The Role of Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs) in Preparing Youth for College and Career Success

Boston, Massachusetts
Monday, October 12, 2009 – Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Agenda

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Hotel
The Westin Copley Place
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Boston, MA 02116
(617) 262-9600

Monday, October 12th
6:30pm – 8:00pm  Orientation Reception and Introduction to Policy Issues
Remarks by Betsy Brand, Executive Director of AYPF
Location: Hotel (Gloucester Room)

Participants will get a chance to meet informally before the official agenda starts the next morning. Light appetizers consisting of a pasta bar and grilled vegetables will be available.

Tuesday, October 13th
8:00am  Breakfast Available
Location: Hotel (Adams Room)

8:30am  Welcome; Review of Agenda and Expected Outcomes
Location: Hotel (Adams Room)

9:00am – 10:00am  Presentation with Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Location: Hotel (Adams Room)
Speakers will include Mitchell D. Chester, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Sarah McLaughlin,
This presentation will help to set the stage for understanding the context of policies and programs that support extended and expanded learning opportunities (ELOs) and afterschool programs for middle school and high school students in Massachusetts.

10:00am – 11:00am  **Presentation with Carol Johnson, Superintendent of Boston Public Schools, Boston, MA**  
*Location: Hotel (Adams Room)*

This presentation will frame the conversation at the District level, specifically describing the role of Boston Public Schools (BPS) in expanding learning opportunities and increasing access to quality afterschool programs for all students in the District.

11:00am – 11:30am  **Presentation by Dishon Mills, Senior Manager, Department of Extended Learning Time, Afterschool and Services (DELTAS), Boston Public Schools**  
*Location: Hotel (Adams Room)*

Mr. Mills will describe how BPS has made an effort to create a framework that includes the vast range of activities that occur during out of school time. DELTAS has worked to create a general template for afterschool activities that can be used by schools regardless of the programs they are running.

11:30am  **Board bus for site visit**

12:15pm – 2:30pm  **Site Visit to 21st Century Community Learning Center Program, administered by Boston Public Schools**  
*(Lunch will be served during visit)*

Washington Irving Middle School  
105 Cummins Highway  
Roslindale, MA 02131-2614  
(617) 635-8072

Speakers will include Arthur Unobskey, Principal.

Washington Irving Middle School receives 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) funding and partners with local organizations to offer out of school services to its students. Their partners include Citizens Schools, Tenacity, and Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention (AIP).

Irving’s 687 students represent a variety of backgrounds: 36.4% Black, 47.2% Hispanic, 11.5% White, 3.9% Asian, and 1.0% other. Irving provides special education services to 24.8% of its students and bilingual services to 7.7%.
2:30pm  
*Board bus for site visit*

3:00pm – 5:00pm  
*Site visit to a Citizen Schools’ Program Site*

**McCormack Middle School**  
315 Mt. Vernon Street  
Dorchester, MA  02125  
617-695-2300

Speakers will include DaQuall Graham, Principal; Megan Webb, Campus Director, Citizen Schools.

Citizen Schools partners with middle schools to expand the learning day for low-income children across the country. They mobilize a second shift of afternoon educators, who provide academic support, leadership development, and "apprenticeships"—hands-on projects taught by volunteers from business and civic organizations. At Citizen Schools, students develop the skills, knowledge and beliefs they need to succeed in middle school, advance toward college, and become leaders in their careers and communities.

McCormack Middle School serves a diverse population of 665 students: 38.5% Black, 34.4% Hispanic, 11.7% White, 14.0% Asian, and 1.4% other. Also, 25.5% of McCormack’s students receive special education services, and 5.7% are bilingual. In addition to partnering with Citizen Schools, McCormack also incorporates the Tenacity and SquashBusters afterschool programs which provide academic support and encourage youth fitness and participation in sports.

5:00pm  
*Board bus to return to hotel*

6:30pm – 8:30pm  
*Dinner with Keynote Speaker, Massachusetts Senator Thomas McGee, Co-Chair of the Massachusetts Special Commission on Afterschool and Out of School Time*

*Location: Hotel (Gloucester Room)*

Senator McGee, who co-chairs the Massachusetts Special Commission on After School and Out of School Time, will discuss the findings of the Special Commission report released in 2007, as well as the current status of afterschool legislation in Massachusetts.

**Wednesday, October 14th**

8:00am  
*Breakfast and Debrief from Previous Day*

*Location: Hotel (Adams Room)*

9:00am – 10:15am  
*Panel Discussion on State-Level Advocates for Afterschool and Expanded Learning Time*

*Location: Hotel (Adams Room)*
This panel will focus on the state’s role in expanding the school day and successfully implementing and managing a wide variety of programs. The panelists will also discuss the different approaches and models of expanded learning that exist in Massachusetts. Time will be spent discussing the federal government’s impact and the policies that help or hinder state efforts.

Speakers will include Jennifer Davis, Co-Founder and President of Massachusetts 2020 and Gwynn Hughes, Executive Director, Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership.

10:15am – 10:30am Break

10:30am – Noon Panel Discussion on the Role of Local Intermediary Organizations
Location: Hotel (Adams Room)

Panelists will address the role of policy in shaping and supporting ELOs and the role of intermediaries as providers of technical assistance to the ELO sites. Time will also be spent discussing the relationship between external organizations and BPS, as well as issues surrounding the implementation of ELOs.

Speakers will include Chris Smith, Executive Director, Boston After School & Beyond; Eric Schwarz, Co-Founder and CEO of Citizen Schools; Neil Sullivan, Boston Private Industry Council; and Alex Oliver-Davila, Executive Director of Sociedad Latina.

Noon Board bus for site visit (45 minutes travel time)

1:00pm-4:00pm Site visit to Expanded Learning Time School (Lunch will be served during visit)
Umana Middle School Academy
312 Border Street
East Boston, MA 02128
617-635-8481

Speakers will include Alexandra Montes-McNeil, Principal; Corbett Coutts, Assistant Principal.

Umana Middle School converted to an Expanded Learning Time school as part of the Massachusetts 2020 program. Their school day now runs from 7:20 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with an early dismissal on Friday. Umana uses the expanded school day to offer two extra hours of math and language arts, in addition to a variety of enrichment activities, to each student.

Umana serves a diverse community of students: 11.6% Black, 64.5% Hispanic, 19.9% White, 1.9% Asian, and 1.1% other. Additionally, 21.9% of the student body receives bilingual education services, and 19.5% receive special education services.

4:00pm Board bus for Logan Airport