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# How Milford schools adapt to cultural diversity

As Milford's population continues to evolve and diversify, its school district seeks ways to adapt to the changing needs of students and families.

Among of the most significant demographic shifts in Milford over the past generation have been in racial and linguistic diversity, something reflected in current school enrollment data.

 According to the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, Milford Public Schools currently has a population that is 50% white; 38.2% Hispanic or Latino; 5.3% Black or African American; 2.9% multi-race; 1.9% Asian; 1.6% American Indian or Alaska Native; and 0.1% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.

These figures represent a shift over the past two decades. In 2005, Milford Public School students were 86.3% white and just 8.8% Hispanic or Latino. In 2015, data showed the district was 68.2% white, and 21.5% Hispanic or Latino. Data for Black or African American, multi-race, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander populations have remained relatively stable.

This data mirrors information included in Milford's Comprehensive Plan, which shows a shift in racial composition in Milford. The town specifically noted an increase in Latino residents and individuals identifying as two or more races, while the proportion of non-Hispanic white residents has declined.

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**Robin Nice, a Boston-based immigration lawyer, said applications for asylum can cost immigrants anywhere from \$5,000 to \$20,000.** ART ILLMAN/DAILY NEWS AND WICKED LOCAL STAFF PHOTO

On Sept. 12, a 16-year-old boy was briefly detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, with his parents ordered to later meet with im-

migration officials.

Attorneys for the parents, Itamer de Oliveira and his wife, Lenice Keila dos Reis, said the undocumented couple from Brazil are in the process of attempting to win asylum, which would allow them to remain in the country.

The couple were placed on super-

vised release and ordered to wear GPS monitoring bracelets.

What exactly is asylum? How does it work? According to three local immigration lawyers, it's a process that can be long and expensive, and

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You might say the first line of Linda Murphy's obituary sucks readers right in.

Murphy, 60, of Framingham, died

Sept. 21 after a three-year battle with Bulbar Onset ALS — but not before writing her own obituary, which is equal parts witty, humorous and sad.

"Well, if you are reading this obituary, it looks like I'm dead. WOW, it actually happened ... I died of FOMO (fear of missing out) due to complica-

tions of Bulbar ALS,” Murphy wrote. “My name is Linda Bossi Murphy, and I was just 60 years old when I died on Sunday evening, September 21, 2025 — way too young! As the saying goes, I ‘died peacefully while surrounded by loved ones’ ... I was loved, comforted and hugged until my last breath by my

beautiful family and a couple of my besties!”

Murphy's daughter, Jessica Hastings, said her mother was diagnosed with ALS three years ago. She said Murphy wrote the obituary nine

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