





Legacy

*Embracing Our Future, by Honoring
Our Past!*



“Legacy”

Is defined as the long-lasting impact of particular events, actions etc. that took place in the past, or of a person's life!



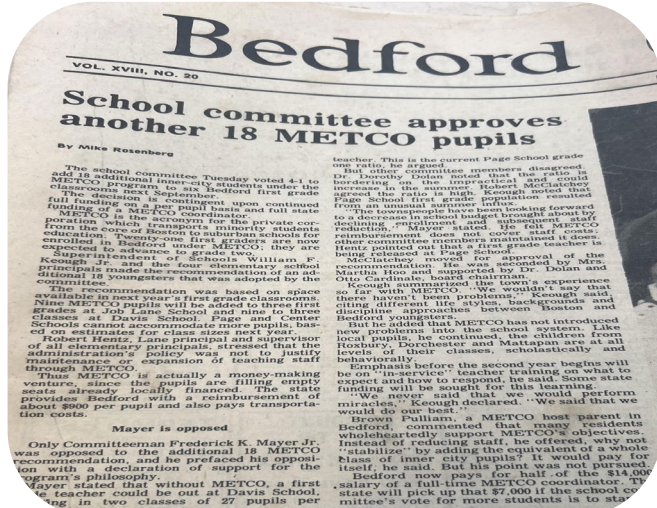
METCO Comes to Bedford

*1973 School Committee members voted to have the METCO Program become a part of the community the very next year. They did so, knowing or not knowing the impact it would have and the **legacy** that it would leave on so many.*

BEDFORD METCO

YEARS

Otto Cardinale
Robert McClatchy
Martha Hoo
Dorothy Dolan
Fred Mayer



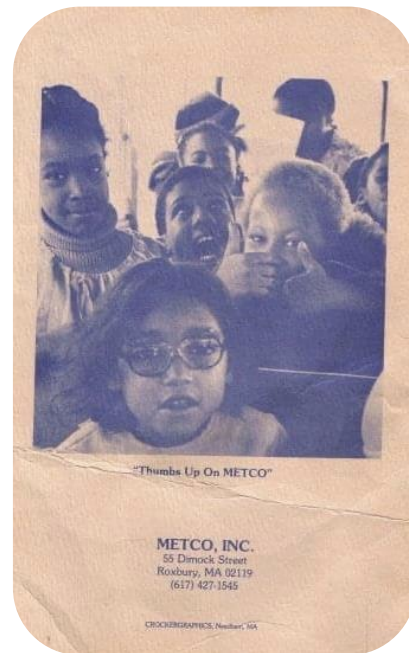


1974 METCO Comes to Bedford





With mixed emotions parents were proud to be sending their kids off to receive a high-quality education; however, they had to watch those same ones leave a community and friendship that they knew. They did so trusting that the METCO Director in the town would be there to advocate for the children in their absence.





Irene Parker

*A resident of Bedford and parent of students in Bedford Public Schools, Irene Parker was one of the many advocate and community members who fought and believed in the opportunity to have a METCO Program in the town, and that having a diverse community could bring. She also saw the value it would bring to the community and the **legacy** students would have.*



Irene Parker (youngest of 10)

Born June 13, 1938

Grew up in Roxbury MA



*Married Emmanuel **Roy Parker IV***

Feb. 25, 1959





*Four children, three boys Terrence, Kevin,
Shannon
One girl Yvette*

*Irene and her husband knew that Bedford would
give their children a great education, so they
bought a house there and raised her family. She
was one of the leading voices for the METCO
Program as she wanted that same education
opportunity for students from Boston as well.*





METCO Director 1975-2000

Irene Parker served not as the First Director, but as the longest METCO Director the town of Bedford has had thus far.





During her Twenty-five as Director, Mrs. Parker, as she was called. However, they all knew she had countless students that all admired, loved and feared her whenever she was called, but they all knew she had their best intentions at heart.





*Irene Parker passed away in Dec of 2000, but her **legacy** continues. Not only did 3 of kids graduate from Bedford. She also had 4 grandchildren graduate and a great grand who is currently attending and is at JGMS by way of the METCO Program.*





*Her **legacy** is one that has left an indelible mark on the lives of many students and her family. With a career spanning three decades, she was a passionate advocate for students. Her devotion and dedication of empowering students to pursue careers in a myriad of fields. Her enduring **legacy** as an educator lives on in the generations of individuals lives she touched.*

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*“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!”*



