



## GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

195 Federal Street, Suite 100, Greenfield, MA 01301

Ph: 413-772-1312 / Fax: 413-772-1379

*The Greenfield Public School District is a place where every child is supported on their path to success.*

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To: Glenn Johnson-Mussad, Chair

From: Christine DeBarge, Ed.D

Date: March 13, 2024

RE: Superintendent Update

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### 1. Staffing

I am pleased to share that Sarah Crawford has returned to Greenfield as Assistant Director of Pupil Services. She has started working a small number of hours already and will join us full time after the April break.

I am also pleased to welcome our new Assistant Superintendent but Karin will share some remarks given he will be serving as Assistant Superintendent under her administration.

This is a reminder to the School Committee that staff turnover is very typical and a natural part of any employer's experience. We have staff that leave Greenfield for other opportunities but we also have folks accepting positions in Greenfield and creating vacancies in other places. I would discourage anyone from making assumptions about any staffing changes.

As part of our standard operating procedure, we will be posting any open positions for next school year around April break. This will include any positions held by staff with waivers, emergency licenses or those folks with licenses that are going to expire prior to the start of next school year. This is the same process we have utilized the past two years and should not induce panic about staffing. I will provide updates in my Superintendent Reports at each meeting regarding our staffing.

We continue to need Instructional Assistants across the district as well as substitute teachers and IAs. If anyone is interested, please check [www.Schoolspring.com](http://www.Schoolspring.com), check the "Employment" link on the front page of our website or contact the Superintendent's office if you need assistance locating where the current positions are located.

### 2. Registration

Registration for kindergarten is underway.. Information about registration is available on the district website. If you know anyone who has a child who will be age 5

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on or before September 1, 2024, please share this information with them!

### 3. College and Career Fair

Kyle Bostrom, Manufacturing and Woodworking Teacher at GHS, coordinated a College and Career Fair at GHS on Friday March 8. Colleges, local employers and Greenfield Police Department and Greenfield Fire Department were all represented and provided our students with valuable information about post secondary opportunities. An additional Thank you to Tami Silk, Administrative Assistant to the Guidance Department at GHS for her assistance.

### 4. Greenfield Middle School students participated in a Penny Wars Fundraiser in collaboration with the PTO. They raised a total of \$3,138.62 to donate to the following communication organizations: Shriners Hospital, Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter and Communication Action of Pioneer Valley. We greatly appreciate the time and effort given from our PTO and parent/guardian volunteers along with staff Anna marchefka and Caitlyn Wilkins. Thank you so much!

### 5. Budget

At this time, I have submitted the one line budget request, voted by the School Committee, to the Mayor's Office as required. We now wait for decisions to be made by the Mayor and City Council.

### 6. Mobile Dentist

Unfortunately the remaining dates for our Mobile Dentist program have been canceled due to staffing changes with the dentist program. I will provide updates to the community through my Parent Update this week and to the Committee if and when additional information is available.

### 7. Eclipse

We are expecting a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. Our dismissal falls with the projected times of approximately 2 pm until 4:30 pm Eastern Standard Time. We will share information with families through my Parent Update, the website and school based

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communications in the coming weeks. We also will have information to be shared with our students in the week leading up to the eclipse. The district will also provide eclipse glasses to all students and staff for that day.

As you may be aware, folks are strongly advised against looking at the eclipse without proper eyewear as it may cause injury.

Thank you

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