Tewksbury School Committee Agenda - Wednesday, November 13, 2019



TEWKSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHRISTOPHER J. MALONE
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Meeting Type/Time: Executive Session #3 (6:30PM) Meeting Type/Time: Regular Meeting #3 (7:00PM)

Meeting Location: Tewksbury Memorial High School, Large Group Instruction Rm 1

320 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Non-Public Session) - 6:30PM

Continued discussion relative to collective bargaining with employee groups and individual employees and the strategy to be followed and/or continued ongoing litigation. The School Committee will reconvene in Open Session following the Executive Session.

C. RECONVENE REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING - 7:00 PM

D. ANNOUNCEMENT

The November 13, 2019 School Committee meeting will be televised and recorded. Under the Open Meeting Law, the public is permitted to make an audio or video recording of an open session at a public meeting. At this time I would ask if anyone is recording tonight's meeting to please identify himself/herself.

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

F. RECOGNITION

John Ryan Elementary SchoolGrade 5 & 6 MASS STEM Challenge Participants

G. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

H. PRESENTATION

Tewksbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) Presentation

I. CITIZEN'S FORUM (Citizens are asked to limit comments related to items on the agenda to five (5) minutes or ten (10) if spokesperson is representing a group concern.)

J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. October 16, 2019 Regular Meeting (File)

K. SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT OF BILL

- 1. Payroll Period Ending October 17, 2019 (\$1,363,706.97) (File)
- 2. Payroll Period Ending October 31, 2019 (\$1,357,879.23) (File)

L. SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF REPORT

M. CONSENT AGENDA (itemized on page 3)

N. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elementary School Building Committee Tewksbury Education Foundation Tewksbury SEPAC Wellness Advisory Committee

O. POLICY CHANGES, PROPOSALS, and ADOPTION

None

P. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. MCAS Parent Support Video
- 2. TPS Professional Development Update (File)

Q. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Title 1 Year End Report (File)
- 2. MA DESE Press Release: Massachusetts National Assessment Educational Progress (NAEP) Results (File)

R. SCHOOL COMMITTEE MATTERS OF INTEREST

S. FUTURE SCHOOL COMMITTEE & FUTURE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

December 4, 2019; January 15, 2020 (Budget Workshop 6:30PM / Regular Meeting 7:00PM)

T. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

U. ADJOURNMENT

TEWKSBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONSENT AGENDA

Superintendent of Schools Christopher J. Malone cmalone@tewksbury.k12.ma.us

TEWKSBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Keith M. Sullivan, Chairperson, ksullivan@tewksbury.k12.ma.us
James A. Cutelis, Vice-Chairman, jcutelis@tewksbury.k12.ma.us
Shannon M. Demos, Clerk, sdemos@tewksbury.k12.ma.us
John R. Stadtman, Member, jstadtman@tewksbury.k12.ma.us
Scott D. Wilson, Member, swilson@tewksbury.k12.ma.us

M. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Correspondence
- a. Ryan School Students Place at STEM Week Event (Tewksbury Town Crier)
- 2. Enrollment Update

None

3. Monthly Expenditure Report

None

4. Personnel Items

New Hires: James McLaughlin (\$35,907/prorated), Tewksbury Memorial High School Building Custodian, effective November 4, 2019; Thomas Benjamin (\$72,000 prorated), District-wide BCBA, effective November 12, 2019

Co-Curricular Positions for the 2019-2020: Thomas Morrill (\$5,000), Physical Education/Health Wellness Co-Director for the 2019-2020 school year; Ronald Drouin (\$5,000), Physical Education/Health Wellness Co-Director for the 2019-2020 school year

Iransfers: None

Retirements/Resignations/Terminations: None

- 5. Acceptance of Donations/Gifts: Eastern Bank of Tewksbury, donation of office furniture to the Tewksbury Public Schools, valued at \$7,500.
- 6. **Fundraisers/Raffles:** TMHS Theatre Company basket raffle, November 14, 2019 through November 16, 2019

Executive Session

TEWKSBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGENDA

TEWKSBURY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHRISTOPHER J. MALONE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Meeting Type/Time: Executive Session #3 – Non-Public Session at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Meeting Location: Tewksbury Memorial High School, Guidance Conference Room

320 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Continued discussion relative to collective bargaining with employee groups and individual employees and the strategy to be followed and/or continued ongoing litigation. The School Committee will reconvene in Open Session following the Executive Session.

C. ADJOURNMENT

Recognition and/or Presentations

Tewksbury School Committee - November 13, 2019

RECOGNITIONS

John Ryan Elementary School MASS STEM Challenge Showcase

Participants

Haley Shannahan Sophie Brewster
Cam Gruendner Hunter Holloway
Ian Todd Joanna Green
Maura Krueger Kallie Mangan
Janina Long Sam Berry

Payton Holmes

Third in Place for the Showcase Winners

Andrew Viens Nathan Bettencourt

Jake Cunha

Ryan School iSTEM Instructors

Kimberly Hillson Eileen Lindsey

PRESENTATIONS

Tewksbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Dina Mancini, Co-Chair Anne Seichter, Co-Chair

Maureen Castiglione, Recording Secretary

Peg Ricardo, Publicity Secretary

Sara Cohen, Parent at Large (TMHS/Wynn School)

Michelle Haley (Ryan School)

Al Mancini (Dewing School/North Street School)

Open (Heath Brook School/Trahan School)

Open (Out-of-District Families)

Tewksbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council

November 13, 2019



THANK YOU, GOVERNOR BAKER AND OUR SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES.









Tewksbury Parents/guardians of children on IEPs, 504s and/or other interested parties.



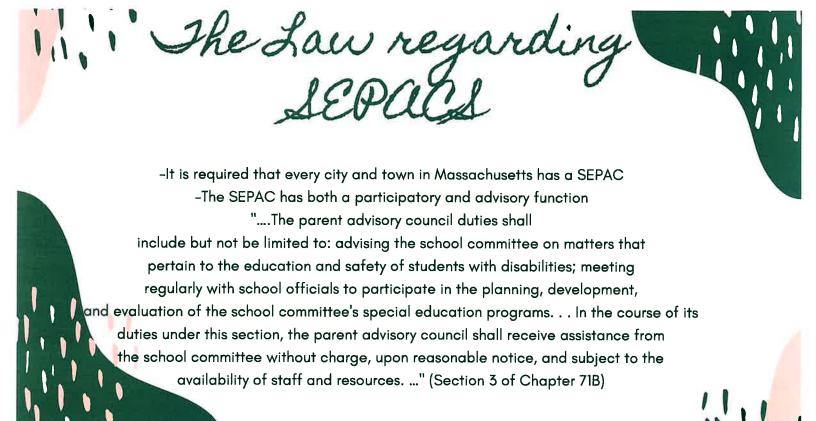
EDUCATION FOR
PARENTS ON THE
RIGHTS OF CHILDREN
WITH DISABILITIES IN
SCHOOL

POLITICAL ADVOCACY
FOR BETTER LAWS AND
MORE AWARENESS FOR
SPECIAL EDUCATION

What we do

SUPPORT FROM
FAMILIES WHO
UNDERSTAND THE
STRUGGLES AND
TRIUMPHS





Co-Chairs Dina Mancini and Anne Seichter

Recording Secretary Maureen Castiglione

Publicity Secretary Peg Ricardo

Parents at Large
Sara Cohen(High School & Wynn)
Michelle Haley (Ryan)
Al Mancini(Dewing and North Street)
Open (HB and Trahan)
Open (Out of District families)



Our Board



2019-2020 accomplishments

-June TSEPAC Day on the Hill with our elected officials and increased political advocacy

-Basic Rights Workshop by Federation of Children with Special Needs

-"An IEP For My Child Workshop" by Federation of Children with Special Needs

-ADHD Essentials with Brendan Mahan

-Participated in the Tewksbury Public Library Festival of Trees

-Summer Playground Social

-Blue Wave Family Engagement Social

Building Connections

TSEPAC HAS TEAMED UP WITH THE WILMINGTON SEPAC TO SPONSOR WORKSHOPS.

TSEPAC MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT MEETINGS.

TSEPAC MEMBERS ARE NETWORKING
WITH NEW HAMPSHIRE SPECIAL
EDUCATION PARENTS TO HELP
ADVOCATE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION
LAWS.



Coming Attractions...

FALL FAMILY
SOCIAL AT BLUE
WAVE RECREATION
CENTER

FESTIVAL OF TREES

December 2019

November 21, 2019

SOCIAL SKILLS
WORKSHOP

APPLE STORE

Winter, 2020

Late Winter, 2020



How can you get involved?

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST BY EMAILING TEWKSBURYSEPAC@GMAIL.COM

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK "FRIENDS OF TSEPAC"

ATTEND OUR MEETINGS AND SOCIALS



-MAGIC JOHNSON

Minutes

Payroll

TEWKSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Tewksbury, Massachusetts

Date 10/17/2019

I move the School Department Payroll for the period ending to be approved and certified in the amounts and categories as shown for a total amount of \$1,363,706.97

GRANTS

\$25,588.69	2018-2019	Special Ed 240 Grant
\$12,165.08	2017-2018	Title I Grant
	2018-2019	Title II Grant
	2018-2019	Title IV Grant
\$5,462.64	2018-2019	21st Century Grant
	2018-2019	Innovation Pathways Grant

REVOLVING ACCOUNTS

\$3,765.88	2019-2020	Community Services
\$17,038.92	2019-2020	Community Services Preschool Program
	2019-2020	Community Services Recreation
\$1,810.33	2019-2020	Adult Education Program
\$28,419.69	2019-2020	Lunch Program
\$1,006.77	2019-2020	Facilities
	2019-2020	Recreation
\$643.14	2019-2020	Parking Fees
\$3,098.92	2019-2020	Preschool
	2019-2020	Advanced Placement
	2019-2020	New Start

\$99,000.06 SUB TOTAL - NON LEA FUNDS

LEA FUNDS

\$1,264,706.91 2019-2020 School Department Account

\$1,363,706.97 TOTAL

1"

TEWKSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Tewksbury, Massachusetts

Date 10/31/2019

I move the School Department Payroll for the period ending to be approved and certified in the amounts and categories as shown for a total amount of \$1,357,879.23

<u>GRANTS</u>

\$25,788.69	2018-2019	Special Ed 240 Grant
\$11,943.22	2017-2018	Title I Grant
	2018-2019	Title II Grant
	2018-2019	Title IV Grant
\$5,848.68	2018-2019	21st Century Grant
	2018-2019	Innovation Pathways Grant

REVOLVING ACCOUNTS

\$2,807.38	2019-2020	Community Services
\$14,011.48	2019-2020	Community Services Preschool Program
	2019-2020	Community Services Recreation
\$3,518.49	2019-2020	Adult Education Program
\$25,259.69	2019-2020	Lunch Program
\$2,103.92	2019-2020	Facilities
	2019-2020	
\$643.14	2019-2020	Parking Fees
\$3,098.92	2019-2020	Preschool
	2019-2020	Advanced Placement
	2019-2020	New Start

\$95,023.61 SUB TOTAL - NON LEA FUNDS

LEA FUNDS

\$1,262,855.62 2019-2020 School Department Account

\$1,357,879.23 TOTAL

Superintendent/ Staff/School Committee Reports

Consent Agenda

34 PAGES

🛦 Ryan School students participated in the STEM WEEK Challenge in Boston. Pictured left to right are Alyssa Flahive, Nathan Bettencourt, Andrew Viens, Jake (Paige Impink photo) Cunha, Wyatt Holmes, Maura Krueger, Cam Guendner, Hunter Holloway, and Joanna Greene.

School students place at STEM

By PAIGE IMPINK News Correspondent paige@yourtowncrier.com

TEWKSBURY - The Baker-Polito administration has declared a first in the country STEM week, emphasizing the importance of science, technology, engineering and math in schools and encouraging exploration and innovation in these disciplines.

John F. Rvan Elementary School teachers Ei-

leen Lindsey and Kim Hillson run the STEM initiative in the school, introducing fifth and sixth graders to concepts, problem solving, and process; skills critical for all careers and necessary career and college preparedness.

According to STEMWEEK "STEM jobs and industries are vital to the Massachusetts economy, creating good jobs and a growing number of opportunities statewide as Massachusetts invests strongly in STEM industries.

Massachusetts STEM week ran Oct. 21 - 25, and encompassed a large number of events all over the Commonwealth. Significant partnerships support the effort including universities, private businesses, technology and leadership councils and curriculum development agen-

The Ryan School stu-

dents participated in the STEM Showcase held on the last day of STEM week at the Reggie Lewis Track Center in Roxbury. Students worked together to solve real world problems. The challenges presented were focused on zero waste and were distributed by grade; K-2 food waste, grade 3-5 energy, 6-8 microplastics and high schools focused on electronic waste.

Lindsey said, "we are a

5th and 6th grade school [so] we went with the option to develop a prototype to filter microplastics out of water."

Lindsey explained that students began by filtering microplastics out of cosmetics (Irish Spring body wash) and researched how microplastics get into the water supply, why this is a problem and options to remove them. The prototype the students were required to

develop had to be made of plastic waste.

The microplastic extractor, named Hedgehog, collects the microplastics on a screen on the head of the device, reminding students of a hedgehog.
"Our entire school took

part in the challenge and four teams of students were selected to attend the showcase," said Lind-

STEM | PAGE 16

Tewksbury students place well at STEM showcase

STEM FROM PAGE 1

There were 60 teams in grades 6-8 and the Ryan's 5th grade team was moved up to be in the competition, scoring a 3rd place berth. The curriculum for the challenge was written by Project Lead the Way,

an organization focused on collaborative, hands-on experiential learning in the classroom.

Judges for the STEM Showcase came from all different companies, such as Dell, Medtronic, GE, Vecna Robotics, Gingko Bioworks, MassDEP, and more. The judges visited each group, asked questions and listened to students discuss how they made their prototypes. The judges also gave constructive feedback to the students.

Lindsey said, "It was a great experience for the kids to present in this environment."

The students were praised for their solution but were also challenged to consider and anticipate failure points, such as impacts to other elements of the environment (like fish) which might be harmed by the device's fan.

As their evaluator wrote, "Think safe, think big!"

Each member of the winning team from the Ryan won Celtics tickets. The group included Alyssa Flahive, Jake Cunha, Nathan Bettencourt, Andrew Viens, and Wyatt Holmes.



MEMORANDUM

To: Tewksbury School Committee

From: Brenda Theriault-Regan

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Date: November 7, 2019

Re: Donation of Office Furniture

Eastern Bank of Tewksbury

On behalf of the Eastern Bank of Tewksbury, Mr. Arthur Costa, AVP Branch Manager, is pleased to announce that the Eastern Bank will donate office furniture to the Center School, valued at \$7,500.00. The donation consists of the following items:

- 1 desk with chairs, 1 credenza, and 2 round tables with chairs
- 3 desks with chairs, including cubicles
- 2 desks with chairs

Please accept this as my recommendation to the School Committee to accept the donation on behalf of the Tewksbury Public Schools.

TEWKSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Request for Fundraising

File: JJE-E Date: 10/23/2019 1. Name of Organization TMIS Theatre Compan 2. Describe in detail the method of the fundraising activity. Attach additional information necessary. Te Baskets 3. School location and facilities desired (cafetorium, cafeteria, classroom, gymnasium). Please send Use of Facilities Form to Nancy O'Hare (TMHS)/Patricia Meuse (K-8 Schools) 4. Purpose of anticipated funds (To be approved by the building principal.) Tickets sold to raffle off bankets donated 5. Proposed dates of fund raising activity From Nov. 14 6. Describe student involvement in the fund raising activity. receive donations to ass 7. Type of identifying credential to be used during Fund Raising Activity. 8. Is there a contract or agreement to be signed. Yes No V 9. Name of responsible individual Tade Carpa Address Telephone No. (__) _____ Signature of Applicant *************************** (To be completed by the School Principal) 1. Your request for permission to raise funds is Approved Disapproved (Circle) Reason for disapproval_ You are authorized to begin the activity on ___ 4. You are to submit a written narrative describing the amount of money raised and the funds not later than thirty (30) days after the ending date as shown above. 5. Comments by the principal: 6. Copy sent to the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. /No (Circle) Principal's Signature

Old Business



MEMORANDUM

To: Tewksbury School Committee

From: Brenda Theriault-Regan

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Date: November 7, 2019

Re: TPS Professional Development

This is Information Only - No Vote Required

The following is the Tewksbury Public Schools' Professional Development & Workshop schedule for November 5, 2019.

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9-20	1

School	Group	Title	Where	When	Hours	Aides Optional
TMHS	ALL (Not NPEN Roles)	UbD: Curr. Mapping for Understanding & Inclusive Practice	ТМНЅ	8:00-3:00 pm	9	Limited Please see Principal
Wynn	ALL (Not NPEN Roles)	UbD: Curr. Mapping for Understanding & Inclusive Practice	WYNN	8:00-3:00 pm	9	Limited Please see Principal
Ryan	ALL (Not NPEN Roles)	UbD: Curr. Mapping for Understanding & Inclusive Practice	RYAN	8:00-3:00 pm	9	Limited Please see Principal
		PM- Math Workshop 2.0 & AM- UbD: Curr. Mapping for				Limited Please see
3-4	ALL (Not NPEN Roles)	Understanding & Inclusive Practice	Heath Brook	8:00-3:00 pm	9	Principal
		AM- Math Workshop 2.0 &				l imited
PK-2	ALL (Not NPEN Roles)	PM- UbD: Curr. Mapping for Understanding & Inclusive Practice	Heath Brook	8:00-3:00 pm	9	Please see Principal
Nurses	ALL (Not NPEN Roles)	Role-Related Training	TMHS	8:00-3:00 pm	9	No
OT/PT	ALL (Not NPEN Roles)	OT/PT Sp.Ed. & Medicaid Training	Heath Brook	8:00-3:00 pm	9	No
ALL NPEN RELATED	Arts, BCBA, Beh. Health (Psy/SAC/LSW), Business, ESL, Guidance, Lib., PE/H, PK, SLP, Sub- Sep., SpEd Ldrs., Tech, World Lang.	NPEN 2019	Sites Vary	8:00-3:00 pm start and end times vary	9	O
Delta-T	None	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

New Business



MEMORANDUM

To: Tewksbury School Committee

From: Brenda Theriault-Regan

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Date: November 7, 2019

Re: Year End Report - Title 1 / Title 11A

This is Information Only - No Vote Required

The following is the Year End Report on Title 1 grant funds and Title 11A funds as presented by George Paul, Title 1 Director.



George Paul
Director of Title I

Tewksbury, Massachusetts 01876

133 North Street Telephone (978) 640-7875 Fax (978) 640-7879

Date:

October 16, 2019

To:

Christopher J. Malone, Superintendent of Schools Members of the Tewksbury School Committee

From:

George S. Paul, Title 1 Director

Re:

Year End Report

During fiscal year 2019 Tewksbury received \$140,522 in Title 1 Grant 305 funds. In addition to this we received \$73,806 in Title 11A funds for staff and professional development.

Income determines the eligibility of schools and once identified, need determines which students will be provided remedial services. Additionally, the program has programmatic requirements and carries fiscal restraints: it supplements and does not supplant.

For the 2018-2019 school year the Heath Brook, North Street and Loella F. Dewing Schools were determined to be the eligible schools. The eligible schools for the 2019-2020 school year are The Heath Brook, Loella F. Dewing, North Street, and Trahan.

I am pleased to report that the FY20 Grants will provide Tewksbury with \$340,983 in Title 1 funds and \$77, 370 in Title 11A funds for staff development.

Title 1 eligible students participate in a variety of supplemental instructional programs provided by highly qualified staff during the school day. The programs include the inclusion model by which the student is provided additional services by Title 1 staff in the regular classroom in collaboration with the classroom teacher. A pull out, tutorial program for those students who require a small group instructional setting outside of the regular classroom is an additional service delivery model in place in our Title 1 program.

Over one hundred students were identified and received services by our highly qualified staff at the respective Title 1 schools. Many other students were part of inclusion groups and also received literacy services. A portion of our grant in the form of district reservation funds were made available to supplement services at all schools in the district. These services were provided after school hours. These funds were used for group MCAS Prep, Math Clubs, Individual and Group Tutoring. Our data indicates that these funds helped produce positive results.

Our jump start to first grade: a two week summer program provided an opportunity for kindergarten students at the Heath Brook and Dewing Schools to get a "jump start" prior to entering first grade in the fall.

Our DIBELS data indicates a very successful program for our students. DIBELS was also used to indicate that our program at the Dewing and Heath Brook Schools resulted in impressive gains. MCAS growth and pre/post testing are also assessed and studied.

As a result of the data analysis, priority areas needed to improve student achievement are identified. Our staff identifies the most at risk students. Learning goals and determine the design of the supplemental services. From this information we are able to develop an understanding of the program's strengths and weaknesses.

For many years Tewksbury's Title 1 program had been evaluated by Educational Specialists Associates. This evaluation is a vehicle to insure that our program provides services to eligible students by highly qualified staff who are properly certified in their subject areas and are knowledgeable about the goals and objectives of the Title 1 program. The evaluation also insures that the students are selected by a vigorous process which includes testing, teacher recommendation, report cards, benchmarks and observations. Since the closing of Educational Specialists Associates we had to find other means of evaluating our program.

Using the instruments provided by both our district and Massachusetts Department of Education, we conducted a self evaluation. This evaluation concluded that our program is in compliance with both state and federal laws and regulations. This evaluation and a needs/assessment survey provided our feedback on project performance to help insure a successful program.

Respectfully submitted George S. Paul

A message from the

Massachusetts Department of

Elementary and Secondary Education

View this email in your browser

October 30, 2019



For immediate release Wednesday, October 30, 2019

Contact: Jacqueline Reis 781-338-3115

Massachusetts NAEP Results Lead Nation Again

MALDEN — Massachusetts fourth and eighth graders scored at or near the top once again in reading and mathematics on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) exam, marking the eighth consecutive time the Commonwealth's students scored first or statistically tied for first on the NAEP tests, the Baker-Polito Administration announced today.

Massachusetts students have scored first or statistically tied for first place on NAEP tests in fourth and eighth grade reading and math since 2005. According to the 2019 results, Massachusetts was first in fourth grade reading and tied for first among other states in fourth grade mathematics and eighth grade reading and mathematics. Massachusetts students scored above the national average on all four tests.

The NAEP test – commonly referred to as "The Nation's Report Card" – is administered every two years to a sample of fourth and eighth graders.

Although Massachusetts remains the highest performing state in the country on the NAEP assessment, this year's results point to areas with room for improvement and opportunities to close achievement gaps between groups of students. While African-American students in fourth grade math saw their score rise gains, and African-American students in eighth grade reading saw the gap

between their average score and the average Massachusetts score narrow, achievement gaps for black and Latino students held steady or increased in most areas compared to 2017.

"Massachusetts is proud to be a national leader in education, and we are pleased to see our students and teachers once again performing at the highest level," **said Governor Charlie Baker.** "We remain committed to closing achievement gaps for English language learners, low-income students and students with disabilities and look forward to putting accountability measures, programs and practices in place to support low-performing school districts."

"I'm proud that Massachusetts students continue to excel in the classroom and lead the nation on this assessment," **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito.** "I've spent a lot of time in classrooms across the Commonwealth, and I continue to be impressed with the talent and ambition of our students. I believe these results provide an opportunity to focus on improvements to keep closing the achievement gap and seeking accountability in every district."

"This year's NAEP results confirm we must remain committed to a sense of urgency and accountability when it comes to deepening student learning and accelerating educational achievement, while reaffirming our core belief that all of our children, in every community of the Commonwealth, can achieve at high levels," **Education Secretary James Peyser said.**

In fourth grade reading, Massachusetts was the state with the top scale score (231). Compared to 2017, the national average dropped in fourth grade reading, as did Massachusetts' scores in that area.

Massachusetts students had the top scale score in eighth grade math (294), and New Jersey scored statistically the same. The national average dropped in eighth grade math, as did Massachusetts' scores in that area.

Massachusetts' average score in fourth grade math (247) was statistically the same as those of Florida, Indiana, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Virginia and Wyoming, which collectively led the country.

In eighth grade reading, Massachusetts students had the top scale score (273), while New Jersey and Connecticut scored statistically the same. The national average dropped in eighth grade reading, as did Massachusetts' scores in that area.

"The additional funding and accountability from the 1993 Education Reform Act helped propel Massachusetts to the top of the nation. Money used well can make a substantial difference. Today, we again face plateaus in Massachusetts' results," **Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley said.** "Our new emphasis on innovative, engaging instruction, coupled with more support for our poorest districts can help our students become proficient."

The National Assessment of Educational Progress is the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in core subjects. The assessment tests representative samples of students in all 50 states and reports state-level results for grades 4 and 8. In Massachusetts, 3,300 grade 4 students were selected to take a NAEP reading assessment, and 3,400 were selected to take a math test. In eighth grade, 3,300 students were selected to take reading, and 3,400 were selected to take mathematics.

This is the second time that NAEP scores are from a computer-based test. The scale for NAEP reading and mathematics scores ranges from 0 to 500.

Other 2019 NAEP results for Massachusetts students included:

Grade 4 Reading:

- Massachusetts had the top scale score (231). Massachusetts was first alone.
- 45 percent of all Massachusetts fourth graders scored Proficient or above, significantly higher than the national average of 34 percent and statistically different from 2017 (51 percent).
- In 2019, Asian/Pacific Islander students had the highest average scale score (245), followed by white students (239), black students (213) and Hispanic students (212).
- 61 percent of Asian students scored Proficient or above, as did 54 percent of whites, 24 percent of blacks, and 25 percent of Hispanics.

Grade 8 Reading:

 Massachusetts was the state with the top scale score (273). New Jersey and Connecticut scored statistically the same, and all other states scored lower.

- 45 percent of all Massachusetts students scored Proficient or above, significantly higher than the national public school rate of 32 percent and statistically different from 2017 (49 percent).
- In 2019, Asian students had an average scale score of 292, whites 279, Hispanics 251 and blacks 259.

Grade 4 Mathematics:

- Students in Massachusetts scored statistically the same as Florida,
 Indiana, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Virginia and Wyoming,
 and all other states scored lower.
- 50 percent of all Massachusetts students scored Proficient or above, significantly higher than the national average of 40 percent.
- In 2019, Asian students had an average scale score of 272, whites 254, Hispanic 232 and Blacks 232.

Grade 8 Mathematics:

- Students in Massachusetts had the top scale score (294). New Jersey scored statistically the same, and all other states scored lower.
- 47 percent of all Massachusetts students scored Proficient or above, significantly higher than the national average of 33 percent.
- In 2019, Asian students had an average scale score of 331, whites 302, Hispanics 269 and blacks 267.

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Superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, and charter school leaders will receive the update automatically. For others wishing to receive this update, please subscribe