



Executive Director's Update

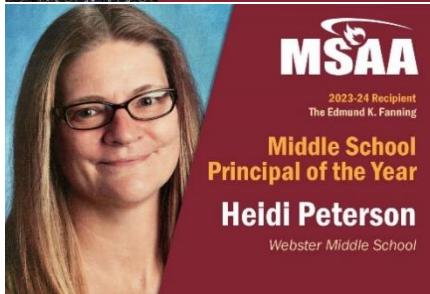
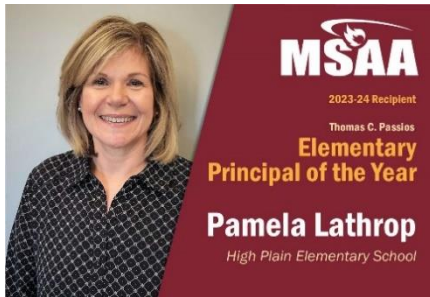
Massachusetts School Administrators' Association

33 Forge Parkway | Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997 | msaa.net

An Update from Executive Director Robert Baldwin
Massachusetts School Administrators' Association

May 16, 2023

Congratulations to the 2023-2024 MSAA Principals of the Year (click on image to view bio)



Congratulations to Billy's Barbershop in Lowell, MA on being selected for the 2023 National Honor Society Golden Torch Award



Billy Cabera, Willie Cabera and Alex Delgado are more than barbers. They have served as mentors to young men from Lowell High's Freshman Academy. For six sessions the team from Billy's Barbershop served as mentors for ten young students. Over pizza and drinks they discussed their problems. No topic is off limits. They discuss how a real man lives and acts –how to control their anger, how to be

successful in school and life. Problems do not have to lead to a fight or insults. The older men share their stories with the young men to illustrate that one can change the trajectory of their lives. Billy, himself battled drug addiction and was incarcerated. He found his calling when he entered Barber school and decided to help others.

Billy has turned his barbershop into a resource for adults as well as students. When he opened his own place in 2014, he converted the backroom into a resource for the homeless and the addicted. He mentors fathers in recovery or returning home from prison to reconnect with their children. The Superintendent of Schools, Joel Boyd, is the one who suggested the mentoring program for the high school freshmen. He will stop by on Fridays to interact with the students. Anyone who participates in one of the mentoring programs receives a free haircut.

The Friday after program has had a positive effect on the participants. Grades and behavior have improved since the first session. The students also bonded outside the Barbershop and have become close friends. The Barbershop has extended its outreach to other students in the Lowell School system.

Willie Cabera and Alex Delgado recently were at the Greenhalge Elementary School for the first "Braids and Fades" Event. The idea for Billy's Barbershop to set up a barbershop in a classroom was the idea of the Family Engagement Committee. The committee felt that their students needed help maintaining their hair styles or were unable to afford getting frequent haircuts. Willie and Alex provided free haircuts and braids for the Greenhalge students and their siblings. The families also received goody bags of culturally appropriate hair and skin care products. The Greenhalge is one of eight community schools in Lowell. The school provides a food pantry, clothing and other services in the school building. A barbershop seemed like a natural extension of the school's mission.

Upcoming Events

- [MASC Summer Leadership Conference](#) (July 9-13, 2023)
- [Summer Institute](#) (July 26-28, 2023)
- PreK-8 Fall Conference (October 5, 2023)

Growing Courageous Leaders

Is something great happening at your school? Would you consider sharing it with MSAA membership? Consider facilitating a workshop or breakout session. Please contact John Quinn at jquinn@msaa.net



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IDEAS

Professional Development in Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging from IDEAS ([click here to view](#))

2023-2024 Leadership Licensure Program



with Center for Behavioral Health, Equity, and Leadership in Schools (BHELS)

As you are aware LLP is going Hybrid next year, 2023-2024. Friday nights will be virtual, and Saturdays will be in person. The two weeks in the summer of 2023 will also be in person. We believe going hybrid will allow our candidates to balance all of the demands of their professional and personal lives. The deadline for acceptance of applications is June 1st.

Just a reminder that our LLP is completed in one year with classes held once a month on Fridays and Saturdays. Our classes connect with the candidate's practicum experiences in their schools, as well as having assignments connected directly to MAPALS. Candidates are assigned a Supervising Practitioner as well as a Program Supervisor, and the Coordinator who is on site for all classes, virtual and in person. We believe the quality of our classes coupled with the support candidates receive, makes our LLP the premiere licensure program in Massachusetts.

You will serve your district well by recommending a candidate(s) for the LLP for the up-coming 2023-2024 school year. Please direct them to the LLP webpage on the [MSAA website](#) and encourage them to apply.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at bwittcoff@msaa.net. I am also available to come out to your school or district to conduct a personalized information session.

Please mark your calendar and join us!

Workshop Title - [Middle School Girls' Leadership Workshop](#)

Presenter: Deb Hult, Core Trainings

Date: May 24, 2023

Location: MIAA Office

Workshop Title - [Confidently Courageous Leadership for Women](#)

Date: May 24, 2023

Location: MIAA Office

PreK-8 Fall Conference: *Brave and Courageous Leadership through an Anti-Racist Lens: Engaging in Critical Conversations that Include All Students*

When: Thursday, October 5, 2023

Location: Devens Common Center

School Year 2022-23 Professional Development Offerings including Summer Institute Pre-Conference Workshops - [CLICK HERE](#)

Standing Committee Meetings

MSAA Board of Directors

May 22, 2023 - 1:00pm

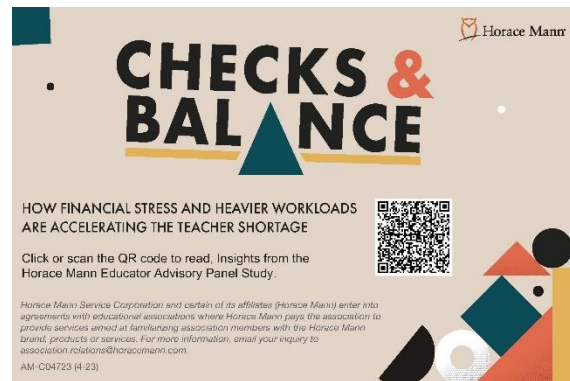
Legislative/Ed Policy

May 30, 2023 - 8:30am

Assistant Principals

June 7, 2023 - 12:30pm

Horace Mann ([click on image for more information](#))



In case you missed it... [Executive Director's Update April 14, 2023](#)

Thanks for your continued support!

Robert Baldwin



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