



Full-service Schools Roundtable

February 2006

"partnering for Boston students' success"

443 Warren Street • Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617 635 6537
www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

In This Issue

- Roundtable Report
- What's Happening in BPS
- Upcoming Funding Opportunities
- For Your Information
- Conference/Workshop Announcements

Roundtable Report

The Roundtable is sponsoring a training on:

Helping Traumatized Children Learn

Target Audience: After School Providers, School-based Site Coordinators, Partnership Directors, or Resource Coordinators

Date: March 22, 2006 in the morning (Time TBA)
Location: to be determined
(Look for flyer next week)

Trainer: Dr. Jessica Greenwald O'Brien,
Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative

At this training you will:

- * Become aware of trauma symptoms as they relate to learning
- * Identify strategies that can support traumatized children

Questions? Contact AnnaLisa Prada at aprada@boston.k12.ma.us

What's Happening in BPS: Policy



Mayor Menino Announces Agreement on Pilot Schools

Mayor Thomas M. Menino joined the Boston Public Schools (BPS) and the Boston Teachers Union (BTU) to announce that an agreement on a three-year proposal regarding pilot schools had been reached. The agreement addresses the union's interest in limiting the number of additional hours that teachers are required to work in pilot schools without additional payment, as well as the district's and the city's interest in creating more pilot schools in the years ahead.

Specifically, the agreement:

- Enables the creation of at least seven new pilot schools by September 2008, one of which may be a pilot school governed by the Boston Teachers Union;
- Places a cap on the number of unpaid teacher work hours in pilot schools (105 hours in the first year, 100 in the second, 95 in the third), above the existing hours of professional development (3 days plus 18

"I am proud that we were able to bring everyone together to create such an innovative understanding on pilot schools," Mayor Menino said. "This new agreement on pilot schools will offer our students more choice and continue to provide them with a world-class education. I am particularly pleased that one of the pilot schools may be governed by the BTU."

"In the past, some pilot school teachers had to work more than 300 hours without pay," Stutman said. "This agreement resolves teachers' concerns and paves the way for expanding this important education option for parents, students, and educators."

Elizabeth Reilinger, Chairperson of the Boston School Committee, added, "Boston is recognized as a national model of urban public education reform, and pilot schools exemplify Boston's commitment to innovations to improve student achievement. The pilot schools also demonstrate our commitment to collaboration with union leadership to help us enact reforms that accelerate student achievement in all 145 Boston Public Schools."

hours) for which teachers in all Boston Public Schools already are paid; and

- Requires the district to pay teachers the hourly rate for up to 50 work hours beyond the caps stated above, and the individual pilot schools to pay the hourly rate for any additional hours beyond that.

Pilot schools began in 1995 as an agreement between the BPS and the BTU to create schools that would have autonomy from some district policies and collective bargaining agreements. Currently, there are 17 pilot schools and two Horace Mann Charter Schools in Boston, all of which are part of the Boston Public Schools, funded by the city but governed by individual boards.

Union and district officials heralded pilot schools as additional opportunities to attract students and families from Commonwealth charter schools and other competing educational opportunities into the Boston Public Schools. The seven new pilot schools could be created from any combination of new pilot schools (which would require existing space), conversions of non-pilot Boston public schools to pilot schools, or conversions of current State-governed Commonwealth charter schools interested in becoming part of the Boston Public Schools.

The Gardner Extended Services School in Allston, whose previous application for pilot status was rejected by the union pending these negotiations, could become a pilot school as early as September 2006, subject to another vote of the faculty. The remaining schools would open in September 2007 and September 2008. In order to convert to pilot school, an existing Boston Public School would have to develop a proposal approved by the school faculty, the joint BPS-BTU Steering Committee, and the Boston School Committee.

Richard Stutman, President of the Boston Teachers Union, noted that this agreement requires the district and individual pilot schools to compensate teachers for additional work hours after the maximum number of unpaid professional development hours has been reached.

The parties spent more than 40 hours at the bargaining table negotiating this agreement. Officials thanked former Senate President Thomas Birmingham for his pro bono role in helping the parties reach consensus.

The proposal for the Boston Teachers Union to govern one of the new pilot schools is believed to be one of the first of its kind in the country, though similar to the existing teacher-led governance model at the Patrick Lyndon K-8 Pilot School in West Roxbury.

Also in the agreement is the identification of "Discovery Schools," similar to the existing Strategic Practice Schools network coordinated by the Boston Plan for Excellence. These non-pilot Discovery Schools would be granted some autonomy in order to pursue particular innovative strategies. The Superintendent will review proposals from schools in order to identify promising practices that would require additional flexibility in order to be implemented.

District and union officials noted that the pilot schools agreement would become part of the upcoming contract with the Boston Teachers Union for the next three school years and could not be reopened as part of upcoming collective bargaining negotiations. The current BPS-BTU contract expires August 31, 2006.

What's Happening in BPS: Schools

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

5:30 PM

Celebrating 100 years of excellence

at the Mason Pilot School

150 Norfolk Street

Roxbury, MA 02119

Principal: Janet Palmer-Owens

Honorary Chairs: Michael Holley, WEEI Sports Radio, Dr. Malika Marshall, CBS News, and Michael Smith, Around the Horn, ESPN.com

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Starbucks Foundation funds local programs that serve low-income, at-risk youth. The foundation will support arts and literacy, including programs that innovatively address literacy and learning, provide high standards of excellence in mastering basic skills, and promote youth voices through a variety of venues. The foundation also will support environmental literacy programs that offer place-based approaches to addressing environmental literacy and empower youth to be heroes for a sustainable environment in their own communities. Grants range in size from \$5,000 to \$20,000. For more information, contact: Starbucks Foundation, 2401 Utah Avenue South, S-SR-1, Suite 800, Seattle, WA 98134, Phone: (206) 318-7022, E-mail: foundationgrants@starbucks.com, or visit: www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp

DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2006

Initiative to Promote Healthy Eating Among Children: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has funding for research to halt the epidemic of childhood obesity in the United States, including environmental and policy approaches that promote healthy eating and prevent obesity among children, particularly in low-income and racial/ethnic communities where childhood obesity is most prevalent. Total funds available are \$3,000,000, with an average grant size of \$400,000. For more information, contact: Tim Crowley, Administrative Coordinator, Healthy Eating Research Program, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Route One & College Road East, Princeton, NJ 08543, Phone: (888) 635-7433, E-mail: healthyeatingresearch@rwjf.org or visit:

www.healthyeatingresearch.org/

DEADLINE: MARCH 7, 2006

Massachusetts Governor's Committee on Physical Fitness: Every Body Move Grant Program will provide funding for physical activity programs for children between the ages of 8 and 14 to create, enhance, or sustain opportunities for physical activity in Massachusetts schools. Eligible programs may include before, during, or after school physical activity programs, traditional and non-traditional sports, competitive and non-competitive sports, and physical education programming. The grants are designed to support programs that increase children's regular involvement in enjoyable physical activities, increase activity levels among sedentary students, and develop students' knowledge of and positive attitudes toward daily and lifelong physical activity and its benefits. Grants will be awarded in the amount of \$7,500. For more information, contact: Valerie Salvatore, Executive Director, Massachusetts

Visit our website to search past newsletters for funding information:

www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

The Full-service Schools Roundtable appreciates support for its work from The Boston Foundation, Herman and Frieda L. Miller Foundation, Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust, and an anonymous foundation.

Governor's Committee on Physical Fitness & Sports, c/o Allen & Gerritsen, 311 Arsenal Street, 4th Floor, Watertown, MA 02472, Phone: (617) 972-1836 x212, or visit: www.everybodymove.org/grant/.
DEADLINE: MARCH 10, 2006

The Hyams Foundation has the mission to increase economic and social justice and power within low-income communities. The foundation's current grant making guidelines seek to draw together the foundation's work in a more comprehensive way by focusing on the following four community priorities or outcomes: Increased civic engagement, with a special focus on immigrant communities; More affordable housing, especially for very low-income families; Increased family economic self-sufficiency; and Enhanced opportunities for low-income teens. Support is given for general/operating support, matching/challenge support, program development, technical assistance, and continuing support. Grants range in size from \$20,000 to \$50,000. For more information, contact Susan Perry, Administrative Manager, The Hyams Foundation, Inc., 175 Federal Street, 14th Floor, Boston, MA 02110, Phone: (617) 426-5600, Fax: (617) 426-5696, Email: sperry@hyamsfoundation.org, or visit: www.hyamsfoundation.org.
DEADLINE: MARCH 14, 2006

Cowan Slavin Foundation gives primarily to charitable organizations whose budgets are under \$1 million and which aid disadvantaged children, teens, the elderly, the physically challenged, and the homeless. Support is given for equipment, general/operating support, matching/challenge support, program development, seed money, and continuing support. Grants range in size from \$2,000 to \$10,000. For more information, contact: Marjorie Slavin Bovee, President, Cowan Slavin Foundation, 24 School Street, Newton, MA 02458. Application address: 7881 Dell Road, Saline, MI 48176.
DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2006

Kohl's Kids Who Care Program provides Kohl's an annual opportunity to recognize and reward young volunteers who transform their communities for the better. Any individual 21 years of age and older may nominate children and youth who are 6 to 18 years old and have not yet graduated from high school. Nominators will be asked to describe a young community volunteer's actions in detail and document efforts that are above and beyond what is normally expected. The volunteer's efforts should have resulted in a positive community outcome and must have occurred within the last twelve months. (Note: The volunteer activity cannot be performed to benefit a family member.) Completed nominations will be accepted in person or by mail at any participating Kohl's Department Store. Nominees will be divided into two groups based on their ages - kids 6 to 12 and 13 to 18. Three levels of awards will be presented. Each participating store will have one winner from each age group. Each Store-Level winner will receive a \$50 Kohl's Gift Card and a Kohl's Kids Who Care Certificate. A judging panel at Scholarship Management Services will then select both Regional and National winners. Each region will have one winner from each age group (for a total of 148 winners). Each Regional winner will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship toward his or her post-secondary education. There will be five National winners selected from children in each age group (for a total of ten). Each National winner will be awarded a \$5,000 scholarship toward his or her post-secondary education. In addition, Kohl's will contribute \$1,000 to a nonprofit organization on behalf of each national winner. For more information, visit: www.kohlscorporation.com/CommunityRelations/Community02.htm.
DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2006

For Your Information

YouthShines Art Auction

Youth ages 6-21 are invited to donate photos, paintings, jewelry, drawings, sculptures, & creativity to the YouthShines Art Auction. *Your art* can support *your community* and earn you \$100! For more information and submission forms, call: (617) 425-2081. A benefit for the South End/Lower Roxbury Youth Workers' Alliance. **Deadline for submission is April 20, 2006**

YOUTHLINE

The Mayor's YOUTHLINE is a resource for young people, parents, educators and youth workers. Teen "listeners" offer a variety of referrals to art, athletic, educational, employment, entertainment, legal, health and social service programs and organizations. Call the YOUTHLINE at 617-635-2240 or search the online database of youth programs at www.bostonyouthzone.com/

The Mayor's Youth Council is working to connect young people in Boston with resources and opportunities. For more information on the MYC and our projects visit: www.bostonyouthzone.com/myc. You may join the list and receive an informative calendar of events and announcements by sending a blank email to: join-Youth@listserv.ci.boston.ma.us

New from Harvard Family Research Project!

Harvard Family Research Project, in partnership with BOSTnet and United Way of Massachusetts Bay, announces the release of a new comprehensive, easy-to-read guide to understanding how to engage families in after school programs.

"Focus on Families! How to Build and Support Family-Centered Practices in After School" is a critical resource for after school providers looking to create or expand an existing family engagement program. Program leaders, local decision makers, funders, and others interested in promoting good family involvement practice will also find the guide vital to their work. The guide provides a research base for why family engagement matters, concrete program strategies for engaging families, case studies of promising family engagement efforts, and an evaluation tool for improving family engagement practices.

"Focus on Families! How to Build and Support Family-Centered Practices in After School" represents a key component of HFRP's ongoing efforts to understand and promote best practice in linking OST programs to families. It is also an important piece of HFRP's new "complementary learning" approach to supporting children's learning and development. Complementary learning is based on the principle that for young people to be successful from birth through adolescence they need access to an array of quality learning contexts that extend beyond the school and are linked to one another. These learning contexts include early childhood programs, out-of-school time programs, community institutions such as health and social services agencies, families, and, of course, schools. Visit the Complementary Learning section of our website to learn more about this new approach.

You can read the guide online or print it as a PDF at:

www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/afterschool/resources/families

Hard copies are available upon request. The guide is also available from BOSTnet (www.bostnet.org/) and United Way of Massachusetts Bay (www.uwmb.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.

Conference/Workshop Announcements

Race, Culture, Identity and Achievement Seminar Series *Understanding and Working with Vietnamese American Students*

Thursday, March 2, 4:00-6:00pm
Boston Children's Museum, 300 Congress, Boston, Massachusetts

Speaker: Min Zhou, Professor of Sociology and Chairperson of the Department of Asian American Studies at University of California, Los Angeles. and author of the award winning book, *Growing Up American: How Vietnamese Children Adapt to Life in the United States*

Two of Min Zhou's papers are posted of the Series website (www.achievementseminars.com). For directions to the Boston Children's Museum by car or public transportation, go to the Boston Children's Museum website.

Boston Steps Consortium Meeting: Diabetes in Boston: Perspectives on the Epidemic and Community Strategies to Address Prevention and Control

Wednesday March 8, 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Codman Square Great Hall, Dorchester

Come to this special Consortium meeting jointly sponsored by the Boston Public Health Commission Diabetes Control Program and Boston Steps. Program will include: Overview of the Type 2 Diabetes Epidemic by guest speakers (to be announced); and Roundtable facilitated discussions to get community and health care provider input into key service gaps, policy needs, and public awareness/education issues.

Boston Public Health Commission Community Meetings

Each year the Commission holds a series of neighborhood meetings to report on the health indicators for that neighborhood and seek community input. Meetings scheduled thus far in 2006 are listed below. If you would like flyers to post, please contact svasquez@bphc.org

Hyde Park: Thursday, March 2, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, Hyde Park Police Station
1249 Hyde Park Avenue, Hyde Park

South Boston: Wednesday, April 12, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Andrew Square Civic Association, Marriot Court Yard,
63R Boston Street, South Boston

Askwith Education Forum - Community Organizing and School Reform
Thursday, March 9, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Askwith Lecture Hall, Longfellow Hall

This forum will focus on community organizing as a strategy to build civic participation and power in low income communities and as a powerful force for change in urban schools. Ernesto Cortés, Jr., Director of the Southwest

Full-service Schools Roundtable Staff

Marta Gredler,
Executive Director

AnnaLisa Prada,
Program Director

Jill Asser, Graduate Social
Work Intern

Visit our website:

www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

Industrial Areas Foundation, will speak about forging broad-based and multiracial alliances for social change. Drawing upon her work, **Jeannie Oakes**, Presidential Professor in Educational Equity at UCLA and Director of UCLA's Institute for Democracy, Education & Access, will discuss the role that academics and researchers can play as collaborators with community and youth organizations to build a new movement for educational equity and justice. **Karen Mapp**, Lecturer on Education at HGSE and former deputy superintendent of Family and Community Engagement for the Boston Public Schools, will serve as a respondent. This discussion will be moderated by **Mark Warren**, Associate Professor of Education, HGSE. This forum is co-sponsored by the doctoral concentration in Culture, Communities, and Education. For information, contact **Meghan Liegel** at liegelme@gse.harvard.edu. **Askwith Lecture Hall, Longfellow Hall**. All Askwith Education Forums are free and open to the general public. Tickets are not necessary, unless otherwise noted. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**NeighborWalk Leaders - Save The Date
Walk Group Leader Training
Saturday, March 11, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Great Hall, Codman Square**

The hows and whats of getting your NeighborWalk group going for the spring - recruitment, materials/supplies, nutrition education, motivating walkers and helping them attain their next level of fitness, and more!

The Leadership Institute

An innovative collaborative between higher education, health care, school departments and the out-of-school sector

PEAR, Harvard University and McLean Hospital, Children's Trauma Recovery Foundation, and Boston Public School's Bridging the Gap Program

**Spring 2005 Course: Wednesdays, March 15 - May 24
Resiliency, Behavior Management and Mental Health in
Afterschool and Summer Programs**

Supporting resilience of children and youth provides a chance to create or strengthen "resilient programs", settings that promote the well being of staff and students. Resilient programs provide safe and positive boundaries for students as well as opportunities for bridging students in school and out of school time.

This course has the goal of introducing program leaders to the wide ranging topics necessary to an understanding of the mental, emotional, and behavioral worlds of children and adolescents. Experts in the fields of developmental and clinical psychology, trauma, and out-of-school time will address these issues in practical hands-on sessions.

Program Directors:
Gil G. Noam
Robert Macy
Dishon Mills

For more information or to apply, contact: Rachel Green, Bridging the Gap Coordinator, BPS, at (617) 635-6609 or rgreen2@boston.k12.ma.us.



Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum will present the Inaugural Lectures in the Simmons College/Beacon Press Race, Education and Democracy Lecture and Book Series.

Why are All the Black Kids Still Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? and Other Conversations about Race, Education and Democracy

March 23rd: Building Friendships across the Racial Divide:
The Problems and Possibilities
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Alumnae Hall, 321 Brookline Avenue

March 24th: In Search of Wisdom:
Higher Education for a Changing Democracy
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Alumnae Hall, 321 Brookline Avenue

All lectures take place at Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, are free and open to the public. For Directions to the College via car and public transportation, or for more information, visit www.raceandeducation.com/lectures.htm

Contact Us

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

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

www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

Marta Gredler:
mgredler@boston.k12.ma.us

AnnaLisa Prada
aprada@boston.k12.ma.us

Jill Asser
jasser@bu.edu