



July 11, 2023

Good evening,

We have begun the work of starting our next school year while simultaneously finishing the last. It makes for a very busy summer for administrators, full year administrative assistants and our custodial and maintenance staff.

Our extended year program began on July 5 and is being hosted at both AEL for grades preschool through 2 and at GHS for grades 3 – 8 and our credit recovery program. The program began as expected, with a few wrinkles to be ironed out but the staff and students are doing a great job. Most of our students will end the program on August 2. Some of our specialized programs will remain in session for two additional weeks.

Staffing

We are still working to fill district wide staff including a school psychologist and speech pathologist. We are pleased to have hired one staff in each position but continue to look for one additional to better meet our needs. We are seeing some staff turnover, which is typical during the summer. We have applicants for most positions and our administrators are working quickly to move through the hiring process.

We welcomed Merril Miceli as our full time Director of Early Childhood and David Messing as our Director of Pupil Services. They have jumped right in to the work of getting ready for the new school year!

Administrative Retreat

Today was Day One of our Administrative Retreat. During these two days, the administrative team engages in the work needed to start the SY24 off with a focus on the needs and priorities identified in the Strategic Plan. Following the Retreat, additional information will be shared with the School Committee about our professional development for next year and updates on the Strategic Plan Action Steps.

Re-envisioning our School Facilities Update

The administrators at the elementary and middle schools met with Karin and I to review the next layer of detail in Option 2B. A subcommittee meeting is planned for July 17th at 3:30 pm in the Superintendent's Office to update the subcommittee and decide next steps.

Sincerely,

Christine DeBarge, Ed.D
Superintendent