

# Superintendent's Update

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Today was the 61st day of school for the 2022-23 school year. There are 119 days left this year. Remember that tomorrow (Thursday, December 8) is a half-day, early-release schedule at all schools. This time is set aside for parent-teacher conferences at our elementary schools and professional development at our secondary schools. The next 2 weeks will go by very quickly as we head toward our December break. Remember that there is NO SCHOOL in Dedham on **Friday, December 23** as we start that vacation period.

The SBRC and OPM for the Oakdale MSBA Project have continued their meetings with PTO's across the district. A meeting was held with parents at the ECEC on 12/6 completing individual meetings with all elementary schools. A final school PTO meeting for the middle school will be held early in the new year.

I received pictures from Performing Arts Department Chair Heather Kirby with Dedham elementary students who sang the National Anthem at a recent [Providence Bruins game](#) on Sunday, December 4. There were over 80 students who attended the game along with many parents! Thank you to Heather and Music Teachers Chris Molinaro, Jen O'Shea, and Sarah Santos for their efforts to coordinate and attend this event!









In the Central Office we have continued our annual budget meetings with all principals and department heads as we prepare and assemble our proposed FY24 Operating Budget. We have concluded meetings with all 7 principals and most directors and we

hope to have a comprehensive draft budget for review by the Budget Subcommittee before the December break.

### **COVID-19 Update**

Information gathered over the summer as [COVID-19 data for Dedham](#) shows another up and down trend over the past few weeks, but the average daily incident rate has stayed in single digits during this time.

The [CDC has upgraded Norfolk County to the “MEDIUM” community level category by their designation criteria.](#) This is a change from my last report when the county was in the “LOW” community level.

The MWRA COVID-19 concentrations in wastewater over the past few weeks have started a fairly steep increase. Please take a look at the MWRA graph below to be aware of the most current trends in Dedham and surrounding areas. This information is updated every Thursday with the previous week's data. More comprehensive information may be obtained from the [MWRA COVID-19 wastewater surveillance website](#).

Recent South System Viral RNA Signal by Date

