



MANSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Committee:

Lynn Cavicchi, Chair
Jenn Walsh, Vice Chair
Jenifer Sellon, Steve Schoonveld, Vivian Webster

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

I begin this year’s report for the Mansfield Public Schools by introducing the revised Mission and Vision Statements that were developed over several months by a representative group of adults and students:

Vision

The Mansfield Public Schools will foster an environment where all students share a sense of belonging and experience academic and personal growth. We will inspire and empower active and engaged learners, citizens, innovators, and communicators.

Mission

The Mansfield Public Schools supports each student so they feel recognized and valued. All students are empowered academically, socially, and emotionally so they can reach their maximum potential.

The Vision and Mission are lofty statements that require the collective efforts of all stakeholders to attain. The information contained in this report will illustrate how the school community works together to achieve the results we seek for students.

The Mansfield High School Class of 2023 included 299 students who graduated at the Xfinity Center on June 4, 2023. Faculty and staff join their families in reflecting with pride and satisfaction about the students who were prepared to move forward with their next chapter in life. Those future plans included:

- 83% of the class enrolled in a college/ university or postgraduate school
- 6% enrolled in Career Education or Apprenticeship Programs
- 1% Military
- 10% Employment or Gap Year

The district celebrated several other “graduations” during the spring of 2023. The following individuals retired from the schools. In total, they represent 200+ years of service to the Town of Mansfield and they left our schools better for having impacted and influenced the lives of students. Last spring’s retirees:

Carla Booker, Linda Chadwick, Mary Chmielecki, Susanne Dau, Eileen Day, Gail Geagan, Kathleen Goffe, Deborah Loomer, Susan McGinley, Karen Ouwinga, Karen Slarve, Lee Tighe

Finally, I want to recognize and express the district’s appreciation to former School Committee members Kiera O’Neil and Lauren Scher. Kiera served as Chair for eight of her twelve years on the School Committee. Lauren served on the School Committee for seven years. Stability in leadership is an indicator of school success. The district was fortunate that during the tumultuous period of the pandemic, Kiera and Lauren were at the helm, helping to lead us through the challenges. Neither Kiera nor Lauren sought reelection last spring and in so doing, opened the door for Jenifer Sellon and Steve Schoonveld to be elected and begin their own terms. Kiera’s and Lauren’s long tenures of service to the Town’s schools is commendable and we wish them the best in their future endeavors.

What follows is a sampling of the myriad activities and opportunities that engage our students. Thank you for taking the time to read about the Schools.

Community Learning Connections

Students from Jordan/Jackson visited the Historic Fisher-Richardson House to learn about life in Mansfield during the 18th Century.

Students in the MHS Field Ecology class performed a water quality assessment of the Rumford River by utilizing benthic macroinvertebrates as water quality indicators. Students gained experience in: fieldwork, lab work, data analysis, and reported results to audiences of their peers. As an extension of this project, students participated in a kayak trip on the Norton Reservoir where they located and identified invasive plant and animal species and discussed the importance of protecting our area’s natural resources.

MHS Art History seniors created a 30 x 11 foot mural at the Mansfield Council on Aging.

Students in the Project Teammate Art class created a rotating seasonal art exhibit at the Mansfield Council on Aging.

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A student from the photography class worked with School Resource Officer Ken Wright to design the Bentley calendar for the fifth consecutive year which raised over \$3,500.00 to donate to the NEADS foundation to sponsor another support dog.



MHS Career Practicum continues to develop new partnerships within the community. Mansfield Electric, Cafe on the Common and Hometown Bakery have joined our list of community internship opportunities along with some of our long term partners including Village at Willow Crossing, Mansfield Animal Hospital, Grogan Marciano Sporting Goods, Mansfield Police, Mansfield Fire and Mansfield Public Schools.

The Spring 2023 Entrepreneurship class project made and sold various products. With their proceeds they were able to donate \$1,650.00 to the Mansfield Animal Shelter.

Elementary students and their families kicked off the autumn season with a fun event at MESA's 2nd annual Hornet Harvest Fall Festival.

Roland Green, Robinson, and J/J Schools hosted iCare reading. This annual event is a tremendous success with many volunteers coming into classrooms to read books that focus on individuals with disabilities.

Global Learners

Twenty-eight MHS students traveled to Spain last summer with the World Travel Club.

Seventh-grade French students are writing back and forth with pen pals in Southwestern France.

The Seal of Biliteracy was offered for the first time to the Senior class. Last spring five students earned certificates: 4 Spanish recipients and 1 Russian recipient. The Seal of Biliteracy is an award provided by state approved districts that recognize high school graduates who attain high functional and academic levels of proficiency in English and a World Language in recognition of having studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation.

In the Robinson music classes, students built cultural and historical connections through the "Fly Around the World" activity. Every few weeks, students "flew"

to a new place in the world to learn about that country's musical culture by responding and performing through singing and instruments. Teachers created a "Musicians of the Month" bulletin board that highlighted composers and musicians from the 1500s to present day.

Mansfield High School received National Banner Recognition from Special Olympics North America.

MHS students in Human Geography completed research projects on different ethnic, religious, and cultural groups and their impacts on American society.

Grade 7 students created world issues murals to highlight important current events. The murals were displayed in the hall of presidents.

Grade 8 students created American creed stories and researched the experiences of family members and ancestors coming to America or their lives in other countries.

All elementary students participate in age-appropriate lessons that focus on the importance of being a responsible digital citizen and making smart choices online, in school, and in their community.

Innovation

Jordan/Jackson collaborated with the SE Regional Massachusetts STEM Network to establish a long-term relationship with Cardinal Health located in Mansfield. Engineers from Cardinal Health's Medical Supply Research and Development Team visited classrooms in third through fifth-grade. Cardinal Health also hosted students for a field trip to their laboratory. Students engaged in hands-on experiments and challenges, designed to develop an understanding and appreciation for the engineering design process, while inspiring students to consider career opportunities in the STEM fields.

All J/J students participate in a variety of STEM and Science learning opportunities throughout the school year, utilizing the Science Lab, Jordan/Jackson Community Garden and Innovation Station. A highlight for the year included school-wide participation in a parade float design challenge. The challenge was a culminating activity that was part of a larger unit of study where students learned about various cultural celebrations and the engineering design challenges that occur when designing parade floats or balloons. The challenge incorporated robot blocks, called Cubelets that could be used to animate

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their floats, built using Legos. Students utilized skills from many content areas as well as problem-solving and collaboration skills.

Robinson students participate in monthly STEM activities which provide hands-on learning opportunities. For example, teachers held a pumpkin science event for second-graders. Family volunteers supported teachers to provide hands-on pumpkin related activities for students to learn elements of science and math.

The MHS Computer Science Club participated in the American Computer Science League.

MHS students traveled to Bridgewater State University to participate in a biotechnology enrichment program called CityLab. Students completed an investigation about sickle cell anemia called The Mystery of the Crooked Cell.

Grade 8 Science & Engineering classes focused on humanitarian engineering for a sustainable future. One project had students consider different energy sources and design windmill blades to test for efficiency and output. Students also learned about water scarcity and water treatment options in the upcoming weeks and then created model water filters to purify "dirty" water.

QMS students are continuing to use the 3-in-1 machine that has 3D printing, laser engraving and CNC milling to increase focus and creativity with technology. They use 3D modeling software and digital tools to make both creative and practical models including interactive games. The teachers are expanding the physical computing portion of the curriculum by using multiple robots.

QMS Science teachers received approximately 100-200 Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) eggs and are being raised within a special chilled aquarium setup in the classroom. With some diligence on their part, as well as a healthy dose of good fortune (since students are continuing to use the 3-in-1 machine that has 3D printing, laser engraving and CNC milling to increase focus and mortality is relatively high in fish species such as trout), they should see these Alevin develop into Fry and continue to grow into the adult fish. The hope is to learn from them through the school year and eventually see them released as small adults into the wild stream sometime in early spring. Through this unique program, the students will be able to see first-hand how an organism can grow and develop and move on from one life stage to the next.

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All grade 8 and MHS math classrooms have a set of color TI-84 Plus CE rechargeable graphing calculators for student use.

Visual and Performing Arts

MHS students received an award of merit in the annual High Art show at the Attleboro Art Museum.

QMS prepared and submitted work from 35+ artists for inclusion in a regional Middle School Virtual Art Show sponsored by the Southeastern Massachusetts Arts Collaborative.

QMS Band, Orchestra, and Chorus programs continue to grow and thrive. 42% of 6th-graders and 40% of 7th-graders are participating in a musical ensemble. After earning Gold and Platinum medals at the Great East Festival last June, students returned in the fall and jumped right into performances. QMS had six students accepted into the Southeastern Massachusetts District Music Festival, an offshoot of the state Music Education Association.

J/J Art Teachers with the Inclusion, Culture & Unity Team are collaborating on a project in which all students can contribute to a tapestry that will display how their school is united by all the things that make them individuals.

Athletics, Health, and Wellness

Elementary students participate in Physical Education classes that focus on gross motor skills and fitness with the goal of helping them discover joy through moving which in turn builds healthy habits and a lifelong love of movement.

QMS competed in its first interscholastic sport, Cross-Country, competing in four meets with forty six students participating.

MHS student-athletes celebrated the following accomplishments:

Two state title appearances in the MIAA Tournament-Boys Basketball and Girls Soccer

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Three Final 4 appearances in the MIAA
Tournament-Boys Basketball, Baseball and Girls
Soccer

Four Hockomock titles won this year - Golf, Boys
Indoor Track, Girls Outdoor Track, Boys Lacrosse
Unified Basketball participated in the Andrew Jame
Lawson Invitational tournament
Hosted MIAA Unified Basketball Tournament
Hosted Hockomock Unified Bocce Tournament
Inaugural season of Unified Cheerleading



J/J, QMS, and MHS students participated in assemblies and lessons to discuss the importance of healthy decision making, navigating peer pressure, and understanding the impacts of vaping.

MHS Juniors attended Health class lessons about the dangers of opioids taught by Mansfield Fire Department's Captain Keith Thomas.

School Resource Officer Derek McCune was joined by his MPD colleagues to train students and staff in the 4L's training (Locate, Lockdown, Leave, Live).

Lt. Ryan Brousseau and Captain Keith Thomas of the Mansfield Fire Department provide grade-appropriate lessons in fire prevention, fire safety, and the science of fire to students in Grades K - 6.

Detective Derek McCune presented to QMS students on alcohol and drug prevention.

Facilities Projects

Maintaining and improving the school facilities continues to be an important goal of the district. Recent projects included the following:

The boiler and generator were replaced at MHS which should result in energy savings.

The chairlift at Roland Green was replaced.

Lighting was upgraded to LED in the QMS cafeteria and auditorium and MHS first floor hallway. We continue to upgrade to LED lighting in classrooms throughout the district.

A Robinson underground oil tank was removed to prepare for the new playground construction scheduled for the summer of 2024.

Partnering with MESA, the Robinson staff lunch rooms were remodeled.

Carpeting was replaced in several rooms at Jordan/Jackson and bathroom floors at Roland Green were refinished.

The MHS auditorium has recently undergone several upgrades to enhance its performance space. These upgrades include the installation of new LED stage lighting and a cyclorama curtain. Additionally, new furniture has been added to the rear of the auditorium. These improvements will greatly enhance the overall experience of the performances held in the auditorium.

Partnering with Barbizon Lighting Company, QMS Drama was able to purchase two LED ellipsoidal lights and wireless accessories to distribute data. The LEDs are energy efficient and require little upkeep to keep the stage bright!

Thanks to the Mansfield DPW, a new carline at Roland Green School has been introduced to improve the safety and efficiency of arrival and dismissal procedures.

The Mansfield Public Schools acknowledge the contributions of:

Parents/Guardians and Families
School Councils
Athletic and Performing Arts Boosters,
Special Education PAC, MESA and QMS PAC
The Select Board and Finance Committee
Town Manager and all Town Departments
Public Safety Officials
Department of Public Works
Mansfield Cable Access
The local business community and organizations
Volunteers

Thank you for your commitment to our schools!

How to Contact Public Schools



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