



WRENTHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent
120 Taunton Street
Wrentham, MA 02093

Allan W. Cameron, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Superintendent's Bulletin Start of the 2017-2018 School Year

Dear WPS Community,

I hope you and your family enjoyed the summer! My family and I drove to Assateague Island in Maryland where we camped for a week with my wife's parents and siblings. The drive was rough and the living arrangements were cramped, but the wild horses and beautiful conditions made it worthwhile. Here is a picture of my kids Scotty (age 14), Annie (age 12), and Robert (age 7) leaving the beach to get some ice cream.



When I wasn't driving the minivan around the country, I was preparing for the 2017-2018 school year with the administrators, administrative assistants, and many faculty and staff members who spent time at work during the summer months. We want to make sure you and your children have an amazing school year. In this Superintendent's Bulletin, you'll find information about the following topics:

[Valuing All Learners: Every Student and Adult Meet and Greet](#)

Core Values

Respect • Communication • Collaboration • Responsibility • Continuous Growth and Learning

[2017-2018 Handbook](#)

[New Members of the Professional Community](#)

[New Delaney School Morning Drop-Off Plan](#)

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Valuing All Learners: Every Student and Adult

The theme for our school year is *Valuing All Learners: Every Student and Adult*. We want every member of our community to feel physically and emotionally safe at Wrentham Public Schools.

We are working very hard to make sure all students, families, and faculty and staff members know that they are important and welcome at Wrentham Public Schools. Please let me know if you have suggestions for how we can fulfil our core values of respect, communication, collaboration, responsibility, and continuous growth and learning.

Meet and Greet

We are looking forward to the annual Meet and Greet on Tuesday, August 29th! The Meet and Greet provides students with the opportunity to say hello to their teachers and see their classrooms prior to the start of school. The Meet and Greet is casual and quick since the teachers are working on their classrooms. It is a great way to reduce anxiety and get students excited about the school year. It is not required, but we hope you'll stop by!

- Delaney Meet and Greet, 9:45-10:30
- Roderick Meet and Greet, 10:45-11:30

2017-2018 Handbook

The [2017-2018 Handbook](#) has been updated and posted to our website. The Handbook provides students and families with information about the schools. We ask parents to review the handbook, particularly the information about student expectations, with their children and complete a [Student Handbook Verification Sheet](#). Please print the page, sign, and return to school with your children.

New Members of the Professional Community

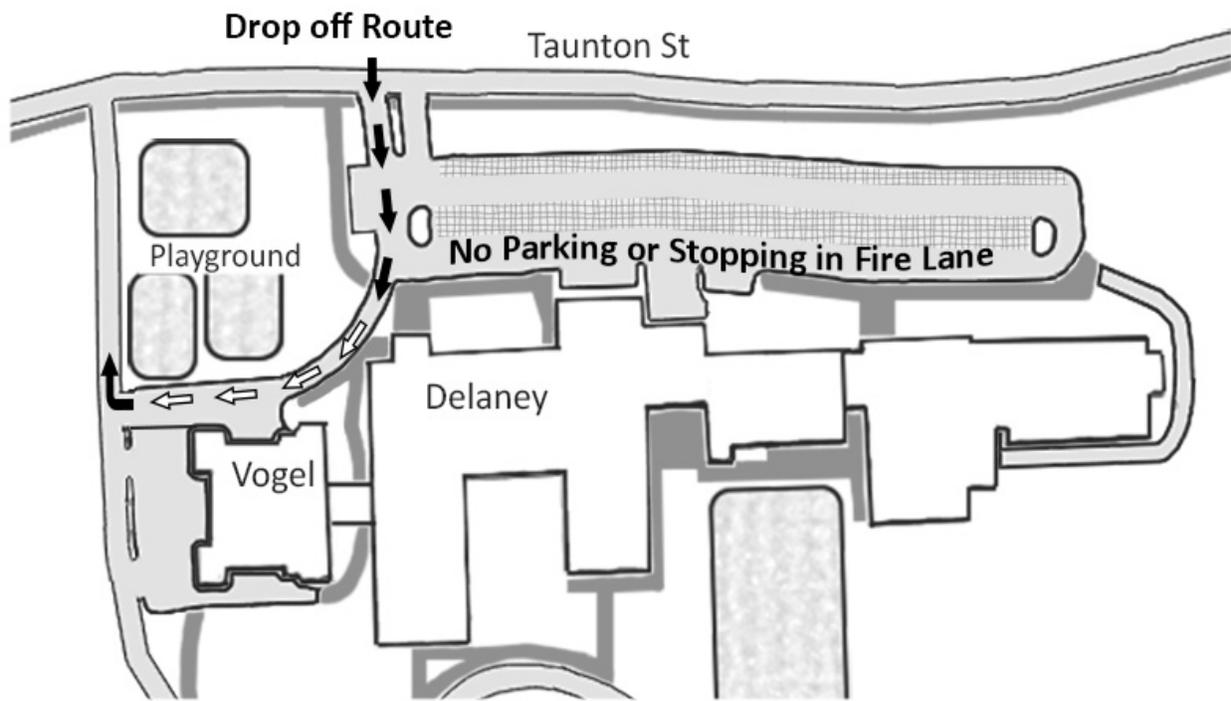
Wrentham Public Schools is an outstanding school district and a desirable place to work. We receive tens, and often times hundreds, of applications for every vacancy. We have a rigorous interview process to ensure that the new members of our school community meet our high standards and demonstrate our core values. The people listed below are the successful candidates for this school year. Each one of them emerged from a very competitive field to become a member of our district community. Please join me in welcoming them and wishing them many happy and successful years in Wrentham.

Jillian Amaral	Paraprofessional
Caroline Brackett	Grade 6 Teacher

Emily Brennan	Grade 4 Long Term Substitute
Meghan Burke	ABA Tutor
Amanda Dickson	Paraprofessional
Laurie Ellis	Math Specialist
Simona Gizdarska	School Psychologist
Jessie Handley	ABA Tutor
Brittney Hardro	Speech Language Pathologist
Ann Kowalski	Paraprofessional
Sara Lazzaro	School Adjustment Counselor
Kelly Lewis	Paraprofessional
Michaela Libby	Paraprofessional
Kristen Sullivan	School Psychologist Long Term Substitute

New Delaney School Morning Drop-Off Plan

We have received several complaints from parents about the Delaney School parking lot in the morning. The parking lot was not designed for the number of cars that arrive each morning for student drop-off. Delaney School Principal Colleen Wagstaff and Facilities Manager Glenn Gillespie developed a new plan that will increase student safety and improve traffic flow in the morning. The plan is attached. Here is a map:



Rather than parking in the fire lane by the Delaney main entrance or Janelli Annex entrance, all cars dropping students at school will pull in by the Vogel. Staff members will be there to help students exit the vehicles and enter the building. After the students are out, vehicles will turn right on Roderick Road and then turn on to Taunton Street.

In order for the plan to work, parents dropping students at school must remain in their vehicles. Parents who need to exit the vehicle to assist their children must park in a marked parking space. Parking in the fire lane is not allowed.

We expect the transition to the new plan to take some time. Thank you in advance for your patience. We will implement it for a month, collect feedback about the pros and cons, and update accordingly. Thank you for helping us ensure student safety.

Summer Projects

We had several major projects happen this summer. All of the projects improved the appearance, safety, accessibility, and/or learning environment in the schools. Here are some of the highlights:

- **Delaney School Roof Replacement:** We partnered with the town and the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to replace the Delaney School roof. The roof was leaking in several places and in desperate need of replacement. The MSBA paid for almost half of the project, saving the town of Wrentham hundreds of thousands of dollars. The new roof extends the life of the building and improves the safety and aesthetics of the learning spaces.
- **Safety and Security Improvements:** We installed additional electronic card access points throughout the district, a fence around the Delaney School playground, and a retaining wall in the Roderick School parking lot. We also removed several dead trees that were hanging over the Delaney School playground.
- **Improved Signage:** We installed new “Delaney Elementary School” signs above the main and bus loop entrances to the school.
- **Learning Space Improvement:** We painted several classrooms and doors, replaced old carpet and tile flooring, and replaced broken student and teacher furniture at Roderick School. We stripped, repainted, and resurfaced the floor in the Gibbons gym. We thoroughly cleaned every learning space in the district.

The custodial and maintenance staff did an amazing job preparing the buildings and grounds for the 2017-2018 school year! We are very lucky to have such dedicated and caring people on our team.

Tuitions and Fees

We work closely with the School Committee to minimize the impact of tuition and fees on our community. There are no tuition or fee increases for 2017-2018.

The bills for prekindergarten, full-day kindergarten, and bus fees are being emailed to students' families. Please check your email inbox for a message from *Facts Management*, our bill payment management service.

We want to help families that experience economic hardship. Please contact Business Manager Beth Gilbert to learn more about free or reduced cost lunch, bus transportation, and/or full-day kindergarten tuition (unfortunately, we are not able to offer tuition assistance for our prekindergarten program at this time). Her email is gilbertb@wrenthamschools.org and her phone number is 508-384-5430 extension 4030.

Report Card Update

We are in the third year of a review of our report cards for students in prekindergarten through grade 6. Our goal is to provide parents and future teachers with information about each student's performance with important academic and personal development standards. The academic standards align with the [Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks](#) and the personal development standards are based on the district's core values of responsibility, respect, collaboration, communication, and continuous growth and learning. This school year, we will implement the new math section of the report card. The Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Kristin Dykstra, the principals, and I will host parent meetings to help you understand the new math line items and answer your questions. The students' classroom teachers will answer any questions about your child's math progress at Parent/Teacher conferences in November.

Wrentham Day

Saturday, September 2nd, is Wrentham Day! The festivities begin at 9:00 a.m. on the Town Common and end at 3:00 p.m. There will be food, beverages, crafts, a road race, and many other events and activities. I hope to see you there!

Superintendent Phone Call

I will make my annual phone call to the students at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 29th. I'd appreciate it if you let your children hear the message. Thanks!

I am very excited about the upcoming school year! We are going to continue to do great things for our students and community. I am honored to be the superintendent of Wrentham Public Schools.

Yours truly,



Allan Cameron, Superintendent of Wrentham Public Schools
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