

November 15, 2024

Dear Students, Staff, and Families:

Cumberland High School wrapped up Quarter 1 last week and the end of Trimester 1 is right around the corner for the rest of our schools. The start of a new marking period is an opportunity to review goals and renew motivation. By approaching this time with enthusiasm and a clear plan, students and teachers can make the most of this fresh start.

District Support Professional of the Year

With 27 years of dedication to the Cumberland School Department, Terri Simao has been named the District's Educational Support Professional of the Year. J.J. McLaughlin Cumberland Hill School has been lucky to have Ms. Simao for the last 13 years. Principal Deb Malcolm was excited to make this nomination saying, "Terri does such a wonderful job in all the classes she has supported over the years. She goes above and beyond helping students both academically and with their social/emotional needs. She is nurturing but also provides the students with clear and consistent expectations. She has made such a difference in all the children's lives she has touched. In addition, she is such an asset to the many teachers she has supported through many years in the district. She does her job with a positive attitude and a warm smile.

I have had the pleasure of working with Terri at Cumberland Hill for the last 9 years and have been fortunate to be able to observe her in her role here as a paraprofessional. The interactions that I have witnessed between her and the students along with staff have always been kind and professional. She is an exemplary paraprofessional and truly gives over 100% every day." [Congratulations to Ms. Terri Simao!](#)



The New B.F. Norton Community Meeting

You are invited to attend an introductory meeting with the BF Norton Elementary School Project Team. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the community to the project team and to provide information about the upcoming construction project. This meeting will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions and state your concerns. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Date: [Monday, November 18, 2024](#)

Time: 7:15 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: BF Norton Elementary School – Gymnasium, 364 Broad Street

We are excited to be making progress toward getting the shovel in the ground this spring!

Vaccine Clinics

Our last vaccine clinic of the year will be offered at Cumberland High School, 2600 Mendon Rd. on November 19th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Any community members over 3 years old are welcome. COVID-19 vaccine may also be available. Please be sure to pre-register.

Here's some important information about the FREE flu vaccine clinic:

- Register online at <https://www.thewellcomp.com/Registrations> to schedule an appointment.
- Online registration is required to ensure the availability of the vaccine, walk-ins will be limited.
- Insurance information will be collected, but the vaccine is FREE whether you have insurance or not.

For more information, visit health.ri.gov/flu/, or call the Department of Health's information line at 401-222-5960.

 [Cumberland Vaccination Clinics 10.9.24, 10.30.24 & 11.19.24.pdf](#)

School Committee

School Committees are charged with making decisions that can sometimes be quite difficult, or require sifting through a great deal of information. They contribute hundreds of hours each year to the betterment of the district. In my last several years here as superintendent I have been fortunate to work with a collaborative team. On behalf of the Cumberland School Department, I want to share our appreciation for our committee members, both those that are moving on and those taking the helm. Thank you for your dedication to our district!

Sincerely,

Philip D. Thornton, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools