Medfield Public Schools

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Medfield Central Office Insights - Issue 20 October 2026

Jeffrey Marsden • 2 minutes ago • Friday, Oct 30 at 2:49 PM • **Medfield Public Schools**

Medfield Central Office Insights

Issue 20 - October 2026

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Jeffrey J. Marsden - Superintendent

Dale Street School Project Update

The Dale Street School Project continues to make progress as we move through the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Feasibility Study process. Our design team, Finegold Alexander Architects, has been evaluating the existing building, reviewing our educational programming needs, and developing preliminary design options that include both renovation/addition and new construction.

The School Building Committee has also been actively engaging the community through public meetings, virtual forums, and visioning sessions to gather feedback that will help shape the future of the project.

The next major milestone is our December 2026 submission to the MSBA, which will include an evaluation of preliminary design alternatives. Following that submission, the School Building Committee will continue reviewing the options, considering educational needs, costs, and community feedback.

The goal is to select a preferred design option in April 2027. It is important to emphasize that selecting a preferred option does not mean the project has been approved for construction. Additional design development, cost estimating, MSBA review, and local funding approvals would still be required before construction could begin.

Throughout this process, the School Building Committee will continue to engage the community and provide opportunities for public input. We appreciate the community's continued engagement and encourage residents to stay informed and participate in this important process.

Additional information, including recent designs, meeting recordings, and other updates are available on the **Medfield School Building Committee website**.

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Raising The Bar

We are pleased to share a community-wide initiative in which Medfield Public Schools is proud to be a partner.

Raising The Bar is a community-wide health promotion strategy focused on keeping youth-centered events substance-free. From sports celebrations to school activities, the initiative encourages Medfield adults to serve and consume only non-alcoholic beverages at events centered around our children and help reinforce the message that we do not need alcohol or other substances to have fun and celebrate together.

The growing list of Raising The Bar partners include Medfield Public Schools, Medfield Outreach, Medfield Parks and Recreation Department, and the Bellforge Arts Center. When you see Raising the Bar signs at local sports fields and other youth-centered venues, including our own school facilities, we ask that you join us in important effort by helping to keep these events substance free.

For more information, we invite you to visit the Raising the Bar **webpage**.

Thank you for your partnership and support as we work together to create safe, healthy, and positive experiences for all Medfield children.

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Mary Bruhl - Director of Student Services

A.P.P.L.E. Institute

Medfield Public Schools, Medfield SEPAC and Medfield Parks and Recreation are excited to join together to take part in the A.P.P.L.E. (Advancing Parent and Professional Leadership Education) Institute during the 2026-27 school year. The A.P.P.L.E. Institute is sponsored by DESE and run through the Federation for Children with Special Needs. The goal of the institute is the following: "A.P.P.L.E. teams move beyond talking about collaboration to actually practicing it – with structure, support, and shared accountability. They develop trust, respect, and develop mutually beneficial relationships" (Federation for Children with Special Needs). The benefits of participating include:

- Building trust within the team
- Improving communication and collaboration
- Co-creating and achieving goals
- Exploring and addressing barriers to the team's work
- Co-designing an action plan for 2026-2027

The group has representation from the schools, SEPAC and Parks and Recreation. While the work has just begun, everyone is excited to see the results of this collaborative project.

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Christine Power - Director of Instruction and Innovation

Summer 2026 Research & Development Projects

Every summer, Medfield educators roll up their sleeves to focus on deep, meaningful work via our Research and Development program. Free from the daily friction of rigid bell schedules and limited meeting space, this program gives teachers an uninterrupted opportunity to dedicate themselves fully to a single project and collaborate closely with colleagues across the hall or across the district. The 2026 Summer Research and Development program brought together dedicated teachers and administrators to complete 14 practical, high-impact initiatives.

One major focus this past summer was laying the groundwork for the district's new Bookworms literacy program. To support this comprehensive reading curriculum, teachers collaborated within grade levels to develop materials to successfully launch the new program in the Memorial, Wheelock, and Dale Street Schools. Teams spanning Kindergarten through Grade 5 crafted lessons and assessment tools designed to strengthen foundational reading skills and build comprehension.

Beyond literacy, educators designed brand-new units and refreshed existing courses for AP Business, Art/Drawing, Communications, Integrated Geometry, and US History. Grade 6 math teachers completed Illustrative Mathematics training as part of an ongoing pilot. Meanwhile, members of the DEIB Committee worked thoughtfully to keep belonging central to daily instruction.

These summer efforts yield tangible lesson plans, assessments, and instructional strategies that get shared with their peers. Uninterrupted planning time lets teachers build practical tools and resources to launch the year successfully.

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Kristyn DeDonato - Director of Finance and Operations



Lunches Available on Early Release Days

Beginning this school year, lunch will be available to all students on scheduled early release days. As procedures vary by school, we ask families to review the information below to ensure students who would like lunch follow the appropriate process.

Memorial School: Parents must preorder lunch using a Google form. Orders must be submitted at least two days prior to the scheduled early release day. Lunches will be sorted by classroom and will be picked up from the cafeteria and brought back to the classroom to eat at a time designated by the teacher.

Wheelock + Dale St. School: Students will preorder lunch in the morning with their teacher, similar to a regular school day. Lunches will be sorted by classroom and will be picked up from the cafeteria and brought back to the classroom to eat at a time designated by the teacher.

Middle School + High School: Students may pick up a lunch during breakfast to save it to eat later in the day. No preordering necessary

FY28 Budget Planning

The FY28 budget planning process will begin in November with meetings involving department heads, principals, and other administrators to review budget needs and priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. These discussions are an important first step in developing a thoughtful and fiscally responsible budget. The preliminary FY28 budget will be presented to the School Committee at its December 17 meeting.



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Join Our Great Team!

We have open positions including evening custodians, substitute custodians, food service workers, and daily food service substitutes. Please help spread the word to anyone who may be interested!

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UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

November 6 & 7
Blake Theater Fall Play
Blake Auditorium
7:00 PM

November 11
No School - Veterans Day

November 12
School Committee Meeting
Medfield High School Library Media Center
6:00 pm

November 13
8th Grade Dance
Blake Middle School
7:00 PM

November 19 & 20
Elementary School Conferences
Early Release - Elementary Only

November 20 & 21
Medfield High School Fall Musical
Medfield High School Auditorium
7:00 PM

November 25
Early Release Day - All Schools

November 26 & 27
Thanksgiving Recess - No School

CLICK HERE FOR FULL EVENT CALENDAR

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Inclusivity - Respect - Responsibility - Continuous Growth

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Community Event - Belonging in Medfield - Tomorrow Night 10/29/2026, 6:00 PM - MHS LMC

Andrea Moores • 2 days ago • Wednesday, Oct 28 at 9:20 AM • **Medfield Public Schools**



RSVP for "Belonging in Medfield" - Part 3 - 10/29/26 at 6 p.m. in the High School LMC

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Join The Angel Run 5K - December 6, 2026

Andrea Moores • 7 days ago • Friday, Oct 23 at 1:35 PM • **Medfield High School, Thomas A. Blake Middle School**



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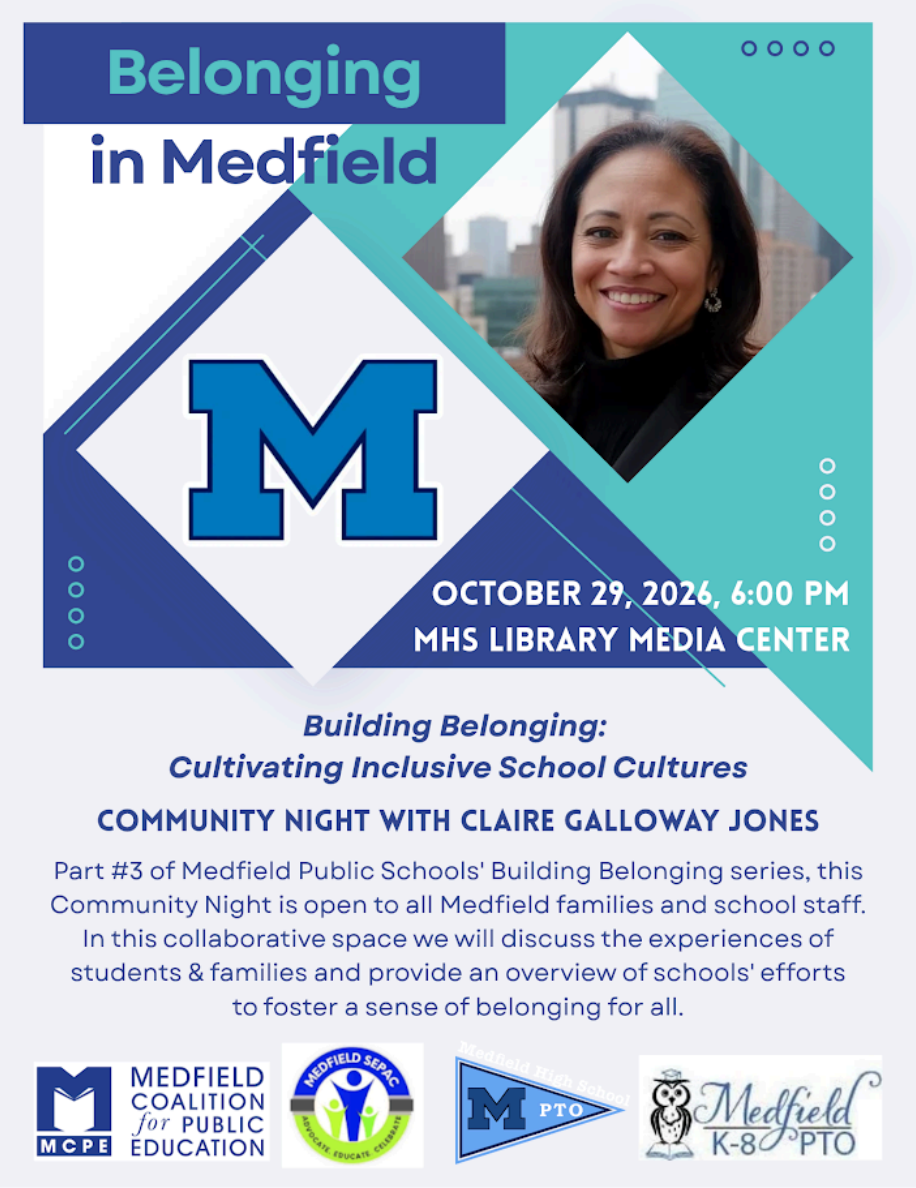
1,630 Notified • User Preferred Notifications • Parents

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AM

Community Night - Belonging in Medfield 10/29/2026 6:00 PM - MHS LMC

Andrea Moores • 9 days ago • Wednesday, Oct 21 at 2:30 PM • **Medfield Public Schools**



RSVP for "Belonging in Medfield" - Part 3 - 10/29/26 at 6 p.m. in the High School LMC

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Medfield Spirit Day Booth Event - This Friday 10/23/2026 at 5:00 PM

Andrea Moores • 9 days ago • Wednesday, Oct 21 at 8:39 AM • **Medfield Public Schools** 4


JOIN US
FRIDAY
OCT 23RD - MHS TURF @ 5PM
GAMES
FOOD
RAFFLES
MEDFIELD GEAR
FOOTBALL VS HOPKINTON @ 6PM

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AM

MHS Spirit Day Booths Postponed!

Andrea Moores • 14 days ago • Friday, Oct 16 at 9:34 AM • **Dale Street School, Memorial School, Ralph Wheelock School, Thomas A. Blake Middle School**

Because of the rain forecast for tonight's football game, the Spirit Day Booths have been rescheduled to next Friday, October 23.

Join us at the HS Turf at 5 pm for Games, Food, Raffles, and Medfield Merchandise for purchase - and then stay for the football game!

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Medfield 375 Anniversary Parade

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Andrea Moores • 17 days ago • Tuesday, Oct 13 at 12:23 PM • **Medfield Public Schools**

The 375th Anniversary Parade is just around the corner (Saturday, October 17th)!

Each of the Medfield Public Schools will be represented with a school sign/banner, and we are actively seeking families who would be willing to march on parade day and represent Medfield Public Schools.

Please see below for specifics:

- Younger students must be accompanied by an adult.
- The parade begins at 11:00 AM...

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October 1 School Committee meeting – Join in Person or Online

AM

Andrea Moores • a month ago • Wednesday, Sep 30 at 11:20 AM • **Medfield Public Schools**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Please see the agenda for the **Thursday, October 1 School Committee meeting at 6:00 p.m.** Join us at the **Medfield High School Library Media Center** or via Zoom**.**

Topics of interest to families include:

- **Adolescent health survey results:** Learn more about student health and well-being.
- **Elementary principals' opening reports:** Hear how the school year is getting started.
- ...

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SEPAC EVENT - Meet the Special Education Leadership Team

Andrea Moores • a month ago • Friday, Sep 25 at 1:48 PM • **Medfield Public Schools**

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Dale Street School Project - Community Visioning Session 9/29/2026 at 6:00 PM

Andrea Moores • a month ago • Friday, Sep 25 at 9:12 AM • **Medfield Public Schools**

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CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4FA4A923AAFFC52-65543619-medfield Read More

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