



Full-service Schools Roundtable

June 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
Jordan Fundamentals Public School Grant Program; Linda F. Zuker Memorial Youth Fund; Amelia Peabody Foundation; CARLISLE Foundation; Schrafft Charitable Foundation
- For Your Information
Parent Education Survey Released; Promising Futures: The Unexpected Rewards of Engaged Philanthropy
- Conference/Workshop Announcements
Reforming Chins

Roundtable Report

Family Literacy Roundtable

The Roundtable thanks Office of Family & Community Engagement (OFCE) Deputy Superintendent, Karen Richardson, the OFCE staff, and all of the presenters for their parts in providing a rich overview of Family Literacy on June 6th for an audience of over 80 participants at Northeastern University. Keynote presenter and Timilty Principal, Valeria Lowe-Barehmi shared "Family Literacy Comes in All Subjects" profiling the multiple approaches utilized to truly engage families in their children's learning which was followed by five breakout workshops:

Project Feed and Seed -A Collaborative Family Literacy Program- Joy Oliver, Higginson School; Vera Johnson, Mendell School

Theory and Practice: Engaging Young Readers - Theresa Lynn and Margaret LaBonte, ReadBoston

The Family School at the Otis: a family literacy model for teaching ESOL to parents in their children's school - Susan Klaw, Otis School

Engaging Parents in their Children's Math Learning - Alice Levine, Face-to-Face program, The Home for Little Wanderers

Reaching Multilingual Families to Support Literacy - Elba Vargas, Parents' PLACE Federation for Children for Children with Special Needs

The Role of the Full-service Schools Roundtable

Roundtable meetings such as the recent Family Literacy session are just one way that the Roundtable seeks to realize its mission. Formed in 2000, the Full-service Schools Roundtable is a Boston Public School-community coalition made up of more than 50 public and private non-profit agencies and 90 individuals working 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."

With early support from Mayor Thomas Menino and Superintendent Thomas Payzant, the Full-service Schools Roundtable was established to:

- Power the rapid expansion and improvement of full-service schools;
- Support a diversity of full-service schools approaches;
- Organize, train, assist, and advocate; and
- Lay the foundation for long-term sustainable financing.

Organizational Structure

The Roundtable is governed by a small Steering Committee that is charged with moving forward the overall work. Its members are:

Matt LiPuma, Executive Director, Family Nurturing Center

William Kelley, Director of Comprehensive Support Services, Unified Student

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.

Services, BPS

Carolyn Riley, Senior Director, Unified Student Services, BPS

Mary Walsh, Professor and Director, Center for Child, Family & Community School Partnerships, Boston College School of Education

Joy Dryfoos, author and researcher, member of the Coalition for Community Schools Steering Committee

Catalina Montes, Principal-on-Assignment, Boston Public Schools

Bob Kilkenny, Executive Director, Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention

Margot Welch, Founding Director of Collaborative for Integrated School Services, Harvard University.

Much appreciation is owed one of the founding Steering Committee members, **Andrew Bundy**, principal, Community Matters, who recently stepped down from the committee.

The BPS-community coalition is comprised of public & private organizations representing local and state health, mental health, education, higher education, out-of-school time, and family support stakeholders. The Roundtable informs and engages stakeholders through monthly newsletters and its website, bi-monthly convenings on topics such as Meeting Mental Health Needs or Making the Most of Partnerships, and through topic-specific workgroups.

To become a member, complete the attached membership form or contact:

Marta Gredler, Executive Director mgredler@boston.k12.ma.us

AnnaLisa Prada, Program Director aprada@boston.k12.ma.us

or visit www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org

What's Happening in BPS

Countdown to Kindergarten - by Denise Snyder, Director

Countdown to Kindergarten, now in its sixth year, continues to engage families, educators and community members in a city-wide effort to celebrate and support the transition into kindergarten, a significant educational and developmental milestone for children and their families. Through this collaborative, Mayor Thomas M. Menino, the Boston School Committee, and the Boston School Superintendent are partnering with more than 24 public and private organizations.

New in 2006, the collaborative has agreed to expand its focus to include strengthening and expanding early learning opportunities and supports for parents. Toward this end, Countdown is embarking on three new activities:

1. Countdown to Kindergarten Play to Learn Groups

Countdown intends to support Boston's families with young children before their entry into kindergarten through parent-child playgroups hosted in Boston Public Schools across the city. The goal is to bring together parents, their children and an early childhood professional to build a community of learning and support. Specifically, this effort would strengthen parenting skills, foster nurturing behaviors, introduce early learning concepts that support reading readiness and model developmentally appropriate practice, while reinventing our schools as community resources -- in which parents are welcome and to which they can turn for needed supports. The group will pilot a playgroup this fall in either Roxbury or Jamaica Plain with expansion in several schools across the district to follow.

2. School Readiness Product

Countdown to Kindergarten hopes to communicate to families what school readiness looks like. Understanding that children develop in different ways and at different paces, it is still useful for parents to understand - and work towards

- the capabilities most widely considered indicators for school success.

Countdown is planning to develop a tool for parents using the domains of School Readiness as a base. We are involving the expertise of educators (city-wide) and others who work with children and families to help us to develop an appropriate and useful tool. Discussions on content and type of product are currently underway, with the hope that a product will be available in late 2006 or early 2007.

3. A Parent is a Child's First Teacher campaign

Recognizing that school readiness cannot happen in a vacuum or be fully realized by efforts that take place only in the transition year, Countdown is exploring ways to communicate with families with children ages 0-5 about steps they can take to support their child's learning and social development. Toward that end, Countdown will form a workgroup to examine how to pair up with existing infrastructures and/or other organizations interested in this topic to plan an outreach campaign.

Meanwhile, planning for the organization's summer programming is underway, with its 6th Annual Countdown to Kindergarten Citywide Celebration planned for August 29 at the Boston Children's Museum (volunteers needed!), and a series of ten Kindergarten Days events planned in neighborhoods across the city from August 31 to September 9th.

If your organization would like to be involved in any of these efforts, please contact [mailto: info@countdowntokindergarten.org](mailto:info@countdowntokindergarten.org)

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Jordan Fundamentals Public School Grant Program

Founded by Michael Jordan, the Jordan Fundamentals Grant Program recognizes outstanding teaching and instructional creativity in public schools that serve economically disadvantaged students. The program is presented by the Jordan Brand, a division of Nike, Inc., and administered by Scholarship America

Applicants to the program must be public school teachers or para-professionals working with students in grades one through twelve and be employed by an accredited public school where at least 50% of the school's student population is eligible for the free or reduced school lunch program. Applicants must develop an original lesson plan or thematic unit that demonstrates high expectations for students. Applicants are encouraged to involve students in the development of this plan or unit which should not be derived from any commercial package.

Grants of \$2,500 will be awarded and must be used for resource materials, supplies, equipment, transportation, or other costs related to field trips, software, or items required to implement and assess proposed lesson or unit.

Program guidelines and application materials are available through the Nike Web site, www.nike.com/jumpman23/features/fundamentals/index.jsp. RFP Link: <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/10002704/jordan>. For additional RFPs in Education, visit: <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/10002705/education>
DEADLINE: JUNE 30, 2006

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.

Linda F. Zuker Memorial Youth Fund

The purpose of the Fund is to enrich the lives of children by giving out grants to organizations and programs which promote youth education and activities. Grants are distributed to programs in which a smaller award will make a large difference. The project should enhance the lives of youth from the Greater Boston Area. Grants will be distributed to small organizations or a specific project in a larger organization. Money is not given for capital or overhead costs.

For more information, contact P.O. Box 67377, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467, Email: dzrodgers3@comcast.net, or visit: www.zukeryouthfund.org.

DEADLINE: AUGUST 1, 2006

Amelia Peabody Foundation

The foundation is dedicated to organizations addressing community needs, education, and social services primarily relating to youth in inner-city neighborhoods. Support is given for building/renovation, capital campaigns, equipment, general/operating support, matching/challenge support, program development, and seed money. Amounts awarded range from \$6,000 to \$750,000, with an average of \$10,000 to \$50,000.

For more information, contact: Margaret N. St. Clair, Co-Managing Trustee; Bayard D. Waring, Co-Managing Trustee, 1 Hollis Street, Wellesley, MA 02482, Phone: (781) 237-6468, Fax: (781) 237-5014; or visit www.ameliapeabody.org.

DEADLINE: AUGUST 3, 2006

CARLISLE Foundation

The foundation is dedicated to work in partnership with community coalitions to promote the health and well-being of children and families. The CARLISLE Foundation prefers to support proposals which are new, innovative, creative and/or demonstrate promise as models which might be replicated in other sites. The foundation's priorities include substance abuse, domestic and community violence, homelessness/housing, economic development and other services for children, youth and families. Support is given for program development or seed money. Grants range from \$950 to \$107,243.

For more information, contact: Richard A. Goldblatt, Executive Director, PO Box 2464, Framingham, MA 01703, Phone: (508) 872-6377, Fax: (508) 872-6377, Email: rag@carlislefoundation.org, or visit: www.carlislefoundation.org.

DEADLINE: ONGOING

Schrafft Charitable Trust

The focus of the trust's giving is to non-profit organizations with a record of service to the community and that are involved with the education of indigent or otherwise disadvantaged youth in the city of Boston. Generally the gifts are made to educational programs, but should not constitute a significant part of the budget. Gifts are made only to charitable organizations under the laws of Massachusetts that operate exclusively for charitable purposes.

For more information, contact Karen Faulkner, Executive Director, Schrafft Charitable Trust, PO Box 961449, Boston, MA 02196, Email:

funding@schrafftcharitable.org, or visit: www.schrafftcharitable.org.

DEADLINE: ONGOING

"This is philanthropy that's very active, engaged, and involved," Welch says.

"Unlike those who just simply write checks, these philanthropists roll up their sleeves and get intimately involved with the people whose futures they are determined to improve. They establish personal relationships with kids, their families, and their schools for long [periods of] time."

For Your Information

Promising Futures: The Unexpected Rewards of Engaged Philanthropy

A new book authored by HGSE Adjunct Lecturer [Margot Welch](#) investigates the rewards that come to philanthropists who make long-term, active commitments with low-income children and their education. *Promising Futures: The Unexpected Rewards of Engaged Philanthropy* draws on data from philanthropists who have been sponsors for the I Have a Dream Foundation® (IHAD) since the mid-1980s. IHAD supports children in under-resourced communities by providing long-term programs of mentoring, tutoring, and enrichment, and financial support for higher education.

"This is philanthropy that's very active, engaged, and involved," Welch says. "Unlike those who just simply write checks, these philanthropists roll up their sleeves and get intimately involved with the people whose futures they are determined to improve. They establish personal relationships with kids, their families, and their schools for long [periods of] time."

Promising Futures focuses on the ways in which engaged philanthropy can have profound effects on both the children and the philanthropists. Welch explains that as philanthropists start applying their entrepreneurial skills to the challenges confronting low-income communities, they often find themselves putting education and child-focused efforts at the center of their lives. Many become very involved in developing new schools, school-based enrichment programs, education policy programs, and foundation-center efforts that focus on strengthening education for children.

Welch was the founding director of the Collaborative for Integrated School Services, a practitioner-driven, University-based initiative which, until its closure in 2003, aimed to enhance the success of all children by bringing professional development opportunities and resources to those who provide child and family services. She worked closely with students, faculty, and graduates of the Risk and Prevention Program to help disseminate new models of service and training and build supportive networks among practitioners. For the past five years, her focus has been on evolving full-service and community school programs, nationwide.

Promising Futures: The Unexpected Rewards of Engaged Philanthropy is available through Font and Center Press and the I Have a Dream Foundation®. For more information, visit: www.ihaveadreamfoundation.com

Parent Survey Results Released

The Early Education for All (EEA) Campaign and Opinion Dynamics released the findings of a new statewide survey of parents of young children living in Massachusetts that gives critical insight into the early education wants and needs of families of young children. The survey, the first of its kind in over 30 years, provides invaluable data for the state as it moves towards ensuring that all children have access to a high-quality early education.

The data from this survey will help to inform the Campaign's critical "costing out" of universal preschool project that is currently underway. The survey results were discussed this morning by members of the Early Education for All Campaign Advisory Committee and key state policymakers, including Representative Marie St. Fleur, Representative Patricia Haddad, and Department of Early Education and Care Associate Commissioner Amy Kershaw.

Key findings include:

Commenting on the Parent Survey results, Margaret Blood, President of Strategies for Children, Inc. said, "The results from this survey – the first of its kind in over 30 years – speak for themselves: Almost all children are in early education and care settings outside the home on a regular basis. Parents demand quality and opportunities for social-emotional and cognitive development for their children. They want access to high-quality pre-school and full-day kindergarten and we, as a Commonwealth, need to ensure that we meet this pressing need."

- 92% of children receive early education and care from someone other than a parent at least once a week.
- Young children are in early education and care settings an average of 3.9 days each week, for an average of 27 hours per week.
- On average, children under age seven receive regular early education and care from 2.3 providers other than parents or other guardians.
- Parents rate issues of quality as more important than issues of cost or convenience in selecting early education and care arrangements.
- The survey found that parents are very interested in participating in a new universal preschool program. Fully 8-in-10 parents (81%) of children under age six say they would be interested in enrolling their child in a free, high-quality early education program for three-, four-, and five-year olds.
- Among parents who report that their communities do not offer full-day kindergarten, six-in-ten (61%) say they would rather send their child to full day than half-day kindergarten.

[View the Press Release.](#)

[View the Executive Summary.](#)

[View presentation highlighting key findings.](#)

Conference/Workshop Announcements



NeighborWalk Celebration
Take the Boston Steps to Health Challenge
Saturday, June 17th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
Jamaica Pond, Jamaica Plain
(intersection of Jamaica Way and Pond Street)

Bronze (1.6 miles); Silver (3.2 miles); Gold (4.8 miles); Platinum (6.4 miles)

This family event is *free* and open to the public

Music
Refreshments
Giveaways
Fitness Demonstrations
Children's Activities (Face Painting, Balloon Hats, Juggling)
Raffles
Healthy Eating (Food Demonstration)

Bring a team of 20 walkers to receive a gift certificate and enter a raffle to win an iPod!

Advance registration is encouraged.

To register or for more information, contact: Boston Steps Neighbor Walk (617) 534-5690 or visit www.bphc.org/neighborwalk.

The Children's League of Massachusetts
has filed legislation (H2828) to repeal the CHINS system.
Please join the League and JPC: Tree of Life/Arbol de Vida in discussing and
offering your input to address the redesigning of the CHINS system

REFORMING CHINS

What works? What could be better?
What would a new CHINS system look like?

Thursday June 22nd, 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Avenue Rear

To RSVP, please contact marsie@childrensleague.org, (617) 695-1991, or
nocemnoce@aol.com, (617) 522-4832

Refreshments will be served! Child care provided



High-Risk Youth Network 2006

Providers of Services to Youth at High-Risk*
You Are Invited.

To Participate in a Public Planning Process
To Improve the Network of Services for Boston Youth

Who is invited?

All those who work with youth at high-risk in the City of Boston: Community-based providers, Faith-based providers, Public agencies, Church groups and ministries, Community businesses, individuals, other services.

The Network has identified and is addressing three system priorities:

- Identify gaps in youth services
- Set common city-wide and measurable goals for youth development services
- Increase jobs for youth

All meetings are held on Friday afternoons, 9:30-11:30:

June 23 rd	Vine Street Community Center
September 22 nd	Vine Street Community Center
October 27 th	Vine Street Community Center
November 17 th	Vine Street Community Center

Light refreshments will be provided. Questions? Call Liz, The HRYN Coordinator at (617) 445-2737 x16, emiranda@bmaboston.org. For more information on the Boston Capacity Tank workshops, technical assistance, and capacity-building grants, please visit www.bmaboston.org.

*The Network defines youth at high-risk as between the ages of 12 - 21, & court involved, truant, gang-involved, a chronic substance abuser, homeless, pregnant or a parent.

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