

## 455 County Street – New Bedford, MA 02740 Superintendent Thomas Anderson

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Contact: Arthur Motta 508-997-4511 ext. 14553 amotta@newbedfordschools.org

## NBPS counselors recognized during National School Counseling Week

New Bedford Public Schools is recognizing the work its school counselors do each day helping students realize their full potential and providing support to reach academic goals. National School Counseling Week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), is celebrated this school week – Feb. 3–7, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems and how students are different as a result of what school counselors do. National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

In thanking NBPS counselors, Superintendent Thomas Anderson noted their important role in "enhancing our focus on teaching and learning to raise student achievement."

District counselors received certificates of appreciation, presented by Dr. Kathleen Mackenzie, NBPS Supervisor of Clinical and Behavioral Services, who noted "Social Emotional wellness is a necessary foundation for optimal learning. Counselors are key players in supporting the social and emotional wellness of our students and are critical members of every school."

"School counselors work with all students to remove barriers to learning by addressing students' academic concerns, postsecondary options and social/emotional skills," said Kwok-Sze Wong, Ed.D., ASCA executive director. "School counseling programs help to increase student achievement and provide a much-needed resource for students, parents, teachers and administrators. School counselors are integral to student success."

## About the American School Counselor Association

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) promotes student success by expanding the image and influence of school counseling through leadership, advocacy,

collaboration and systemic change. ASCA helps school counselors guide their students toward academic achievement, career planning and social/emotional development to help today's students become tomorrow's productive, contributing members of society. Founded in 1952, ASCA has a network of 50 state and territory associations and a membership of approximately 36,000 school counseling professionals. For additional information on the American School Counselor Association, visit <a href="www.schoolcounselor.org">www.schoolcounselor.org</a>.

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## PHOTO:

NBPS guidance, school adjustment counselors and clinical facilitators display posters recognizing National School Counseling Week, which celebrates school counselors' role in helping students meet their goals. Left to right, back: Joe Bordieri, Melissa Caisse, Nikki Ferreira, Jonathan DaCosta and Kim Pearson. Left to right, front: Kathleen Mackenzie, Abigail Senna and Patricia Benner. (Submitted photo)

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