

Full-service Schools Roundtable Newsletter



February 2010

Please join us for a
Full-service Schools Roundtable Meeting

Family Engagement Policy and Practice

Learn about policy developments at the national, state, and district levels and about exciting new local practice

Monday, March 15, 2010

8:30 - 11:00 a.m.

The Boston Foundation
75 Arlington Street
Boston, MA

Featuring:

Karen L. Mapp, Ed.D., Lecturer, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Michele P. Brooks, Assistant Superintendent for Family and Student Engagement, Boston Public Schools

Stay tuned for more details and additional speakers!

Please let us know if you will be joining us:
info@fssroundtable.org

or

617.635.6537

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The mission of the Full-service Schools Roundtable is to advance the healthy development and success of students in Boston through integrated school/community partnerships.

The Full-service Schools Roundtable is grateful for generous support from The Boston Foundation, Children's Hospital Boston and an anonymous foundation.

*JOIN OUR
MAILING LIST*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Nonprofit Finance Fund is conducting its annual nationwide survey of nonprofits to help us all understand more about the sector's specific, real-time financial challenges. They ask that you take 10 minutes to contribute to this valuable endeavor by responding to NFF's anonymous survey.

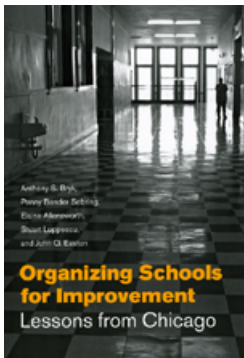
[Take the 2010 survey.](#) Deadline for the survey is February 11, 2010 (that's today!).

NFF will analyze this information, then provide the results to all of us - government, foundations, lending institutions, media, and umbrella organizations - in aggregated form only. NFF will also send aggregated survey results to any nonprofit respondents who choose to give their contact information. The findings, and the comparison to the findings in the [2009 survey](#), will help all of us focus on the most critical areas of need in the sector, both now and for the medium- to long-term.



December 2009 *Educational Leadership*

The December 2009 issue of *Educational Leadership* (produced by ASCD) was focused on health and schools. Among the articles are "Good Food in the City", "Do Our Kids Have Nature-Deficit Disorder?", "Coordinated School Health: Getting It All Together", "Taking Charge of School Wellness", "Sleep: The E-ZZZ Intervention", and many more. To read the full issue, visit [December 2009](#).



Upcoming Book: *Organizing School for Improvement: Lessons from Chicago*
Tony Bryk and his colleagues at the Consortium for Chicago School Research new book is entitled *Organizing Schools for Improvement: Lessons from Chicago*. EdWeek's [review](#) of the book explains that the authors find five key ingredients for improving urban schools - and family and community partnerships feature among them.

In 1988, the Chicago public school system decentralized, granting parents and communities significant resources and authority to reform their schools in dramatic ways. To track the effects of this bold experiment, the authors of *Organizing Schools for Improvement* collected a wealth of data on elementary schools in Chicago. Over a seven-year period, they identified one hundred elementary schools that had substantially improved - and one hundred that had not. What did the successful school do to accelerate student learning?

The authors of this illuminating book identify a comprehensive set of practices and conditions that were factors for improvement, including school leadership, the professional capacity of faculty and staff, and a student-centered learning climate. In addition, they analyze the impact of social dynamics, including crime, critically examining the inextricable link between schools and their communities. Putting their data onto a more human scale, they also chronicle the stories of two neighboring schools with very different trajectories. The lessons gleaned from this groundbreaking study will be invaluable for anyone involved with urban education.

To learn more or to order the book, click [here](#).



National PTA has issued an Action Alert about the President's proposed education budget for 2011. On February 1, 2010, the Obama Administration released its FY 2011 Budget Request, which included an unprecedented \$3 billion increase for education. While PTA applauds the historic investment in education, we are greatly concerned about the consolidation and proposed elimination of the Parental Information and Resource Centers (PIRCs). There is at least one PIRC in every state and territory. This program elimination affects all PTAs and parents. Under this consolidation, the sole funding stream for family engagement would be redirected to charter schools. Placing PIRCs under this fund means that there is no longer a dedicated funding stream for family engagement and PIRCs will not be able reach all families with children in public schools.

Read National PTA's [Action Alert](#). Please take action by responding to this alert.

Read the [budget summary](#) for Expanding Educational Outcomes where the PIRCs are located (pg 26).



It Takes a Parent: Transforming Education in the Wake of the No Child Left Behind Act
Parent involvement is vital to the success of students and their schools. This simple point anchors the federal law known as No Child Left Behind, but state education departments and school districts are still struggling to implement the parent involvement provisions of NCLB. Appleseed released a comprehensive study of parent involvement practices in 18 school districts nationwide, evaluating local efforts to engage parents in their children's schooling. The goal is to help parents, especially those in low-income districts, become better "consumers" of public education. Visit [It Takes a Parent](#) to read the full study.

Also available from Appleseed are two new brochures that can serve as a resource to parents. The brochures cover the current state of the law - in simple terms - on both restructuring schools and supplemental educational services (tutoring). The publications are available electronically only. Appleseed recognizes that President Obama and Congress might make changes in the near future, but felt the need (right now) to have a clear, simple, short rendition of what these two topics mean and the opportunity for parents to connect to an important academic dialogue. For more information, visit [Appleseed Network](#).

EDUCATION WEEK

"Community Schools: Reform's Lesser-Known Frontier"

In the February 1, 2010 issue of [Ed Week](#), Sarah Fine wrote a commentary on community schools, "Community Schools: Reform's Lesser-Known Frontier." She notes that we must improve educational outcomes for youth in underserved communities - now. We can't wait. She cites a way to make this happen, "... there is another, less resource-intensive way to create networks of social support for students. It involves what have become known as community schools, and it has been consistently overlooked by both lawmakers and the news media." Click [here](#) to read the full commentary.



Arguing About Charters vs. "Traditional" Schools

The Center at UCLA has just released a new policy brief entitled: *Arguing About Charters VS. "Traditional" Schools Masks the Failure of School Improvement Policy and Practice to Enhance Equity of Opportunity*. As the argument over charter vs. traditional schools burgeons, it is overshadowing discussion about the ongoing failure of the majority of charters and traditional schools to substantially increase the percentage of youngsters who succeed at school over the long run. This colludes with the tendency to downplay the fact that school improvement policy and practice lacks a primary emphasis on addressing barriers to learning and teaching and re-engaging disconnected students. This brief report focuses on what's missing in most analyses of school improvement policy and practice and what type of policy shift is needed to stimulate development of a comprehensive, cohesive, and coherent system to replace the prevailing piecemeal and marginalized approach to student and learning supports. Read [the brief](#).

UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

MetLife Foundation Community-Police Partnership Awards Program

MetLife Foundation and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) are partnering for the ninth year to recognize, sustain and share the work of innovative partnerships between community groups and police to promote neighborhood safety and revitalization.

Six Neighborhood Revitalization awards are available, ranging from \$15,000 to \$25,000 and five Special Strategy awards of \$15,000 will be awarded. For more information, visit [Police Partnership Awards Program](#).

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 26, 2010

Learn and Serve America Higher Education Program

The purpose of the Learn and Serve America Higher Education Program is to support institutions of higher education that use innovative service-learning programming to meet the needs of local communities. Our programs promote institutional commitment to the local community while promoting lifelong civic engagement for student participants.

\$6.8 million is available for 18 grants ranging from \$85,000 to \$500,000 each. For more information, visit [Learn and Serve America](#).

DEADLINE: MARCH 9, 2010

Arts in Education Model Development and Dissemination

The program supports the enhancement, expansion, documentation, evaluation, and dissemination of innovative, cohesive models that demonstrate effectiveness in:

- Integrating into and strengthening arts in the core elementary and middle school curricula;
- Strengthening arts instruction in those grades; and
- Improving students' academic performance, including their skills in creating, performing, and responding to the arts.

Grants are designed to enable LEAs and organizations with arts expertise to further create and develop materials for the replication or adaptation of current comprehensive approaches for integrating a range of arts disciplines - such as music, dance, theater, and visual arts, including folk arts - into the elementary and middle school curricula. \$7.7 million is available for 28 awards, averaging \$275,000. For more information, visit [Arts in Education Model Development and Dissemination](#).

DEADLINE: MARCH 16, 2010

2010 Drug Free Communities Support Program Grants

The Executive Office of the President, Office of National Drug Control Policy, and the Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention are accepting applications for fiscal year 2010 Drug Free Communities Support Program grants. The purpose of this program is to establish and strengthen collaboration to support the efforts of community coalitions working to prevent and reduce substance use among youth. The Drug Free Communities Support Program is a collaborative initiative sponsored by the Office of National Drug Control Policy in partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in order to achieve two major goals:

- Establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, public, and private nonprofit agencies, and federal, state, local, and tribal governments to support the efforts of community coalitions to prevent and reduce substance use among youth.
- Reduce substance use among youth and, over time, reduce substance abuse among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase the risk of substance abuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse.

\$18.75 million is available for 150 awards of up to \$125,000 per year for up to five years. For more information, contact [Barbara Orlando](#), Office of Program Services, Division of Grants Management, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 240.276.1422.

DEADLINE: MARCH 19, 2010

Knowledge Dissemination Conference Grants Program

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announces SAMHSA's Knowledge Dissemination Grants program. The purpose of the Conference Grant program is to disseminate knowledge about practices within the mental health services and substance abuse prevention and treatment fields and to integrate that knowledge into real-world practice as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Two awards are available of up to \$50,000 for a 12-month project period. For more information, visit [Knowledge Dissemination Conference Grants Program](#).

DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2010

Finish Line Youth Foundation Youth Grants

Finish Line Youth Foundation focuses funding on organizations that provide opportunities for youth participation in the following areas:

- Youth athletic programs - Community-based programs addressing active lifestyle and team building skills.
- Camps - Established camps with an emphasis on sports and active lifestyle, especially programs serving disadvantaged and special needs kids.

Grants of \$1,000 to \$5,000 will be awarded. For more information, visit [Finish Line Youth Foundation](#).

DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2010

CONFERENCE/TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENTS



Peace-A-Palooza

What: Peace-A-Palooza, a free week long activities program focused on violence prevention and conflict resolution

For Whom: All 7-12 year old Boston residents

When: Tuesday, February 16th to Friday, February 19th

Time: 8:30 AM Sign-In, 3:00 PM Sign-Out

Where: Vine Street Community Center, 339 Dudley Street, Roxbury, 02119

Cost: Free! Lunch and a healthy snack provided.

Contact: Michal Shapiro for applications at 617.635.4920 ext 2246, or by email peacefellows@gmail.com

Recruiting Volunteers 15 years old and up!!



Please join Mayor Thomas M. Menino for the

Boston R.O.C.K. It!!!

Launch into Summer

Wednesday, February 17th from 11:00 AM -1:00 PM

Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road, Dorchester

The Boston R.O.C.K. It!!! is a fun-filled afternoon with music, dancing, youth performances, celebrity guests, raffle prizes and summer resource information.

For more information, please contact 617.635.KIDS(5437) or visit www.bostonyouthzone.com.



Boston Public Schools Department of Extended Learning Time, Afterschool and Services (DELTA S) is excited to announce

Mind in the Making Early Learning Modules

The Mind in the Making Early Learning Modules, developed by Families and Work Institute, focus on the interdependent social, emotional, and intellectual needs of young children. The modules review both current and classic research on how young children learn as well as techniques for applying that research in daily practice. Participants will explore ways to provide meaningful learning experiences for young children and reflect on how their own experiences impact the way they provide care.

With support from the Harvard Achievement Support Initiative, this 32 hour course will run Tuesday mornings from 10:00AM - 12:30PM starting February 23, 2010. Mind in the Making is geared toward OST Program Directors, Direct Service Providers, and Family Childcare Providers who work with K-1 and K-2 children and may be of interest for those who work with 1st & 2nd graders. This course will potentially offer EEC credits.

There is a \$10.00 registration fee with all sessions and materials free of cost! If you are interested in this great opportunity please contact [Morgan Randall](#).



Community Flu Education Certificate Program
Thursday, February 25, 2010 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

O'Neill Conference Room, Miranda Creamer Building, 35 Northampton Street, 4th floor

Help spread the word - we may see another increase in 2009 H1N1 flu before the outbreak is over. It's still important for everyone to take steps to stay healthy this winter.

- Keeping the community informed is up to all of us - Neighborhood organizers, faith leaders, community activists and good neighbors, as well as health education and outreach professionals.
- Sign up for the free Community Flu Education Certificate Program and help educate your community today!

The Boston Public Health Commission's Community Flu Education Certificate Program will train formal and informal community leaders to serve as resources for accurate, timely information about seasonal and 2009 H1N1 influenza (Swine Flu). Graduates of this exciting one-day program will share their knowledge with others in their families, neighborhoods, civic organizations and faith-based organizations. They will receive helpful resources and receive BPHC's email Flu Alerts. Certified educators will serve as ambassadors in their communities and communicate resident concerns and feedback to the City to help improve messages and services.

If you would like to enhance your leadership and outreach skills, become a resource for those you care about, and help your community stay healthy and be more resilient, this training is for you. There is no charge for this training. Training includes light refreshments and lunch. For more information, call Luisa Tavares at 617-534-2432.



ReadBoston in collaboration with Boston Public Schools Department of Extended Learning Time,

Afterschool and Services (DELTA) and The Leadership Institute are excited to once again offer "Literacy Comes Alive! Promoting Literacy in After Schools"!

This course will expose school-age staff and program leaders to a range of well-tested literacy activities that support students' skills. Participants will have many opportunities for hands-on learning, practicing of new skills, group discussions and more. The class will be an engaging, creative, and energizing learning environment with topics including "Reading Aloud with Students," "Supporting Independent Reading," "Multicultural Literature," "Teaching to Diverse Learners," and many more!

This class is a ten week sequence starting on **Thursday, March 11, 2010 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**, and running until May 20, 2010 (skipping April 22nd). Participants are expected to attend all ten weeks. College credit is available for Cambridge College for an additional fee. Multiple staff from after school organizations are encouraged to attend. This course costs \$50 and checks should be made out to "ReadBoston."

The class will be taught by ReadBoston, a leader in the after school field for 10 years. More information on ReadBoston can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

Anyone interested should complete a registration form by Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 3:00 PM. Contact [Morgan Randall](#) for a registration form or with questions.



9th Annual Youth Work Intensive Conference

SAVE THE DATE - MARCH 15-16

The College of Public and Community Service at UMass-Boston will be the host. Each day includes networking, interactive workshops focused on skillbuilding and a gathering space for attendees to join each other in celebrating and recognizing the work we all do to support the development of young people. There is breakfast, lunch, information tables, a speaker and more...

The Youth Work Intensive is a conference that offers a series of skill building workshops focused on the knowledge and practice of youth work. It brings together trainers and leading practitioners to provide sessions focused on skill development, promising practices, and tools for everyday use. Accordingly, each workshop will address a broad topic while giving particular attention to tools, methods, and

strategies.



Boston Public Schools Department of Extended Learning Time,
Afterschool and Services (DELTA)



SAVE THE DATE

**2nd Annual Bridging the Gap Conference
Tuesday, March 30, 2010
University of Massachusetts Conference Center**

This year's conference is already shaping up to be a unique and exciting day to learn and connect. The theme for this year will be the "Whole Child" and will focus on a child's cognitive, social, emotional, physical, cultural and creative dimensions. Workshops will be framed around the six areas within "Whole Child": Sustainability/PD/Climate, Data and Evaluation, Partner/Family Engagement, Student Support, Learning Opportunities, and finally Wellness.

This conference is for anyone and everyone who engages with youth in the City of Boston! Out-of-school time providers, 'bridging' professionals, educators, and administrators, student services and youth development providers, funders and other family and community stakeholders are welcome to join us at this year's Bridging the Gap Conference on March 30th. Contact [Morgan Randall](#) for more information.



**Boston Public Library's Literacise
Interactive, bilingual children's exhibit**

The Boston Public Library (BLP) welcomes young children and their families to Literacise, an interactive exhibit in English and Spanish where they can zig-zag, bunny-hop, and giant step their way through Irene Smalls' story "Jonathan and His Mommy."

Literacise is open through March 31 at BPL's Central Library (700 Boylston Street).

[Find out more information](#)



Join the Coalition for Community Schools for their 2010 National Forum:
[Building Innovative Partnerships for Student Success: The Key to America's Future](#)
April 7-9 2010, Philadelphia, PA

This year we celebrate partnerships because they are at the heart of the community schools approach-bringing schools, families, community residents, higher education and an array of other community partners together around a common result-student success.

Innovation is the word of the day in education reform, as the U.S. Department of Education rolls out its new education reform strategy. Community schools are an innovation that is turning around student performance as it builds on a very American principle, that schools are inextricably connected to their communities and best educate students when they function as centers of community. Student success is the result that everyone is seeking for young people...enabling them to graduate from high school ready for careers, college, and citizenship. Attaining this goal is vital to the future for our nation.

U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius will deliver the Keynote address at the Forum!

[Register NOW!](#)



Be the Change!
NAA's 22nd Annual Convention

The 2010 National AfterSchool Association (NAA) Convention will be held
in Washington, DC, on April 19-21, 2010.

Presented in partnership with the Afterschool Alliance's Afterschool for All Challenge.

You simply won't want to miss this historic event.

[Online Registration](#) is now available!



Fourth Annual Gathering of Leaders:

The Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC) announces its Fourth Annual Gathering of Leaders, *Re-Imagining Schooling for Boys and Young Men of Color*, to be held at Howard University's School of Education in Washington, D.C., April 22 - 24, 2010.

COSEBOC's conference will feature presenters who are actively engaged in the innovative implementation of promising practices and policy that address the core areas of the *Standards and Promising Practices for Schools Educating Boys of Color*, developed by COSEBOC in partnership with the Metropolitan Center for Urban Education at New York University.

For more information about workshops and the conference, visit [Fourth Annual Gathering of Leaders](#).

**'Educating Homeless School-Age Children:
A Community and Clinical Response'**

Educators, Behavioral Health Practitioners, and
Community Partners join together to share resources and
identify strategies that help homeless children thrive in school.

**GET
DETAILS**

April 24, 2009
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
WHEELLOCK COLLEGE
200 The Riverway, Boston

REGISTER

Sponsored by BROOKVIEW HOUSE & WHEELLOCK COLLEGE

For more information, visit [Impacting Service Delivery to Homeless Teens](#).

ROUNDTABLE STEERING COMMITTEE & ADVISORY BOARD

Steering Committee	Advisory Board
Joy Dryfoos (Emeritus)	Jarrett Barrios
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