

Who Needs Antonietta Mertz (a.k.a. ‘Toni’)?

Antonietta (‘Toni’) Mertz is the [Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance](#) at Malden Public Schools(“MPS”) [as of at least May 5, 2023.](#)

[Is Ms. Mertz representing herself to other districts/municipalities as “Retired”?](#)

[Ms. Mertz is also identified as the Malden Public School Chief Financial Officer who works “...one day per week to provide weekly oversight of the \[Arlington Massachusetts\] comptroller’s office.”](#)

[Ms. Mertz made \\$173,692 in 2022 from Malden Public Schools.](#)

Ms. Mertz received pay increases in [2022](#) and [2023](#). [We have inquired about her pay.](#)

OpenCommonwealth will post responses to public records requests regarding this article [here](#).

[Ms. Mertz can teach you if you have “Trouble "selling" your department's budget”? Don't miss this event! Moderator: Antonietta \(Toni\) Mertz, Director of Finance & Operations, City of Malden, Massachusetts Public Schools.](#)

[Ms. Mertz was commended in June of 2023 ...](#)

Budget Subcommittee – _Mr. Weldai

Mr. Weldai said that the budget process involved multiple meetings and the public forum. Mr. Weldai thanked Director of Finance and Operations, Ms. Toni Mertz, Superintendent Noriega-Murphy and her team for working collaboratively on the budget. A balanced budget with a significant increase both from the City of Malden and the state through the Chapter 70 and Student Opportunity Act funding. Mr. Weldai said that there is direct investment in the classroom, all full-time positions have been taken off from the grants and supported by the general fund.

[Now, in March of 2024, MPS is in the hole...](#)

Ms. Mertz is working with the Superintendent Noriega-Murphy to meet with Principals to look at the budget based on needs vs. wants and whatever they can do to keep everything that is needed for the students. Ms. Spadafora said she spoke in front of City Council last week and mentioned \$8 million but that it is now in the \$1 million range deficit. Ms. Spadafora continued that she has faith that Ms. Mertz will continue to look at where changes can be made potentially to cut costs without interrupting day to day school activities.

- [Ms. Mertz makes at least 3.7 times the median average salary for a MPS employee in 2022 \(\\$47,435\).](#)
- [Ms. Mertz works only 4 days a week in her current arrangement with MPS.](#)
- [Ms. Mertz currently makes more than the Superintendent of Schools at MPS - per diem.](#)
- [Ms. Mertz was paid \\$130/hr in Arlington to consult, apparently on that 5th workday.](#)

- Ms. Mertz has also started a for profit company, Accountedge, LLC who specializes in “Providing accounting assistance to small businesses and municipalities in MA[ssachusetts]”
- Ms. Mertz also has the time to serve as a member of the Middleton Massachusetts Finance Committee.
- In 2021, Ms. Mertz reported that she ***will return as interim finance director***, “Mertz, retired business manager for the Malden schools, was named interim director after Victor Garafalo departed to become Dracut’s finance director on Jan. 8. Mertz had remained in the finance office to help Batista with the transition and was the point person for the department during recent Finance Committee budget deliberations.”
- In 2006, Ms. Mertz become the Former Town Accountant in Georgetown.