature both virtual sessions and in-person field trips. This year's theme is Seeding the Future, and is centered on youth leadership and empowerment in farm to school. The workshops will touch upon a wide variety of farm to school themes, such as, food systems education, student voice in school meals, youth-led programming, school garden tours, and racial equity in the food system. All events will be free of charge. Learn more & register here:

[www.massfarmtoschool.org/conference](http://www.massfarmtoschool.org/conference)



MYSTIC  
AQUARIUM



In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, Mystic Aquarium is offering mental health professionals **COMPLIMENTARY ENTRY** into the Aquarium during the month of May. We thank you endlessly for all that you have done and will continue to do for our community!

Advanced tickets required

