



Full-service Schools Roundtable Newsletter

March 2009

Dear Colleagues,

With this newsletter, I am delighted to announce the launch of the new Full-service Schools Roundtable [website!](http://www.fssroundtable.org)

Please visit, explore, and bookmark the new site! We hope you will find it useful and easy to navigate. Please also take note of our new, shorter domain name: www.fssroundtable.org.

We will be keeping the site updated with the latest resources from the field - including announcements of upcoming Roundtable events. We'll be announcing the dates and topics of our spring Roundtable meetings soon, so be sure to check the website regularly.

I'd like to extend a big thank you to both our web developer, Andrea Hurley of Elytra Design, for the beautiful design, and to Jill Asser, the Roundtable's staff assistant, for her help with the site launch!

With best regards,

Abby R. Weiss
Executive Director

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

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.

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MAILING LIST*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Bridging the Gap Conference

Connecting to support the learning and healthy development of young people in Boston
April 30, 2009

SPEAKERS NEEDED

- Program and Classroom Improvement & Evaluation: Using Data to Drive Excellence
- Leadership for Effective Change: New Paradigms for Managing Programs, Leading Schools, and Coordinating Systems that Prepare Students for the 21st Century
- Extended Learning Time: Redefining School and Afterschool Structural Models to Support Student Learning
- Connecting School and Afterschool: Creating Effective Partnerships and a Seamless Approach to Programming
- Health and Wellness: How to Foster Healthy Development and Social/Emotional Competence in Youth
- Youth Lead Workshops: Informing Adults About the Issues Most Important to Them
- Summer Learning & Academic Alignment: Building Academic Skills During the Out-of-School Time Hours

See below under "Conference/Training Announcements"
for more information on the Bridging the Gap conference.

The deadline for the Request for Workshops (RFW) has been extended to April 3rd.
To fill out the RFW, please go to:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=GoMXWptyCbDeLH47Tm8LCA_3d_3d



Duncan urges extended time, creative use of stimulus funds

On Wednesday, March 25th, Secretary Duncan used the words "community schools" while speaking about this Administration's educational reform strategies! Read his entire interview with [Ed Daily](#). This interview quite explicitly makes the case for our work!



An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Growth Opportunities for Community Schools

To help break down what funding is available in the stimulus for community schools, the Coalition for Community Schools has created a Stimulus Brief: [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act \(ARRA\)](#). Several factors should be kept in mind while reviewing this information. First, the funding is temporary and cannot be counted on for projects lasting beyond two years. Second, state and local policymakers must use the funding to increase student performance and should spend some time planning and preparing for these new

allocations. Third, some states are in such fiscal budget turmoil that this additional federal funding will be used to make up for, or attempt to bridge, state budget gaps. In states whose budget situation is not so dire, there will be the opportunity to use federal funding for new and innovative programs.

What does the first round of Stimulus funding look like?

The bulk of this initial money will avert teacher layoffs and jump start the next generation of education reform. Specifically: \$32.5 billion in State Fiscal Stabilization Fund allocations; \$5 billion in Title I allocations; \$6.1 billion in IDEA allocations; \$70 million in allocations for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth program; and \$40 million in allocations for the Impact Aid program. To access the entire article, click [here](#).

View the Education Department's [stimulus distribution schedule](#).



President Obama's Speech at the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

On March 10th, President Obama spoke at the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and stated "that economic progress and educational achievement have always gone hand in hand for America....we are collectively responsible for turning around our schools..." He went on to say that Sec. Duncan will use only one "test when deciding what ideas to support - whether or not it works." We know that community schools work, so let's use this window of opportunity and get our state and local policymakers to listen! You can get the entire [transcript](#) of his speech or [view](#) his entire speech.



Public School Kids Outpace Private School Peers in Math

A new study by the University of Illinois has found that public-school students outperform their private-school classmates on the National Assessment of Educational Progress exam, thanks to certified math teachers and a modern, reform-oriented math curriculum, Science Daily reports. To account for the difference in test scores, Sarah Lubienski and her co-authors looked at five critical factors: school size, class size, parental involvement, teacher certification, and instructional practices. "There are so many reasons why you would think that the results should be reversed -- that private schools would outscore public schools in standardized math test scores," she said. "This study looks at the underlying reasons why that's not necessarily the case." Of the five factors, school size and parental involvement were "mixed or marginally significant predictors" of student achievement, while smaller class sizes, which are more prevalent in private schools than in public schools, significantly correlate with achievement. Despite this, many private schools aren't accountable to an external body when designing curricula, and thus may not be keeping up with trends. "There's been this assumption that private schools are more effective because they're autonomous and don't have all the bureaucracy that public schools have," Lubienski said. "But one thing this study suggests is that autonomy isn't necessarily a good thing for schools."

Read more: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090226093423.htm>

See the report: <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/590677>



Balancing Cut-backs at Schools is Essential to Ensuring Equity of Opportunity

The severe impact of disproportionate budget cuts related to student and learning supports has raised red flags across the country.

There is a poignant irony in the disconnect between increasing awareness of the many external and internal factors that interfere with learning at school and the extreme cuts related to efforts to do something directly about these matters.

It is important to take steps to counter the imbalance in cut-backs.

The attached policy notes are offered as another resource to put in the hands of those who are deciding about budget cuts.

Click [here](#) for the full document.

The Center for Mental Health in Schools is interested in hearing what you think. Share what strategies are being used in your locale to at least maintain enough student and learning supports to continue to reduce truancy and dropouts, close the achievement gap, reduce inappropriate referrals for special assistance and special education, and counter the school to prison pipeline? How will the stimulus package help in this respect? Let them know so they can share the information with others. Contact L.taylor@ucla.edu.



Allston Brighton Community Resource Guide

This guide to services in the Allston Brighton neighborhood of the City of Boston is the result of a partnership between two coalitions, the Allston Brighton Early Childhood System of Care (a United Way initiative housed at The Home for Little Wanderers) and the Allston Brighton Partnership for Community Health.

The goal of the Allston Brighton Early Childhood System of Care is to systematically link comprehensive community-based services to better support children birth to seven years old and their families. "System of Care" is an approach to service delivery that, through intensive collaboration, will:

- Improve the coordination of services for children in need of social-emotional support
- Facilitate and increase access for families to a wide array of early childhood services
- Enhance the capacity of existing community organizations to provide early childhood services
- Promote school readiness

For more information or to download the guide, visit [The Home](#). The guide is available in English, Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese.



MathPower Algebra Plus Summer Academy 2009

The MathPower Algebra Plus Summer Academy at Northeastern University is designed to

- Strengthen math skills through review and enrichment
- Increase understanding of science and engineering applications
- Broaden educational interests through Academy club and activities
- Provide the confidence needed to make learning enjoyable (even for math!)
- Assist in preparing students to pursue a College Education

The Summer Academy is open to students entering 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grades in Fall 2009. Applications are currently being accepted and will continue to be accepted until all spaces are filled.

The Academy will take place Monday, July 6 - Friday, August 7, 2009 at a cost of \$625. Financial aid is available for families who qualify. For more information, visit the [MathPower](#) website.

UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Good Sports: Junior Jocks Program

Good Sports and Sports Radio WEEI 850 AM invite youth sports programs to apply for support from the Junior Jocks Drive. Each year, the Junior Jocks program holds an on-air drive with WEEI to generate support for youth sports organizations throughout Massachusetts. The selected organizations will be featured on WEEI 850 AM during the drive, with the funds raised used to meet the need for sports equipment requested through the application process. Programs raise funds for sports equipment, as well as gain exposure for their cause. To be considered, programs must be operating an organized sport or recreation program in basketball, baseball, football, hockey, or soccer that serves disadvantaged youth ages five to 18 years old.

Awards will be granted in the form of equipment. For more information, visit the [Good Sports](#) website.

DEADLINE: APRIL 10, 2009

Learn and Serve America

Learn and Serve America School-Based grants are designed to involve school-age youth in service-learning projects that simultaneously support student development and address community problems in areas such as the environment, education, public safety, and other human needs. The Corporation for National and Community Service's mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

Eight to ten awards will be given ranging from \$300,000 to \$450,000. For more information, visit the [Corporation for National and Community Service's](#) website.

DEADLINE: APRIL 14, 2009

StreetSafe Boston Summer Grants

StreetSafe Boston Summer Grants (formerly Summer Safety Funder Collaborative) makes grants to engage high- and proven-risk youth ages 16-24 in neighborhoods impacted by violence. StreetSafe Boston Summer Grants is part of a new Boston Foundation led multi-year public safety strategy aimed at dramatically reducing youth violence in a subset of neighborhoods that are disproportionately and persistently affected by high rates of violent crime. The initiative, StreetSafe Boston, is a collaboration between local and regional funders, the City of Boston, the Boston Police Department, the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, the Boston Housing Authority, YMCA of Greater Boston, the Boys and Girls

Clubs of Boston, and the Black Ministerial Alliance.

For more information visit [StreetSafe Boston Summer Grants](#).

DEADLINE: APRIL 22, 2009

Recreational Programs

The purpose of the Recreational Programs is to provide individuals with disabilities with recreational activities and related experiences to aid in their employment, mobility, socialization, independence, and community integration.

There will be a total of seven awards, ranging from \$130,000 to \$140,000. For more information, visit the [Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services](#) website.

DEADLINE: APRIL 24, 2009

National Resource Center on Youth Development

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to establish by cooperative agreement a National Resource Center on Youth Development (NRCYD). The NRCYD will serve as a member of the Children's Bureau's (CB's) Training and Technical Assistance Network (T/TA Network). The T/TA Network is designed to improve child welfare (CW) systems and to support States and Tribes in achieving sustainable, systemic change that results in greater safety, permanency, and well-being for children, youth, and families. The specific focus of the NRCYD is to develop, support, improve and maintain a range of program strategies and expertise on the services and supports using the four core principles of Youth Development (see: www.nrcys.ou.edu/yd) to assist youth in making a smooth transition to adulthood, achieve permanency, establish and strengthen permanent life connections and reduce the likelihood of dependency on the adult social welfare system. This will be accomplished through the provision of T/TA, consultation and collaboration with partner agencies.

One award of \$1.25 million will be given. For more information, visit the [Administration for Children and Families](#) website.

DEADLINE: APRIL 27, 2009

Community Economic Development Projects

The Office of Community Services will provide grants to community development corporations for a wide array of community development and economic development projects to enhance job creation and business development in low-income communities.

There will be a total of 47 awards made of \$800,000 per year for three years. For more information, visit the [Office of Community Services](#) website.

DEADLINE: LETTERS OF INTENT: APRIL 28, 2009; FINAL APPLICATIONS: May 28, 2009

iMentor Interactive

Through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, iMentor has received funding to provide financial support to organizations that may not otherwise be able to afford iMi's user fees. The purpose of the grant is to help improve graduation rates through mentoring by providing technical assistance to small and medium-sized nonprofit organizations serving high-school students.

Grant recipients will receive up to \$6,000 in funding for iMi user fees (approximately 200 mentor/mentee users) for one (1) year, with the potential for grants to be renewed for up to three (3) years. If a grantee has fewer than 200 users, the excess funds can be used for iMentor consulting services. Grantees must contribute \$1,500 of their own resources. For more information, visit the [iMentor](#) website.

DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2009

Rigorous Evaluations of Existing Child Abuse Prevention Programs

The purpose of this program announcement is to encourage and support improvement in the quality of child abuse prevention programs by providing funding for rigorous evaluations of existing programs that have not previously been evaluated. This will continue to foster and develop the evidence base in the child abuse and neglect prevention field.

A total of \$600,000 are available in three grants of up to \$200,000. Visit the [Administration of Children and Families](#) website for more information.

DEADLINE: MAY 4, 2009

Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation's Community Grants

The Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation is committed to improving communities and impacting lives through unique philanthropic programs that help children and families, animals, and the environment.

Grants range from \$1,000 to \$10,000, with the average grant size of \$2,500. For more information, visit the [Build-A-Bear Foundation](#) website.

DEADLINE: ROLLING

CONFERENCE/TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENTS



Raise the Age, Lower the Dropout Rate?
Policy Considerations for Raising the Compulsory Age of Attendance
Thursday, April 9, 2009

The Rennie Center will present a policy brief intended to answer the question, "Is there empirical evidence to support Massachusetts raising its compulsory attendance age to 18?" This presentation will be followed by a presentation by Civic Enterprises that highlights their research in support of raising the compulsory attendance age. Next, a panel of policymakers and community leaders will share their perspectives on the question of "raising the age." This event is presented in conjunction with the Youth Transitions Task Force (YTTF).

For more information and registration, please
visit: http://www.renniecenter.org/events_docs/event.html?id=54.



Measuring 21st Century Skills: New Tools for a New Era
Monday, April 13, 2009

This forum will continue a discussion launched at a January 26th forum and will address the questions: "How does our assessment system need to change in order to measure 21st Century skills?" and "What new types of assessments are needed and how might they align with or supplement MCAS?" A panel of education leaders and policymakers will discuss these questions and explore the implications of these changes on policy and practice. The event is presented with support from the Nellie Mae Education Foundation.

For more information and registration, please
visit: http://www.renniecenter.org/events_docs/event.html?id=55.



Hyde Square Task Force Peace Week
April 20 - 25, 2009

Local youth lead the way in activities and events designed to promote peace in Jamaica Plain and Roxbury.
For more information please contact Jesús at 617-524-8303 x304 or email him at jesus@hydesquare.org.



Create Change in Your Communities!
Participate in the Lincoln Community Schools Learning Laboratory
April 27-29, 2009

The Cornhusker Marriott Hotel: Room Rate- \$99/night
333 South 13th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
402-474-7474

[REGISTER NOW!!!](#)

The Lincoln Community Schools Learning Laboratory is designed for teams from schools and communities that want to move on a community schools strategy. Ideal teams will represent diverse organizations e.g., school systems, local government, public and private agencies, community-based organizations, higher education institutions, parents and parent organizations and community groups. They encourage teams of 4 or more to provide a stronger basis for action back home. All are welcome.

For more information:
View [Event Brochure](#)
View [Travel Discount](#)
View [Event Summary & Agenda](#)

Individual Registration Fee:
\$375.00 (Early Bird Price) If Registered By Friday, April 3, 2009

\$445.00 (Regular) If Registered After April 3, 2009

Team of 4+ People Registration Fee:
\$295.00 (Early Bird Price) If Registered By Friday, April 3, 2009

\$375.00(Regular) If Registered After April 3, 2009



Bridging the Gap Conference:
Connecting to support the learning and healthy development of young people in Boston

April 30, 2009, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
John Hancock Conference Center, Boston MA

Join DELTAS for a series of workshops aimed at "bridging the gap" between in-school and out-of-school time. This event is geared toward anyone who works with students, from parents to educators, funders to bus drivers and everyone in between.

Participants will examine system strategies and practices for aligning in-school and out-of-school programming to support student success and healthy development. This is also a great event for those looking to learn new skills, but also share their own expertise in their field. While this is an all day event, we understand that not everyone may be able to attend the entire conference. More information and registration will be available soon.

To be added to our conference & e-mail list, please send an e-mail with to [Alex LeBaron](#).



The 13th Annual MOTHER'S WALK FOR PEACE
Sunday, May 10, 2009

Join us and help us reach our goal of \$200,000!
In unity, there is strength; and with that strength "peace is possible."

Put your faith on your feet and walk for peace.

WHY WALK FOR PEACE?

VISIBILITY & FULFILLMENT:

It's a great way to create public awareness for what you are doing in the community and a wonderful opportunity to come together in the name of peace. By forming a peace walk team, you will feel great knowing you have come together to honor moms and show your support for families and friends who have lost a loved one to violence.

It's easy to raise funds! In Unity, we'll raise important funds. Even if you have never raised any money before, you will discover that you can be a great fundraiser and people are eager to support you. Set your personal goal of \$100.00. Ask your friends, families, co-workers, neighbors, classmates, teachers, and members of your faith community to sponsor you.

Additionally, you can recruit your own team!

Last year 5,000 people participated in the *LDBPI Annual Mother's Walk for Peace*.

Sponsorship, Exhibitor and Volunteer opportunities are available.

info@louisdbrownpeaceinstitute.org P: 617-825-1017

Visit the [Louis D. Brown Peace Institute](http://www.louisdbrownpeaceinstitute.org) website for more information and pledge sheets.

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Contact Us:

Abby R. Weiss
Executive Director
Full-service Schools Roundtable
443 Warren Street, Dorchester, MA 02121

email: aweiss@boston.k12.ma.us

P: (617) 635-6537

F: (617) 635-8027

www.fssroundtable.org

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