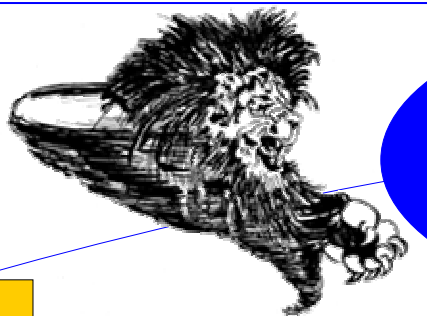


# Tornado Times 2008-2009



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MHS was founded in 1857 and celebrated its 100th anniversary last October.

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Monday, September 8, 2008

## Welcome to Malden High School

*Malden High School, in partnership with our extended community, promotes academic excellence, personal growth, and civic responsibility for all students.*

*Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that a son of a mineworker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farm workers can become the president of a great nation. It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another. Nelson Mandela*

### Skills for the 21st century

- Critical thinking
- Problem-solving
- Collaboration
- Written and oral Communication
- Creativity
- Self-direction
- Leadership
- Adaptability
- Responsibility
- Global awareness

### Malden High School Expectations for students

- Read critically for understanding
- Listen critically for understanding
- Write for a variety of purposes
- Communicate clearly through speaking
- Apply critical thinking skills for reasoning and problem-solving
- Utilize technology to conduct research, to support critical thinking, and to present information
- Work collaboratively with peers and Malden High School staff
- Develop personal interests and goals within a course of study

If you believe that the skills listed for the 21st century make sense then the high school leadership team was fairly on point in developing the expectations for MHS students.

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### Notes of interest:

- A "Sunshine Fund" was established at MHS many years ago to defray the costs of flowers, cards, meals, gifts et al for teachers and staff in times of celebration and in mourning. See Judi Sullivan in the Boyle House office if you would like to contribute.
- Recycling Bins have been delivered. Thank you Environmental Club.
- We communicate by email throughout the school and district. At a minimum you should check your school email at the beginning of the school day and at the end of the school day. Please contact a member of the BTS with any questions. Thank you.
- The Fine Arts Club is hosting its 2nd annual Giant Flea Market Saturday, September 20 from 8AM-3PM. If anyone is interested in selling items to raise money for their clubs, please contact Maryann Seager to save a spot. Spaces are free but limited.
- School-to-Career students can assist in offices and classrooms, and can be an asset to teachers and administrators. Please contact a house principal or guidance counselor for more info.
- Making High School Count seminar for all freshmen; September 10th during 2nd period in the Jenkins.
- Window Arts Malden, September 5-28 2008; Historic Malden Center including sections of Main and Pleasant Streets; Malden High School Fine Arts Department Students will be exhibiting at The Danvers Bank, on the corner of Ferry and Main Street.

## Students in service to others...

- **Jennifer Delacey** is the Tri-Chair of the Greater Boston Student Advisory Council.
- **Catlin Abber** is a Massachusetts State Student Advisory Council Delegate. On August 5th the pair attended the Massachusetts State Student Advisory Council Conference at Endicott College. At the conference the students heard about

Governor Patrick's Readiness Project and also attended a question and answer session with new Commissioner of Education Mitchell Chester. The students also attended skills seminars in leadership development. Congratulations to two of our many students involved in activities related to making schools better.

- **Bread of Life...** many of our students volunteer at this local food pantry on Main Street Malden.

**Parking Permits should now be displayed in all faculty/staff cars. The front office does not fix tickets.**

### From the notes of Sid Smith, Superintendent of Schools...

**Favorite Strategies:** Developing independent, motivated, accountable learners

The following ideas are very important to me:

- Students need to be deeply engaged in their lessons, motivated about their daily work and accountable for good work every day.
- Students need to become independent learners as well as knowledgeable about the content we teach.
- Social interaction among students, focused on the content they're expected to learn, is an essential element of the learning process.
- It's important for our students to think deeply about content and make that thinking visible every day. This thinking includes the knowledge (and misconceptions) they develop about content, as well as the thoughts, ideas and questions they have in response to the content.
- Students need to learn and apply the strategies that help them build comprehension and understanding in every class they participate in.

One strategy for teachers that may help; assess agenda books and notebooks every two weeks. Make sure students are taking some responsibility for their own learning.

**Important reminders:**  
1. Please do not allow any student out of your room without a signed (not initialed) agenda book.  
2. House studies and directed studies should be places of serious school business. No student in this school should ever have "nothing to do".

**Homecoming 2008 will be held on Sunday, October 12th. The day's activities will feature a brunch and concerts by the band and chorus.**

## Studies from the Harvard Graduate School of Education

Each year a group of Harvard graduate students take an inside look at the culture of Malden High School, in areas from curriculum and instruction to the college application process. This past year the different cohorts of graduate students made some interesting findings and recommendations. Their full reports will be available online soon. In the meantime I thought

I would list a few of the more interesting comments from the **Building On Successful Co-teaching Practices at MHS**

Characteristics of successful co-teacher pairings include:

- Respect for each other's roles and training
- An ability to learn from each other's training in content or strategies

- The ability to find time to plan

We continue to make progress with our co-teaching model and we are always looking for ways to get better.

## Professional Development

Courage & Renewal Northeast will be participating in the Massachusetts Poetry Festival this year. We will provide certificates of participation to educators who attend our events. Please join us!

We are hosting three events at the festival:

**TEACHING WITH FIRE: POETRY THAT SUSTAINS THE COURAGE TO TEACH**

Friday, October 10, 2008, 4-5 PM

Boott Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John Street Entrance, Lowell, MA  
Invention Factory, 3rd floor

**USING POETRY TO SPARK ESSENTIAL CONVERSATIONS**

Friday, October 10, 2008, 5-6 PM

Boott Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John Street Entrance, Lowell, MA  
Invention Factory, 3rd floor

**LEADING FROM WITHIN: POETRY THAT SUSTAINS THE COURAGE TO LEAD**

Saturday, October 11, 2008, 10-11:30 AM

Whistler House Museum of Art, 243 Worthen Street, Lowell, MA

For more details, visit the Massachusetts Poetry Festival's website at [www.masspoetry.com/festival](http://www.masspoetry.com/festival).

## MHS Expectations as developed for the NEASC process:

**Students will be able to:**

- Read critically for understanding
- Listen critically for understanding
- Write for a variety of purposes
- Communicate clearly through speaking
- Apply critical thinking skills for reasoning and problem-solving
- Utilize technology to conduct research, to support critical think-

ing, and to present information

- Work collaboratively with peers and Malden High School staff
- Develop personal interests and goals within a course of study

Check out the Malden High School web site. Beth Horwitz has added some features and the pages are filled with important information.