

# THE NAVIGATOR

June Edition: June 12, 2020



## Newsletter

This Newsletter updates on all matters connected to Cohasset Public Schools. This letter is sent as part of a District initiative focusing on communication.

## Cohasset Public Schools Timeline for Fall Re-Entry Road Map 2020 - 2021



The following document presents the timeline we will use to create a Road Map for School Re-Entry. We are committed to using a thorough process that is inclusive of stakeholder voice at every level. However, we do recognize the need to get information out as quickly as possible. Because of this need, I will be sharing information from the guidance that is set to come from The Commissioner's Re-Entry Group. The Commissioner has asked that superintendents not go deeply into planning before the guidance from his group is issued. It is expected that the Commissioner will send his guidance, which will serve as a foundation for our work with our own Re-Entry Team, to superintendents and district leaders within the next two weeks. Our timeline provides opportunity for staff and family input in forums before the final Road Map is published.

3. Names of members of Fall School Re-Entry Steering Team and subcommittees and the Cohasset Public Schools Fall School Re-Entry Planning Timeline for 2020-2021 are communicated to staff and families (June 12).  
 4. Guidance from Commissioner Riley's Fall School Re-Entry Planning Group arrives (June 25). Information is shared with staff and families.  
 5. Remote learning and social emotional consideration surveys are developed and sent out to families (June 25).  
 6. Family Survey is due and is analyzed (July 6 & 7).  
 7. Fall Re-Entry Steering Team meets (July 9).  
 8. Templates are created for "important considerations" to be filled out by subcommittees in order to create the Cohasset Public Schools Road Map for Fall School Re-Entry (July 9).  
 9. Fall school re-entry subcommittees meet (July 10).  
 10. Forums with staff take place via Zoom to gain input into the planning process (July 14).



**Cohasset Public Scho...**

[drive.google.com](https://drive.google.com)



Thank you to the students, parents / guardians, faculty, staff, community members, town employees, and school leaders who are on the Re-entry Subcommittees. The broad scope of this team will provide a great collective voice for the school community as we apply the guidance to make the fall re-entry work for our faculty and staff, families, and students. I have included a document announcing the members of the Cohasset Public Schools Fall School Re-Entry Planning Team for 2020 -2021 and a document showing the members of Commissioner Riley's Re-entry Group (please see below for both documents).

RE-ENTRY STEERING TEAM: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Director of Finance and Operations, Director of Student Services, MITCO Director, Lead Nurse, High School Principal, High School Assistant Principal, Athletics Director, Middle School Principal, Middle School Assistant Principal, Dear Hill Principal, Joseph O'Connell Principal, Town CDO, Cohasset Teachers Association (CTA) President

Steering Team Meetings to take place on July 9 (times T.B.D.)

Dr. Patrick Sullivan, Superintendent
Dr. Leslie Scallan, Assistant Superintendent
Susan Owen, Incoming Director of Finance and Operations
Barbara Carver, Incoming Director of Student Services
Alison Gilmore-Carls, MITCO Director
Sandy Cough, Lead Nurse



Cohasset Public Scho...

[drive.google.com](#)

have made heroic efforts to meet the needs of all students and families throughout this pandemic, and we appreciate your continued dedication.

We remain committed to supporting local leaders as we turn our attention to the coming months and actions around when and how to state will reopen either building. Most of you already have some work underway at the local level to plan for this. We will be supporting you throughout this process by providing guidance.

We are announcing the creation of the Return to School Working Group to inform our decision-making and guidance.

- The working group will include:
1. Robert Burrows, Executive Director, Massachusetts School Councils Association
  2. John Breen, Chief of Policy and School Support, Massachusetts Charter Public School Association
  3. Dennis Gaudin, Headmaster/Free Chief, representing the Free Chiefs Association of Massachusetts
  4. Elizabeth Della-Bona-Baker, Executive Director, Massachusetts Association of 706 Approved Private Schools (Inquiry)
  5. Karen DeLuca, Membership Chair, Massachusetts Parent Teacher Association
  6. Jan Evans, Superintendent, North Regional Technical School in Framingham
  7. Jeff Fennel, Headmaster/Police Chief, representative for Massachusetts Chiefs of Police



On the Desktop 5 14 2...

[drive.google.com](#)

## KEEP THE JOY

It is important that as we create our safety conscious plans to start school in the fall that we remember the importance of "joy" within our schools. The Cohasset Public Schools are vibrant and warm places for staff to work and for students to learn, and we will focus within our planning on keeping that warmth that makes Cohasset a special place. We will continue to view everything "Through the Eyes of the Student," and we will keep stressing that "This is Important, You Can Do It, and We Will Not Give Up On You" throughout any changes that come our way.

I hope you feel  
welcomed + loved...  
because you are ♥



## "We Must Be The Change We Wish To See"



Dear Cohasset Families,

The actions resulting in the death of George Floyd in Minnesota and other recent events have caused sorrow, outrage, and frustration. In a time when the need for compassion and empathy is paramount, we will continue to promote diversity and cultural competency, to teach the importance of open discourse, and to inspire our students to end hate through kindness and compassion. We stand beside and support our students and families of color, in this case particularly students and families in the Black and African American communities, and we are committed to do our part to end systemic racism.

This tragedy and others like it, paired with the ongoing pandemic, have produced a difficult landscape for our students. We want to provide the highest level of social and emotional support possible for our students during this difficult time, so please reach out to your child's principal or our METCO Director, if there is a need for support, and they will direct you to the appropriate resources.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patrick Sullivan, Superintendent

Dr. Leslie Scollins, Assistant Superintendent

Michael MacMillan, Director of Finance and Operations

Mary Buchanan, Director of Student Services

Alesia Gittens-Carle, METCO Director

Brian Scott, CHS Principal

Tara Noyes, CHS Assistant Principal

Steve Rotondi, Athletic Director

Sandy Crough, Lead Nurse

John Mills, CMS Principal



Dr. Kate Salas, CMS Assistant Principal  
Alexandra L. Sullivan, DHS Principal  
Lisa Farrell, JOS Principal

## WE ARE SO PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS









We are so proud of the many students who demonstrated peacefully and who showed their belief that we can be the change we wish to see. Here is a video (below) of many of our students peacefully protesting on the town common.

<https://twitter.com/G...>

t.co

## WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

Thank you to the Cohasset High School Student Council and Marybeth Reardon for putting together this amazing video from the Cohasset Student Council Responding to the latest tragedies. Please click on the image below...

COHASSET STRONG!!!



## WE ARE COMMITTED TO CONTINUE THE DISCOURSE REGARDING RACE AND CULTURAL COMPETENCY

We will continue our focus on cultural competency professional development with all our staff. In addition to examining the diversity of our texts this past school year and immersing our students in more culturally proficient and culturally diverse readings at the elementary level, we had a comprehensive professional development planned for staff on March 20 regarding cultural proficiency

and race that was unfortunately postponed due to the COVID -19 outbreak. This professional development, which comes to us through the outstanding efforts of Aleisa Gittens-Carle, our METCO Director, and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Leslie Scollins, and which is funded by the Cohasset Education Foundation (CEF), is now on our Professional Development Calendar for the 2020 – 2021 school year. We are appreciative to the CEF for this opportunity. I have attached our plans for this event below.

CPS Professional  
Development  
Day



 **Professional Develop...**

[drive.google.com](https://drive.google.com)

## We Have a Long Way To Go...But Here is Some of What We Have Worked On Over the Past Two Years Regarding Diversity, Cultural Competency, and Anti-Racism

The Cohasset Public Schools has begun and will continue to implement, to plan for, and to forward cultural competency, to expose students to diverse and culturally appropriate texts, and to promote anti-racism education. Recruitment and hiring of a culturally diverse faculty and staff that includes individuals of color is also paramount. We encourage open dialogue and support cultural competency and anti-racism education as major components of our upcoming five year strategic plan. Here is a list of just some of what we have started...

- Inclusion of a focus on Cultural Competency in the District Strategic Plan and in all School Improvement Plans
- Formation of an Inclusive Cultures Subcommittee of the Safe Schools Team (Parents, students, faculty, leadership)
- Reestablishment of a METCO office in the HS
- Establishment of the Institutional Climate and Inclusion Assessment
- Creation and dedicated resources to Diversity Club and Asian Culture Club
  - Work with elementary schools to promote cultural competence
  - Work within the HS community to prominently display and celebrate diversity (book fairs, religious celebrations, etc.)
  - Work with the department chairs to voice concerns over some experiences over four years related to the curriculum.
- Revised Summer Reading working through PSO
- School-Wide Screening and panel discussion of *The Hate You Give* (thank you to Resource Officer Taylor and Detective Lopes, Boston Families, and METCO alumni for serving on the committee and for our Diversity Club for working with Aleisa Gittens-Carle and Principal Scott to organize this event)
- Targeted Professional Development for faculty and administrators that includes
  - [White Fragility](#) book club
  - Professional Development Planned for all staff regarding Cultural Competency as a major part of next year's Professional Development Plan (postponed due to pandemic until next fall)



- Challenge Day to build empathy.
- Contract with One Love to provide work around sexual violence and healthy relationships
- Deliberate address of sexism, racism and white privilege in high school newsletters.
- All-School high school read on the METCO experience of one student.
- Increased student voice and presence around:
  - BLM protests and vigil
  - Sexual violence (particularly in the form of the upper lobby healing wall at Cohasset High School)
- Multi-cultural "March Madness" literature imitative at Deer Hill
- Leadership Professional Development with Dr. Kalise Wornum and Manuel Fernandez regarding Cultural Competency
- Increased awareness of empathy, diversity, and consideration of differences through the adoption of Responsive Classroom at Osgood and Deer Hill
- Multi-cultural all school read selections planned for Osgood and Deer Hill

## INTERFAITH VIGIL ON TOWN COMMON

Thank you to all who came out to last weekend's Interfaith Peace Vigil, which offered prayers for our Nation in a time of conflict, prayers for an end to racism and violence, and prayers of grief, compassion, listening, and hope. A special thank you to the Interface Council and to the Cohasset Diversity Committee for organizing the event and for Aleisa Gittens-Carle and (student) Isley Wilson for their motivational and inspiring words.











**METCO DIRECTORS AND SUPERINTENDENTS GATHER TO  
MAKE STATEMENT ABOUT THE NEED TO END SYSTEMIC  
RACISM**





I was proud to join Aleisa Gittens-Carle and other METCO directors and superintendents in Hyde Park last week to make a statement in solidarity with our Black and African American Students. We are united to make changes and to make a difference for all students of color.

**Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.  
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." - Martin  
Luther King Jr.**



**SENIOR CLASS NIGHT (Scholarship Awarding Ceremony)**





Congratulations to all Cohasset Seniors who were honored at The Senior Class Night (Scholarship Awarding), which aired on 143 last week. Anyone interested in viewing the awards night who missed this showing or who does not have access to 143 TV can go to YouTube channel 143tv CCTV to view the awards ceremony. Thank you to the scholarship committee and to everyone who participated to help make this a special program for the students. Congratulations, students!

## Arts Virtual Celebration

Please click on the image below to see a virtual celebration of our amazing student created art. The image itself is a beautiful drawing from Cohasset High School student, Ariana Clark.





# Senior Diploma Awarding Ceremony

Thank you to everyone who made this amazing event for our senior class and their families possible. A special thanks to Principal Scott, Assistant Principal Noyes and team, to Stephanie Moriarty, Nina Berkowitz, Marc Craig, Steve Rotondi, Lisa Tokarz, Dan Leahy (for his amazing photography), Officer Taylor and the Cohasset Police, and to the Cohasset Music Circus for their generosity. It was a wonderful event. Congratulations to the amazing Class of 2020!











Thank You, All For Your Good Work Preparing and  
Implementing Student Belonging Pick Ups at Each School

















Preschool and Kindergarten Last Day of School Motorcade  
Celebration









Town Meeting, Tuesday, Jun 16 at the Cohasset Music Circus





Next Tuesday evening (June 16) the Cohasset Town Meeting will take place at the Cohasset Music Circus. This first ever "Drive In" Town Meeting will follow all social distancing guidelines. Thank you to the Cohasset Music Circus and to our town leaders for their thoughtful care in organizing this event. We are optimistic that the school budget will be passed and feel fortunate to be supported by such a wonderful town that values education. I will communicate specifics with the faculty and staff and the community after the meeting.

## **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...**

### **Amazing Drive-In Celebration for the Cohasset Graduating Class of 2020**

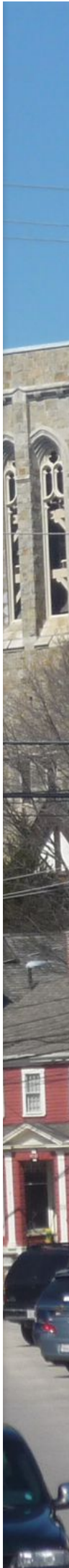
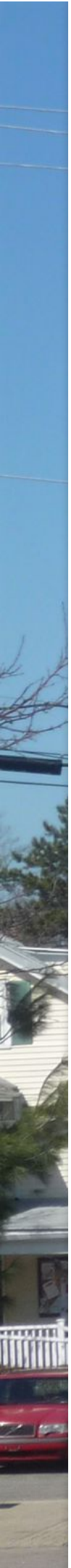
On Wednesday, May 27, the Cohasset Graduating Class of 2020 attended a drive-in movie celebration on the evening of their last day of school as seniors. This event was organized with permission from the Board of Health and Cohasset Police Department. All students arrived in their own cars, and only the immediate family members of each student were in each vehicle. Students were checked-in and provided with a mask if they did not bring one, and all students and family members remained in their cars throughout the event. All staff attending and supervising the event also wore masks.

The student created class video highlighted the social and academic accomplishments of the amazing class of 2020 and was displayed on a large screen in the Cohasset Music Circus parking lot. The audio of the film was broadcast through a radio channel that played in each vehicle. Thank you to the Cohasset Music Circus, Plymouth Flix, Cohasset Collision, Cohasset Police, Cohasset Board of Health, Stephanie Moriarty, Nina Berkowitz, and the Cohasset High School seniors and staff for helping this event be a successful example of a social distancing conscious celebration. We are so proud of our amazing graduates!













**Central Office Open to Public Business Monday - Thursday  
from 9:00AM - 3:00PM**



**Central Office is now open for public business from Monday through Thursday from 9:00AM – 3:00PM.** We will be following the guidelines to “stagger staff” within the office, so although not everyone will be there at once, there will be someone available should you need to go into central office during those times. Of course we are all still working each day, so feel free to contact any of us if you need assistance. When entering Central Office, we ask that you please wear a mask and that you follow social-distancing guidelines. The opening of Central Office will adhere to all regulations set out by Governor Baker’s team.



## "Dear Students, We Miss You!...We Are Proud of You!"

Thank you to Ms. Ryan and to the Sixth Grade Team for designing signs (please see below), which were placed around town (Thank you, Principal Mills) and which were placed in Boston for our Boston students (Thank you, Aleisa Gittens-Carle) to let the students know how much we appreciate and miss them. This kind gesture is wonderful and so indicative of our caring teachers and learning community. Thank you!































Thank you to Principal Scott, Cohasset High School Families and Staff, Craig MacLellan, Ashley Colleary, and the entire School Committee, Chris Senior (Town Manager), Chief Quigley, and the Cohasset Police for the collaboration that allowed the beautiful banners of the Class of 2020 to proudly adorn the town common. This is a wonderful tribute to these amazing students.













**OSGOOD PLAYGROUND PROGRESS! Oh So GOOD and Exciting!**







# Cohasset Playgrounds are Open!



Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

## Safety Standards for Playgrounds – Phase II

All visitors to playgrounds should abide by the specific guidelines outlined:

**Children and adults who feel sick or are recovering from an illness may not visit the playground.**

**Face coverings or masks must be worn** when individuals cannot maintain 6 feet of distance between themselves and others.

Persons using playgrounds must maintain 6 feet from all other persons.

Parents, guardians and other adults supervising children should **monitor children** at all times to ensure children maintain proper distancing and adhere to requirements for face coverings.

Parents and guardians will be required to seek alternative facilities if the playground is crowded such that social distancing cannot be maintained.

**After visiting public spaces, users should use wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.**

Playgrounds are encouraged to modify play structures to encourage social distancing (such as removing swings or moving seating).

**Visitors should adhere to a strict “carry in, carry out” policy and take waste with them**

Restrooms are **NOT** available at any of the four playgrounds in Cohasset.

---

## Cross-Country Teams Raises Money for Local Food Pantries

The Cohasset Cross-country Team raised over \$3,000 for two local Food Pantries (Cohasset Food Pantry and Wellspring Food Pantry in Hull). Great job, Coach Ford and team!





Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Compass: Assistant Superintendent Leslie Scollins, Ed.D.





Elementary Math Textbook Adoption



The Elementary Math Textbook Adoption Process is in its final phases. Grade levels submitted their rubrics for each program and the Elementary Math Committee met today to review the data. A final decision will be made in the next week. I want to thank the teachers and the Math Committee for all their thoughtful work during this process.

## Professional Development Update

June 17 and 18 are PD days for the staff. During that time staff will reflect on Remote Learning to assess what went well and what they would like to improve. Staff will also be working in grade level and department teams to review the curriculum standards and have discussions about how to address any gaps that occurred during this time of Remote Learning. This work will be part of the larger discussions that will occur over the summer.

## Take Care of Yourself and Take Care of Each Other



Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can do anything to help your student or your family during this difficult time. Most important is the physical and mental health of everyone, and we will stay focused on making that a priority. Please take good care.





## Upcoming Senior Events

We are very much looking forward to the following events for seniors. We will provide more information regarding just what these events will look like in future communications.

- **August 5th.** Prom will be held at the Red Lion Inn from 7:00PM-10:30PM preceded by a red carpet event.
- **August 6th.** A class field day will be held at Miliken from 2:00PM-4:00PM.
- **August 7th.** Graduation will be held at 4:00PM on alumni field.



HAVE A FANTASTIC WEEKEND!




Please follow me on Twitter for daily updates from the Cohasset Public Schools

 @SuperCohasset

 psullivan@cohassetk12.org

 781 383 6111

 cohassetk12.org/

Follow me at Wordpress Superintendent Blog

