

**Randolph Public Schools**  
"Building Tomorrow, Today"

**RPS**



**Office of the Superintendent**

Thomas Anderson, Superintendent

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**RANDOLPH PUBLIC SCHOOLS GOALS**

**GOAL 1: Enhance the Teaching and Learning Process**

Increase academic achievement of all students through aligned assessments, effective instruction and standard-based curriculum that is challenging and engaging.

**GOAL 2: Improve Accountability Structures**

Improve data systems that will support student learning, staff development and resource management.

**GOAL 3: Increase the Quality of Engagement**

Increase academic success for all students through quality family and community partnerships.

**GOAL 4: Human Capital Management**

Maintain, enhance and support a quality workforce that is diverse, highly skilled and professional.

**MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**NOVEMBER 2017**

*"The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth." John F. Kennedy*

Dear Randolph Public Schools Parents and Community,

ESE highlights that, "Randolph Public Schools are exiting their Level 4 designation. Randolph was designated a Level 4 district in November 2007, before the current accountability system was in place. Commissioner Wulfson decided to remove that designation after staff determined that the district has increased its capacity to continue improvement work."

I am tremendously proud to be a part of Randolph Public Schools reaching this milestone. I am grateful to the educators, families, community members and elected officials who have worked hard over many years to innovate in ways that serve our students better, and I am proud of our students who work hard and show up to class every day to learn and grow. I am confident that our schools will only continue to progress. There are no limits for our students.

Here are a few keys highlighting the process dates:

- **Dec. 3, 2007:** 26-page report from Acting Commissioner: Jeffrey Nellhaus states:
  - At the November 27, 2007 meeting, the BOE made the determination that the Randolph Public School District (the District) is underperforming.
- **October 5, 2015:** ESE letter highlights the collaboration with all stakeholders and removes the Plan Manager, after 5 years, under the new RPS Superintendent, Thomas Anderson.



Leann Hong, RHS Senior

**Non-Discrimination Policy**

The Randolph Public Schools (RPS) do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, handicap, age, religion or sexual orientation in admission to or participation in its programs and activities. RPS does not tolerate any form of discrimination, intimidation, threat, coercion and/or harassment that insults the dignity of others by interfering with their freedom to learn and work.

- **December 17, 2015:** “Randolph has demonstrated much progress in developing systems to support effective teaching and learning . . . the district has used data to provide tiered support to schools and classrooms.” – Commissioner Mitchell Chester
- **June 17, 2016:** A letter from the Commissioner’s Office states that they are pleased that Randolph will be implementing the Planning for Success approach to developing a 3-year plan. (Transition from Accelerate Improvement Plan that was in place for almost 8 years).
- **October 17, 2017:** “I am pleased to inform you that I am releasing RPS from Level 4 status . . .” Acting Commissioner Jeff Wulfson



Randolph PS Superintendent, Thomas Anderson

For the last three years we have re-doubled our efforts and energy toward embedding stronger structures and processes necessary for sustainable progress, while always keeping our students as the top priority. Student growth is evident in many ways. Each of the last three years, over 90 different colleges and universities have accepted Randolph High School graduates.

Even with our tremendous efforts and excellent work by our staff in supporting the growth of our students, we will continue our focus. Our educational priorities remain strategically focused and student-centered. We will continue to support the capacity building of our staff to enhance our students’ academic skills and socio-emotional growth. We are digging deeper into Educational Equity and the components to ensure that we are pushing students, and that they are proficient to excel at higher levels as well as supporting those who continue to grow.

Over the last three years we have continued to intensify our focus on increasing student achievement by implementing targeted supports for students on all levels, and interventions for those who need it the most. We will continue supporting our students’ socio-emotional needs by maintaining our counselors and social workers at all schools, which is a higher ration as compared to other systems.

Our continued focus will be:

- On equity and early literacy with Lectio at Harvard University
- Secondary literacy with Andover Bread Loaf/Phillips Academy-Andover
- Facing History and Ourselves (Social Studies curriculum)
- Global Leadership Studies with the International Secondary Schools Network (Asia Society) and Emerson College
- Urban Leaders Network and Professional Learning Network with ESE/ Districts
- Benchmark Assessments (measuring student growth – 3 times per year)
- Data Meetings (at each school 3 times per year)
- District Instructional Walks (at each school 3 times per year)

#### ***Some School highlights:***

- **Lyons ES 5th graders** are on the Cape for 3-days participating in Nature’s Classroom. They will get authentic interactions with nature and develop team building through a variety of activities.




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- **Our RHS Blue Devils Marching Band** won GOLD on 10/29 at the New England Scholastic Band Association (NESBA) Competition in Reading, MA! They will take that win to compete in the NESBA Championship Finals this coming Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> in Lawrence, MA. Please come out and show your support!
- [http://www.nesba.org/schedule.php?uniq\\_rand=0cfa02b21331f4ea8d4e24319804c98e&search\\_string=&sorted\\_table\\_column=eventcode&asc\\_desc=asc&Record\\_Start\\_ID=60&eventcode=60](http://www.nesba.org/schedule.php?uniq_rand=0cfa02b21331f4ea8d4e24319804c98e&search_string=&sorted_table_column=eventcode&asc_desc=asc&Record_Start_ID=60&eventcode=60)

## DEPARTMENTS

### Special Education

- **SEPAC is active;** we sponsored an informative session by the Federation for Children with Special Needs on 10/30. More information on SEPAC can be found here:
  - [http://www.randolph.k12.ma.us/for\\_parents/SEPAC](http://www.randolph.k12.ma.us/for_parents/SEPAC)

### Family and Community Engagement

- **Our Annual United Way** Thanksgiving Drive is underway, families needing help for Thanksgiving meal assistance, can sign-up at the Family Resource Center by November 14.

### Athletics

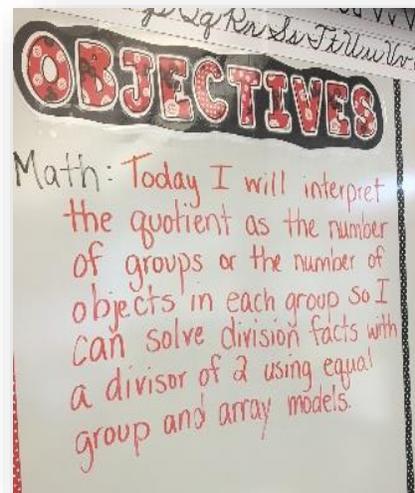
- The Blue Devils volleyball team earned the 13<sup>th</sup> seed in the upcoming MIAA state tournament. The team will travel to Sacred Heart (4<sup>th</sup> seed) in Kingston for a first round match. The start time is 6PM. Let's support the squad on their quest for a championship. <http://bluedevelopathletics.com/2017/10/31/girls-volleyball-1st-round-of-playoffs-friday-113-sacred-heart-600pm/>
- Please visit [www.bluedevelopathletics.com](http://www.bluedevelopathletics.com) for the latest news and scores.

We have a tremendous amount in which to be proud in Randolph Public Schools. In more than 30 classroom visits this year so far, I am seeing excellent teaching and learning taking place. We have some excellent staff as evident by some outstanding accomplishments over the last two years: 2017 State Teacher of the Year Semi-Finalist, Jasmin DiRusso (Young ES); 2016 Milken Educator National Award Winner, Michelle Ryan (RHS) and other locally honored teachers. Our students are thriving in several ways, including the Randolph High School band recently earning gold honors at NESBA and several athletes having success on the fields and courts.

### Opportunities for Continued Growth:

- **Consistent** use of differentiated instructional strategies and resources to engage students
- **Continue** to strengthen Math in middle school to provide more support in geometry and statistics
- **Continue** literacy support in all schools with specific focus on rigorous questioning

<http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/general/general.aspx?topNavID=1&leftNavId=100&orgcode=02440000&orgtypecode=5>




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### **Calendar Reminder:**

- No School: November 7, 2017
- No School: November 10, 2017 (Veteran's Day)
- November 22, 2017 ½ day – early dismissal (Thanksgiving Holiday)

### **RESOURCES:**

#### **Reminder - Vocabulary: Parent Toolkit:**

*Helping to Build Your Child's Vocabulary*

“Parent Toolkit” expert and University of Michigan Education Professor Nell Duke has shared several tips/activities you can use at home to expand your child's vocabulary.

<http://www.parenttoolkit.com/index.cfm?objectid=97AA2240-F7CE-11E3-921A0050569A5318>

*Five Minutes to Spare!*

Making it easy to support your child's development, see the video links below on how you can support your child's overall growth in a few spare minutes each day.

<http://www.parenttoolkit.com/index.cfm?objectid=6AF1ACD0-50EE-11E5-8F900050569A5318&targetObj=D761C470-50F0-11E5-8F900050569A5318>

#### **Links for Families:**

Kindergarten – Grade 3: <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-tips-parents-11-languages#english>

Grades K – 12: <http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583&navItemNumber=3363>

Please access our website: <http://www.randolph.k12.ma.us/> for updates and more school-related information.

Our progress is a direct result of our dedicated staff, more strategic use of student data - and more effective support for our teachers, administrators and support staff.

As always, thank you for your support and for entrusting us with your most prized possession, your children.

With Randolph pride,



Thomas Anderson  
Superintendent

<http://www.randolph.k12.ma.us/>

<https://youtu.be/8a34Er1xr88>



Donovan ES (School Committee Meeting)



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