



Full-service Schools Roundtable

"partnering for Boston students' success"

443 Warren Street Dorchester MA 02121 617 635 6537

April 2005

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Addressing the Barriers to Academic Achievement Partnering for Boston Students' Success

A Forum hosted by
The Full-service Schools Roundtable, The Boston Foundation, Mass 2020, Boston Public Schools, Boston Centers for Youth & Families, United Way of Massachusetts Bay, and Nellie Mae Education Foundation

Monday, May 16, 2005
9 – 11:30 am

The Boston Foundation
75 Arlington Street, 10th Floor

Featuring Special Guest: Richard Rothstein, the author of *Class & Schools: Using Social Economic, and Educational Reform to Close the Black- White Achievement Gap*.

Panelists: Superintendent of Boston Public Schools, **Thomas Payzant**; Executive Director of Boston Centers for Youth & Families, **Robert Lewis, Jr.**; Children's Hospital Vice President of Child Advocacy, **Laurie Cammisa**; and **Milton Little**, the new head of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay

RSVP by May 6th by visiting <http://www.nmefdn.org/events>.

Roundtable Report: Effective Practices for Developing School Partnerships

During the April 30th meeting of the Full-service Schools Roundtable, over 30 educators and community practitioners assembled to discuss their experience with school-based partnerships. Kicking off the panel was Elaine Gibson, who shared her story of arriving at the Lucy Stone Elementary School six years ago as a new principal. What Gibson found was a school with a very dedicated staff but one that had students in crisis, initiatives that were not linked, and few supplies. Other panelists shared different stories of the settings in which they worked. Jamie

"The mission of the Full-service Schools Roundtable is to advance the healthy development and academic success of students in Boston through integrated school/community partnerships. In alignment with BPS goals, the Roundtable increases Boston's capacity to provide comprehensive, school-based supports for children, youth and families."

Aaronson of the Brighton-Allston Mental Health Center told of teachers' frustration and children unable to take advantage of the opportunities presented to them. Michelle Rue of the Codman Square Health Center described the health issues confronting the teens at the Grover Cleveland Middle School where she oversees a School-based Health Clinic. And Susan Klaw, Director of the Family School described the 90% immigrant population at the Otis School in East Boston. Roundtable members offered other issues that they encounter in the schools— student mobility, lack of transportation for extended services, and sustainability.

What is the impact of partnerships? Panelists each related their key successes:

The Lucy Stone Initiative created a five year business plan that enabled all partners to share a common vision, identify specific objectives, hire a learning coordinator who helps link services to the school, revamp the focus of the Student Support Team, strengthen after school services, and generate significant assistance in the form of financial support, family engagement, technology, mental health services, a new library and a parent center.

The School-based Health Clinic at the Cleveland experienced a 20% reduction in the high rate of pregnancy; introduced a reproductive health component in the curriculum; increased participation in student support groups by 40 %; and were able to insure continuity of health care for students despite the fact that they are not citizens.

The Brighton-Allston Mental Health Center focused on creating an infrastructure that included a mission statement for the Student Support Team, a teacher orientation manual, and using Standards for School-based Mental Health Services. At the Gardner Extended Services School they helped to create a wrap-around services model which centered around outreach to families that enabled them to build relationships with them and play a more active role in linking services families to services.

The Family School at the Otis School is based on a family literacy model that supports both the families ability to learn English and their children's participation in an after school program. As a result, students' attendance improved; parents were better able to communicate with the school and understand school expectations; and parent participation in school activities improved.

Panelists concluded by sharing their lessons learned:

- Importance of a champion
- Commitment, clear vision --Collectively think outside the box- how else can we get this done
- Involvement of parents and school staff in planning and decision-making
- When families become involved in their own learning process, they become more involved in their children's learning
- Take the time to organize roles of individuals; more can be accomplished through coordinated efforts and resources that are linked
- Take time to develop interpersonal relationships and trust

Plan to participate in future meetings of the Roundtable as we continue to

Press Pass TV has two goals: to cover community groups and individuals who are dedicated to making a difference in Boston's diverse communities and; and to expose young adults to positive role models, opportunities and introduce them to the world of TV production and broadcast journalism.

share promising practices and collectively think about how else we can foster the academic success and healthy development of Boston's students.

Roundtable in Action: Get More Involved by Joining a Workgroup!

The Financing/Sustainability Workgroup is working to generate long-term systemic funding strategies that maximize public and private resources to support both school program delivery and infrastructure support.

Next Meeting Date: TBD

To join, contact Marta Gredler at mgredler@boston.k12.ma.us.

The Technical Assistance Workgroup is working to develop protocol and best practices for providing high quality on-site consultations, workshops, training sessions and resources to both school and community partners.

Next Meeting Dates: Friday, April 29th, 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Friday, May 20th, 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

To join, contact Anne Greenbaum at annetruro@comcast.net.

The Data Collection Workgroup is working to develop a comprehensive database of programs and services that are being offered in Boston Public Schools.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, May 26th

To join, contact Marta Gredler at mgredler@boston.k12.ma.us.

What's Happening in Boston Public Schools: A Look at the Y/BPS Partnership

Y/BPS is a partnership between YMCA and Boston Public Schools that seeks to encourage families to enroll their children in Boston Public Schools. The goals of the Y/BPS partnership are to:

- Encourage families to consider the Boston Public Schools as an option for their child's education;
- Help parents become more informed consumers of Boston's school choice system;
- Help schools improve their ability to communicate what they offer to families;

To assist families with school choice, Y/BPS holds workshops in both English and Spanish in a variety of locations including YMCAs, libraries, pre-schools, community centers, local businesses, churches and temples, people's homes, and other locations. During workgroups, Y/BPS staff members discuss the school system and school choice, and explain how and when families can visit schools. Y/BPS staff members are all Boston parents that have offices in YMCA branches Members of the Y/BPS Speakers Bureau – a diverse group of current BPS parents – also participate in the workshops to share their experiences with families.

Many thanks to designer
Cathy Moylan, Moylan Design
(<http://www.moylandesign.com>)
for our logo.

The Full-service Schools
Roundtable appreciates
support for its work from:

To assist schools, Y/BPS also provides outreach grants to help recruit students. In 2004, Y/BPS awarded grants to the Curley School, the Mendell School, the Higginson School, the Hale School, the Beethoven School, and the Sumner School. With these funds, the schools have created new outreach materials including colorful and informative brochures and websites. In these schools, the numbers of parents ranking them as a first or second choice has increased by more than 50%.

For more information about Y/BPS, contact info@ybps.org or visit <http://www.ybps.org/>.

Profile of a Community Learning Center School: The Dearborn Middle School

Getting middle school students involved in out-of-school time programming is by no means an easy task. The Dearborn Middle School's Community Learning Center is successfully engaging students in their after school program by offering a unique mix of programming designed to appeal to middle school students' interests and learning needs.

Perhaps the most unique part of the Dearborn Community Learning Center, is the Dearborn After School Academy's news show, Press Pass TV. Students at the After School Academy participate directly in the production of the 30 minute television show, Press Pass TV, as reporters and news anchors. Students involved in Press Pass TV also make daily announcements at the school. Through Press Pass TV, the Dearborn Middle School seeks to foster achievement by improving students' writing and public speaking skills and exposing young adults to positive role models, opportunities in TV production, and broadcast journalism.

While Press Pass TV is a unique and important part of the Dearborn After School Academy, the academy offers other activities to students such as tutoring, math enrichment, sports, theater and dance classes. Outside agencies collaborate with the Dearborn After School Academy to make these programs possible. For example, Pine Manor College runs a mentoring program at the school. Operation Hope is currently teaching financial management skills at the After School Academy. ALOP works to engage students in discussions around current events, drugs and alcohol. Learning for Life teaches students camping skills and organizes an annual camping field trip. Harvard Stage, a Harvard university student group, is helping students write and produce a play.

To learn more about the Dearborn After School Academy, please contact Tony Soares at asoares2@boston.k12.ma.us. To learn more about Press Pass TV, please visit <http://www.presspasstv.org>.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Even Start Family Literacy Program: supports programs that include adult education, early childhood/ elementary education, parenting education, interactive literacy and home visits while integrating all of the following activities: interactive literacy activities between parents and

Herman and Freida L. Miller Foundation, Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust, and an anonymous foundation.

their children; training for parents about being the primary teacher for their children and full partners in the education of their children; parent literacy training that leads to economic self-sufficiency, and an age-appropriate education to prepare children for success in school and life experiences.

The purpose of this federal grant program is to help families overcome intergenerational cycles of undereducation and poverty by providing integrated early childhood education, adult literacy, and parenting education in a unified family literacy program.

To be eligible to apply for a grant, a minimum of two agencies need to establish a partnership that has joint responsibility for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the project. An eligible applicant is the partnership between the following: a school district and at least one of the following entities with a record of demonstrated quality: a nonprofit community based organization; a public agency other than a school district; an institution of higher education; or a public or private nonprofit organization (other than a school district).

For more information, please visit
<http://finance1.doe.mass.edu/Grants/grants06/rfp/304B.html/>

LETTER OF INTENT: May 2nd
PROPOSAL DEADLINE: June 6th

Third Sector New England: offers technical assistance grants through its Capacity Building Fund to support issues related to human resources, strategic planning, fund development planning, and financial assistance. Grants range from \$25,000 to \$50,000. For more information, please visit <http://www.tsne.org>.

DEADLINE: May 15

Jordan Fundamentals Program: supports outstanding teaching and instructional creativity in public secondary schools that serve economically disadvantaged students. Applicants must develop an original lesson plan or thematic unit that demonstrates high expectations for students. Award Size is \$2500. For more information, please visit <http://www.nike.com/nikebiz/nikebiz.jhtml?page&iten=jordan>

DEADLINE: June 15

The American Dental Association: provides funding to organizations whose oral health promotion programs are designed to improve and maintain children's oral health. Please visit http://www.ada.org/ada/prod/adaf/prog_aces_harris.asp

DEADLINE: July 9

Project Bread's After-School Snack Incentive Grants: Project Bread is encouraging after school programs in low-income neighborhoods to offer healthy snacks to the children they serve through the federally funded Child and Adult Care Food Program, which offers cash reimbursement for programs in at-risk communities. To learn more about Child and Adult Care Food Program and how to apply, please contact Maria Infante at Project Bread at (617) 239-2583 or

maria_infante@projectbread.org.

DEADLINE: Ongoing

For Your Information:

LOOKING FOR SUMMER IDEAS FOR STUDENTS?

BPS publishes Summer Stuff & Summer Stuff Jr. 2005 for grades k-12. It's available in schools, libraries, neighborhood centers, and on the BPS website <http://www.boston.k12.ma.us>.

Call for Proposals

The Coalition for Essential Schools Fall Forum 2005

"Reclaiming the Freedom to Learn"

November 3-5

Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel

Join educators, parents, students, and other leading thinkers in education at the CES annual conference to exchange ideas, ask questions, and share insights from schools around the world. This year we focus on creating schools that equip all students with the knowledge and skills to make the most of their lives and get a fair start on a promising future. Look for the Call for Proposals for conference sessions to be distributed in mid-May. Applications will be accepted from mid-May through mid-June. Conference registration will open in late August. To learn more about Fall Forum, visit: <http://www.essentialschools.org>.

Conference Announcements

"Culturally Competent Approaches to Addressing Obesity and Diabetes in Primary Care Settings"

Dr. Judy Ann Bigby, Director

Office for Women, Family and Community Programs

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Monday April 25, 5:30-7:30 PM, Boston Public Health Commission

Tuesday, June 14, 5:30 - 7:30 PM, Site to be announced

Dinner will be served

Approved for 1.5 CMEs

Registration Required.

"Young Children Without Homes"

April 27 – 29, 2005

This conference will focus on the issue of child and family homelessness and its effect on young children ages birth to five.

For more information, contact Karin Elliott, Director, Training and

Technical Assistance at (617) 287-1900 or

kelliott@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org,

Link: <http://www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org>

Contact Us

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**15th Annual GLSEN Boston Conference
"Challenging Intolerance, Sustaining Hope"
Saturday, April 30, 2005
Brookline High School**

For more information, please visit <http://www.glsenboston.org> or call
617 536 9669

**Neighbor Walk Kick off event
April 30th**

See flyer attached!

Please join Mayor Tom Menino,
50 NeighborWalk groups and community residents
at our annual Spring Kick-off and Walk
in Franklin Park (Shattuck picnic area)

8:00 am: Warm-up, speakers, and raffle.

9:00 am: Walk begins. (Choose the 1 mile or 2.5 mile circuit)

*** Raffles & give-aways *** Free NeighborWalk tee shirts

*** Refreshments***

*** Free health screenings *** Healthy eating/snack demonstrations

Face painting and balloon hats for children Music ***

Demonstrations by the Boston Police canine unit

A free shuttle bus will run between Forest Hills Station and the Kick-off
area from 7:00-11:00 am.

Attached is a PDF version of the flyer. Please let us know if you would
like full color printed versions for posting in your organization and in
local stores, libraries, and other sites.

We also need volunteers to help the day of this event.

**Boston Steps Consortium Quarterly Meeting
"Policy & Legislative Approaches to Promoting Healthy Weight &
Chronic Disease Prevention"**

Keynote Speaker:

State Representative Peter J. Koutoujian
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Public Health
Thursday, May 5th
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Central Congregational Church Hall
85 Seaverns Avenue
Jamaica Plain

"Connecting School and After School: The Summit"

Thursday, May 12, 2005

8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Boston Children's Museum

United Way of Massachusetts Bay invites you to engage in an action-
oriented dialogue designed to build connections between schools and
out-of-school time programs.

For more information, please contact Lisa Pickard at 617 624 8124 or
lpickard@uwmb.org.

**5th Annual Conference for Building Strong School, Family, and
Community Partnerships that Support Student Learning**

Wednesday, June 8, 2005

8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Northeastern University

Everyone is welcome! Pre-registration required.



Please call 617 373 2595 for details.

**The National Institute on Out-of-School Time
Training for After school Program Professionals
Monday–Thursday, July 11-14, 2005**

John Hancock Conference Center

Registration required. Please contact Samatha at 781 283 2547 or
sharris@wellesley.edu for more information.