



Full-service Schools Roundtable

December 2007

"partnering for Boston students' success"
443 Warren Street • Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617 635 6537
www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

In This Issue

A Letter to Our Members

Save the date!

Next Roundtable meeting:

January 17, 2008

8:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Raytheon Amphitheater

Egan Center

Northeastern University

Visit our website to search
past newsletters:

www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

The Full-service Schools Roundtable appreciates support for its work from Herman and Frieda L. Miller Foundation and an anonymous foundation.

A Letter to Our Members

Dear Roundtable Members,

We know it's been some months since you have heard from us, but we have been hard at work - and now we are very excited about how much there is to share with all of you!

- ⇒ **New Executive Director hired!** First, please join us in welcoming Abby Weiss, the Roundtable's new Executive Director. Abby comes to us with more than 15 years of experience in family and community engagement. Abby spent the last two and one-half years at the Harvard Family Research Project as the project manager for family involvement. Prior to her tenure at Harvard, she worked for eight years at the Institute for Responsive Education in Boston. Abby's experience with and understanding of school-family-community partnerships - as well as research and policy within this arena - is broad and deep. She is also an experienced convener, having developed and presented content for professional development institutes throughout her career. We are tremendously pleased that she'll now be able to share what she knows with all of us! Abby began with us on November 15. You can reach her at 617.635.6537 or by email at aweiss@boston.k12.ma.us.
- ⇒ **Strategic planning process underway.** Thanks to the support of an anonymous foundation, the Roundtable Steering Committee has been engaged with Management Consulting Services in a strategic planning process to help us identify and pursue new priorities. We thank all of you who responded to our survey this summer; the returns have helped us reflect on the Roundtable's work over the past three years and map directions for the future. We are eager to share the results of the process with you in January and to hear your ideas about the course ahead.
- ⇒ **New study on financing school-connected services released.** As many of you know, the Roundtable and Boston After School and Beyond commissioned Community Matters and The Finance Project to document how school-connected services are funded in Boston. This study, *Investing in Student Success*, reviews federal, state and local funding patterns and presents a few specific recommendations for how Boston should proceed to address the challenge of sustainability as it works to promote the academic success of all its children and youth. Attached is a summary of the report's findings. The full report can be found in its entirety on the Roundtable's website at www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org.

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.

Contact Us

Full-service Schools
Roundtable
443 Warren Street
Dorchester, MA 02121

P: (617) 635-6537
F: (617) 635-8027

www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

Abby R. Weiss,
Executive Director
aweiss@boston.k12.ma.us

⇒ **Roundtable Membership Meeting: Thursday, January 17, 2008.** We look forward to seeing you at our first Roundtable Membership Meeting of 2008. We will gather on **Thursday, January 17 at the Raytheon Amphitheater in the Egan Research Center at Northeastern University from 8:45-11:30** to begin a series of conversations about the challenges of sustaining and strengthening school-connected services for Boston's children. We are thrilled to be joined by two important speakers. Marty Blank, Executive Director of the Coalition for Community Schools in Washington, D.C., will talk about sustainability and new national legislation designed to support full-service schools. Emily Sherwood, Director of Children's Behavioral Health Interagency Initiatives, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, will share her thoughts about the implications of the Rosie D court case for full-service schools. Of course, we also want to introduce Abby and to share with you our thinking about the Roundtable's new strategic direction.

We send you all best wishes for a healthy and productive 2008. **Please mark your calendars for January 17th**, meet Abby, and come ready to roll up your sleeves with us for a busy new year!

Full-service Schools Roundtable Steering Committee

- **Antonio Barbosa**
Principal, F. Lyman Winship Elementary School, BPS
- **William Brown**
DSS Area Director, Park St. Office
- **Joy Dryfoos**
Author, Steering Committee Member, Coalition for Community Schools
- **William Kelley, Steering Committee Co-chair**
Director of Comprehensive Support Services and Partnerships, Unified Student Services, Boston Public Schools
- **Bob Kilkenny**
Executive Director, Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention
- **Matt LiPuma, Steering Committee Co-chair**
Executive Director, Family Nurturing Center
- **Catalina Montes**
Principal-on-Assignment, BPS
- **Carolyn Riley**
Senior Director, Unified Student Services, BPS
- **Dina Siegal**
Deputy Director, Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Relations
- **Mary Walsh**
Professor and Director, Center for Child, Family & Community School Partnerships, Boston College School of Education
- **Margot Welch**
Author and Founding Director of the Collaborative for Integrated School Services, Harvard University