THE NAVIGATOR

December Edition, December 6, 2019



Newsletter

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

Important Upcoming Events

12/6/19: Middle School Term 1 Report Cards Posted in Aspen

12/9/19-- Winter Sports Meeting & Presentation on Alcohol & Drug Awareness (6:30PM)

12/9/19: Deer Hill Progress Reports Posted in Aspen

12/9/19: Osgood Progress Reports Posted in Aspen

12/11/19-- Deer Hill Winter Concert (7:00PM)

12/12/19-- High School Winter Concert (7:00PM)

12/12/19--Osgood Winter Concert (K = 11:30AM, Grade 1 = 10:45AM, Grade 2 = 10:00AM)

12/13/19 -- Half Day... Early Release (Professional Development for Teachers and ESPs)

12/20/19 -- Last Day of School Before Break (FULL DAY)

12/23/19 - 1/1/2020 -- Winter Break

1/2/19 -- School is Back in Session

NOVEMBER RE-CAP



UPDATE REGARDING SCHOOL START AND ENDING TIMES FOR 2020 - 2021

At the October 28 School Committee Meeting, after discussion regarding updates from the Superintendent Coffees and after listening to parent concerns (mainly regarding the proposed early Deer Hill Elementary start time), the School Committee requested that I re-open efforts to look at school start times for 2020 - 2021. As a result of this request, there were two forums for parental input that took place in early November.

At the November 20 School Committee Meeting, the School Committee voted on and approved a new proposal that has been presented to the Cohasset Teacher Association (CTA) for their potential approval. I will keep all updated when I have more information regarding the final school start times for 2020 - 2021.

Wonderful Veterans Day Ceremony at Deer Hill School

As is a Cohasset tradition, On November 7 Deer Hill hosted its annual Veterans Day Ceremony. It was a wonderful event complete with student read essays, poems and excellent performances by the Deer Hill chorus and band. The event honored the over 20 Veterans who attended the event, and was attended by Senator Patrick O'Connor and State Representative Joan Meschino. We are so thankful for all that our Veterans have afforded us. Thank you to the entire Deer Hill Community for hosting such a positive and meaningful event.











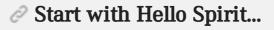




Start with Hello at Deer Hill

As part of their goal to promote a positive culture and climate in their building, Deer Hill successfully implemented a week of activities last month to support the idea that we are all valued members of our school community. These activities were based on the Start with Hello campaign launched by Sandy Hook Promise in which many schools nationwide participated in September. The following link details how Deer Hill community worked together to build a stronger sense of inclusion. Below are some pictures from the week's activities.





docs.google.com







Thank you, Mrs. Figueirdo

Deer Hill and Osgood students and staff participated in honoring Judy Figueirdo during a driving parade from Deer Hill to Osgood that celebrated Judy's amazing dedication to students, staff and families over the last 30 years. Judy was the Osgood School Administrative Assistant for over three (3) decades, and we all thank her and wish her the best. The show of thanks was moving and reflective of the character of the students, staff and leadership at our elementary schools. Thank you, Mrs. Figueirdo!

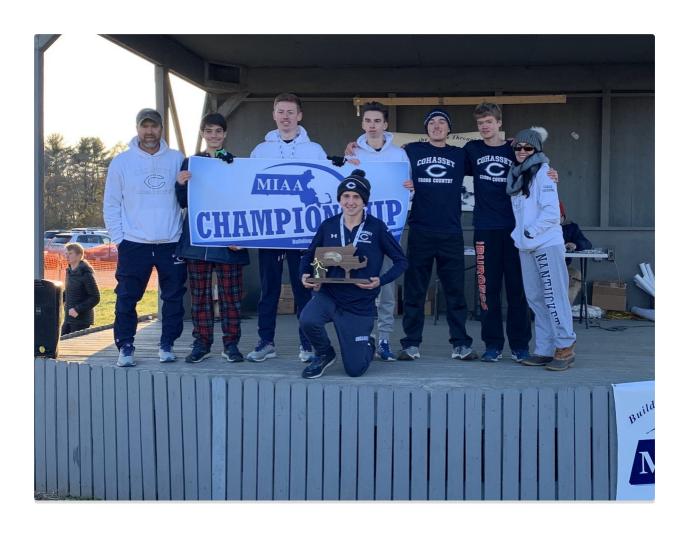




Lisa Farrell on Twitter

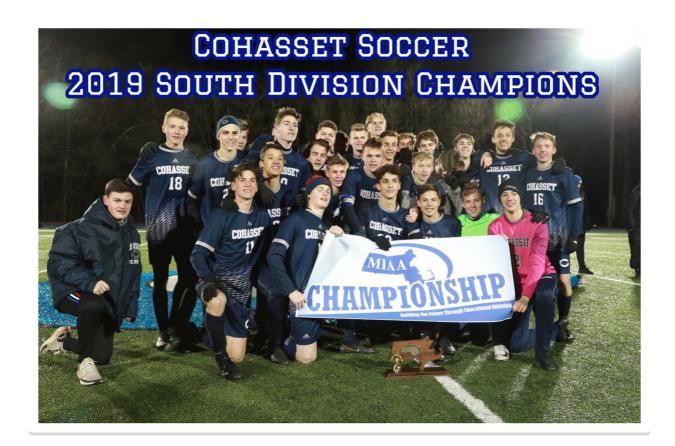
twitter.com

Congratulations to the Division Six Eastern Massachusetts
State Champion Boys Cross Country Team! We are so proud of
your efforts! Great job, Coach Ford and team.





Congratulations to Boys Soccer! Thank you, Coach Willis and Team for an amazing season. The boys went 16-2-5 and ended their season as the 2019 South Division Champions. This amazing team ended their season ranked third in the Patriot Ledger High School Rankings. We are proud of your achievement, character and sportsmanship.



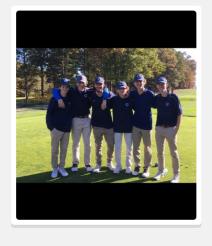
Congratulations to our Cheer Team for their great work at states! #proudtobecps



Congratulations to the CHS Football Team on their 38 - 6 victory over Hull High School on Thanksgiving Day. The Skippers had an excellent 8 - 3 Season.

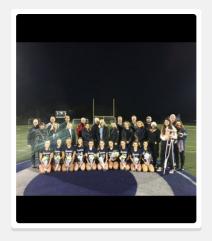


Congratulations to all of our Fall Sports Teams and Coaches on a fantastic Season!













State Champion Girls Lacrosse Team Visits State House



The 2019 Girls State Champion Lacrosse Team was honored on November 26 by Senator O'Connor and Representative Meschino. The visit included a tour of The State House. Congratulations, Girls!

Cohasset Mariner

cohasset.wickedlocal.com

CPS Student Representatives attend MIAA Sportsmanship Summit



ALUMNI RETURN TO CHS TO TALK TO CHS STUDENTS



Thank you to the Deer Hill Lego League under the direction of Suzi Corkhum for an amazing presentation at a recent School Committee Meeting





Alice: What an idea. A crazy, mad, wonderful idea.

Congratulations to all the students and staff who helped make the Cohasset Middle School Fall Musical, Alice in Wonderland Jr. a fabulous success. Our talented students did a wonderful job bringing this stage adaption of the 1951 musical to life. Great job students and Music and Arts Staff!





OVER 30 STUDENTS HONORED IN NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION

Congratulations to the over 30 new members of the Joseph Osgood Chapter of the National Honor Society. Thank you to Eileen Norton, Jennifer Scott and to everyone who made the ceremony truly special for our students. The appreciation that students show for the teachers who inspire them is a true testament to the difference those educators are making in their lives. Thank you parents and guardians for your support of these students. This was a fantastic event with meaningful speeches from Jon Belber of Holly Hill Farm and Jack Buckley from CSCR (former wonderful teacher at CHS).















THANK YOU TO COACH AFANASIW, STUDENTS AND TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED FOOD ITEMS TO THE FOOD PANTRY. YOUR GENEROSITY AND SPIRIT OF GIVING IS VERY APPRECIATED.







CIRCUS COMES TO DEER HILL!

From November 18 - 22, all Deer Hill students participated in the annual Deer Hill Circus Program. Instructors from Circus Kid Productions spent the week at Deer Hill teaching circus performance skills to students that ranged from juggling to balancing on stilts, inherently building students' self esteem and positive teamwork skills. The week concluded with a celebratory circus performance by the 5th Grade Class. The Deer Hill Circus is a curriculum enrichment program funded by a grant from the South Shore Music Circus, Massachusetts Cultural Council and funds from the Cohasset PSO. Thank you, Deer Hill Community for supporting such a wonderful opportunity for the students.







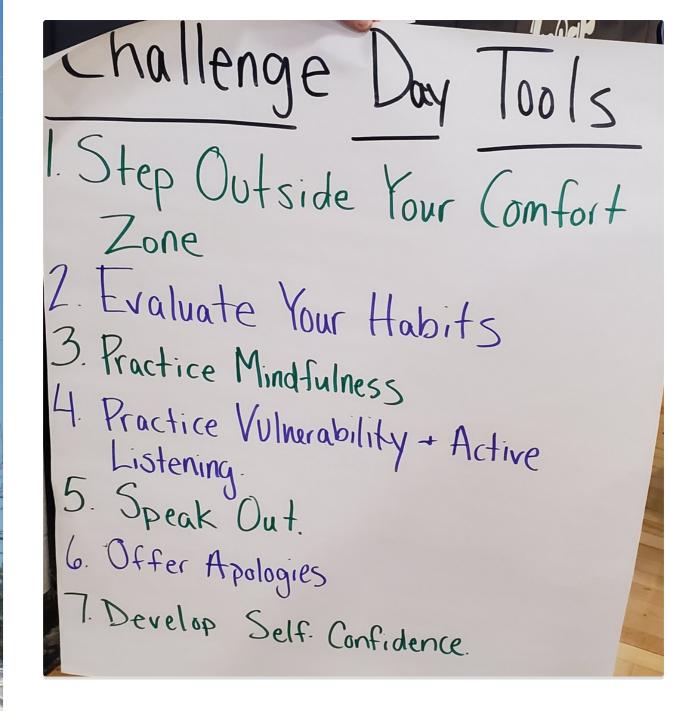
CHALLENGE DAY: DECEMBER 4

On December 4, seniors (almost all of the class of 2020) participated in a meaningful event called Challenge Day. Challenge Day seeks to build a pathway to empathy by challenging participants to embrace acceptance, allow forgiveness and to empathize with the common and differing experiences of those around around them. The expert facilitators brought the students and the over 20 teachers and community members who volunteered through a variety of self-reflection, trust-building, and social awareness activities. This authentic experience allowed students to see the importance of Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) through an emphasis on the Collaborative of Academic and Social-Emotional Learning (CASEL) competencies (self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, relationship building and responsible decision making). It was one of the more powerful educational and social events I have experienced in my 23 years as an educator. Thank you to Challenge Day, Principal Scott, the CHS team, adult volunteers and students for making this ground-breaking and important day a reality for our students. I am confident that the personal and cultural benefits of this day will resonate throughout the CHS school community.









AMAZING LEARNING HAPPENS EVERY DAY AT CPS!

Here are just a few of the fantastic learning events that happened this past month

Fabulous Collaboration by the 7th Grade Team...Project-Based Learning (PBL)

Grade 7 <u>Hidden Figures</u> Exploratory Day

On Wednesday, 11/13, grade 7 students will follow a special activity schedule in the morning (7:30 - 11:35) to explore interdisciplinary topics and themes related to Margot Lee Shetterly's book, <u>Hidden Figures</u>.

Students will rotate through teacher-led workshops which are designed to deepen students' learning and heighten engagement by helping students discover cross-curricular connections.

Workshop Topics Include:

- **★** Moon Lander Challenge
- * See REAL Moon Rocks sent by NASA
- ★ <u>Hidden Figures</u> Vocabulary in Different Languages
- ★ Become a "Human Computer" and Calculate Space Mission Equations
- ★ Evaluate Gender Demographics in STEM-Related Fields
- **★** Creating History of the Future
- **★** Exploring Societal Barriers

We are excited to provide grade 7 students with this experiential learning opportunity!



Thank you to Torin Sweeney and the Physical Education and Health Department for bringing One Love Foundation, a foundation that works to end relationship abuse by educating young people about healthy & unhealthy relationships, to present to CHS sophomores regarding the characteristics and importance of healthy relationships.





COHASSET CARES SUSTAINABILITY SEMINAR: 8TH GRADE.
AUTHENTIC AUDIENCE & RESEARCH SKILLS

8th grade *Research* students applied their research skills to the following student-chosen topics (and investigating how these topics relate to Cohasset and the South Shore):

- Climate Change Causes, Effects, Actions
- Sustainable Fishing Wild vs. Farm-Raised Fish?
- Saving Our Environment via Renewable Energy, Recycling, Organic Farming, and Dietary Choices
- Teen Vaping Reasons, Consequences, Alternatives
- Sustainable Development Housing Needs vs. Wildlife Habitat

The culminating event of this excellent research project was the *Cohasset Cares! Sustainability Symposium*. At the Symposium, student groups presented their research to an expanded audience of teachers, administrators, local experts, and parents. Thank you to Kathy Cerruti and students. Also, thank you to all who helped with this symposium.







SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) MESSAGES AT OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



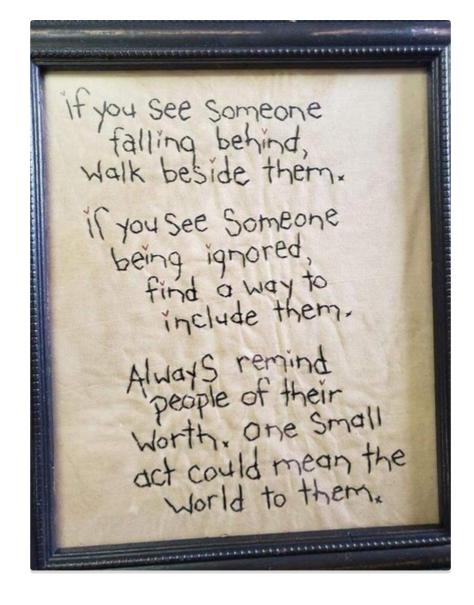












SOME GREAT SEL TIPS FROM THE COLLABORATIVE OF ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING (CASEL)

How to Talk to Your Child at Every Age

0-2 years

- Touch is the first form of communication.
- Use tone and body language to enhance what you say.
- Respond to baby talk with conversation.
- Talking to your child despite his comprehension encourages language skills.

3-5 years

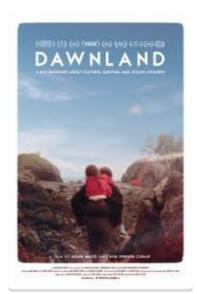
- Give your child your complete attention when possible
- Watch your tone and body language
- Help your child to put words to his emotions.
- Use the help strategy to develop emotional regulation skills
- Offer limited choices and simple explanations

6-11 years

- · Make time to talk
- Speak to your child in a respectful manner that presumes a level of maturity
- When trying to get information from your child ask specific questions and keep talking even if they won't talk back.
- Listen without contradicting and repeat what you you heard in a more mature manner.
- Allow your child to have some input in family rules.
- Laugh with your child and admit your mistakes.

12-18 years

- · Talk with your teen not at him
- Show respect for your teen's opinions.
- Find opportunities such as car rides and television commercials to talk with your teen.
- Respect your teen's privacy and keep their confidences.
- Showing that you trust your teen will in turn encourage them to confide in you.
- Be yourself. A teen is old enough to respect you as an individual.



On November 25 The Cohasset Diversity Committee, a member of the South Shore Unity Council, collaborated with their counterparts in Scituate and Hingham to bring a showing of the movie Dawnland to Cohasset. Dawnland is a story of stolen children and cultural survival: inside the first truth and reconciliation commission for Native Americans. Thank you to the Ashley Colleary, Aleisa Gittens-Carle, Cohasset Diversity Committee, South Shore Unity Council and to the over 200 people who attended the screening. A special thank you goes out to filmmaker Adam Mazo and to Wabanaki educator Roger Paul for making this screening a memorable experience for all in attendance.



A Documentary about...





Fabulous Middle School Concert

On December 5 the Middle School Band, Chorus and Art Programs hosted their annual winter concert. Congratulations to the amazing student performers and to all of the students who created the beautiful art that was displayed in the art walk that was set up in the Learning Commons. A special thank you goes out to Music and Arts Department Chair Stephanie Moriarty, Justin Bleier, Abigail Arenstam, John DeWaal, Isabelle Hegland, Jennifer Scott, Laura Schwartz, Principal Mills and Dr. Salas for their inspirational work with the students.

















IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

VAPE DETECTORS APPROVED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

In an effort to help prevent vaping from happening within our middle and high school, The School Committee has accepted a generous donation of vape detectors which will be installed in restrooms within the middle and the high school. This effort goes in partnership with our continued collaboration with Safe Harbors to educate students regarding healthy living. Thank you, Safe Harbors!



OSGOOD PLAYGROUND TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR (HOPEFULLY SOONER)

Here is a sketch of the playground.



CEF Gingerbread Decorating Event to take place on Sunday, December 8. Visit and take part in the festivities anytime between 2:00PM and 5:00PM at the Joseph Osgood School



CMS LOGO

Cohasset Middle School Now has a new Logo! Thank you to the CMS team for developing this. It is available on insignia gear that can be ordered (see link below). #PROUDTOBECMS



John Mills on Twitter

twitter.com

Congratulations to Leah S, our Middle School Project 351 Ambassador

"Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision of the Beloved Community inspires our mission and youth-led service movement. Each January, Project 351 honors his life and legacy by convening a new Class of 8th grade Ambassadors who embrace the responsibility to lead with a determination to make a difference.

Selected by hometown educators, these unsung heroes and quiet leaders unite for a transformative year of service and leadership. They join a warm, welcoming community built on the belief that service is joy and that world changing impact is possible. They offer their unique gifts, force of idealism, and dedication to a cause greater than self. From 351 cities and towns, they become one community, one team, one force for extraordinary good.

Ambassadors are invited to "unite, act, and lead" for 12 months of inspirational service, empowering leadership training, and teamwork with a statewide network of friends." -- Project 351

We are very proud of Leah, and we look forward to the service she will take part of and inspire in others.



CRADLES TO CRAYON CLOTHING DRIVE AT CHS & CMS



Cohasset Middle High...

drive.google.com

Superintendent's & School Committee's Student Advisory Council (SSAC)



The Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) meets with the Superintendent six times per year to advise, provide feedback and present viable solutions on District initiatives and programs. The SSAC also will serve as the Student Liaisons to the School Committee.

SAMPLE TOPICS THE SSAC WILL DISCUSS:

Approaches to increase student voice

Approaches to promote cultural competency, inclusion, and diversity

Approaches to help students cope with stress and pressure

Approaches to promote student wellness

Approaches to increase social opportunities for students

Approaches to increase academic opportunities for students

Approaches to improve transitions between schools Approaches to improve school culture Other...

SSAC MEMBERSHIP: MEMBERS ARE SELECTED BY THE

DEER HILL, MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Six Students from Cohasset High School

Three Students from Cohasset Middle School

Two Fifth Grade Students from Deer Hill Elementary School (attend January and April meeting)

Our first meeting was a great success. We are looking forward to the outcomes from this excellent group of students.

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





Data Teams



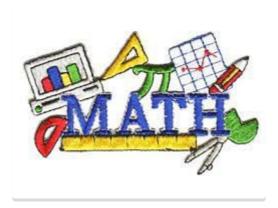
MCAS

We are currently finalizing the MCAS Calendar and it will be posted this month on the school and district calendars.

Deer Hill, CMS and CHS have all had the opportunity to work with Laura Tilton, a Data Specialist Consultant, to review the MCAS Accountability process as well as dive into the data related to content. Although MCAS is just one indicator of how we are doing as a district it is valuable, it allows us to see trends and patterns that we can use to improve our teaching and learning. The staff were engaged and thoughtful in their words and reflections and walked away with some great information.

There will be a presentation about the 2019 MCAS results at the December 18th School Committee meeting.

Elementary Math Pilot Update



As I shared earlier, the elementary schools are piloting two math programs (Investigations and Bridges) along with the current enVision math program. The math specialists continue to work closely with the teachers to help them try the new programs while weaving the units into the current curriculum. The pilot process will continue through the spring.

Currently, both programs will be providing professional development for the staff on December 13th. This will allow for teachers to gain more information about the programs as well as to ask questions.

Recently, JOS was the Spotlight on Education as part of the School Committee Meeting. JOS staff members Marcia Campbell, Diane Barbieri, and Jennifer McPhillips presented what they are doing to increase student numeracy and how they are piloting the programs to ensure that all students are being taught grade level content. It was an impressive presentation!

On December 18th there will be a presentation to update the School Committee on the Elementary Math Pilot process. There will also be a presentation at the Deer Hill PSO meeting on January 14th at 9:30am.

From the Office of Mary Buchanan, Director of Student Services



Office of Student Services

Events and Happenings in December:

Individualized Education Program (IEP) Progress Reports will available the same day as Report Cards although will not be visible on the Aspen Portal at this time.

Cohasset Middle School student IEP Progress Reports were mailed home on December 4, 2019. Deer Hill School and Joseph Osgood School (grades 1 and 2) will be mailed on on December 6, 2019. If you have questions about IEP Progress Reports, please reach out to The Office of Student Services at 781-383-6104.

Peer Preschool Applications

Preschool Applications for morning and afternoon sessions will be available at the Office of Student Services or on Cohasset Public Schools website on January 2, 2020. There will be a lottery, if there are more students who register for preschool than seats available. Timelines and preschool process will be available at this time.

From the Director of Finance and Operations...Michæl MacMillan



The Special Town Meeting in November approved three school capital projects:

- · Upgrading the Middle School Entrance.
- - Purchasing a 7D vehicle for student transportation.
- · Replacing the Middle / High School Auditorium Projector

The work is now underway to select the vendors for these projects and to get the work done. However, we can't rest on our laurels as the process for selecting the capital projects to be voted on in the Spring Town Meeting is now underway. We started work on list this by touring each building to review the condition of the building and it's major components, we have created a comprehensive list of items which are now prioritizing before we submit our requests to the Town Capital Committee.

Highlights of the list are roofs, classroom furniture and technology and repairing the CMHS sidewalks and roads and the Alumni Field and Track. Though not all of these will be tackled in this year.

FY 21 BUDGET PROCESS

Work has begun on the school budget for next year. We will be presenting a "first pass" of the budget to School Committee at the December 18 School Committee Meeting. Over the next few months more information will be provided on the District website.



METCO UPDATE FROM METCO DIRECTOR MS. ALEISA GITTENS-CARLE

DAWNLAND

On Monday, November 25th, students from the Cohasset METCO Program spent the evening at the home of Mrs. Ashley Colleary, Co-Chair of the Cohasset Diversity Committee and School Committee Member, and her husband Paul, sharing food, conversation and fun prior to the showing of the award winning documentary, Dawnland. Students not only shared their experiences as students in Cohasset but also, had an opportunity to meet the co-director and producer of the documentary, Adam Mazo and Wabanaki educator, Roger Paul. It was an amazing evening shared by all.

A huge heartfelt "thank you" goes out to the Colleary Family for opening your home to us.



HOLIDAY WREATH SALE INFORMATION



METCO Wreath Flyer ...

drive.google.com

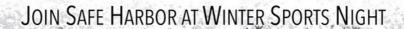
METCO / METCO

www.cohassetk12.org

Feel free to contact Ms. Aleisa Gittens-Carle-Carle or Ms. Atisha Winslow at (781)383-6117 with any additional questions.







For A Presentation On F

Addressing Underage Drinking, SOCIAL HOST LAW & CONSEQUENCES.

DECEMBER

6:30-7:15рм **COHASSET HIGH SCHOOL**

ATTEND & ENTER TO WIN \$125!

Students who sign in with a parent/guardian will be entered into a raffle to win \$125 toward your sports dues!

3 Raffle Winners. Winners Will Be Emailed.

WWW.SAFEHARBORCOHASSET.ORG



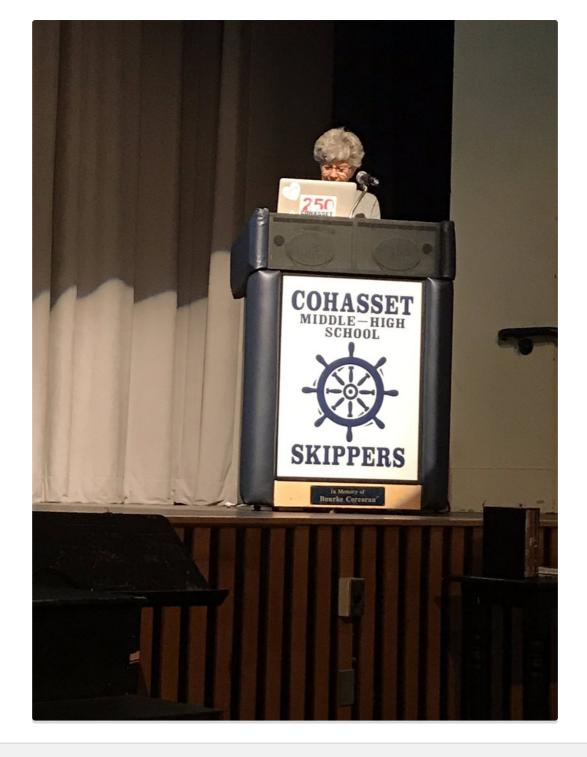




We are excited for Cohasset's 250th Celebration

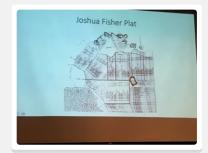


This past month, Jackie Dormitzer and Joy Schiffman presented to Cohasset Middle School and Cohasset High School faculty, providing a great overview of the events planned to commemorate the 250th Anniversary and Cohasset's rich history. Thank you, Joy and Jackie.











Cohasset 250

cohasset250.com

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING CUSTODIANS AND TO THE COHASSET DPW, WHO WORKED TO CLEAR THE SNOW AFTER THE RECENT STORM. THANK YOU, ALL FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING DURING THE SCHOOL CANCELLATION.



HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR! Superintendent Patrick E. Sullivan, Ed.D.



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

@SuperCohasset

cohassetk12.org/

781 383 6111

Follow me at Wordpress Superintendent Blog

