# **Mayor's Newton Update**



# The Next Newton Public Schools Superintendent

This is a pivotal time for education across our country, and a pivotal week for the future of education in Newton's public schools.

After an extensive search process, we are nearing a decision on our next superintendent - the next leader - of the Newton Public Schools.

Two finalist candidates for the position are being considered: Natick Public Schools Superintendent Anna

Nolin and New Bedford Public School Superintendent Thomas Anderson. (A third finalist, Peter Light, withdrew his name from consideration.)

Find their resumes and background information <u>here</u>.

Both finalists will be in Newton on back-to-back days this week. They will visit schools and meet with school administrators, educators and staff, as well as answer questions virtually from community members. Have a question for the candidates? The Search Committee is inviting you to submit questions in advance. Submit your questions <a href="here">here</a>. The candidates will answer as many as time allows at the online community forums.

- Superintendent Nolin will visit on Wednesday, Feb. 15. Log in and watch the community forum live beginning at 5:00 p.m. <u>here</u>.
- Superintendent Anderson will visit on the following day, Thursday, Feb. 16.
   Log in and watch the community forum live beginning at 5:00 p.m. here.

Members of the School Committee will then interview each candidate beginning at 7:00 p.m. with Superintendent Nolin on Wednesday and Superintendent Anderson on Thursday.

Community members are welcome to attend these School Committee interviews in person at the Ed Center, 100 Walnut Street. The interviews will not be livestreamed but rather will be recorded and links will be posted on the <a href="Superintendent Search">Superintendent Search</a> page on the NPS website after interviews with both candidates have been completed.

This is an incredibly important decision and the School Committee welcomes your feedback via these links:

### Superintendent Anna Nolin - Feedback Form

### Superintendent Thomas Anderson - Feedback Form

Please send your feedback quickly as the School Committee will begin deliberations in a public meeting on Friday morning, Feb. 17 starting at 9:00 a.m. You can watch this meeting <a href="here">here</a>.

I'm interested in hearing your thoughts. Read the resumes and background information, listen to the forums and/or interviews and let me know what your're thinking about our two candidates. If it's easier, share your thoughts by emailing me at <a href="mailto:rfuller@newtonma.gov">rfuller@newtonma.gov</a> or by simply replying to this Newton Mayor's Update. I will read all your emails and will forward your thoughts to the rest of the School Committee through the feedback forms.

The 127<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon will be on its traditional date, Patriots Day, this year which falls on Monday, April 17. The City of Newton received 40 invitational entry bibs from the Boston Athletic Association for runners who raise money for non-profits doing good work in our community and beyond. View Team Newton 2023 here. All runners and charities have a direct connection to our City so consider supporting them.



#### **Affordable Housing Opportunity**

The City of Newton is accepting applications for an affordable condominium ownership opportunity at 391 Walnut Street in Newtonville.



The 1,482-square-foot, 3-bedroom, 3-bath unit is priced at \$284,800. The monthly condominium fee is \$228.19 per month and the owner will also pay an estimated \$255 per month in property taxes.

The condo will be made available through an application and lottery process and sold to a household with an income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income.

#### Maximum Household Income Limits

1-Person Household: \$78,300 2-Person Household: \$89,500 3-Person Household: \$100,700 4-Person Household: \$111,850

Tour the condominium (Unit 3) at Open Houses on Saturday, February 18 or Sunday, February 19 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at 391 Walnut Street.

The application deadline is 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 9. The Lottery will be held via zoom on Thursday, March 30.

Find more information and the application <u>here</u>.

What a joy to run over for a few minutes to read Rex Wrecks It by Ben Clanton to lots of little ones in the Newton Free Library's new Children's Room. I was the lucky guest reader at Wake-Up Sunshine Storytime for kids ages 0 to 2 and their caregivers held every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. I hope the kids had half as much fun as I did!



# State of the City

I am reminded daily of what a joy and privilege it is for us to live, raise a family, go to school, do business, find joy, and retire in this remarkable City ... even with all the challenges facing us in Newton, the Commonwealth and the world.

Join me next Tuesday evening, Feb. 21 for the State of the City address.

Come in person at 7:45 p.m. in the City Council Chambers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of City Hall as I outline our path toward an even stronger future or watch the Address live on NewTV (Comcast 9, RNC 13, Verizon 33) or later on Vimeo/NewTV

# **Spreading Love on Valentine's Day**

February is the month to show our love, and Newton's Police Officers are giving us a great way to do so.

This Valentine's Day, NPD has launched the "Make a Senior Your Sweetheart" campaign encouraging random acts of kindness to older Newtonians.

Through Valentine's Day, the Newton Police Department is also using their Facebook page to highlight stories about and issues affecting our older residents to raise awareness about their safety, well-being and mental health. Officers are also attending events to ask for input on how to make the lives of our older residents better.

As we're celebrating our older residents this Valentine's Day, I have a very special shout out to Philip Schwartz.

I had the pleasure of celebrating his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday with him, his family and friends at the Coleman House on the JCC Campus. Happy Birthday Phil!

Warmly,

Ruthanne

#### P.S. We can also show a little love to our Newton

**small businesses** this Valentine's Day by heading to brick and mortar stores and restaurants for Valentine's Day gifts and celebrations. <u>All Over Newton</u> has assembled a great guide to Newton shops <u>here</u> with everything from sweets to soap to shaving kits. (*Photo: Amy Shih, owner of Just Next Door in Auburndale*)



P.P.S. Stop by City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, through February to see the work of Jamaican born artist Michael Talbot. His show, *Fragments of Fragility and Salvation*, fuses traditional and digital art forms to explore the nature of life, death and their place in today's world. City Hall is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the gallery is in the main hallway on the second floor. Learn more about the artist and his work here.

P.P.P.S. This year's **Newton Youth Hockey Fig Pot** annual community benefit game is for the Newton Food Pantry. Stop by the rink at Fessenden (11 Fessenden Lane, West Newton) on Saturday, Feb. 18 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to watch the pickup game. Interested in making a donation? Find more information and a list of players here.





P.P.P.S. Trained volunteers who can answer questions and help prepare 2022 personal tax returns will be at the Newton Free Library, 330 Homer Street, every Saturday between now and April 15. The AARP Foundation **Tax-Aide volunteers** will be available between 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The free sessions are designed primarily to serve low- and moderate-income taxpayers. Registration is required; registration opens on Mondays for the Saturday of that week. Find more information here.

P.P.P.P.S. Looking for a family-friendly activity in Newton during school vacation week? See the beautifully hand-crafted **Tanglewood Marionettes** bring *The Dragon King* to life on the stage of the War Memorial at City Hall on Friday, Feb. 24, 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and are available at <a href="newtonma.myrec.com">newtonma.myrec.com</a>.





P.P.P.P.P.S. Interested in becoming an architect, a mechanical engineer, a biologist or another career stemming from science, technology, engineering and math? Are you in grades 7 to 12? Join Newton Youth services and the Newton Free Library for a **STEM Career exploration** on Thursday, February

16 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the Newton Free Library, Druker Auditorium, 300 Homer Street.

P.P.P.P.P.P.S. The Ciociaro Social Club, 144 Bridge St., Nonantum, is offering weekly **Italian Language classes** for ages 4 to 12 starting on Saturday, March 4 and running on



Saturdays through May. Class tuition is \$75 for club members and \$175 for non-members. Registration is open through Monday, Feb. 27 by contacting Pino Viscomi at <a href="mailto:Pinoviscomi@verizon.net">Pinoviscomi@verizon.net</a> or AnnaMaria DeGisi at <a href="mailto:annamariad77@gmail.com">annamariad77@gmail.com</a>.





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