

50yrs of METCO

It all started at Bedford Public Schools!



Givet-Izieux	34,6	10,2	2,0	0,2
Nationale de la Viscose	26,6	4,7	5,7	0
Albigeoise de la Viscose	12,9	4,6	0,9	
Text. Artif. Besançon	12,5			

Die führende Stellung von Viscose Francaise und Givet-Izieux geht hieraus klar hervor. Nur wenig läßt sich über die in der dritten Spalte angegebenen Beteiligungen sagen. Zum Teil handelt es sich um ein System gegenseitiger Verschachtelung.

ergibt sich ein Reingewinn (0.11) Min. RM um 67 290 RM Vortrag auf 72 489 RM erhöht. Diesen Betrag weiter vorzutragen.

● **Rheinische Hypothekenbank in Mannheim.** kündigt ihre 4½proz. Kommunalobligationen Reihe zur Rückzahlung auf den 1. Oktober d. J. und bi 4proz. Kommunalobligationen Reihe XIII zu 100%

Dividendenvorschläge
Concordia Spinnerei und Weberei, Mannheim

In 1974, on average, a man working full-time, year-round could earn approximately \$9,180 a year, could rent for \$108 a month, and could buy a gallon of gas for \$0.36.

A 1974 man's annual base expenses totaled about \$2,170 for shelter, gas (figuring around 760 gallons per year), and groceries (about \$50 per month).



Base Price: \$2292

Ford Pinto



Base Price: \$3366

Chevrolet Camaro



Base Price: \$3335

Pontiac Firebird

Some of the most watched sitcoms in 1974 were Happy Days & Land of the Lost



METCO

Boston Busing Crisis of 1974



W. Arthur Garrity Jr.



Called for desegregation of schools and the first years of its implementation led to a series of racial protests and riots that brought national attention, particularly from 1974 to 1976. In response to the Massachusetts legislature's enactment of the 1965 Racial Imbalance Act, which ordered the state's public schools to desegregate.

Otto Cardinale
Robert McClatchy
Martha Hoo
Dorothy Dolan
Fred Mayer



METCO

METCO (Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity), is a private non-profit, voluntary association. It began through the determination of urban and suburban parents, educators and others who believed that quality integrated education should not have to wait for the state's Racial Imbalance Act to be implemented.

nator is Mrs. Irene Parker. She has been the coordinator for 18 years now and her work has been greatly appreciated by many. One of her goals is to integrate the Boston students into the Bedford Public School System, and the class of '95 is proud to say that she has met that goal.

Mrs. Parker, we all thank you for all you have done. You will be missed.

by Angela Williams

METCO

1974

Bedford Community and School Committee agreed to enter the METCO Program.

“Your legacy will have nothing to do with who you impressed. Your legacy will have everything to do with who you had an impact on!”.

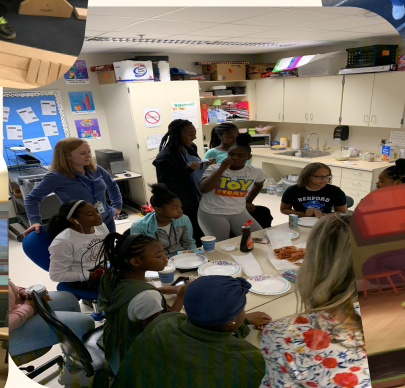


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Current Students



Davis School	6 students
Lane School	21 students
JGMS	20 students
BHS	36 students
Total	83 students



History

“The Past Teaches Us About the Present

Because history gives us the tools to analyze and explain problems in the past, it positions us to see patterns that might otherwise be invisible in the present – thus providing a crucial perspective for understanding (and solving!) current and future problems.”



METCO agenda next week

By Eleanor Tatorian

METCO will be the first topic of discussion at the chairman's agenda Tuesday, August 22, at 9:15 p.m. for the school committee to review METCO participation in the voluntary program to inner-city youngsters.

Superintendent of Schools William F. Keough Jr. will make the first half of the presentation, discuss his recommendations during the second half.

Cardinale said some amount of time will be allowed for discussion to be covered by Superintendent Keough and Bedford's elementary school principals to include a program for the METCO current expenditures and current recommendations and school administration for the coming school year.

The superintendent will invite Kenneth Washington, associate professor of urban education at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, to speak on the METCO program in Bedford.

Washington served as a facilitator at METCO workshops held at Lane School in February.

Bedford METCO coordinator Michelle Foster will also be present.

In the program assessment area, Keough will examine the operation of the METCO program at the three elementary schools, Davis, Center, and Lane. Page School does not participate because of a high enrollment factor.

During this school year, workshops have been conducted in Bedford for teachers, administrators, METCO parents, and the METCO coordinator. Workshops have also been held in teacher-effectiveness training and in cultural pluralism.

Preparations for next year

Cardinale said school committee members need to receive considerable input from school administrators and the METCO coordinator in order to make an informed decision about the program in Bedford for next fall.

Minute-Minute

Bedford committed to METCO, regardless of state funding level

The Bedford School Committee Monday unanimously approved the system to fund METCO, regardless of the state's funding level. The committee also unanimously approved the METCO program, including five kindergarten, first, second, third, and fourth graders, to be in the state's financial portfolio. The school committee has been discussing METCO for the past two years.

Money the money picture still wasn't clear. But people in the district, I cannot see the children next week. Sorry, we don't have the money. You must go back to the state and get the money. At this point, the state is not in a position to support the program.

The state board of Education Tuesday agreed to take a 10 percent cut in their limited (or pupil reimbursement) following a 1977-78 budget reduction. This could further reduce the state's contribution by as much as \$40,000.

Cardinale already has 21 returning second graders who last year were Bedford's first for METCO. A regular staff, on a pro-rated basis, will be assigned to the program.

Keough said the funding is contingent on state approval.

Topics to be covered by Superintendent Keough and Bedford's elementary school principals to include a program for the METCO current expenditures and current recommendations and school administration for the coming school year.

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Other agenda items

Also on the agenda for Tuesday is a discussion of the format for the committee evaluation of the superintendent's performance for the past year.

This is connected with the annual review of Keough's contract, which extends through June, 1977. The school committee can extend it for another year after its review next month.

The committee Tuesday will also begin gathering materials and plans for the fiscal 1978 budget and will talk about budget and management goals. The fiscal 1977 budget was passed by the town meeting a month ago.

Also on the agenda is a review of the advice committee being established to study declining enrollment in the elementary schools. Volunteers are still needed for this committee; interested residents should contact the superintendent's office.

A secretary will be appointed Monday to the school committee to replace Joan Adams, who is resigning. Other school personnel resignations and appointments will be discussed.

ates as the excess air escaped. The problem should not recur. Brown advised.

Schools absorbing 14 Metc pupils, five in kindergarten list

By Marcia Morris

The school committee Tuesday unanimously approved adding 14 pupils to the METCO program, including five kindergarteners, to the 1977-78 student body in Bedford schools.

Five new pupils will attend Davis School, five Lane School and four Page School. The pupil-teacher ratio at Center Elementary School is already too high in kindergarten and first grade to absorb more students, the school committee said.

Robert Couture, Davis School principal, presented the proposal for additional pupils. The Metco student population, which with the new

of sufficient funds to meet even these reduced requests.

Keough said the committee has been discussing \$30,000 to state aid to provide for the coming school year. He also said that transportation costs for the 1977-78 school year would be \$20,000 to \$25,000, or two buses will be used instead of just one. However, the bus aids will be added.

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But Monday Mayor indicated his primary concern now is for the town's commitment to the inner-city children.

He said that no matter what would pay for the program, the town's commitment to the inner-city children is the key.

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around the Bedford Shopping Center, and several addition proposals from the conservation commission.

the Boy Scout program, cleaning up Elm Park, and other projects. (See stories (Staff photos)

owners who said they should not have any input. Bedford's declining elementary school enrollment, which is pointing toward closing a school within two years.

The addition of kindergarten pupils for the first time was the major point of contention, but the proposal was accepted unanimously.

Metco, the voluntary busing program in which inner-city minority pupils attend suburban schools, has been in Bedford since the 1974-75 school year. The program has had its peaks and valleys here, with parents of its youngsters withdrawing their pupils at the close of last school year, claiming attitudes and experiences there were harmful to the children.

The school committee decided to take stock of Metco in Bedford for a year. A new coordinator, Irene Parker, was hired. Two months ago a facility evaluation committee, chaired by Couture, issued a positive report on the program here.

Mrs. Parker and Jean McGuire, director of Metco, were at Tuesday's meeting to support the proposal.

AUGUST 4, 1977



Budget approved All systems 'go' for more METCO pupils

The school committee Tuesday unanimously approved a \$83,341 budget for the METCO program in Bedford for the 1977-78 school year. This will cover an increase from 21 to 33 students.

The committee acknowledged that total state reimbursement for this amount is still uncertain, and the verdict probably won't be in until after school starts.

But inherent in the discussion Tuesday was that any reduction in state aid would not mean sending children back to the Boston Public Schools. "Certainly we wouldn't want to cut back on any of the children once the school year has begun," remarked Superintendent Kenton E. Stephens Sr., and no committee members disagreed.

The committee reserved the right to revise the METCO budget in case the state's falls short. The committee indicated that such a revision could affect the new position of assistant coordinator, which is an upgrading of the aide position of last year.

METCO is an acronym meaning Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity. The program was established about 10 years ago under the state racial imbalance law, and provides state-funded transportation of inner-city minority students to suburban schools.

Bedford joined this program in 1974, and at the end of the past school year, 21 second, third and fourth graders were attending Center and Davis Schools. The new kindergarteners and first graders will attend Davis, Lane and Page Schools.

Earlier this summer, a decision on the METCO budget was postponed by the school committee because of uncertainty as to the degree of state reimbursement. The state pays a per pupil cost for each METCO student and also covers transportation costs.

Last week, Stephens and other area school officials met with Gov. Michael Dukakis in Boston. Stephens reported Tuesday that the governor indicated part of the recently-announced \$60

million fiscal 1977 state surplus will be earmarked for full funding of METCO.

Even if full funding falls short, the superintendent contends. Bedford should not be adversely affected.

Martha Hoo, school committee chairman and a supporter of METCO on the committee since her election in 1975, was pessimistic about future METCO expansion in the elementary schools here because of declining enrollment. A task force that working for the school committee has determined that one of the town's four elementary schools could be closed by the fall of 1979.

It has always been the school committee's philosophy that METCO students will experience their entire education here, unlike some communities, which add Boston students to junior high school and high school populations.

School committee member Frederick Mayer continued to express concern as to some of the costs of the program to the school system. But he joined with the rest of the committee in supporting the budget figure and expansion.

Page School has not had METCO students before, and Irene P. Parker, coordinator of the program in Bedford, said kindergarten teachers there and at Lane School have been attending workshops in preparation for this experience.

Other business

Also on Tuesday, the school committee met with Ed Marshall, representing the Bedford Education Association in continuing contract negotiations, for the better part of an hour in executive session. Other routine matters of business, such as resignations and replacements, were also discussed.

Hoo and Stephens announced that any letters from parents and others in the community will be acknowledged at school committee meetings, even though not always formally on the meeting agenda. They urged active interest and participation from the public for the coming school year.

The committee meets again on Aug. 18 in the selectmen's chambers of the Administrative Office Building at 8 p.m.

By Marcia Morris

Twenty Five Cents Forty Two Pages

The finance committee approved any more than an \$80,000 free cash transfusion, stating that remaining available funds would be necessary to combat certain fiscal 1977 tax rate increases.

METCO set, though state funding isn't

The school committee Tuesday reaffirmed its commitment to the METCO program despite a change in state financing that could result in a \$18,000 local expenditure.

By a 4-1 vote the committee approved applying for \$42,888 in state financing for METCO, which is the non-profit program that brings inner-city students to suburban schools.

Bedford entered METCO last school year, housing 21 first graders. In May the school committee voted to accept 11 more for 1978-79. However, the town's application for about \$53,000 in funds to cover expenses was turned down as school officials learned the state Education Department will not cover the \$15,000 salary of the METCO coordinator.

Superintendent of Schools William F. Keough Jr. told the committee Tuesday the state may not cover the \$42,888 request and agree to pay only the standard per pupil cost for the 39 METCO pupils, which will total a little more than \$1,000 each.

According to the vote taken Tuesday, the school committee is committed to this as well. Voting against the measure was Committee member Fred K. Mayer Jr., who stated his opposition as based solely on financial considerations. Mayer wanted the committee to cut the coordinator to a half-time position but his motion was not seconded as Keough and Robert Hentz, supervisor of elementary principals, endorsed importance of the job to the Boston youngsters.

Mayer, who also voted against adding more METCO pupils when the matter came up in May, maintained the problem is actually costing the town money because a Davis School teacher was retained to accommodate METCO pupils for the coming school year.

Other school officials dispute this, stating pupils are only assigned to vacant classroom seats and that the state per pupil reimbursement in reality is profit.

Mayer declared the latest METCO commitment is based on state funding of the coordinator's salary, which will be paid by the state and the town last school year but only because Bedford had a minimal number of pupils. Keough said the loss of funding appears to be another result of the commonwealth's financial difficulties and resulting cutbacks.

The leading METCO advocate on the committee Tuesday was Mrs. Martha Hoo, who was elected with Mayer to the committee in March. Regardless of who pays for the coordinator METCO still represents money coming into the system, she stated.

She also addressed the issue on a sociological plane. "I'm speaking as a minority tonight," she declared. "And I would not be sitting here serving my community if not for my good education."

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April Lee - Education



Born & raised:
Mattapan, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2015



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from Pennsylvania State University in 2019

I remember the majority of my teachers, but the ones that appreciated the most were the ones who cared about my success academically and socially.

Allister Williams -Sales



Born & raised:
Roxbury, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2014



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from Westfield State University 2018

“I remember Math class with Mr. Dix, he made learning fun. I gained a friend and family in Bedford “The Walters who welcomed me as part of their family. I also remembered the late bus rides with my friends after games and practices!”



Born & raised:
Dorchester, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2015

Tayana King -Case Manager



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from UMass Dartmouth 2018 and currently in law school

"4 teachers I will never forget: Mr. Hebert, Mr. Zellner, Mrs. Tracy and Mrs. Larimore. All of them played integral roles in my adjustment, success, and development during my time in high school. I was fortunate enough to be a part of a few first's for BHS. One of my favorites was the Black studies class offered in 2015. Each class was an escape from a place that made me feel so isolated. The class enrollment alone was telling of the student body's interest in my culture and history!"

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Brianna Robinson -IT Design



Born & raised:
Dorchester, MA

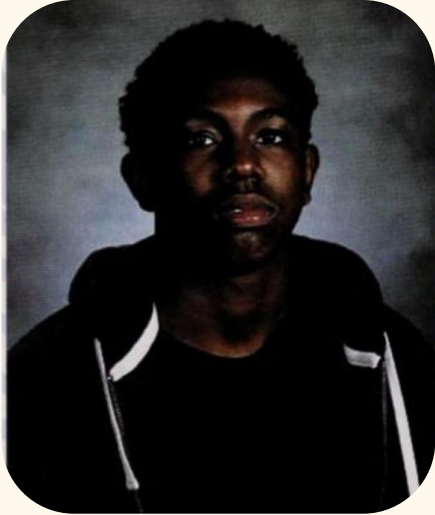
Bedford High School
Class of 2015



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from Quinnipiac University in 2019 and then got my Masters in 2020

“During my time with the Tenacity challenge and prepping I will never forget the teachers that stayed back and helped us students practice and study. I was a part of the first ever Tenacity challenge and love to come back each year to see more students participate and earn scholarships. I was also a part of G-Squad a step team that was in Bedford High. It was always fun to step and put on a show for pep rallies and other events!”

Dawon Williams - Career world



Born & raised:
Hyde Park, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2017



After graduating high school, I went to college and then started working before finishing

“Mrs. Comeiro had the biggest impact on me as a teacher. I remember almost flunking the 8th grade and my teachers gave me 2 weeks to make up 2 months of work and I completed it all in about 4-5 days. They were surprised that I was able to finish the work load and told my mom they was expecting me to have to stay back they just wanted to give me atleast a chance to move on to the next level. I never let my work pile up like that again and finished highscool about a 3.5 gpa unweighted!

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Jalea Haywood- Sheriff department



Born & raised:
Hyde Park, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2017



After graduating high school, I went Umass Boston for a few semesters.

I don't really have any stories but I will say I think I had more good experiences than bad during my time in the Bedford. For the negative I think people can be ignorant and make assumptions about those who grew up in the city. Also I personally think it's a little harder for METCO girls to make friends especially when you're not starting school at a super young age. I did find myself mostly staying with those who had similar backgrounds to me. The more positive thing is that I made friends from different backgrounds while in High School. Also I participated in sports and extracurricular activities while there.

Chauncey Williams- Education



Born & raised:
Dorchester, MA

Bedford High School
2017



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from UMass Dartmouth 201

“I remember a lot of my middle school teachers but in terms of high school I remember admin, teachers, custodian, coach’s and bus drivers. During my time at Bedford I remember a lot of teachable moments, I remember being emerged in the community and I remember overcoming adversity.!”

Chantay Robinson-Judicial Secretary



Born & raised:
Dorchester, MA

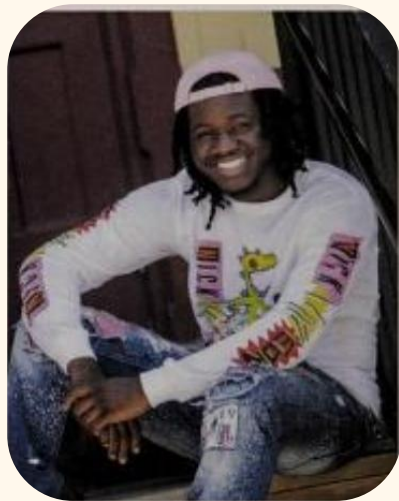
Bedford High School
Class of 2015



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from University of New Haven in 2019

"I remember a number of teachers who have helped me along the way. Mrs. Messenger, Mr. Zellner, Mrs. Kane, Mrs. Goetchius, Mr. Boschetto, Mrs. Augustin, and many others who were so kind. I don't remember anyone as a negative influence. I remember being in high school part of the step team known as G-Squad. We would perform together for pep rallies and at specific shows for the school and everyone loved it! It was exhilarating and we even got students from the three different groups (Bedford, Metco, and Hanscom) join us for these events. I also remember Bedford started the Tenacity Challenge that I am so proud to still be part of. We worked very hard every year to create the events and host it. I am proud to see how far it has reached and I hope to still keep it going!"

Edward King (BJ)- Entertainment



Born & raised:
Dorchester, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2018



After graduating high school, I went straight into the workforce. I pursued my passion in music and became a DJ and rapper. I went on to make a CD and even started my own DJing business.

"I remember having my sister in school with me, who started Bedford before me. For me, the teacher I remember the most is Mr. Hagan and Mrs. Myles, they always provided a safe space for me to work and were great mentors. Mr. Hagan, especially but the teachers and the METCO staff at a time when I felt like I needed the support they showed up and advocated for me! Bedford for me, is like home, I appreciate still being able to come out and support all and any events that they have (dances, proms, tenacity challenges and recently the Black History Celebration)!"

Asha Mondesir -Healthcare



Born & raised:
Roxbury, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 1997



After graduating high school, I went straight into the work world.

“The person that I will always remember will be Mrs. Parker. She kept us in line, and the METCO friends we made that became family!”



Sadida Harris - Hunt- Education

Born & raised:
Roxbury, MA

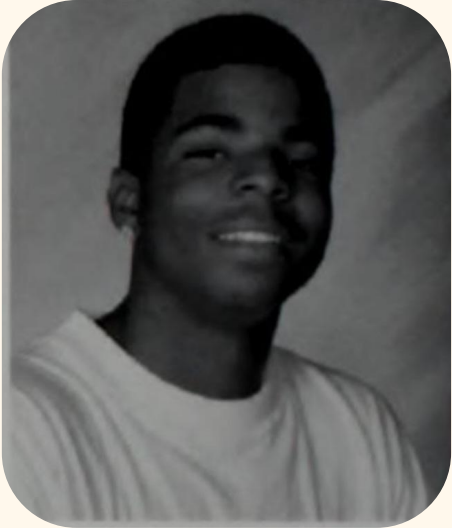
Bedford High School
Class of 2014



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from Wheelock College and then got my Masters in Early Childhood from BU

“I remember Mrs. August (first black teacher I had at BHS), Ms. Goetschius, Ms. Tocci and Mr. Herbert. Ms. Billouin, Ms. Martel, Mrs. Harris, Ms. Lattimore, and a reading specialist I forgot her name! All were amazing teachers that helped me tremendously and I am forever grateful for them!

One in particular is Ms. Goetschius, who never gave up on me and always pushed me to my full potential. She was direct and caring!



Born & raised:
Roxbury, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2008

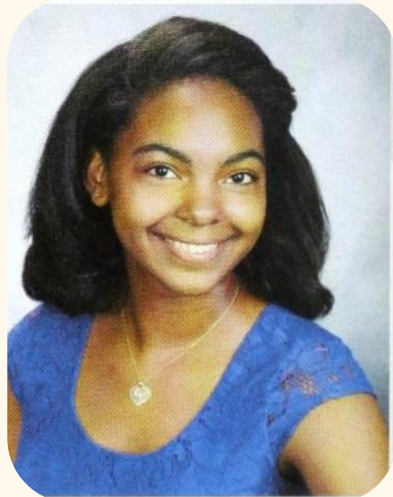
Terrance Favors -Education



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from Becker College in 2013

"Few teachers I remembered were, Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Sills. Two down to earth people who tried their best to understand and seek who we were besides the "Metco Kids". Very approachable and felt like their offices were safe spaces. Mr. Mangan who always knew how to keep a room light and hold you accountable. I think it's crazy that I am cool with the majority of the METCO students still to this day. We are really close and spend alot time with one another. I have also been able to maintain relationships with Bedford families as well. To the point where they are no longer labeled "Bedford friends", they are my day to day people I lean on and confide in. My overall experience was amazing. From long bus rides to sleepovers with my teammates. One of the best decisions of my life!"

Naomi Robinson -HR Manager



Born & raised:
Dorchester, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2015



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from Quinnipiac University in 2019

“I remember 2015’s Sh*t White People Say video! Look it up it’s on YouTube! That whole year was sorta a breakthrough for being seen in Bedford as a black student and for our peers to really ask questions about what it’s like to live as a black person in America. G-SQUAD!! The best step team graduated in 2014/2015 tho. The feeling of everyone wanting to see us perform is something I’ll never forget. It was always a fun experience. (There’s sooo much more but these are the standouts for me!).”

Elizabeth Antuna

-E



Born & raised:
Roslindale/Dorchester,
MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2016

After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from Umass Lowell

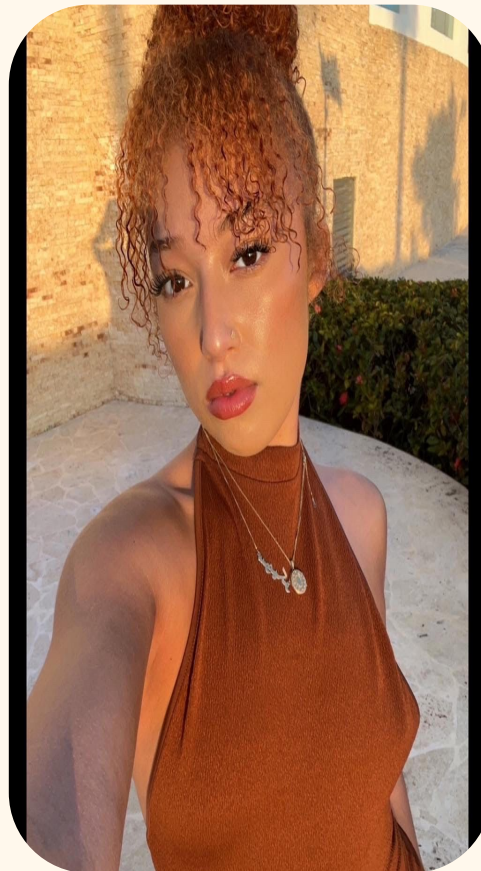
“Yes, mostly all good experiences. I remember Mr. Berlino, Mr. Caprioli, Mr. Casey, Ms. LaGrassa who wasn't a teacher but she was truly the best, Ms. Irving, Ms. Myles, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Lopresti. I do remember a lot but what comes to mind most were memories with the friends I met in high school that I wouldn't have met if it weren't for being a part of the METCO program. One of my current closest friends lived on base so it was pretty cool to have met her when I did.

Alenah Garcia -Civil services



Born & raised:
Roxbury, MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2017



After graduating high school, I went to college, studied communication and later went to school for esthetics.

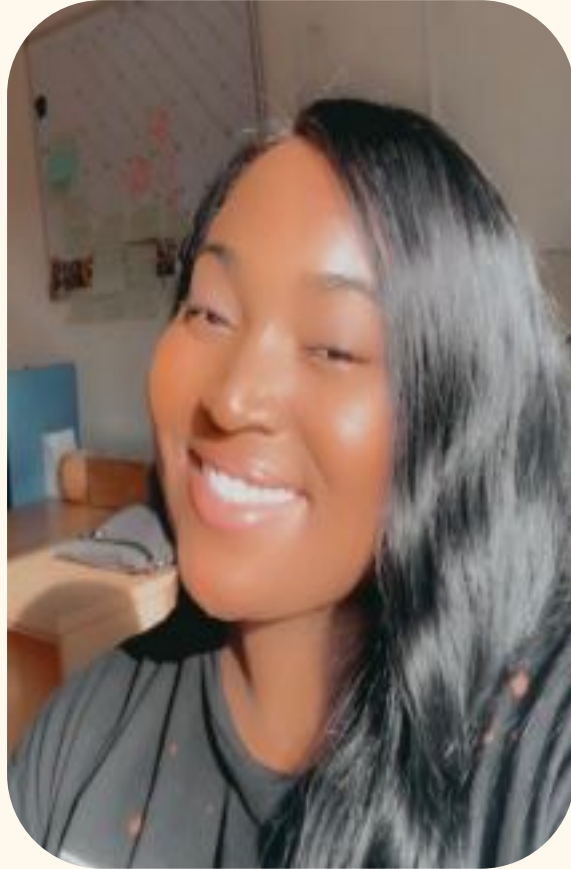
"I'll say that Bedford saved me quite literally. I was on my last straw at home and my parents did not know what to do with me because I was prepared to sign out of school. When I got to Bedford I had a low gpa, a negative attitude on life and no game plan for my future. The first half of my first year at Bedford I got involved in the school heavily, I had brought my GPA up immensely and I got really close to our guidance office which helped me plan for what the future. I made lifelong friends whom I still connect with now and I'm in a much better place in my life because of that school!"

Ny'Asia President - (CRA)



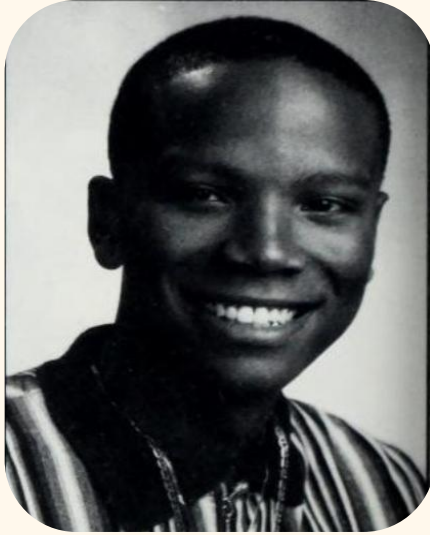
Born & raised:
Fields Corner,
Dorchester MA

Bedford High School
Class of 2018



After graduating high school, I went on to graduate from UMass Dartmouth 2022.

I remember the majority of my teachers, but the ones that appreciated the most were the ones who cared about my success academically and socially.



Born & raised:
Readville/Mattapan,
MA

Bedford High School
Class of 1995

Marcell Bittle -Trucking Industry



After graduating high school, I attended Salem State, then Quincy College. Then worked at State Street from 96-2014

"When I attended BHS it felt like a home! There was a fight in the hallways between a black student & a white student (and maybe others may have jumped in). A couple hours later the WHOLE school was in the auditorium. The speaker was our principal & vice principal – and I could tell that they were not happy with the SITUATION with their tone & language that was used. I felt like they cared & they didn't want anything "racial" to affect their students. After that assembly I totally felt like family at BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL. I can't recall any "racial" fights after that assembly in my 4 years of high school. Recently I have participated in diversity forums held in Bedford – and I am SUPER PROUD of BEDFORD and the leadership that they have displayed by just having "the discussion" about equality/diversity and I plan on participating/assisting more!"

MICHÈLE FOSTER

1974

First Bedford METCO Coordinator/Director



Members of the Student Advisory Committee of Bedford High School met at a round-table discussion with the school committee at last week's meeting, and decided how best to help communicate their views to the school committee members.

Robert Daelhausen, Becky Konkler, Debbie Konkler, Kathy Riley and Robert Lowney. The board is mandated by state law to meet with the school committee at least twice during a school year, but Bedford's board attempts on a bi-monthly basis. Both committees spent some time discussing last year's day-at-school for school committee members, who attended classes at the high school as guests of advisory board members.

Although all thought it was definitely beneficial to both students and adults, advisory board members suggested a repeat performance this fall include a greater range in classrooms visited and better publicity within the school so that more students would be aware of the school committee's presence.

Superintendent Keough suggested expanding the idea to invite townspeople to participate in a day-at-school along with school committee members in order that more residents could see first-hand how the high school functions. School Committee member Otto Cardinale was interested in setting up an informal "rap session" among school committee members and a larger number of the student body to get maximum feedback on who wants what and why.

Advisory board members will report back to school committee on these suggestions at a next meeting.

Town appeals school budget court decision

Town will appeal the recent court ruling 1,429 cut from the fiscal 1975 school budget. The town board, after being instructed by voters at last spring's town meeting to restore the budget, has decided to appeal the decision.

Richard B. Donovan, town counsel, was instructed by the board of selectmen at today's regular meeting to file for the appeal.

The appeal followed an executive session of the board with Donovan and Finance Committee Chairman Robert Folweiler, at which they discussed the legal and financial feasibility of the appeal.

It comes as somewhat of a surprise, since the selectmen seemed resigned to the decision when Donovan made his initial report last week. Donovan said he wasn't surprised by the outcome, and the board agreed.

A board member said that night that the decision was more an exercise in frustration than anything, since there are legal precedents for the town's autonomy of school committee.

The town's appeal was based on cases cited by Judge Robert Keough in the Essex Superior Court earlier this year, which ruled in favor of restoring the town's budget. A fine of \$42,859.75 was levied on the town.

Nullifying a proposed plan to cover increased trash disposal costs, the town board has approved articles on zoning, as recommended by the petitioners.

The board also approved three less drastic proposals. The first is a plan to cover the cost of a new landfill, which would be used for the disposal of solid waste. The second is a plan to cover the cost of a new landfill, which would be used for the disposal of solid waste. The third is a plan to cover the cost of a new landfill, which would be used for the disposal of solid waste.

Appreciative of what such a development would mean for the town, the board has approved the plan.

Metco pupils' bus stoned in Boston

The 21 inner-city youngsters attending first grade at three Bedford schools under the Metco program have not escaped the turmoil that has engulfed much of the city since the implementation last month of a federal court order to desegregate the schools.

Michelle Foster, Bedford's Metco coordinator, said this week that the children have been stoned several times at the school bus that carries the first graders, and from school.

Stonings have occurred in both black and white Boston neighborhoods. Foster said, as apparently just the sign of a yellow bus is enough to incite the violence at times.

Although no Bedford pupils have been hurt, one boy's hat was showered with glass fragments from a shattered window, the coordinator reported.

Metco is a voluntary, state-funded program in which inner-city Boston children are educated in suburban primary and secondary schools. Bedford became the 32nd area community in the program when the town joined this fall.

Safety procedures

Safety procedures have been explained to the Bedford first graders, Mrs. Foster said. These include sitting away from windows and dropping to the floor when objects are thrown.

Parents were advised to keep their children home if they were alarmed about the violence. However, Mrs. Foster said, only one boy was kept home for just a day.

The Metco pupils are bewildered by the events, and want to know why they're happening, Mrs. Foster said.

The children are told that the violence is not aimed at them personally and is not connected with Bedford or the Metco program, she related. The explanation is that the school bus is the target of the perpetrators.

Mrs. Foster and school officials hope to devise another means of transporting the pupils to Bedford from the Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan sections of Boston. Some youngsters are riding the bus up to two hours one way, she noted, because of the route used and the fact that Center School classes begin about 30 minutes earlier than classes at Davis and Lane Schools.

Several vans may be a better way of transporting the children, she said.

Town from Lowell

Negotiations are almost complete between the town and the owner of a private sanitary landfill that will save Bedford thousands of dollars over at least the next two years.

If the contract is signed next week, as expected, the town will save \$100,000 in disposal costs.

Lowell this month laid off its disposal rate administrator Richard E. Brown, who located the private landfill and worked out the contract with the owner, the new arrangements will cost the town no more than the old Lowell rate.

An allocation of \$50,000 was on the warrant of the recent special town meeting to cover Bedford's increased obligation to Lowell for the nine remaining months of fiscal 1975.

Monday evening, at the meeting's reconvened session, the article was postponed indefinitely by voters after Selectman Louise Maglione announced the apparently successful negotiations.

Brown said Tuesday the private contractor's landfill is state certified. The administrator would not say where the landfill is or who owns it, because agreements are not yet in writing.

However, he felt certain nothing would prevent consummation of the arrangement. Disposal can start there as soon as feasible, Brown stated.

20-month commitment

The initial contract will be for 20 months, Brown explained, with a longer term possible.



Irene Parker

1975-2000

Irene grew up in Roxbury, MA and knew that Bedford would give her children a great opportunity moved and raised her children there. In seeing the education that they were receiving, she wanted to make sure that this opportunity was given to other Black students living in Boston as well.



METCO Directors

David Adams
2000-2002



Donnette V. McManus
2002-2011



Percy Napier
2011-2014



METCO Directors

Claire Jones

2014-2017



Akil Mondesir

2017-Present





Thank you!

