



**A VISION FOR REDESIGNED HIGH SCHOOLS:
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STATE POLICY LEADERS
Boston, Massachusetts
March 12 – March 14, 2006**

Hotel Information

Langham Hotel
250 Franklin Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
617-451-1900
<http://www.langhamhotels.com>
Check-in: 3:00 p.m.
Check-out: 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 12, 2006

6:30-9:00 p.m. Welcome Dinner and Briefing
Langham Hotel, Salon Montrose

Speaker: **Paul Reville, President, The Rennie Center for Education Research and Policy**

*The Rennie Center's mission is to develop a public agenda that informs and promotes significant improvement of public education in Massachusetts. Paul Reville, President, will set the context for the trip with an overview of high school reform in Massachusetts and a discussion of **Scaling Up – Reform Lessons for Urban Comprehensive High Schools**, a new report with policy recommendations that addresses the question of how we take the lessons of urban high schools to scale at the school, district, and state levels.*

Monday, March 13, 2006

7:30 a.m. Board bus to visit Taft Educational Complex

8:00-10:30 a.m. Another Course to College
Taft Educational Complex
20 Warren Street
Brighton, Massachusetts 02135
Jerry Howland, Headmaster
617-635-8865
Continental breakfast will be available at school



Monday, March 13, 2006 (continued)

Another Course to College (ACC) was founded in 1976 as a college preparatory program for students who, at the end of their sophomore year, wanted "another course to college." From 1976 to 2003, ACC was a program serving only students in grades eleven and twelve. Beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, ACC made the transition to a grade nine through twelve pilot high school serving a total of 200 students. ACC is a college-preparatory school that prepares students to do college-level analytical writing. ACC also offers dual enrollment options to enable students to take college courses UMass Boston and Harvard Extension School. Special features at ACC include a law program that includes law classes, internships in the state and federal courts, and an interscholastic mock trial program.

Boston Community Leadership Academy

Taft Educational Complex
20 Warren Street
Brighton, Massachusetts 02135
Nicole N. Bahnam, Headmaster
617-635-8937

*In September 2002, **Boston Community Leadership Academy (BCLA)** became the first Boston public school to convert to pilot school status. BCLS, formerly Boston High School, opened in September 2002 with a full academic curriculum emphasizing college preparation and community leadership. What defines a leader? How do you define social responsibility? How do you demonstrate commitment to your learning and personal development? BCLA asks students these critical questions from the beginning of 9th grade on to their senior exhibition where students demonstrate, in front of a jury of community members, their best research on a variety of community issues such as homelessness, illiteracy, discrimination, and teen parenting. In addition, students can participate in AP classes and dual enrollment options with Harvard Extension.*

10:30 a.m. Board bus for briefing with Dr. David Driscoll, Commissioner of Education

11:00-12:30 p.m. Briefing
Dr. David Driscoll, Commissioner of Education; Robert Costrell, Education Advisor to Governor and Chief Economist; and Stafford Peat, Administrator, Secondary Education Unit, MA DoEd
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
One Ashburton Place
14th Floor, Room 1403
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
781-338-3118
Contact: Carlene Gelé, Special Assistant



Monday, March 13, 2006 (continued)

*In 1999, **Dr. David Driscoll** was appointed Massachusetts Commissioner of Education, where he has overseen the implementation of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS), the school and district accountability system, the educator certification test, special education reform, and the historic high school graduation requirement instituted in 2003.*

***Robert Costrell** is Chief Economist for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Education Policy Advisor to Governor Romney. He has conducted or directed policy development research in various areas, most notably school funding, education reform, and municipal finance. Most recently, he has advised Governor Romney and Secretary Kriss in the development of the governor's Education Reform Act of 2005.*

***Stafford Peat** is a Senior Administrator in the Secondary Support Services unit where oversees the NGA Honor States Grant Program and other statewide high school reform efforts. Prior to this, he spent 30 years working in the Career and Vocational/Technical Education Division at the MA Department of Education.*

12:30-2:00 p.m. Lunch and Peer-to-Peer Learning

2:00 p.m. Travel to Boston Day and Evening Academy

2:30-4:30 p.m. Boston Day and Evening Academy

Phyllis Wheatley Complex
20 Kearsarge Avenue
Roxbury, MA 02119
617-635-6789
Contact: Margaret Maccini, Head of School

In 1998, Boston Evening Academy became a Horace Mann Charter School and the first diploma-granting, public high school in Boston to offer an evening program. In the 2004-2005 school year, the school expanded and became the Boston Day and Evening Academy (BDEA), serving over 300 students, ages 16-23, in an innovative, competency-based environment. BDEA's mission is to provide its students with an educational experience that is responsive, respectful, and relational. The school taps into the uniqueness of each student while fostering a solid sense of shared community. BDEA is also a member of the Coalition of Essential Schools Network, a network of schools, organizations, and individuals working together to create and sustain personalized, equitable, and intellectually challenging schools.

4:30 p.m. Travel to hotel for free-time before dinner

7:00 p.m. Small Group Dinners
(Meet in hotel lobby between 6:45 and 7:00 p.m.)



Tuesday, March 14, 2006

7:00-8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
Langham Hotel, Salon Montrose

8:00 a.m. Board bus to South Boston Education Complex

8:30 a.m. South Boston Education Complex (formerly South Boston High School)
In September of 2001, South Boston High School was the first large Boston high school to be restructured into small, autonomous schools: Monument High School, Excel High School, and Odyssey High School.

Monument High School for Public Safety
South Boston Education Complex
95 G Street
South Boston, MA 02127
617-635-9865
Jonathan Pizzi, Headmaster

***Monument High School for Public Safety** offers a thematic curriculum that combines core subject areas with innovative criminal justice and public safety courses to prepare students for college. Monument High further develops its theme by allowing students to participate in work based learning programs, such as the Public Safety Internship Program. In this program, students acquire public-sector internships at the Boston Fire Department, Boston Police Department, Boston Park Rangers, Boston Emergency Medical Services, United States Coast Guard, and other participating public safety locations. Ultimately, Monument High's unique public safety focus attracts students interested in becoming lawyers, detectives, criminal psychologists, emergency medical technicians, firefighters, police officers, and other public safety professionals.*

Excel High School for Technology
South Boston Education Complex
95 G Street
South Boston, MA 02127
617-635-9870
Ligia B. Noriega, Headmaster

***Excel High School for Technology** aims to prepare students for success in college and careers in business using media technology. Teachers collaborate across content areas to develop themes that allow students to synthesize their knowledge of art, music, mathematics, history, and English to produce projects and portfolios that demonstrate their learning. AP courses are offered and are open to all interested students. More generally, the school operates under two overarching principles: building relationships and checking for understanding. Through these themes, the school creates an environment where students feel cared for, listened to, and supported.*



Tuesday, March 14, 2006 (continued)

Odyssey High School for Environmental Science

South Boston Education Complex
95 G Street
South Boston, MA 02127
617-635-9860
Virginia Ordway-Macrina, Headmaster

*At **Odyssey High School for Environmental Science** concepts are integrated across the curriculum through interdisciplinary projects focusing on the urban environment. These projects connect students with real world applications, introduce educational and career opportunities in the field of environmental science, and teach the importance of citizenry and of serving as stewards for the urban environment. Students at Odyssey High learn scientific methods and problem-solving skills that will assist them in any profession they choose. Teams of teachers are paired with environmental scientists to develop and implement interdisciplinary projects which connect science content with math, history and English. In addition to addressing academic standards, projects emphasize important skills such as learning to work as team members and peer reviewers.*

11:30 a.m. Board bus to lunch briefing

12:00-1:30 p.m. Lunch Briefing
Thomas Payzant, Superintendent of Boston Public Schools and
Kathi Mullin, Special Assistant to the Superintendent

Boston Public Schools, Lincoln Room
26 Court Street
Boston, MA 02108
617-594-7399

Dr. Payzant attended public elementary and junior high schools in Quincy, Massachusetts, and graduated from Mount Hermon School in Mount Hermon, Massachusetts. After working in various teaching and administrative positions, and after serving as Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education with the U.S. Department of Education, Dr. Payzant was appointed Superintendent of Boston Public Schools in August 1995. His goal for Boston Public Schools is "145 schools of excellence with quality teaching and high expectations for every student". As part of the Superintendent's Leadership Team, Kathi Mullin plays a key role in the district's high school renewal efforts.

1:30-2:00 p.m. Walk to the nearby Jobs for the Future office



Tuesday, March 14, 2006 (continued)

2:00-3:30 p.m. Briefing: The Role of Intermediaries as Reform Partners
Speakers: **Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future, Stephanie Sibley, Boston Plan for Excellence, Dania Vazquez, Center for Collaborative Education, Neil Sullivan, Boston Private Industry Council**

Jobs for the Future
88 Broad Street, 8th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
617-728-4446
Contact: Lili Allen, 617-728-4446

Providing much needed support in the push to raise student achievement, community organizations and other intermediaries have formed crucial partnerships with the Boston public school system. Lead partners in the Boston initiative— Jobs for the Future, the Boston Plan for Excellence, Center for Collaborative Education, and the Boston Private Industry Council— are helping to fundamentally transform the structure, instructional strategies, and cultures of Boston's high schools.

3:30-4:00 p.m. Field Trip Debrief and Next Steps

4:00 p.m. -----Meeting Adjourned-----