



# NBPS Newsflash

## January 2023

Happy New Year Team NBPS!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season with those who mean the most to us and had a chance to recharge. I am excited about the second half of the school year and the opportunity to continue working with each of you to positively impact the lives of our students in New Bedford Public Schools.

Our focus remains on supporting all staff to continue strengthening effective strategies that will increase student academic stamina. High expectations for our students begin with caring for ourselves. Please take the time to take care of yourself in all dimensions – physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual. Our personal routines will help us sustain and foster wellness that will increase our individual resilience and stamina.

As an organization our main asset is our people – YOU. Staff quality is the number one driver of student achievement and a positive culture and climate. That is why we are taking the year to develop a comprehensive Professional Growth System that will support capacity building in several areas including instruction, engagement, and leadership. We continue to be intentional in our work and move with a sense of urgency – that is how we will increase student achievement so that our students will thrive and reach new heights.

Our FY2024 Budget planning is in full swing and our priorities include:

- Social-emotional well-being of all students
- Early Childhood Education (Pre-K)
- Upgrades: technology and non-capital facility projects
- Curriculum resources (alignment, technology, etc.)
- Professional Growth System (instructional and leadership)
- Appropriate Staffing levels

Please remember that the FLU continues to be a health concern affecting students, staff and our own families. Despite efforts, COVID-19 cases have increased. The mitigation strategies we have implemented over the last two years are still in place and have proven to be effective. Our health department is in constant communication with local and state health officials to remain abreast of current information.

Thank you for your commitment 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



**“Intelligence  
plus character  
— that is the  
goal of true  
education.”**

**— Martin Luther  
King, Jr.**

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# Employee Spotlight



## Domenique Latessa

ESL Teacher

Hayden McFadden Elementary School



I would like to recommend Domenique Latessa for Spotlight teacher of the month. Dominique is an ESL teacher here at Hayden McFadden. She truly cares about students, families, and her coworkers, and does anything in her power to help make the school run smoother. Dominique took it upon herself to take charge of the bus dismissal, (which is no small feat). She assists new staff with teaching and learning, and always tries to engage staff in fun events. She also serves on the ESL team, SILT team, and has a morning show! Dominique is a part of award ceremonies and is passionate about the students here at Hayden McFadden. She is a true asset to Hayden McFadden as well as a true Hay Mac HERO! She goes above and beyond, and we are so grateful for all she does to enhance the climate and help create a positive environment to work in.

*Kim M. Marshall, Principal, Hayden McFadden Elementary School*



## Christian Concepcion Gonzalez

Family Engagement Specialist

Irwin M. Jacobs Elementary School



Christian Concepcion Gonzalez, our Family Engagement Specialist, has totally transformed the Family Engagement Center. He arrived in late spring of last school year, but it feels as if he has been a member of our Jacobs School family for years! He quickly assimilated into our community by being friendly and visible at arrival and dismissal times to inform families of the resources we have to offer. It is heartwarming to witness the joy in the faces of those who have benefitted by his support. His presence here brings hope and encouragement to those he interacts with, conveying that together we can face challenges and overcome triumphantly! Christian is a caring, compassionate individual who cultivates a welcoming school community through the weekly classes and monthly events he coordinates. Our first event this year, celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, was a tremendous success with approximately 180 people in attendance! When talking to Christian about the experience afterward, he smiled with satisfaction and said, "Yes, it was a great time. Hopefully it will generate momentum for the other family activities we are planning."

*Patricia Barlow, Assistant Principal, Irwin M. Jacobs Elementary School*

# FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES UPDATE



Throughout the school year we have been offering cinnamon raisin granola alongside yogurt on the breakfast menu. The granola is locally-sourced from a company in Western MA and is made with simple ingredients:

***Whole grain rolled oats, brown sugar, raisins, canola oil, dates, cinnamon, sea salt and nutmeg.***

The company, Jeff's Granola, is a philanthropic organization that donates 100% of its profits to a 501c-3 charity chosen by the customer. This year's granola sales with NBPS FNS will merit a total contribution of **\$778 being donated to PACE Food Bank of New Bedford!**

## student voice

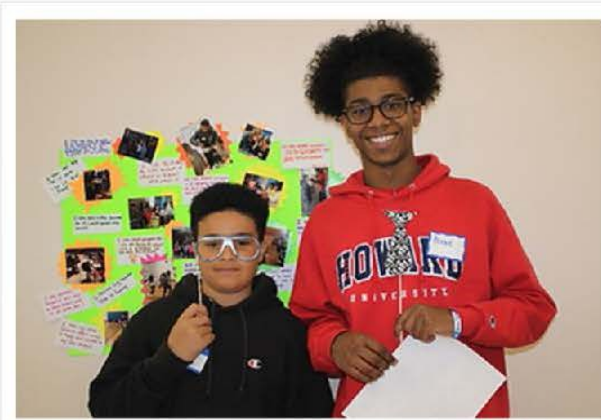
The Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) department recognizes the immense value in student feedback and continues to seek student input on menu offerings. The team has implemented an initiative to support gathering feedback more frequently and from a larger number of students. This is currently being done through student surveys and lunchroom conversations and so far has been incredibly insightful. The feedback is being used to help the culinary team determine if a recipe needs further development to meet the taste preferences of the students, or if a particular item should be replaced with a different, more well-liked dish. Beginning in the new year, a student focus group will be conducted with FNS at New Bedford High School. The department hopes to learn more details about students preferences and

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



# Community Corner

*Volunteers are needed throughout our community\**



The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Mass is to partner with under-resourced families to provide their children with transformational, one-to-one professionally-supported relationships with caring adult mentors, so that their children will thrive.

Big Brothers Big Sisters matches children ages 7-12 with volunteer mentors that help to empower and ignite their potential.

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Community Based Mentoring: Our traditional 1:1 mentoring program. Bigs & Littles meet out in the community, 2-3 times per month, for a few hours per outing.

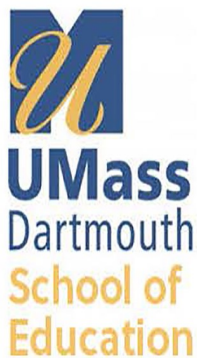


For more information, please contact:

Mirian Villatoro, SouthCoast Regional Director  
184 High Street, Boston,, MA 02110  
(617) 956-0221 (Office)  
[mvillatoro@emassbigs.org](mailto:mvillatoro@emassbigs.org)  
[www.emassbigs.org](http://www.emassbigs.org)

***\*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.”***





## To Register Contact:

**Dr. Traci Almeida**

**Coordinator of Graduate Admissions & Licensure**

**508-999-8098**

**[talmeida@umassd.edu](mailto:talmeida@umassd.edu)**

<https://www.umassd.edu/programs/special-ed-moderate-pbc-online/>

**EDU 547 - Introduction to  
Special Education**

**EDU 548 - Classroom  
Management for Mildly and  
Moderately Disabled Students  
in Inclusive Settings**

**EDU 549 - Diagnostic  
and Remedial Assessment for  
Students with Moderate  
Disabilities**

**EDU 550 - Differentiated  
Instruction and Evidence  
Based Practice**

**Summer Start!**

**Low Cost!**

**Online**

***Free MTEL Prep***

Take this 4-course sequence that allows you to add a Special Education endorsement to your existing (or in-process) initial license in a core academic area and will provide coverage of all required competency areas for Teachers of Moderate Disabilities set forth by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

**Candidates will work with their schools to complete the required 150 practicum hours required for the license.**

The program can be completed in as little as one year.

**Special Education Add-on License**



## 2023-2024 Recruitment of Paraeducators

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

Are you a Massachusetts public school paraeducator 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 Scholar*

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

**JET** supports the goals of building community 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 and teacher licensure completion
- Advise you on teacher pathway programs in Massachusetts colleges/universities
- Help you access financial aid available to Massachusetts paraeducators
- Connect you with a cohort of paraeducators working toward the goal of becoming licensed teachers
- Provide you with professional and peer learning opportunities

### How JET works

1. Apply online to the JET Program by **March 1, 2023**.
  - a. **Click here for the application.**
2. Advising and Onboarding April - June 2023
  3. College Admissions and Enrollment
  4. Financial Aid
    - i. **FAFSA** <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa> - Must be completed prior to applying for the state grant below
    - ii. **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 2023 Fall Semester
6. Attend required **JET** Cohort Meetings in June, August and January
7. Participate in the **JET** Mentoring and Support Program from September 2023 - June 2024

### Eligibility for JET

- Seeking a Bachelor's degree
- Career goal of becoming a Massachusetts licensed teacher
- Reside in Massachusetts for at least 1 year prior to upcoming academic year
- Employed for 2+ years as a paraeducator in a Massachusetts public school by June 30, 2023 **OR** seeking teacher licensure in a high needs area: Math, Science, Special Education, Foreign Languages, or Bilingual Education
- U.S. citizen or non-citizen eligible under Title IV regulations
- Not be in default of federal or state student education loans or have an unpaid college bill.

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

Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!





**New Bedford Public Schools**

# **Theatre and Dance Festival**

**Saturday, January 28  
6pm**

**NBHS Bronspiegel Auditorium**

**Featuring:**

- . NBHS Drama Club**
- . Normandin MS Drama Club & Dance Club**
- . student work in theatre/dance classes  
throughout the district**

**Donations Welcome**



The New Bedford High School Drama Club  
presents

# Unsound Effects

By Christy Fredrickson



January 28 at 7pm

January 29 at 2pm

NBHS Bronspiegel Auditorium

Part of the New Bedford Public Schools

**Theatre and Dance Festival**






Donations Welcome

*Unsound Effects is presented with permission from Heuer Publishing, LLC*



# NBPS Wraparound Services Event Calendar

# January 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 	3	4 	5 	6 CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL THE FAMILY EVENTS FOR 2023!
9 GOMES 2022 TAX WORKSHOP 10AM-2PM <b>GOMES SAFETY WORKSHOP FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES 1PM-2PM</b>	10 KEITH 2022 TAX WORKSHOP ON ZOOM 5PM-6PM	11 NORMANDIN TAX WORKSHOP 5PM-6PM	12 HAYMAC PACE PARENT CAFE 10AM-11AM *REGISTRATION REQUIRED*	13
16 	17 JACOBS MOVIE NIGHT "SOUL" 5PM-7PM <b>EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKSHOP AT HAYMAC- TRAUMA &amp; WELLNESS 4PM-6PM</b>	18	19 ROOSEVELT EVENT "MY LIFE, MY CHOICE" 5PM-6PM	20
23	24	25	26 HAYMAC PACE CAFE 10AM-11AM *REGISTRATION REQUIRED* <b>HAYMAC TAX ASSISTANCE 10AM-12PM</b>	27
30	31 NBHS FASFA NIGHT 5PM-7PM		Wraparound Department- 455 County Street, New Bedford, MA (508) 997-4511 ext. 14154	



# NBPS Wraparound Services Event Calendar

# January 2023

## READING CLUBS

Jacobs- Tuesday, January 3rd  
4pm-6pm (English)  
Tuesday, January 10th  
4pm-6pm (Spanish)

## EYES ON BULLYING

Roosevelt Middle School- Jan 10th  
3:30pm-4:30pm  
Keith Middle School- Jan 12th  
5pm-6pm  
Hayden McFadden Elementary -  
Jan 18th 12pm-1pm  
Normandin-January 20th  
1pm-2:30pm  
Zoom Webinar- Jan 24th 5pm-6pm

## WOMEN'S CENTER OPEN HOURS

Hayden McFadden - JAN 5th & 19th  
9am-10am  
Gomes School- JAN 10th & 24th  
1pm-2pm ON CALL  
Jacobs- JAN 3rd & 17th 2:30pm-3:30pm

## SNAP & HOUSING

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

## COMPUTER CLASSES

NBHS- January 5th & January 19th  
10am-12pm  
Normandin Middle-Every Tuesday  
12-1pm  
Roosevelt Middle- January 10th & 24th  
10am-12pm  
Gomes School- January 23rd \*8:00am-9:00am/\*12:00pm-1:00pm/  
2:00pm-3:00pm  
Jacobs- Fridays 8:30am-9:30am  
NBHS- JAN 12th & 26th 10:30am-11:30am  
Keith Middle School- JAN 12th & 26th  
9am-10am  
Normandin Middle School- JAN 5th & 19th 10:30am-11:30am  
Roosevelt Middle School- JAN 3rd & 17th  
1pm-2pm



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



# NBPS FACULTY AND STAFF CAN YOU TAP DANCE?!

The NBHS Drama Club is looking for **ADULTS** from across the district to perform in a **TAP DANCE** number in this year's spring musical!

Only **BASIC** tapping skills are necessary! We will stage the number in such a way that **beginner tappers** and **advanced tappers** will be all able to perform!

For more information, please fill out the interest form at the following link- <https://bit.ly/3X1k7Pg>

Or email Stephanie Donnelly ([sldonelly@newbedfordschools.org](mailto:sldonelly@newbedfordschools.org)) for more info!



Please complete the form by February 1!

Access the interest form at the QR code here!

## 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 WFXT Boston
- WBZ 1030AM Boston
- WRKO-680AM Boston
- WSAR-1480AM Fall River
- WBSM-1420AM
- WFHN FUN107-FM Fairhaven