



Town of Bedford

97 McMahon Road

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

## Superintendent Update September 22, 2023

If you need this document translated, please contact 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 w bezwen tradui dokiman sa a, tanpri kontakte direktè lekòl pitit ou a - 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 - - 이 문서의 번역이 필요한 경우 자녀분의 해당 학교 교장선생님께 연락하시기 바랍니다 - この文書の翻訳が必要な場合は、お子様の学校の校長にご連絡ください - إذا كنت تحتاج /تحتاجين إلى ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية يرجى الاتصال بمدرسة طفلك/طفلاتك - Если вам нужна помощь с переводом этого документа, позвоните директору школы вашего ребёнка - Ako vam je potreban prijevod ovog dokumenta, nazovite ravnatelja škole vašeg djeteta.

Dear Bedford Public Schools Community,

It was great to see so many of you at the Alex Hirshberg talk, **“Prepare the Child for the Road, Not the Road for the Child: Building Resilience to Emotional Distress”** (recording can be found [here](#)) and Back to School nights this week. In this update, I am happy to share the start of a Trail Walk & Talks series, recognition for BHS, and another reflection for Hispanic Heritage Month.

### Trail Walk & Talks

The Bedford Trails Commission will be releasing an updated [Bedford Trail Guide](#) on Bedford Day (September 23). I am hoping to get to know the geography and neighborhoods of Bedford a bit better by walking the trails, and **I would love company** and the opportunity to continue hearing from community members about their hopes for our schools in an informal setting! I am in the process of determining additional dates and time and a sign-up system, but the first one will be the [Town Campus Trail](#) from 5-6 pm on Tuesday, September 26, We will meet at the Town Center parking lot between the Skateboard Park and the Detention basin. For planning purposes, if you would like to Talk & Walk with me that day, please email [superintendentoffice@bedfordps.org](mailto:superintendentoffice@bedfordps.org), so I know who to expect.

**Bedford High School Named '22-'23 Special Olympics Massachusetts Unified Champion School.** Congratulations to Principal Galante, Athletic Director Mangan, Special Education Director Vines and the BHS staff and students for demonstrating their commitment to meaningful inclusion through unified sports, inclusive youth leadership and whole school engagement. This designation showcases BHS' dedication to embracing diversity, promoting equity, and empowering students to be change advocates.

**Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15) Reflections & Stories**

Throughout the month, I will be sharing reflections and stories from Hispanic staff members (and possibly) students. Here is the next in the series:

***Reflection by Enid DeCastro, BPS Special Education Administrative Assistant***

*Growing up in New York City as a Puerto Rican, I saw the ways my family, especially my grandmother, struggled to make ends meet. I learned at an early age to never give up on your dreams. My late grandmother, let her rest in peace, was a 4 ft. 10 in lady with the biggest heart, but feared by everyone. She made Spanish Sofrito and sold it to the local grocery stores (Bodegas) and was well known for this. She and my grandfather owned a large home in Brooklyn with many rooms that they turned into studio apartments and were able to live well because of this. I believe I have my determination and will to succeed from my grandmother who I miss dearly. She was an amazing chef and Brooklyn and Puerto Rico would agree with this.*



*Picture: Enid DeCastro (center) with her brother and grandmother.*

**Reminder: Community Survey - Please Respond by October 13, 2023**

The goal of this survey is to gauge the perspectives and opinions of students, staff, parents, and community members with a vested interest in Bedford Public Schools to inform my entry process.

[Please respond to the survey here.](#) [Por favor responde la encuesta aquí.](#) [Por favor, responde à pesquisa aqui.](#) [Tanpri reponn sondaj la isit la.](#) [请在此处回复调查。](#)

### Upcoming Events

- **Bedford Day (September 23).** Please join our Town celebration on [Bedford Day | Bedford, MA \(bedfordma.gov\)](#). I will be sharing about a new series of informal fall get-to-know-you events on Bedford Day.
- **Yom Kippur (September 24-25).** Please find more [information about the High Holidays from Rabbi Amy Hertz](#) and please remember our [Religious and Cultural Holidays Policy](#). To those who observe, Happy New Year and have a meaningful fast.
- **School Committee Meeting (September 26).** The meeting [agenda](#) includes discussion of safety camera policy and assignment of school committee liaisons to other town committees.

Sincerely,

Cliff Chuang 莊宏毅

Superintendent, Bedford Public Schools