



Full-service Schools Roundtable

October 2006

"partnering for Boston students' success"

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

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Roundtable Report

October Roundtable Meeting Recap: Educating the Whole Child

Featured speaker Molly McCloskey, Director of Constituent Partnerships for ASCD, welcomed the audience of over 100 educators, funders, public agency administrators and community partners with a quote from John Dewey:

What the best and wisest parent wants for his or her child, that must the community want, for all of its children. Any other idea is narrow and unlovely.

McCloskey then shared her insights regarding how school change efforts should focus on shifting the dialogue from *schooling* to *learning* by:

- Reframing the definition of education;
- Redefining the role of educators; and
- Renewing the engagement of the community

Her presentation segued into spirited commentary by the panelists - Jamie Aronson, Associate Clinical Director at Brighton Allston Mental Health Association (BAHMA), Virginia Chalmers, principal of Young Achievers K-8 Pilot School, Dishon Mills, coordinator of the BPS Department of Extended Learning Time and Afterschool and Services (DELTAS), and Carolyn Riley, Senior Director of BPS Unified Student Services, with Marta Gredler, Executive Director of the Roundtable, acting as moderator.

The meeting wrapped up with the audience and panelists discussing how to advance positive educational change. Marta Gredler invited Forum participants to join the Full-service Schools Roundtable and return to the Boston Foundation on December 11th, 9 - 11 am for the next Roundtable Meeting to help develop strategies to move this agenda forward. Please return the attached form to become a member of the Roundtable and participate in this meeting.

Full proceedings of the October Forum will be available next month and the November newsletter will contain information about how to receive a copy.

What's Happening in BPS

A New Superintendent for the Boston Public Schools

The Roundtable would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Manuel J. Rivera, who will begin as the new superintendent of Boston Public Schools at the end of this school year. As retiring superintendent from the Rochester City School

"I'm honored that the Search Committee has recommended me to be Boston's next Superintendent of Schools. There is tremendous momentum for education reform in Boston, and I welcome the opportunity to lead the district in the next chapter of its exciting history."

Dr. Manuel J. Rivera, next Superintendent of Boston Public Schools

"Every student in Boston who wants to go on to college should have the opportunity to do so. The City of Boston and the Boston Public Schools are committed to providing students and their families with the information and the encouragement they need to make the dream of higher education come true."

Mayor Thomas Menino

District, Dr. Rivera brings more than thirty years of experience and a track record of boosting the achievement of black and Hispanic students to Boston, including a strong background in school-community partnerships. He was recently named the National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators, following his receipt of the Superintendent of the Year award in the State of New York. Of special interest is Dr. Rivera's work on the Rochester Children's Zone, a special project focusing on one of Rochester's poorest and most crime-plagued neighborhoods. "The Rochester Children's Zone is a comprehensive change strategy that acknowledges student growth and development from birth to adulthood, engages the community as active partners, and promotes a balance of responsibility to support children and families 24/7," says the RCZ website's Concept page. Dr. Rivera has been a key player in forging innovative school-community partnerships in Rochester, the Roundtable looks forward to his leadership in Boston.

For more information on Dr. Rivera and the Rochester Children's Zone, please visit <http://www.rcsdk12.org/rcz/index.htm>.

Boston Public Schools Declare October "College Month"

The Boston Public Schools (BPS) have declared October to be "College Month," featuring activities and resources to help city students pursue higher education. In partnership with area colleges and universities, as well as community organizations, the district offers college access programs and services throughout the year, but the month of October is a particularly active and important time for students of all ages to learn more about continuing their education after high school.

To kick off College Month, the district has released the first Boston Public Schools Career and College Guide. The handbook provides students and families with information about the college application process, financial aid, the transition from high school to college, and numerous resources for assistance and support. The guides are being distributed to schools, libraries, community centers, and other locations. It can also be accessed online at <http://boston.k12.ma.us/bps/CollegeGuide.pdf>.

Numerous private and public scholarships, as well as student loans and other forms of financial aid, are available to students to help cover the costs of tuition and expenses. In 1994, Mayor Menino created the City of Boston Scholarship Fund to provide tuition assistance to successful graduates with financial need. Since then, the fund has awarded more than \$700,000 in scholarships to help hundreds of Boston students pursue post-secondary education. For application forms and deadlines, visit www.cityofboston.gov/mayor/scholarship/.

The City of Boston also developed an on-line College Guide to help families navigate the college application process. The site includes a directory of scholarship opportunities for students: www.bostonscholarshipguide.com. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has developed a similar site, MassCIS (Career Information System), that enables students at various levels to match their fields of interest with educational requirements, colleges and universities offering relevant degrees, and financial aid information: <http://masscis.intocareers.org/>.

Adapted from the BPS October 3rd Public Relations Office Press Release.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Boston Connects, Inc. *Year-Round Jobs for Youth Program Grants*

Boston Connects, Inc., the community-based organization working to create economic self-sufficiency for individuals, families, and communities in Boston's Empowerment Zone, will issue a request for qualifications on October 16 for experienced organizations to provide a jobs program for youth. This new program, entitled Year Round Jobs for Youth, will provide jobs for Empowerment Zone youth ages 14 to 17 years for the 2007 calendar year. Boston Connects is seeking organizations in and around Boston's Empowerment Zone with experience employing youth, to provide meaningful jobs for at least two, but no more than seven youth. Preference will be given to organizations whose annual budgets are less than one million dollars. The bidders conference will occur on October 26, 2006 at 10:00 am at Boston Connects, Inc., located at 2201 Washington Street in Roxbury.

Funds Available: \$150,500 total; approximately 10 grants will be awarded.

Eligibility: Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations

Information:

Boston Connects Inc.
2201 Washington Street, 3rd Floor Roxbury, MA 02129
Telephone: (617) 541-2676
E-mail: Sherry.Obrien.BCI@cityofboston.gov
Link: www.cityofboston.gov/bra/bostonez/

DEADLINE: November 14th, 2006

Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development (ASCD) *Healthy Schools Grants*

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development will award grants for collaborative school and community programs that create healthy schools. Schools receiving funding will be expected to demonstrate best practices, support comprehensive health programs, and create strong collaborations. Grantees are encouraged to include programs such as Life Skills Training, a model alcohol and other drug prevention curricula, in their applications.

Funds Available: \$10,000 grants. Up to 10 grants awarded.

Eligibility: Elementary and secondary schools; independent schools.

Information:

Theresa Lewallen, ASCD Healthy School Communities
Telephone: (800) 933-2723 x5622
E-mail: tlewalle@ascd.org
Link: www.ascd.org/portal/site/ascd/menuitem.187f5eeabf5d4a29a62c2d69e3108a0c/

DEADLINE: November 15th, 2006

Visit our website to search
past newsletters for funding
information:

[www.fullserviceschools
roundtable.org](http://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.

Verizon Foundation *Literacy Grants*

Because of its enormous impact on education, health, and economic development, improving basic literacy skills in the United States and abroad is among the Verizon Foundation's major priorities. The foundation will consider proposals from elementary and secondary schools, both public and private, that are registered with the National Center for Educational Statistics as well as eligible tax-exempt organizations. To be eligible for funding consideration, organizations must not duplicate or significantly overlap the work of public agencies on the federal, state, or local level.

Funds Available: Grants range between \$5,000-10,000.

Eligibility: Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations

Information:

Verizon Foundation

Telephone: (800) 360-7955 Email: Verizon.Foundation@Verizon.com

Link: <http://foundation.verizon.com/04008.shtml>

DEADLINE: November 30th, 2006

Edith Glick Shoolman Children's Foundation *Grants to Support Children*

The mission of the Edith Glick Shoolman Children's Foundation is to foster the healthy development of children's intellectual, social, emotional, and physical skills necessary to achieve their full potential and become competent, happy, and productive adults. The foundation seeks to fulfill this mission by funding a variety of educational, recreational, environmental, and health programs and organizations in a number of different settings, including: public and private schools; after-school programs; summer programs; pre-school programs; community centers; and museums and libraries. During 2006, the foundation is especially interested in children's programming that emphasizes poetry and photography.

Funds Available: Grants of \$5,000-120,000; average grant is \$10,000. Approximately 20 grants awarded annually.

Eligibility: Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations.

Information:

Henry L. Berman and Deborah B. Breznay, Trustees

The Edith Glick Shoolman Children's Foundation

Post Office Box 549 Needham Heights, MA 02494

E-mail: info@shoolman.org Link: www.shoolman.org/

DEADLINE: Concept papers due by December 1st, 2006

For Your Information

BOST *net* Middle School Leadership Roundtable

Let Them Lead! Creating Leadership Opportunities for Middle School Students

November 2, 2006, 10a - 12p at the Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School

This roundtable will offer after school providers with some best practices on how to involve middle school youth in leadership roles. As youth develop from

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, Boston After School & Beyond, and an anonymous foundation

11 to 14 years old, there is a strong need for self-discovery and mastery. Traditionally, most leadership development programs target high school aged youth. Middle school youth typically remain in programs without the ability for input, yet middle school youth have a lot to offer in program planning and design. Fortunately, there are after school programs that focus on creating leadership opportunities for middle school youth in order to create a sense of ownership and to increase self-confidence and mastery. Leadership comes in many different forms, including helping with elementary school age homework, planning parties and events, and sitting on program advisory councils. Programs that involve middle school age youth in leadership roles have seen an increase in retention of youth, especially eighth graders.

Citizen Schools, Sociedad Latina, and Tenacity will share how they involve middle school youth in leadership roles, to both increase youth involvement in program planning and design, and to retain the older middle school youth.

If you are interested in attending this free training please contact Kambiz Maali at maali@bostnet.org or (617) 720-1290 ext. 230.

EXCL Recycle Center Opportunities

Constructions and Creations with staff from the Children's Museum

October 26, 2006

9:30-11:30am

What would you build with 100 four-foot dowels? Or straws? Pipe-cleaners? Using a series of challenges and materials, kids can imagine and build structures large and small. Photos, books and maps will introduce kids to architecture around the world and around the neighborhood. Learn how to inspire your students to create structures that are sturdy, big and collaborative.

Light Celebrations with the Children's Museum

November 2, 2006

9:30-11:30am

Weave science and culture together as kids experiment with basic circuitry. Activities are centered around simple electrical connections using batteries and bulbs. Books, maps and world culture cards will help kids learn how people around the world celebrate with light. You can also plan your own holiday celebration using the materials and supplies in the kit provided to participants.

All workshops are now only \$10.00 per person

This Saturday, October 28th we are open for members from 9am-Noon

For more information about the workshops or the EXCL Recycle Center, contact: jschmidt@exclrecycles.org

Boston Children's Museum Teacher Leadership Center
Fall 2006 Professional Development

Teaching Thanksgiving

**Full-service Schools
Roundtable Staff**

Marta Gredler,
Executive Director

AnnaLisa Prada-Fiutak,
Program Director

Norah Kyle, Graduate
Intern

Wednesday, November 1st, 2006
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Boston Children's Museum

Experience new ways to present Thanksgiving through the Wampanoag tradition of seasonal thanksgiving celebrations. Develop a more historically accurate understanding of what is commonly called the First Thanksgiving using primary sources and learning from Wampanoag educators. Hands-on activities, readings, and discussions with Museum educators will address MA History/Social Studies and English Language Arts Frameworks for grades K-5. Participants will receive the teacher's guide *Many Thanksgivings: Teaching Thanksgiving Including the Wampanoag Perspective*. Fee: \$75 (includes lunch and curriculum guide). **10 PDPs available with completion of a project!**

Contact: (617) 426-6500 x261 or email Battat@BostonChildrensMuseum.org

Life in Japan Now and Long Ago

Saturday, November 4th, 2006
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Boston Children's Museum

This seminar will help educators gain an understanding of life in Japan through making connections between contemporary and traditional life. BCM's famous **Kyo-no-Machiya** serves as an ideal backdrop for this exploration. Renowned Japan scholar **Professor Andrew Gordon** from Harvard University will introduce Japan in the 19th century and museum staff will compare and contrast with contemporary life. Educators will explore *Japan: Getting Acquainted*, a newly updated kit, which offers rich objects, multi-disciplinary lessons, and large collection of books ideal for a literacy-based instruction. For K-12 teachers of all disciplines and school librarians. Fee: \$60 (includes breakfast, Japanese lunch, and extensive handouts and resources). **10 PDPs available with completion of a project!**

Contact: (617) 426-6500 x295 or email Chayama@BostonChildrensMuseum.org

Han Dynasty: Connecting Ancient and Modern China

Presented by the Boston Children's Museum and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Thursday, November 16th, 2006
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston

This seminar will explore life, art and history of China's Han Dynasty (206 BCE - 220 CE) through archaeological findings and art objects in the new exhibit *Bronze Menagerie: Mat Weights of Early China* at Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Participants will get a behind-the-scene tour of this exhibit with curator **Alan Chong**, hear an academic talk by renowned China scholar and archaeologist **Bob Murowchick**, and attend workshops by educators at the Gardner Museum. Hands-on activities from Boston Children's Museum's kits for educators (Ancient China, and Fine and Folk Arts of China) will enhance the understanding of Chinese culture, and provide educators with ready-to-use lessons for their classrooms. For K-12 social studies and art teachers. Fee: \$60 (includes breakfast and extensive handouts and resources). **10 PDPs available with completion of a project!**

Contact: (617) 426-6500 x468 or email Wang@BostonChildrensMuseum.org

Boston Public Schools Family & Community Engagement
November 2006 Parent Workshops

Effective Parent Outreach

Thursday, November 2nd, 2006
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
at
Title I Training Center
445 Warren Street, Dorchester

This workshop explores ideas of how to reach out to all families in the school community and help them engage in their child's education, including parents reaching out to parents in their school. It will take participants through the process of creating an effective parent outreach plan, and each participant will develop strategies for outreach at their school. **Featured Speaker: Karen Wontan, Family & Community Engagement Specialist**

Fundraising: Setting & Connecting Fundraising Goals to School-Community Needs

Wednesday, November 8th, 2006, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
at
Jackson Mann Community Center
500 Cambridge Street, Allston-Brighton

Scarcity of resources is a common barrier to strengthening parent engagement and improving the academic success of all children in our school communities. This workshop will be an opportunity to work with other participants to explore some key questions about setting and connecting fundraising goals to your school community's needs. Participants will gain an increased understanding of how to set relevant fundraising goals for their school community and an increased awareness of available resources. **Featured Speaker: Consuela Greene, Family & Community Engagement Specialist.**

Parents as Volunteers

Thursday, November 9th, 2006
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
at
Boston Public Library
Lower Mills
27 Richmond Street, Dorchester

Research has shown that when school staff and parents work together and focus on student learning, children benefit in many ways. In order for parents to feel appreciated and welcome, volunteer work in schools must be meaningful and valuable to them. This workshop will explore ways to capitalize on the expertise and skills of parents and family members and explore how they can provide much needed support to educators and administrators already taxed in their attempts to meet academic goals and students needs. **Featured Speaker: Cyntoria Grant, Director, Title I Training Center**

Contact Us

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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-Fiutak
aprada@boston.k12.ma.us

Yelling Doesn't Work

Tuesday, November 14th, 2006, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
at
Lewis Middle School
131 Walnut Street, Roxbury

What you can do to help a child comply at home and in the classroom using positive behavior supports: Yelling does not teach the necessary skills the child needs to learn in order to comply. This workshop provides insight into why a child misbehaves and how changing your behavior will in turn change theirs. Learn to recognize the function of behavior and how a front-end approach will show results. Functional Assessments, which are at the heart of a Positive Behavior Support Plan, are discussed at length and samples plans are provided. **Featured Speaker: Beth Bostic, Federation for Students with Special Needs**

For more information about any of these workshops or to register, please contact Cheryl Holmes at (617) 635-7750 or email Cyntoria Grant at cgrant@boston.k12.ma.us

Media, Marketing and Materialism
Strategies & Tips for Today's Parent

November 8th, 2006, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
at
The Lesley Ellis School
41 Foster Street
Arlington, MA

Join us as a distinguished group of panelists discusses how media, marketing, and materialism shapes and impacts today's youth. Panelists will lead discussion groups to help parents and participants identify practical strategies and ideas to help them raise their children. The event is free, but seating is limited.

Preregistration is required - register today!

Call (617) 868-7687 x25
or visit www.families-first.org

Children's Hospital Community Education Initiative Lecture Series
Fall 2006

ADHD & Autism Spectrum Disorders

Wednesday, November 29, 2006
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
at
Children's Hospital, Boston
Enders Building, Byers B

We are pleased to offer an ongoing series of community education initiatives. These have been developed to provide current medical information from Children's Hospital Boston specialists to school nurses, education staff, and community and healthcare providers. We hope that you will join us in this Pediatric Educational series. Registration fee is \$50 or \$58 including parking.

*Join us on
December 11th
for the next
Roundtable meeting*

Pre-registration is required; dinner will be provided. 3 Contact Hours are provided per session.

For more information, contact Christine Doyle:
christine.doyle@childrens.harvard.edu

Understanding How Teens Behave Emotionally, Ages 13-15
A Training-of-the-Trainer Session (TOT)
*Presented by the Boston Coalition for Child & Adolescent Mental Health
and the Medical Foundation*

Monday, November 20th, 2006
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

at the
Regional Office for Healthy Communities
622 Washington Street
Codman Square, Dorchester

This one-day training session is an expansion of our popular tip sheet "Understanding How Teens Behave Emotionally, Age 13-15: What to Expect, When to Be Concerned." It has been designed for parent educators, childcare and youth workers, and others who have experience and skills in facilitating group discussions and interactive training techniques. Participants will learn how to lead interactive workshops at their home agencies, organizations, or self-help groups on keeping youth emotionally healthy; the session will review the training guide and handouts, and includes role-plays and guided brainstorming session. A light breakfast and lunch will be served.

To register or learn more, please contact

Paula Georges
Boston Public Health Commission
1010 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, MA 02118
Telephone: (617) 534-5671
FAX: (617) 534-5358
Email: pgeorges@bphc.org

*Visit the Roundtable
website
For more information
about full-service
schools in Boston*

[www.fullserviceschools
roundtable.org](http://www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org)

What's the Big Idea?
Interactive Theatre for Grade 3!

What's The Big Idea? is a short, interactive play based on Grade 3 history/social science frameworks about innovators - including microwave inventor Percy Spencer, first published Black poet Phillis Wheatley, and computer terminal developer An Wang - in Boston history. The play, featuring professional actors and sets, will travel to 30 lucky Greater Boston elementary schools next year for \$100 (free for Title I Schools).

Funded by a grant from the Yawkey Foundation to the Boston History & Innovation Collaborative, *What's the Big Idea?* is written and directed by City Stage Co. and is a collaboration with Boston Children's Museum.

For more information, visit www.bostonkids.org/educators/about.html to download an application to have the play performed at *your* school as part of the 2006-2007 tour!

Let's Be Honest: Communication in Families Keeps Kids Healthy
Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts Parent Education Program

Let's Be Honest! Communication in Families Keeps Kids Healthy is a program designed to help prepare parents and other caregivers who are concerned adults in children's lives, create an environment of trust and comfort in talking with their children about sex and sexuality. Parents often have difficulty talking with their children about these topics. By providing parents with useful skills, information and resources, we can empower them to develop the competencies needed to be successful in their role as the primary sexuality educators of their children. Positive communication between parents and children helps establish family and individual values enabling young people to make healthier, safer and better-informed decisions related to sexuality.

The program is designed for parents of children in middle school, aged 10 - 14 years old. Early adolescence and changes during puberty often raise questions and concerns for parents of children in this age group, as well as for youth themselves. The program consists of workshops including such topics as: clarifying values and practicing communication skills; refreshing knowledge of reproductive anatomy, physiology, and puberty; promoting healthy relationships and self-esteem; and battling peer pressure and media influences.

For more information, email our Education Department at education@pplm.org or call (617) 616-1658.

New & Notable

The Essential Supports for School Improvement

by Penny Bender Sebring, Elaine Allensworth, Anthony S. Bryk, John Q. Easton, and Stuart Luppescu

Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago, September 2006

Executive Summary

This report sets forth a framework of essential supports and contextual resources for school improvement, examines empirical evidence on its key elements and how they link to improvements in student learning, and investigates how a school's essential supports interact with community context to affect student learning. The purpose of this research is to establish a comprehensive, empirically grounded practice framework that principals, teachers, parents, and school-system leaders can draw on as they work to improve children's learning in Chicago and elsewhere. This publication is an abbreviated version of a larger study that will be published as a book.

The focus of this report is Chicago public elementary schools during the period of 1990 through 1996, an era when an extraordinary natural experiment in school change took place. Under the 1988 school reform law, local school councils selected principals who brought very different leadership styles to school-reform efforts and attacked a broad set of problems in highly diverse ways. The system as a whole made progress during this time, but there was substantial variation across school communities in achievement trends. Thus, conditions were favorable for exploring why some elementary schools were able to make substantial progress and others stagnated.

To view the entire article, please visit

http://csr.uchicago.edu/content/publications.php?pub_id=86

**Five Essential Supports
for
School Improvement**

- (1) Leadership
- (2) Parent-Community Ties
- (3) Professional Capacity
- (4) Student-Centered Learning Climate
- (5) Ambitious Instruction