



**Town of Bedford**  
97 McMahon Road

[Bedfordps.org](http://Bedfordps.org)

## Superintendent Update

If you need this document translated, please call your child's school principal - Si necesita este documento traducido, por favor comuníquese con la escuela de su hijo - Se você precisa este documento traduzido, entre em contato com a escola dos seus filhos - Si vous avez besoin de traduire ce document, s'il vous plaît contacter l'école de votre enfant - 如果你需要这份文件翻译，请联系您的孩子的学校 - إذا كنت تحتاج /تحتاجين إلى ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية يرجى الاتصال بمدرسة، - طفاك/طفانتك

**Friday, October 22, 2021**

Hello Bedford School Community,

### October is National Principals's Month

In honor of National Principals Month I would like to take this opportunity to thank our principals for all of their hard work and dedication! We are fortunate to have four wonderful educators who continuously put our students first! If you have a chance please reach out and thank a principal today! [National Principals Month](#)

### MAACT Scores

This week we learned that Massachusetts high school students in the graduating Class of 2021 had the highest composite score in the nation on the ACT test The ACT is an annual predictive measure of college and career readiness for high school graduates. According to results released last week. Massachusetts public high school graduates had an average composite score of 27.9 out of a possible 36, up from last year (26.0). The national average was 20.3.

### Streamlined COVID Communication

Please check the link below to review current and past cases of COVID-19 cases within our school community. Cases are immediately reported on the [Town of Bedford COVID-19 Statistics Page](#) which is continuously updated by the Bedford Department of Health and Human Services in conjunction with our School nurses and the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

[Link to COVID-19 Cases in the Bedford Public Schools This Week](#)

Remember, this reporting change has not been a change to our COVID-19 protocols or processes.

### COVID-19 Testing Programs

We continued with COVID safety checks this week for grades Pre-K to 12 with the exception of JGMS who didn't test due to the holiday last Monday. This week we completed 303 tests at Davis, 380 tests at Lane, 2223 tests at JGMS due, and 122 tests at BHS. The results of the tests to date have all been negative.

[BPS COVID-19 Testing Sign Up Link](#)

### Vaccination Rate Update

As we reported last week, our school nurses at JGMS and BHS working with data from the [Massachusetts Immunization Information System](#) (MIIS) and direct outreach have confirmed that 71% of BHS students and 72% of JGMS 7th and 8th graders are fully vaccinated. This information was different from that seen in a recent [Boston Globe article](#). After speaking with the Director of Health and Human Services it was determined that there may be two explanations for the discrepancy. First, the data may differ since individuals can "opt-out" of allowing their vaccination data to be shared with providers via MIIS. This would make the data inaccessible to our school nurses. The second possibility is that there are some students who live in Bedford but do not attend the Bedford Public Schools. Their data would be included in Bedford, but would not apply to our school data.

### 2021 Military Impact Aid Survey

As we do each October, we are asking for each parent/guardian's cooperation in filling out a survey form to meet the requirements of Public Law 874. Under the provisions of Public Law 874, Bedford Public Schools must conduct an annual Military Impact Aid Survey. The Town of Bedford receives a substantial sum of money under this provision, which lowers the cost of education for all taxpayers.

This year the survey is fully electronic with an e-signature! Parents/Guardians will receive an email with a survey link for each student. It is very important that all surveys are completed and electronically signed for each student, as reimbursement is made for all eligible students on a per-pupil basis. This survey is repeated annually. We thank you very much for your assistance with this important annual survey. For further information please navigate to [Annual Federal Impact Aid Survey](#)

### BPD Halloween Safety Tips

Thank you to Chief Bongiorno and the Bedford Police Department for sharing guidance and safety tips for Halloween. BPD reminds everyone that there are no COVID-related regulations on trick-or-treating this year in Bedford, but the Bedford Police Department urges all families to protect themselves by taking appropriate precautions against COVID-19 as they head out to

enjoy the sweet and spooky fun that Halloween has to offer. For more information please navigate to [BPD Halloween Safety Tips](#)

#### Bedford Special Education Parents Advisory Council (SEPAC)

The Bedford Special Education Parents Advisory Council (SEPAC) is launching the Lenora Campoli SEPAC Speaker Series. The first featured speaker will be Caroline McGuire, M.Ed. ACCG, PCC. Ms. McGuire will present Why Will No One Play With Me? On Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:00PM at the John Glenn Middle School (JGMS) Auditorium at 99 McMahon Road, Bedford, MA 01730. Masks are required. The SEPAC invites all Parents, Caregivers, Educators, Administrators and Community Members to this free event. For more information please navigate to [Bedford SEPAC](#)

#### BEST PTO Fall Fundraiser

The BEST PTO Fall Fundraiser catalog sale ends on Wednesday, October 27, 2021. Please be sure to return paper order forms to school with your student(s) on that day. Online sales will remain open until December 3. When all sales close, raffle prizes will be drawn - keep earning those entries! Direct donations to BEST in lieu of ordering items from the catalogs or [meadowfarms.com](#) will count toward raffle prizes as well. Please follow [this link](#) to make a direct donation. Questions? Please reach out to Carey Sclafani, Fall Fundraiser Coordinator, at [carey.sclafani@gmail.com](mailto:carey.sclafani@gmail.com).

#### Positions available

The Bedford Public Schools are seeking substitute teachers and Special Education Teaching Assistants. If you are interested please apply at [BPS Substitutes](#) or to [BPS Special Education Teaching Assistants](#).

As always, thank you for your patience, your participation, and your continued commitment to our schools,

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad  
Superintendent