



Full-service Schools Roundtable

November 2005

"partnering for Boston students' success"

• 443 Warren Street • Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617 635 6537 •

In This Issue

- Roundtable Report
- What's Happening in Boston Public Schools
- School Profile
- Upcoming Funding Opportunities
- For Your Information
- Conference Announcements

ROUNDTABLE REPORT

Full-service Schools Roundtable Launches Website

Visit www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org and

- learn about successful full-service school models in Boston;
- read past newsletters and identify funding resources; and
- find out how to become actively engaged with the Roundtable.

Soon the website will be expanded to include a toolkit of best practices and resource information. Visit the site and share your comments with us about how we can make this resource more valuable to you.

Email mgredler@boston.k12.ma.us with your thoughts.

An Invitation to the December Roundtable Meeting

Bridging the Gap between School & Out-of-School Time

Explore strategies for aligning out-of-school time programming with Boston Public Schools expectations and standards in order to support the academic success and healthy development of students.

Presenters: Dishon Mills and Corbett Coutts, BPS Afterschool Office

Tuesday, December 13th

9:30 - 11:30 am

City Year offices,

285 Columbus Avenue, Boston, MA

RSVP by December 8th to mgredler@boston.k12.ma.us or (617) 635-6537

Children's Aid Society Practicum 2005

Boston was well-represented in the roster of presenters and attendees at the November Children's Aid Society Practicum 2005, *Community Schools: Bridging Practice to Policy*. Presenters included: Joy Dryfoos, Researcher and Mary Walsh, Professor of Education, Boston College on *Using Research to Drive Policy*; Tim Garvin, Vice President and Executive Director, YMCA of Greater Boston on *Translating Your Vision into Effective Language and Action*; and Marta Gredler, Executive Director, Full-service Schools Roundtable on *Mobilizing Grassroots Effectively*.

All attendees had the opportunity to learn from policy experts on the why's, how's and what's of policy development and discuss strategies for advancing our collective agenda around community schools with national and international colleagues from 16 states and 5 countries.

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Boston Public Schools: Elementary School Preview Time Visit Schools Before You Choose: Now through January 20th

Community leaders are actively encouraged to tour the schools in addition to parents this year. All elementary schools, K-8 schools, middle schools, and high schools will now offer a minimum of three opportunities to tour. You are encouraged to pick a school or two you have not had the chance to visit and take a tour, and provide the School Preview Time brochures to families in your community. You can also learn about all of the school options at the annual BPS Showcase of Schools, where you can meet principals, talk to parents, and see student work. (This will take place in early January). Please call the schools to RSVP prior to the tour. To receive copies of the brochures, contact Denise Snyder at Countdown to Kindergarten: (617) 635-9085 or dsnyder@boston.k12.ma.us. For more information, visit: www.bostonpublicschools.org/register.

SCHOOL PROFILE: Mason Elementary School

Walking into the Mason Elementary School, there is a feeling of warmth and comfort that is conveyed throughout the school and in every classroom. Each room is bright and colorful with great examples of the students' work all around. The rooms are all set up similarly, with an open area to gather on the rug, and tables and chairs for the students to work at. In addition, there is a structured schedule that is uniform throughout the building, from early childhood through fifth grade. This familiar arrangement helps convey the community feeling and sense of comfort that is apparent here.

The Mason School has been educating Boston students for 100 years. In its' last 15 years the Mason has transformed from one of the most under performing schools in Boston to a highly acclaimed model school. Under the leadership of Principal Janet Palmer-Owens for the past 9 year the Mason has been named a national Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, a state Compass Exemplary School, a city Effective Practice School and, a Vanguard School, a designation recognizing math achievement. This fall the Mason was named by Boston Magazine as 50th in a list of the 100 top public elementary schools in Eastern Massachusetts. The Mason is excited to be celebrating their 100th birthday celebration this year!

The Mason is a full-inclusion pilot school where students with and without identified disabilities learn together in the classrooms. The school services just over 215 students in grades K-5. The school has two classes per grade and all teachers are dual-certified in regular and special education, with extensive training in literacy, math investigations and character education. Each classroom is staffed by two or more adults, including paraprofessionals, Boston Teacher Residents, Boston College and Wheelock teaching interns, and tutors from Boston University. Additionally, they have a full-time Parent Coordinator working with the families in the school.

The Mason, in partnership with the Central Branch of the YMCA, is a Boston Community Learning Center site and offers a Before school program, as well as two After School programs - one for the students in K0-K1, and one for the students in K2-5. Between the two programs, they serve just about half the school, with a waiting list of still more students. There are 8 after school staff, including four paraprofessionals and a parent, most of the staff live in the Mason community. The After School Director is full time and coordinates the program and supports the linkage between school and after school. The new position of Director of Partnerships has been added this year to support the principal in

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.

maintaining existing and building new partnerships and bringing in more resources. Some of partnerships that support the Mason include Strong Women, Strong Girls, SCCAT, Junior Achievement, ReadBoston, Community Music School and TOPF Center for Dance. The school has strong business partnerships that include Newmarket Business Association, Slade Gordon Fisheries and John Hancock, among others.

For more information on the Mason School and the great programs happening there, contact Anne Greenbaum at annetruro@comcast.net.

UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Medical Foundation and Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program Youth Action Initiative "Get the Word Out" Grants Program is a project of The Medical Foundation, in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Tobacco Control Program that is intended to involve young people in tobacco policy promotion and community education work in their local communities. The Youth Action Initiative will award "Get the Word Out" grants to local youth groups committed to tobacco use prevention, including youth groups associated with schools, churches, teen centers, community organizations, or other agencies. Get the Word Out grants are available at two different levels: Level I: Community Mobilization and Education Youth Action Projects and Level II: Policy Promotion Youth Action Projects. 50 Level I grants will be awarded in the amount of \$1,400. Five Level II grants will be awarded in the amount of \$10,000. For more information, contact: Eileen M. Sullivan, Director of Policy and Training, Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program, 250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108, Phone: (617) 624-5915, E-mail: Eileen.M.Sullivan@state.ma.us, or visit: www.makesmokinghistory.org.
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 2, 2005

Youth Activities Fund from the South End/Lower Roxbury Youth Workers' Alliance has announced a new cycle of funding through the Youth Activities Fund to promote peace by building bridges among youth in the South End/Lower Roxbury. The Youth Activities Fund provides small grants to support out-of-school activities that build bridges among young people, ages 11 to 21, from South End/ Lower Roxbury neighborhoods. To be eligible, proposed projects must: serve young people from more than one South End/Lower Roxbury neighborhood (a neighborhood may be as small as a block, a building, or a housing development); involve collaboration among at least two organizations; and take place between January 15 and August 31, 2006. These grants will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000. For more information or to obtain application forms, contact Sandy Martin, YWA Coordinator, South End/Lower Roxbury Youth Workers' Alliance, 1601 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02118, Phone: (617) 425-2081, E-mail: ywa@sehc.org.
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15, 2005

RadioShack Corporation: StreetSenz Community Grant Program supports programs that work to prevent child abduction, family violence and abuse. Grants are awarded in the amount of \$500. For more information, contact RadioShack, Mail Stop CF3-323, 200 RadioShack Circle, Fort Worth, TX 76102, Phone: (817) 415-3699, Fax : (817) 415-0939, E-mail: corporate.citizenship@radioshack.com, or visit www.radioshackcorporation.com/cc/contributions.html.
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15, 2005

The Boston Foundation: The Polaroid Fund seeks to help children and adults become more independent and realize their full potential as successful members of society. It supports activities that help the most vulnerable people in the community build skills. These skills enable people to overcome obstacles and challenges and increase their ability to help themselves. The grant making priorities are: basic adult education, literacy, English as a second or other language, job training and life skills that foster self-sufficiency. In addition to specific skills training, these priorities may include programs that support people as they build skills, such as child care and after-school programs for children of adults enrolled in job training, or transitional housing for adults as they prepare for independent living. Maximum grants awarded are \$25,000. For more information, contact: Cindy Rizzo, Program Officer, The Boston Foundation, Polaroid Fund, 75 Arlington Street, 10th Floor, Boston, MA 02116, Phone: (617) 338-2773, Fax: (617) 338-1604, E-mail: ctr@tbf.org, or visit: www.tbf.org/fund/fund-L2.asp?id=773.
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15, 2005

MTV and Youth Venture: *think venture* Grants is part of Music Television's new social initiative designed to inform and empower young people to take action on social issues. As part of its effort to encourage its audience to become more active in their communities, MTV has teamed up with Youth Venture to offer think venture grants to young people who are making a difference by creating and leading their organizations, clubs, or businesses to address a need in their communities. Each week Youth Venture will award a grant to a group of young people with the most compelling and sustainable community service project concept in one of the five primary Think MTV issue areas: discrimination, education, environment, global issues, and sexual health. Maximum award size is \$1,000.

For more information, contact: MTV Think Venture Grants, Youth Venture, 390 8th Avenue, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10036, Phone: (212) 278-8930, E-mail: thinkventures@youthventure.org, or visit: www.youthventure.org/index.php?tg=articles&idx=More&article=1276&topics=368
ROLLING DEADLINE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2005

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The November 2005 issue of the Journal, *New Directions for Youth Development* No. 107 is

Community Schools: A Strategy for Integrating Youth Development and School Reform, co-edited by Joy Dryfoos and Jane Quinn

Please note: This issue includes an article authored by Andrew L. Bundy: *Aligning systems to create full-service schools: The Boston experience, so far*. The journal (ISBN: 0-7879-8353-5) may be ordered by visiting the Jossey Bass website: www.josseybass.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0787983535.html

What's Happening at the New Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)?

Please join EEC Commissioner Ann Reale and EEC staff at a regional meeting in your area to: hear about the Agency's new structure, mission and goals; discuss the planning projects underway to build a new system of high-quality early education and care; and provide input and feedback.

Metro Boston: Monday, November 28th, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Thomas Crane Quincy Public Library, 40 Washington Street, Quincy
Contact: laurinda.rosa@massmail.state.ma.us or (617) 472-2881 x623

Boston: Wednesday, December 21st, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Roxbury Community College, Reggie Lewis Center, 1234 Columbus Avenue
Contact: laurinda.rosa@massmail.state.ma.us or (617) 472-2881 x623

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CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bridging the Gap Training: Second Step & Violence Prevention November 29th, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Location TBD

This training is for providers working with youth in middle and high school and focuses on how to support mathematical learning in OST. Capacity is 40 participants. For questions, please call Rachel Green at (617) 635-6609 or email rgreen2@boston.k12.ma.us. To register, fill out attached form.

The Children's Health Access Coalition hosts a Children's Mental Health Issue Forum November 29th, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM 30 Winter Street, 9th Floor, Boston

Featuring: Karen Darcy, Children's Hospital Boston
Cathleen Haggerty, MA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Maureen Jerz, Parent/Professional Advocacy League
Rebecca Rodman, Health Law Advocates, Children Mental Health Access Project
Learn more about their work, the progress of the Governor's Commission on children's mental health, access barriers and advocacy opportunities.
For more information about the Forum or the work of the Children's Health Access Coalition, contact Mandi Janis: janis@hcfama.org or (617)275-2939.

2005 - 2006 Race, Culture, Identity and Achievement Seminar Series

The seminar series will bring to Boston nationally recognized scholars, researchers and practitioners - individuals who can deepen our understanding of what it will take to normalize high academic achievement for students of color. This series will create a location for teachers, teacher-educators, community leaders and involved citizens to engage in a sustained conversation about how race, culture and identity are implicated in the school achievement of Boston's increasingly multiracial and multiethnic student population. For more information, a complete schedule and to register, visit www.achievementseminars.com.

Creating Culturally Appropriate Science Experiences for Native American and Other Students November 29th, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Orchard Gardens K-8 Pilot School, 26 Albany Street, Roxbury
Eric Jolly, President of Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota

Nurturing Black and Latino Student Achievement in Mathematics December 15th, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Orchard Gardens K-8 Pilot School, 26 Albany Street, Roxbury
Uri Treisman, Professor of Mathematics, University of Texas, Austin

The Family Center's: The Parenting Journey Information Session December 1st, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The Family Center, 366 Somerville Avenue, Somerville
The Parenting Journey is a non-traditional parent education and support program developed by The Family Center. It is geared towards parents who have not had the kind of upbringing of their own that serves as a resource and that provides emotional sustenance in their relationships with their own children. This information session is for agency decision makers who are considering investing in The Parenting Journey. They will learn about the goals and assumptions of The Parenting Journey, the many ways it benefits clients, the value of adding The Parenting Journey to their service mix, and the on-going support given to agencies and facilitators after they have completed the five-day training (January 23rd-27th). The session is free. Please call to register.
Contact: Ann Marie Teuber at (617) 628-8815

**Connecting the OST Community
Youth Directors' Roundtable and Boston Directors' Roundtable
Getting Them in the Door!
Outreach and Marketing Strategies for Youth Programs
December 1st, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Monthly meetings of after school directors, staff, and other interested persons for network building and resource sharing. For more details and agendas, visit www.bostnet.org or contact Tania Buck-Ruffen at buck@bostnet.org.

**Girls' Coalition 2005-2006 Professional Development Series:
Strength to Strength: Maximizing Girls' Potentials
"All Girls Welcome: Meeting the Needs of Girls with Disabilities"
December 2nd, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Simmons College, Linda Paretsky Conference Center,
3rd Floor, Main College Building, The Fenway**

They will be addressing questions such as: What do we mean when we say "disabilities"?; What is the big picture of serving girls with disabilities in the Greater Boston area?; What are some of the specific issues facing girls with disabilities?; How are the needs of girls with disabilities different from those of boys with disabilities?; Are we providing inclusive programs? What can be done to make programs more inclusive?; What can be done to encourage more dialogue between the local "girls' world"; and the disabilities field? How can we work together to ensure that girls' programs are inclusive of girls with disabilities and that the disabilities field is sensitive to girls' needs? A training for service providers will follow the forum. The training will address how to make mainstream programs and services for girls more inclusive. For more information, contact Erica Fletcher at Erica@girlscoalition.org or visit www.girlscoalition.org. Please register by December 1st. The event is free to members and \$10 for non-members.

**Massachusetts Nonprofit Summit
December 2nd & 3rd**

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 10 Lincoln Square, Worcester

This two-day meeting is to define the short- and long-term common agenda for the nonprofit sector in Massachusetts and to identify a concrete mechanism for organizing with a collective voice. Full participation for the two-days is necessary because the desired outcomes are linked. Participation is free and parking costs are covered. To register or for more information contact Anand Dholakia, Massachusetts Nonprofit Working Group Coordinator, at adholakia@mass-service.org. Please include your name, organization, city and confirmation about your two-day attendance.

**Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County
Seminar Series: Digging Below the Surface of Neglect
December 8th, 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Northeastern University**

360 Huntington Avenue, Curry Center, Rooms 442, 444, & 448

Join the panel to discuss the impact of child neglect. A hypothetical case example will be presented to highlight a hospital-based child protection team's approach to neglect and collaboration with DSS. A strengths-based approach will be contrasted with a more traditional "deficit model" of assessment and intervention. For more information, contact the Children's Advocacy Center at (617) 619-4276 or email cac@suf.state.ma.us.