



Full-service Schools Roundtable

Summer 2005

"partnering for Boston students' success"
443 Warren Street Dorchester MA 02121 617 635 6537

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Roundtable Report: Two Legislators Introduce the National Full-Service Schools Bill

Representative Steny Hoyer(Maryland) and **Senator Ben Nelson**(Nebraska) joined forces last month in support of community schools. They introduced a bill that could provide up to **\$200 million for Fiscal Year 2006** and similar amounts through 2010 **for community schools across the country.**

At a press briefing in early May, Representative Hoyer and Senator Nelson praised the work of community schools. "Community schools are a model for how public/private partnerships can strengthen schools and communities," explained Representative Hoyer.

"Full-service community schools provide more than just after-school programs," Senator Nelson added, "their objective is to close the achievement gap between minority and non-minority students and to foster community involvement in school improvement efforts."

The Full-Service Community Schools Act funds public elementary and secondary schools that coordinate multiple federal, state and/or local educational and social service programs with community-based organizations and public/private partnerships. The end goal being to improve coordination, delivery, effectiveness and efficiency of services provided to children and families.

Local programs can receive funds for full-service community schools that include a local educational agency and one or more community-based organizations, or other public/private entities. **Priorities of funds are awarded to grantees that coordinate multiple services at a school site** which can include, early childhood programs, health and dental care, parenting education, literacy programs and job training services.

Although local **programs will receive 75% of the funds**, state collaboratives are in line to receive 20% of the

"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

funding. State collaboratives include the state education agency and at least two other state government agencies or nonprofit agencies to plan, coordinate and expand the development of full-service community schools; provide technical assistance and training at full-service community schools, collect, evaluate and report data about the progress of full-service community schools and evaluate the impact of state policies and guidelines in the integration of federal and state programs at full-service community schools.

The substantial support that this bill promises for full-service schools is critical to the implementation of community schools across the country as well as comprehensive efforts to address the achievement gap. Please join us in an effort to make this bill a reality.

What you can do:

1). Arrange site visits

- Call the local offices of your Representative and Senators and invite them to visit community schools in your area to help increase the support for this legislation.

2). Send e-mails to Congress and materials to local offices

- The Coalition for Community Schools' website, www.communityschools.org, has templates of letters of support for The Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2005 that you can send to your Representative and Senators.

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

The Financing/Sustainability Workgroup will be reconvened this summer to continue work on developing financing/sustainability plans for full-service schools. The Roundtable just received a two year grant from an anonymous foundation to support this work and seeks individuals to join this committee and serve in an advisory capacity for this grant. Please contact Marta Gredler if you're interested in joining this workgroup.

Next Meeting Date: TBD

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

The Technical Assistance Workgroup is compiling tools to provide technical assistance to school and community partners.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, July 20th, 9:00 a.m. – 12noon

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

The Data Collection Workgroup is developing a logic model for the work of the Full-service Schools Roundtable which will help in evaluating our work.

Next Meeting Date: TBD

capacity to provide comprehensive, school-based supports for children, youth and families.”

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

The Full-service Schools Roundtable is seeking a Program Director.

Please share the attached job posting.

Position to begin September 2005.

What's Happening in the Boston Public Schools: Did you know....?

After a decade of implementing improvements in student instruction, increasing the availability of resources and after school programs, and developing new schools, the Boston Public Schools is reaping the rewards of its multiple investments. The BPS recently released a pamphlet, "A Decade of Transforming The Boston Public Schools," describing some of those achievements.

Here's some of what BPS has done:

Test Scores, Class Size, College Attendance...

- On the 2004 MCAS, Boston Public Schools(BPS) students improved at a faster rate than the state average in nearly every grade tested.
- BPS has improved the student/teacher ratio for every grade in the past seven years. The maximum class size in grades 1 and 2 is down 20% from 28 to 22 students per class.
- In the past five years, the improvement in BPS students' SAT scores was more than six times the national average gain in Verbal and almost three times the national average gain in Math.
- The percentage of BPS graduates going directly on to college (69%) is five points higher than the national average for urban and suburban public schools.

New Schools, Additional Programs...

- Nineteen BPS "pilot" schools—elementary, middle and high—have opened in the past ten years.
- Between 1995 and 2004, BPS added nine new K-8 programs, with a total of 3700 seats, and more are coming next year.
- Since 1995, BPS has built six new, state-of-the-art facilities, including three early education centers, two

About BPS... In the past decade, the capacity of after-school programs around the city serving Boston children has nearly doubled, to 48,000 seats with 110 programs

middle schools and one K-8 school, all in neighborhoods with the highest concentration of students.

Arts, Technology and After-School...

- BPS has added 126 full-time arts teachers since 1994—offering dance, music, theater and visual arts—and created 22 instrumental music programs in elementary and middle schools in just the past four years.
- The student/computer ratio improved from 63:1 in 1993 to 5:1 in 2005.
- In the past decade, the capacity of after-school programs around the city serving Boston children has nearly doubled, to 48,000 seats with 110 programs operating right in BPS buildings.

The pamphlet, “A Decade of Transforming The Boston Public Schools,” is located at <http://www.bostonpublicschools.org/bps/transform.pdf>

Profile: The Children’s Aid Society/A Community Schools Model

Well before 1992, The Children’s Aid Society (CAS) embarked on a path to name key markers that helped them both identify a community’s needs and define supplemental programming that would meet those needs through partnerships called community schools. CAS emphasized the critical role of schools in establishing comprehensive supports to families. Starting in 1992, CAS began their successful implementation of community schools, collaborating with the New York City Board of Education, the school district and community based partners. To date, CAS partners with thirteen public schools in northern Manhattan, the Bronx and East Harlem and serves more than 10,000 students and their families.

As CAS has seen marked increases in performance among students, heightened involvement of parents, and a maximizing of nonprofit organization resources, interest in the effectiveness of their model of community schools is merited. What are the components of community schools? How do each of the components contribute to the support that families receive?

Extended Day Services

When one thinks of community schools, one of the first components that comes to mind is the extended day services. These include after-school, social and educational programming. Activities during school and summer vacations also fall under extended day services.

Health Services

Student and family presence in a child’s education can be seriously affected by health issues. For this reason, health services are a crucial part of a community school, as is the case at CAS. Children and families receive access to medical, dental and mental health care that’s provided by area hospitals or clinics.

Children's Aid Society (CAS) partners with thirteen public schools in northern Manhattan, the Bronx and East Harlem and serves more than 10,000 students and their families. At some of their community schools, CAS provides a combination of extended day services, health and family services, youth development and adult programs.

Youth Development

Most of the CAS schools consist of youth development programming. The idea that youth need other outlets and opportunities to learn new skills, use their talents and see their impact on a community establishes the need for this vital component. Students who are more involved in developing themselves outside of a school setting, bring more confidence and energy to their classrooms.

Family Services

For children and their families to have an early advantage, CAS community schools look to provide them with support, education and resources such as Head Start, parenting education and preventive services.

Adult Program

Finally, the emotional and educational support that a child receives can be directly impacted by the parents' ability to advocate for themselves and their family, earn a substantial income and pursue their own educational goals. The adult programs at CAS community schools offer GED, computer and ESL classes, literacy programs, and entrepreneurship programs. These programs demonstrate to parents, the community schools' commitment to improving access to resources for all members of the family.

As more and more schools and communities wanted to create partnerships similar to those that the Children's Aid Society had in New York, CAS established a national technical assistance center to support the development of new community schools. The National Technical Assistance Center for Community Schools was launched in 1994.

For more information about the Children's Aid Society please visit their website: www.childrensaidsociety.org or refer to the recently published, *Community Schools In Action: Lessons From A Decade Of Practice*, Co-Edited by Joy G. Dryfoos, Jane Quinn and Carol Barkin which is available through the Oxford University Press website, www.oup.com/us or to order call 1-800-451-7556.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

State Farm Companies Foundation K-12 Public Education Grants Program funds programs that improve teacher quality; Service-Learning programs that integrate core classroom curriculum with service to the community, and programs that incorporate the Baldrige criteria into education systems to improve overall effectiveness. K-12 public schools are eligible for this grant. For more information, application and grant guidelines visit: <http://www.statefarm.com/foundati/foundati.htm>

DEADLINE: September 1, 2005

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

Prudential Foundation Ready to Learn Program funds education reform efforts that strengthen public education at the elementary school level: systemic school reform; improving the quality of teachers, principals and other school leaders, and arts education; early childhood care and education initiatives, and strategies to improve literacy that address professional development for teachers, family literacy programs or literacy in the early years. Nonprofits and public elementary schools are eligible for awards from \$25,000 to \$1 million. More information available at: The Prudential Foundation, 751 Broad Street, 15th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102-3777, Telephone: (973) 802-4791, E-mail: community.resources@prudential.com, Link: www.prudential.com/productsAndServices/0,1474,intPageID%253D1444%2526blnPrinterFriendly%253D0,00.html

DEADLINE: Concept papers are accepted throughout the year

Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation's Grants for Young Musicians provides musical instruments and instrument repair to elementary and secondary school music programs, community art schools, after-school programs, youth orchestras, and individual musicians in need of instruments. More information available at: Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation, 15125 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 204, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403, Telephone: (818) 784-6787, Fax: (818) 784-6788, E-mail: info@mhopus.org, Link: www.mhopus.org/apply.htm

DEADLINE: Ongoing basis

Harbinger Partners: Technology Assistance and Planning for Boston Nonprofits works side-by-side with nonprofit participants to assess their technology needs, develop a comprehensive technology plan, and match the organization to a team of volunteers who will build a website, database, or networking project. Approximately \$500,000 in pro bono services available for nonprofits. More information available at: Zach Goldstein, Program Director, Harbinger Partners, 22 Hilliard Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, Telephone: (617) 492-3105, E-mail: zgoldstein@harbingerpartners.org, Link: www.harbingerpartners.org/go/tpp/apply/

DEADLINE: July 15, 2005

The Hyams Foundation Community Grants fund operating, program and project, technical assistance, and a limited number of capital grants to community-based organizations "to increase economic and social justice and power within low-income communities in Boston and Chelsea, Massachusetts." Awards to nonprofit, community-based organizations located in Boston or Chelsea and serving residents of those communities range from \$20,000 to \$50,000. More information available at: Susan Perry, Administrative Manager, The Hyams Foundation, Inc., 175 Federal Street, 14th Floor, Boston, MA 02110, sperry@hyamsfoundation.org, Link: www.hyamsfoundation.org

DEADLINE: July 1, 2005 for October meeting

Contact Us

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mgredler@boston.k12.ma.us

Look for our
next newsletter
in September!

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>.

List your organization in the BPS White and Yellow Pages!

The BPS White and Yellow Pages is a directory used by school administrators and teachers to find services, products and other BPS contacts. For more information contact: BPS Development Office, 26 Court Street, Boston, MA 02108, Phone: (617) 635-9700. DEADLINE: July 15, 2005

A Great Resource...

The **Massachusetts General Hospital School Psychiatry Program and MADI (Mood & Anxiety Disorders Institute) Resource Center** have an informative **website** designed "to enhance the education and mental health of every student in every school." Check it out at: www.schoolpsychiatry.org

Conference Announcements

Build the Out-of-School Time Network—Youth Program Resource Fair 2005

October 6, 2005

Artists for Humanity EPICenter

100 West Second St., South Boston, MA 02127

Applications for tables available 7/1/05

Participant registration available 9/1/05


For more information contact Tania Buck at (617) 720-1290 x 239 or
buck@bostnet.org or visit the website: www.bostnet.org

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 Samantha at (781) 283-2547 or sharris@wellesley.edu for more information.