To the Citizens of Dedham:

It is my privilege to submit my annual report as the Superintendent of Schools of the Town of Dedham. The 2019-20 school year is our ninth year with the Dedham School Department and the Orrington School Department as partners in AOS #47. This relationship has worked to our mutual benefit both collaboratively and financially. We currently share the following positions: Central Office Services, a School Nurse, a World Language Teacher, a Maintenance Director, a Nutritional Director, an Occupational Therapist, a Gifted & Talented Teacher and the Technology Department.

The Dedham proposed budget is an increase of $187,356 or 5.33%. The majority of the School Department’s increase comes from our growing enrollment at the secondary level. The additional students going to high school next year results in a $148,000 increase in tuition. Between the increase in state subsidy and carry forward balance being used, the town’s share will be an additional $55,000.

I would like to thank all those whose support of the Dedham School has helped us continue to successfully serve our students. This year we have had an unexpected and unprecedented ending to our school year with the shift to Remote Learning. I would like to thank our staff who worked so hard to support our students and families remotely throughout the end of the school year, providing online instruction, emotional support and delivering meals. Jeff Paul continues to lead our excellent staff ensuring that we are reaching our students daily. Thank you to the Dedham School Committee who continues to support the students and staff of the Dedham School furthering every student’s growth.

We have two staff members retiring this year who will be missed: Kathy Gray and Kathy Bailey. We wish them nothing but the best in their retirements.

Thank you to the Town Leadership for its continued support of the Dedham School Department: The Dedham Select Board, Town Office Staff and Fire Department. Our continued efforts to work together have allowed the Dedham School Department to flourish.

Respectfully submitted,

James C.R. Stoneton II
Superintendent of Schools