



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

February 15, 2023

Kate L. Altman Named MSAA Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year

Henry E. Warren Elementary School Asst. Principal Earns MSAA 2023 Honor



Kate L. Altman, Assistant Principal of Henry E. Warren Elementary School in Ashland, has been selected as this year's Assistant Principal of the Year. Kate has served at the elementary school for the past five years. Kate graduated from Keene State College with a Bachelor of Science in Education and Sociology. She also earned her Masters of Education from Lesley University and obtained her administration

licensure from Bridgewater State University. Kate's career in public education spans from teaching Title 1 math to teaching second grade.

Prior to serving as Assistant Principal, Karen was an administration intern, Title 1 math teacher and second grade teacher.

Kate was nominated by Henry E. Warren Elementary School Principal Peter Regan who in his nomination wrote, "Our learning community needed to change and improve our reading instruction at our school. Kate brought a focus on research and developed a professional development plan that aggressively pushed our staff to grow and develop. Through her passion for education, and specifically reading instruction, she motivates and inspires me to challenge others and myself on a daily basis to improve instruction for children."

Kate lives in Sudbury with her beloved family. She has been married to Dave for sixteen years and together they have two children Colin, 12 and Brooke, 10.

MSAA Cheerleading, Game Day and Dance Tournaments

Good luck to all teams competing in the MSAA Cheerleading, Game Day and Dance Tournaments this winter season and a big thank you to those hosting a tournament!

Cheerleading Regional Tournaments – March 5, 2023

- North – Billerica High School
- South – Whitman Hanson Reg. High School
- Central/West – Shepherd Hill RHS

Cheerleading State Tournament – March 12, 2023 at Worcester State University

Cheerleading New England Tournament – March 18, 2023 at Worcester State University

Dance State Tournament – March 4, 2023 at Framingham High School

New England Dance Tournament – March 11, 2023 at Bellingham High School

Game Day State Tournament – March 5, 2023 at Shepherd Hill RHS

School Year 2022-23 Professional Development Offerings – [CLICK HERE](#)

Gillette Stadium Field Trip Days (Grades 3-5)



Weather Education Day is Friday April 28th

Wellness Education Day is Wednesday May 24th

9:00 am-1:00 pm

\$20 per student - chaperones and teachers are free (ticket includes field trip programming and ticket voucher to future Revolution Game)

For more information and to sign-up, [CLICK HERE](#)

The MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Early Learning Team, the MA School Administrators' Association (MSAA) and the MA Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (MAECTE)...

is hosting a series of networking and professional development opportunities for elementary school principals (Preschool to 3rd grade), charter school leaders, early childhood administrators and educators from Career, Technical Education (CTE) programs, early childhood coordinators and educators during the 2022-2023 school year.

The theme for this year's series is *Play as an Anti-Racist Practice in the Early Years/Grades*. The 2022-2023 series is virtual (unless otherwise noted). Below are a number of upcoming professional development opportunities:

Purposeful Play: A Teacher's Guide to Igniting Deep and Joyful Learning Across the Day by K. Mraz, A. Porcelli, and C.



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Tyler Book Group Discussion - scheduled for March 2nd and March 9th from 3:30-5:00 pm. Book group discussions will take place across two dates, and attendance at both is encouraged but not required. Discussions will be facilitated by MSAA, MAECTE and Department staff.

[Registration](#) is open for this book group discussion.

Early Childhood and Elementary Principals Spring In-Person Networking Sessions with participation from DESE Early Learning Team staff, MSAA and MAECTE. Regional network meetings will be hosted from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 (Greater Boston – location to be announced), Friday, April 7, 2023 (Northeast – location to be announced), and Tuesday, April 11, 2023 (Berkshires – location to be announced)

[Registration](#) is open for the spring in-person networking sessions.

Professional Development in Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging from IDEAS

IDEAS (Initiatives for Developing Equity and Achievement for Students), a program of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (M.A.S.S.), is the premier provider of anti-bias, anti-racist educational programs exclusively for PK12 schools and districts in Massachusetts. MSAA members are invited to participate in professional development opportunities from IDEAS focused on anti-racism, diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging:

1. Winter-Spring Graduate Courses: Enrollment is now open for several graduate courses, open to any Massachusetts PK-12 teacher or administrator. The courses are listed on the IDEAS website. The fees vary, based on the number of credits and whether or not your school district is a member of IDEAS. For an additional fee, educators can earn graduate credits for these courses through Framingham State University.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more...

2. DEI Anti-Racism Certificate Program: IDEAS has launched a new [Certificate Program in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion \(DEI\) and Anti-Racism](#). The 120-hour program, provided in conjunction with Framingham State University, is open to all teachers, administrators, and other PK-12 educators in Massachusetts. Applications for the program are accepted on a rolling basis.

If you have questions about either opportunity, or would like to learn more about how the IDEAS team can support you and your faculty, please contact Karen Thomsen:

kthomsen@massupt.org

Horace Mann

Empower your female workforce through this series of workshops that will help them spend, budget and save wisely.

Horace Mann

- Financial Success for Women
- Women and Retirement
- The Importance of Life Insurance for Women

Contact your Horace Mann representative or click [here](#) to get this workshop series scheduled in your schools.

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Nearly 77% of teachers are women*, and women are becoming significant household earners and increasingly key decision makers in the home. Because women will continue to become more involved in the investment planning process, long-time corporate supporter, Horace Mann, wants to help make sure they're equipped with education about the financial basics they need to spend, budget and save wisely.

Empower your female workforce through a series of financial education workshops designed specifically for their unique circumstances. The series includes:

- **Financial Success for Women:** covers budgets, establishing credit, saving and how to protect your property and yourself.
- **Women and retirement:** addresses women's needs for retirement and explains how a longer life expectancy creates greater exposure to the effects of inflation on everyday income and long-term savings goals.
- **The importance of life insurance for women:** covers why life insurance for women is a crucial part of financial planning for every woman – regardless of her employment, marital or family status.

To learn more, contact your local Horace Mann representative or [CLICK HERE](#) to get this workshop series scheduled in your schools.

**Source: U.S. Department of Education's National Teacher and Principal Survey*

Horace Mann - Checks & Balance: How financial stress and heavier workloads are accelerating the teacher shortage - based on a nationally representative survey of U.S. educators. The report reinforces factors that are



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accelerating the teacher shortage and provides insights for school leaders to help improve their districts' staffing levels.

Read the full report [here](#) or click [here](#) for the press release. Additionally, a short video is available [here](#).

Horace Mann can help you create a "stay strategy" in your schools through financial wellness resources. To receive more information, visit horacemann.com/financial-wellness.

Upcoming Events

- PreK-8 Spring Conference (March 16-17 Devens Common Center) [CLICK HERE](#)
- National Honor Society & National Junior Honor Society: Massachusetts Spring Conference (April 6, 2023 Holy Cross) [CLICK HERE](#)
- Assistant Principal Conference (Monday, April 10 Double Tree Hotel, Milford) [CLICK HERE](#)
- DEI Symposium (May 5, 2023 TBA)

Standing Committee Meetings

MSAA Board of Directors

March 13, 2023 (in-person), April 27, 2023 (virtual), May 22, 2023 (in-person)

Elementary Committee

April 12, 2023 (virtual), 4:00-5:00 pm

High School Committee

March 16, 2023 (in-person at Whitman-Hanson Reg. High School), April 27, 2023 (TBA)

Middle Level Committee

April 4, 2023, 3:00 pm

Student Council Committee

April 26, 2022 (virtual), 3:00 pm

Teaching & Learning Committee

(all meetings are virtual from 10:00-11:00 am)
March 20, 2023; April 24, 2023

PreK-12 Student Photos

MSAA is in the process of updating our marketing folders to reflect PreK-12 students. If you are interested in sharing photos of your PreK-12 students to showcase on the new MSAA folders, please send high quality photos to Yolanda G. Burnett at yburnett@msaa.net. Please make sure the students in the photos are under a "blanket photo waiver" in your school handbook.

MSAA Leadership Licensure Program (LLP) Application is Now Open for 2023-2024

Tap the shoulder of a teacher leader in your district/building
<https://msaa.net/llp/>

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

In case you missed it...

[Executive Director's Update January 18, 2023](#)

Thanks for your continued support!

Robert Baldwin



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