*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

### 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906 Telephone: (781) 338-3000 TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

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| Jeffrey C. Riley  *Commissioner* |  |

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| **To:**  **Cc:** | Gregg Weltz, School & Main Institute, Inc.  Superintendent Thomas Anderson  Mayor Jon Mitchell, New Bedford School Committee |
| **From:** | Jeffrey C. Riley, Commissioner |
| **Date:** | July 20, 2020 |
| **Subject:** | Turnaround plan for John Avery Parker Elementary School |

Pursuant to 603 CMR 206 (10) (e) and (f), at the expiration of a turnaround plan for a chronically underperforming school and within two months following the release of MCAS test results, the commissioner will conduct a review and make a determination as to whether the school has improved sufficiently to be removed from chronically underperforming status. The Commissioner may extend this period of time for good cause.

In August 2020, the turnaround plan for the John Avery Parker School will expire. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requested and received a waiver from the federal requirement for the annual statewide student assessment. In addition, legislation enacted in Massachusetts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (St. 2020, c.56, §7) waived the requirement in state law to administer the MCAS assessments to students for the 2020-21 school year. As a result, I cancelled the SY2019-2020 regular administration of grade-level MCAS tests for all students. Without this required data, the period for me to make his determination as referenced above is extended. The turnaround plan for John Avery Parker School will remain in effect pursuant to 603 CMR 2.06 (6) (a).