

# MANSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



*School Committee(L-R): Jenn Walsh, Kiera O’Neil, Chair, Linda Fernando, Lauren Scher, (not pictured Lynn Cavicchi, Vice Chair)*

Teresa Murphy, Superintendent of Schools  
Edward Donoghue, Assistant Superintendent  
Michael Connolly, Assistant Superintendent  
James Leonard, Director of Special Education

 @TmmMPS  Mansfield Public Schools  
[www.mansfieldschools.com](http://www.mansfieldschools.com)



It is with great pride that I serve as Superintendent of Schools in this community that values and supports education; with families who send their children to school ready for learning; with students who challenge and amaze us every day; and with faculty and staff who are of the highest quality. I am justifiably proud of the progress made in our schools since last spring, and this report is meant to provide you with information about many aspects of our programming.

♦♦♦

## Digital Learning & Technology

Mr. Michael Connolly

Assistant Superintendent Teaching & Learning

 @MConn\_MPS

Schools are places of transformation. The definition of a classroom and learning space is changing. Thanks to advances in technology, a classroom is not only a physical space but can also

be a digital space. Along with this transformation, traditional instruction is changing and becoming enhanced with greater internet access and the power of digital tools. In March of 2018, Mansfield Public Schools created a District Technology Advisory Committee to assist in the creation of a digital learning plan that outlines a vision and action steps for impactful technology integration in our school system. The following is the digital learning vision that was created: *Mansfield Public Schools is committed to combining the best teaching practices with the power of digital tools to inspire, empower and engage all students.*

The Mansfield Public Schools District Technology Advisory Committee was comprised of administrators, teachers and parents. Over the course of several months collaboration and work, the Committee created a three-year *Digital Learning and Technology Integration Plan*. The plan was approved by the School Committee on October 30, 2018.

The following is a brief overview of the thematic actions in the plan:

- Provide greater internet and computing access for students and staff. (1-to-1 devices at some grade levels)
- Provide staff a framework (SAMR) that helps guide them in developing digital learning lesson plans and assessing impact for students.
- Provide professional development and coaching to staff to assist them in selecting and using digital tools to amplify student learning and engagement.
- Review and revise current curriculum in order to integrate MA Digital Literacy Standards
- Explore and develop a digital citizenship curriculum.

The complete *2018-2021 Digital Learning and Technology Integration Plan* is posted on the School District website.

The *2018-2021 Digital Learning and Technology Integration Plan* will be assessed each year to monitor progress and make adjustments based upon changes in technology and available resources to support the plan.

♦♦♦





### Serving Students with Disabilities

Mr. James Leonard, Director of Special Education

Jim Leonard is in his inaugural year leading the Department of Special Education. This section will highlight three enriching opportunities that address the needs of students with disabilities.

Mansfield High School's *Best Buddies* was formed last year and is designed to build one-to-one friendships between teens with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through their participation, members form meaningful connections with their peers, gain self-confidence and self-esteem, and share interests, experiences and activities.

The *Unified Track* program was brought to Mansfield High School last year. Unified sports programs are designed to provide a competitive, interscholastic sports program for students with disabilities who often don't have opportunities to play on high school athletic teams. Athletic competition is a key component of the MHS experience and the creation of MHS Unified Track provided students with disabilities the opportunity to compete with students from other Hockomock schools.

Finally, *Challenger Sports*, and its longtime leader, Craig Certuse have been strong partners with the Mansfield Schools. The mission of the Challenger Sports program is to provide exercise, athletics and community-based social opportunities for Mansfield youth with disabilities between the ages of 5 and 22 years. Challenger Sports is fortunate to be supported by many wonderful teenage volunteers who provide social experiences that are beneficial to everyone and who offer as much assistance as each child needs. We want to pay tribute to Mr. Craig Certuse who served as Director of Challenger Sports for 14 years until he stepped down from the role last spring. We salute Craig Certuse for his tireless and generous leadership. Challenger Sports is in good hands as Coach has passed the director's baton to QMS teacher Heather McPherson.

◆◆◆

Our vision of ideal schools are ones in which we intellectually engage our students in their learning. We want to utilize practices that are personalized and innovative. We want to meet students where they are--because we all know that kids come to us with a wide variety of strengths and abilities and needs and interests. We collaborate to help our students achieve their personal best and so that they can become meaningful contributors to our society.

### Mansfield High School

Mrs. Mary Watkins, Principal

 @MSHornets



Mansfield High School has a high percentage of its graduates seeking post-secondary education, including both universities and trade schools. For the Class of 2018, 92% of graduates sought higher education. The breakdown of future plans for the Class of 2018 is as follows:

- 83% are attending a four-year college
- 9% are attending a two-year college or specialized program
- 2% entered the military
- 2% are pursuing a Gap year
- 5% are seeking employment

Two of our high school graduates were National Merit Finalists and eight were National Merit Commended Scholars. One student pursued Dual Enrollment and received her Associates Degree from Bristol Community College the day before earning her high school diploma.

Several students achieved AP Scholar Status from both the junior and senior classes: Scholars: 26, Scholars with Honors: 18, Scholars with Distinction 24. MHS had 1 National AP Scholar and 1 student who was the recipient of an AP International Diploma which requires a student to earn a minimum score of a 3 or higher on over 5 AP exams. Mansfield High School was once again recognized by Boston Magazine's "Best Public Schools in Boston, Top 50" for 2018.

**Athletics:** Football, Girls Cross Country and Soccer won Hockomock titles during the 2017 season. In 2018, girls soccer, boys soccer, football and golf won league Championships. All 2018 Fall teams qualified for the MIAA tournament, and the Thanksgiving Day game was played at Fenway Park. New home bleachers were installed on Alumni field. Heroes' Corner dedication took place on Alumni Field on September 14th with

## Town of Mansfield

support from the Mansfield Gridiron and Mansfield Veterans Services. The 2017-2018 season for the Boys Basketball Team was special as they became the Division 1 State Champions.



**Business:** Business clubs continue to be active with product development and marketing. 2018 products included candles, hand lotion, key chains, lip balm, ornaments, magnets and hair accessories. Students raised \$1,750 from the sales of these items and donations were made to the Mansfield Animal Shelter, Prayers for Eddy and Kiva.org.

**English:** Students participated in the national *Poetry Out Loud* contest. Layna Putterman submitted her science fiction short story "Lightning Bugs" to the 2018 Scholastic Art and Writing competition. Her story won a Regional Gold Key. All Gold Key winners were then entered into the national contest and Layna won a National Silver Medal for her efforts. Only 1% of all entries receive national medal recognition.

**Math:** Math Team qualified for the Massachusetts Association of Mathematics Leagues state competition for the 19th consecutive year, and also placed first in their division in the New England Mathematics league.

**PE/Health:** The PE and Health staff has updated the grade 9 and 11 health curriculum to align with the state frameworks, and is incorporating a new human sexuality unit into both courses. In addition, students are receiving on-line safety education and 4Ls (Locate, Lockdown, Leave, Live) training from the Mansfield Police Department, and are learning about the health risks of vaping.

**Performing Arts:** Percussion Ensemble became New England Champions and earned the World Finalists title in April 2018. Concert Band and Jazz Band both received "Platinum" ratings at the Great

East Festival in June 2018. The 2018 Spring Musical, "Catch Me If You Can" received multiple METG award nominations. Marching band and color guard competed in the National Marching Band competition at MetLife stadium in November 2018. In addition, students competed in local marching band competitions throughout fall 2018, and performed in both the Fall and Winter Concerts.

**Science:** Science Olympiad Team received 10 ribbons at the Massachusetts State Regional competition in Spring 2018.

**Social Studies:** Congressman Joseph Kennedy visited Mansfield High School twice in the Spring of 2018. He hosted an assembly for students to voice concerns about State and National issues in May, and in June hosted a roundtable luncheon with students to discuss the importance of civic engagement. Tika Naik's National History Day documentary on the *California v. Bakke* case made it to the national finals held in College Park, Maryland, in June.

**World Language:** Students participated in the National Spanish and French Exams for 2018; MHS fielded 23 medal winners for the Spanish Exam and 8 for the French Exam. This year 59 students were inducted into the World Language Honor Society, 47 in Spanish and 12 in French. MHS educator Michael Sweet received an award for New Foreign Language Teacher of the Year from MAFLA (Mass Foreign Language Teachers Association).

**Visual Arts:** MHS Visual Arts Department displayed artwork at Patriot Place in Foxboro. The District-wide Art Show is an annual tradition for the schools. We welcome all residents to this free event on May 9, 2019.



**Qualters Middle School, (Grade 6-8)**

*Mr. David McGovern, Interim Principal*

 @QMS\_Mansfield

The Harold L. Qualters Middle School entered into the second year of a redesigned master schedule on July 1, 2018. The primary objective through the current school year is to make adjustments to what is in place to increase efficiency and improve student learning. Parents, guardians and students have provided positive reviews of our increased offerings that are designed to meet the needs to today's learners.

The availability of technology has increased during each of the past few school years and this year that trend has continued. To start the current school year, five Smart Boards were updated as the existing devices had reached the end of their usable life. The new Smart Boards have increased functionality and a lower cost per year as they are designed to have a significantly longer lifespan. The addition of multiple Chromebooks across departments have increased student access to technology and facilitated more individualized learning in our classrooms.

**Social Studies:**

The Social Studies Department is in the process of revising their course offerings to reflect the recent changes to the "Massachusetts State Frameworks for History and Social Science." The sixth-grade course in geography incorporates topics on ancient civilizations. The seventh-grade ancient history course includes additional studies in geography along with a more in-depth examination of Greece and Rome. The eighth-grade civics course studies the roots of democracy, and the role individuals have in maintaining a healthy democracy at the local, state, and national levels.

**Science:**

The Science & Engineering Program at the middle school expanded due to the three-year funding by Project Lead the Way for courses, materials, and teacher training.

**Wellness:**

Health teachers added fitness activities such as yoga and walking to help the students use exercise for fitness and stress reduction.

**ELA:**

Students use Chromebooks for writing and research assignments as well as for practice for the online MCAS 2.0 testing in the spring. The

Accelerated Reader software program in the Literacy elective continues to be successful in helping students to develop a love for reading and in supporting literacy skills across the curriculum.

**World Language:**

The French and Spanish World language department updated curriculum for seventh- and eighth- grades. With the extra time in grade 7, students can go more in depth with their skills in listening, reading, speaking and writing. Teachers have been collaborating with ideas and materials and use Chromebooks for research, recordings and reviews. The World Language teachers are also strategizing on how to incorporate more cultural activities into their lessons.

The first-year French curriculum at both secondary schools includes the study of French-speaking cultures. Middle school focuses on Canada and New Orleans while the high school has a concentration on other French-speaking countries.

**Visual Arts:**

QMS Visual Arts Department launched their second year of offering exciting and much needed art classes to all three grades. The eighth-grade design class integrates technology throughout the curriculum.

**Math Team:**

The QMS Math Team is a competitive team made up of students who enjoy solving mathematical problems in a cooperative environment. The team competes at five meets throughout the year in the Intermediate Mathematics League of Eastern Massachusetts (IMLEM), a collaboration of Massachusetts' middle schools providing students with a challenging mathematics competition. The students also participate in MathCounts, a national math enrichment, coaching & competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement in every U.S. state and territory.

**Performing Arts:**

The QMS Performing Arts Department has been very successful in competition this year. Along with a number of local performances, the QMS band and orchestra both won bronze medals at their first ever Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association (MICCA) state festival performance. The QMS band, orchestra, and chorus all won gold medals at the Great East Festival in June. The new show choir performed their first performance combining song and dance. The drama department competed in the one-act

## Town of Mansfield

play festival in the spring and performed Shrek Jr. for the winter musical production. The QMS percussion ensemble won a silver medal at the New England Percussion Competition.

◆◆◆

### **Jordan/Jackson Elementary School (Grade 3-5)**

*Mr. John Nieratko, Principal*

 @jordanjacksonma

Students and staff at the Jordan/Jackson School continue to engage in enriching projects to strengthen connections to the Mansfield Community. Students benefit from activities and programs designed to increase their awareness of their own self and others around them.

The Community Garden at Jordan/Jackson continues to grow. We were happy to welcome more pollinators this year thanks to the new Butterfly Garden. Representatives from Keep Mansfield Beautiful serve as consultants and provide various donations to keep the Community Garden thriving. Students engage in the compost process by recycling plants, leaves and some cafeteria leftovers. Students continue to give back to our community by donating crops to the Mansfield Food Pantry.

STEAM connects Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math in a way that results in cross-content lessons that engage students in the Design Process while solving problems through collaboration and perseverance. Over the past few years, members have collaborated to create a flexible learning environment for students to engage in STEAM activities utilizing different tools and lesson plans. Through Professional Development sessions and Summer Institutes, teachers have organized materials and curriculum resources. They made the Innovation Station, a STEAM laboratory at Jordan/Jackson, inviting for students and teachers.

The J/J Science Lab is a space where students can experiment and explore the world around them. They find ways to tackle current issues such as erosion and pollution, while developing ways to make positive impacts on the planet.

The Mansfield Elementary School Association, supports a wide array of community events, including food and clothing drives to benefit local organizations and supports our students and staff with enriching assemblies.

Keep Mansfield Beautiful provides quality programs for students to learn how best to recycle and make every small decision a major improvement on the environment.

Jordan/Jackson students enjoy getting to know our senior citizens and sharing their passion for music, art and laughter. Some classes take a “fieldtrip” to the Council on Aging twice during the school year to perform, while the Senior Citizens visit the Jordan/Jackson School for a winter concert in January.

Every year, firefighters from the Mansfield Fire Department provide safety programs specific to each grade. Third-graders are introduced to the “stop, drop and roll” method to extinguish a fire. The “Call 911” safety program is conducted for fourth-graders. In the spring the specially-designed mobile classroom, the Fire Safety House, is parked outside the school so that fifth-grade students can learn the proper technique to evacuate a burning building.

Jordan/Jackson students continue to participate in the performing arts in record numbers. Over 90 5th-grade students participated in the March performance of The Wizard of Oz. Fourth- and fifth-grade students are enrolled in after school band and orchestra lessons and our J/J Chorus is extremely popular with over 150 members. The culminating annual event for the Jordan/Jackson chorus, band, and orchestra students is an evening performance at Xfinity Center.

Fourth-grade student Anabel Silva was selected as an essay contest winner by The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Committee of Greater Attleboro. Her essay focused on the need to develop empathy and cultural understanding.

◆◆◆

### **Robinson Elementary School, (K-2)**

*Mrs. Kerri Sankey, Ph.D., Principal*

Robinson Elementary School is energized with many changes this year. We have successfully launched a new comprehensive literacy program, *Journeys*. In addition, all three grade levels are now implementing *EnVision Math 2.0*, an updated version of our math program. Our new literacy and math programs are very rigorous and common core aligned. We believe that these programs will enable us to provide a rich learning experience for all students.

## Town of Mansfield

In December of 2017 wireless internet access went live in our building. We were also able to transform one of our computer labs into a multi-tool technology space that includes desktop computers, Chromebooks and, iPads.

We are fortunate that much of the work we are doing this year will be supported by professional development through Pearson, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Lesley University and, the International Center for Leadership Education. Our professional development will provide support to teachers and enable us to work collaboratively to further develop our vision for learning.

◆◆◆

### Roland Green Pre-School

*Mrs. Kerri Sankey, Ph.D., Principal*

A support group for grandparents raising grandchildren got its start last spring at Roland Green and has blossomed into a series of workshops. Information about this group can be found by contacting [melissa.leonard@mansfieldschools.com](mailto:melissa.leonard@mansfieldschools.com).

◆◆◆

### Health Services

*Mrs. Christine Dooling, MSN, RN  
Director of Health Services*

The mission of Health Services is to promote an optimal level of wellness by advocating for students and removing barriers that impede health and learning. Our vision is for every student to be healthy, safe, and ready to learn. Services provided include:

- nursing care
- medication administration
- individual health counseling & education
- health screenings
- cumulative school health record

◆◆◆

### Evening School

*Mr. David Farinella, Director*

Under the direction of Mr. Farinella, Mansfield Evening School is an alternative educational experience in a small school environment staffed by a team of caring individuals who are committed to helping all students achieve success and obtain a high school diploma. Mansfield is extremely fortunate to have this program.

◆◆◆

### C.H.A.M.P.S.

*Continued Hours at Mansfield Public Schools  
Mrs. Shawna Leary, Director*

C.H.A.M.P.S. offers the following programs:

- Before and after school childcare for children in grades K-5
- Mansfield Summer Institute, sponsored by HarborOne Bank, an enrichment and athletic camp-style program for students in K-8
- After-school enrichment classes for Robinson and Jordan/Jackson students
- Band and orchestra lessons for 4th & 5th-grade students
- Drivers' Education

◆◆◆

In 2018, we accepted the retirements of 19 educators and staff in our district. While we greatly miss their presence, we wish them all the best in their retirement.

Name	School	Position
Judy Allen	Robinson	Music
Dennis Cloutier	District	Facilities
Ellen Cochrane	Robinson	Special Education
Bernadette Conroy	District	Director Special Ed
Sheila DePalma	Robinson	Food Services
Lawrence Ferreira	MHS	Chemistry
Susan Fitzgerald	QMS	Counselor
Kimberly Goff	Jordan/Jackson	Grade 4
Patricia Keighley	Jordan/Jackson	Speech/Language
Robin Kent	Robinson	Grade 2
Shelley King	Robinson	Grade 2
James Kirk	MHS	Special Education
Ann Marie Mahan	Roland Green	Speech/Language
Elaine Mantia	Jordan/Jackson	Food Services
Donna Neely	Robinson	Paraprofessional
Patrick Piccolomini	QMS	Physical Education
Janet Quinn	Central Office	Office Assistant
Barbara Rea	Robinson	Office Assistant
Kathleen Smolinski	Robinson	Paraprofessional



*(not all retirees are pictured above)*

**Closing & Recognition of Parent & Community Support**

When asked, “To what do you attribute your schools’ success?” I would answer that so much credit goes to the students themselves and to their dedicated faculty and staff. But, speaking for all us who work for the Mansfield Public Schools, we understand that the success of our students is the success of the greater school community.

We acknowledge the contributions of:

- Parents/Guardians and Families
- Athletic and Performing Arts Booster groups
- Parent Advisory Councils, MESA, and School Councils
- The School Committee and other Town Boards
- Town Manager and all Town Departments
- Mansfield Cable Access
- The local business community
- Local organizations
- Volunteers

Thank you, Mansfield for your commitment to our schools!

