

Acton Public School Committee Meeting

August 6, 2009 8:45 p.m.

at the

R.J. Grey Junior High School Library

ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Library RJ Grey Junior High School August 6, 2009 8:45 pm (following Jt. Meeting)

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. CHAIRPERSON'S INTRODUCTION

1. Recommendation to Appoint Beth Petr as Acton Public School Committee Secretary, 2009-2010 - <u>VOTE</u>

III. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2009 AND STATEMENT OF WARRANT</u>

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. Student Enrollment Update Marie Altieri
- 2. Staffing Update Marie Altieri
 - List of New Professional Staff
 - Information on New Teachers
 - Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Retirements
 - Appointment of Interim Elementary Pupil Services/Special Education Coordinator

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Recommendation to Approve Food and Related Products (TEC) Bid <u>VOTE</u>
 Marie Altieri
- 2. Recommendation to Approve McCarthy-Towne Field Trip to Merrowvista, October 28-30, 2009 <u>VOTE</u> *Steve Mills*
- 3. Recommendation to Accept Gift from Merriam School VOTE Steve Mills
- 4. Recommendation to Accept Gift from Douglas School <u>VOTE</u> Steve Mills
- 5. Recommendation to Accept Gift from AB Community Education **VOTE**
- 6. Recommendation to Accept Gift from AB Community Education VOTE

VII. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- 1. Donation from Peter and Mai Nguyen
- 2. McCarthy-Towne Bulletin June 25, 2009
- 3. Staff Summer R&Ds Susan Horn
- 4. Letter from MA DESE re: Meeting Highly Qualified Teacher Goal

VIII. ISSUES FOR THE COMMITTEE

- 1. Ed Reports to School Committees: Topics
- IX. <u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u> (if needed)
- X. <u>NEXT MEETING</u>: September 17, 7:30 pm, at **Gates School**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Library
R.J. Grey Junior High School
June 18, 2009
9:30 pm

Members Present: Xuan Kong, Jonathan Chinitz, Michael Coppolino, Terry Lindgren,

Sharon Smith McManus, John Petersen

Others: William Ryan, Marie Altieri, Liza Huber, Tess Summers

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 pm by Chairperson Xuan Kong.

CHAIRPERSON'S INTRODUCTION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of May 21, 2009 were approved as presented.

STATEMENT OF WARRANT

Warrant #2009-26 in the amount of \$112,972.34 was signed by the chairperson and circulated to the rest of the Committee for signatures.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. ALG Report/Acton Finance Committee Report

- Fin.Com. Sharon McManus reported on the June 9th Fin. Com. meeting at which Bill Ryan gave an end-of-year report. There was discussion about FY'09, FY'10 budgets and turnbacks. The Fin. Com. made decisions to approve/hold comment on articles for the Special Town Meeting.
- ALG met on June 15. Both outgoing and incoming members were present, and they discussed goals for next year, how to work together as a group, FY'09 revenues. The town is showing some decreases in excise taxes, etc. The BOS will be holding policy workshops the first topic is benefits and health insurance. The town was upgraded to AAA bond rating. ALG will meet again on July 29 at 7:15 am. Terry Lindgren asked if we have a max/ min range so we have a sense of where the budget number will end up. Bill said we don't have a firm number on the town side yet. There will be a discussion of the proposed '97% solution' at the July 29th ALG meeting.

2. Special Town Meeting, June 23

• Xuan Kong referred to the warrant in the packet. He noted that Articles 4 & 5 (re: use of town facilities for solar, renewable or alternative energy projects) might impact the schools in the future. These are good steps toward energy conservation. Bill Ryan commented that we would like to see this happen, and will bring more information to the Committee before going forward. JD Head, Director of Facilities, has been working with the town on this. It was the consensus of the School Committee to support these articles.

3. <u>FY'09 Budget Update</u>

• Bill Ryan referred to the current FY'09 budget numbers. He anticipates turning back approximately \$200-\$250K to the town at the end of the fiscal year.

4. FY'10 Budget Update

Bill Ryan reported that we have no news yet from the state as to the final budget numbers.

5. <u>Health Trust Report</u>

• John Petersen reported on yesterday's meeting. Trust officers for next year are: Bob Evans, John Murray and John Petersen. John said that FY'09 is still open, and we won't know how we did until the middle of next year. Most of the reinsurance amounts come from Master Health Plus. The

APS SC mtg. - 2 - 6/18/09

Trust balance is \$3M. On July 27, there will be a health insurance discussion/forum for the town, to explain how the Trust works. John Petersen will draft a document for review to present at the forum. He will also email it to the Boxborough School Committee members. He added that he wants to make sure all are invited, since all are affected. The Trust meets again on July 15.

6. Staffing Update

• Marie Altieri said we have hired seven new professional staff for 2009-10. There are only a few more positions to fill.

7. West Acton Boardwalk Update

• Pat Easterly announced a fundraiser for the West Acton Boardwalk replacement/ rebuilding project. It will be a walk-a-thon on June 22 at 9:15 am in West Acton Village.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Recommendation to Accept Gift from Conant School PTO

It was moved, seconded and unanimously

<u>VOTED:</u> To accept, with gratitude, the generous gift of <u>\$4,900</u> from the Conant PTO. The gift will be used to purchase a mobile computer lab/laptop cart.

2. Recommendation to Accept Gift from AB Community Education

It was moved, seconded and unanimously

VOTED: To accept, with gratitude, the generous gift of \$34,000 from AB Community Education.

This gift represents the proceeds of the enrichment, extended day and extended day Kindergarten programs held at Conant School this year.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- The Superintendent referred to several items.
- Marie Altieri referred to the enrollment chart numbers for next year, specifically Kindergarten. To date, there are 333 Kindergarten students enrolled for September, the same as we had a month ago. Fifty-two new students (K-6) are registered for next year, but have not yet been placed, but are included in the totals. Many of them are coming into first grade. We are barely within class size guidelines at grade 1, and we are over at grade 2. Sixth grade is still the largest class size. New students will be placed in mid-July.
- Bill Ryan reported that the state has granted us a waiver for closing McCarthy-Towne and Merriam for one day, due to high incidences of flu cases. McT and Merriam students do not have to come an extra day, but teachers will work an extra day (by contract).
- The ABRHS cafeteria will be open for breakfast and lunch this summer.
- The annual School Improvement Plans for all APS schools were in the packet.

ISSUES OF THE COMMITTEE

Cory Atkins, State Rep, wants to establish a Monthly Advisory Meeting Committee. Terry Lindgren volunteered to be the School Committee rep.

NEXT MEETINGS: July 1, 6 pm, Jt. SC Workshop, Sargent Library
August 6, following AB and Joint meetings, JH Library

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sarah T. Lawton Secretary

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2008-2009

Grade	Proj	Actual	Staff	Oct 1st Enroll ment	Sections	Class Sizes	Delta from Proj	Newly Enrolled
К	276	301	3	304	15	20.3	25	
1	302	326	2	328	15	21.9	24	34
2	334	336	5	341	15	22.7	2	23
3	351	349	2	351	15	23.4	-2	18
4	396	381	1	382	16	23.9	-15	14
5	402	404	0	404	16	25.3	2	18
6	393	384	2	386	16	24.1	~ 9	9
Totals	2454	2491	15	2406	100	22.1	27	116
Totals	2454	2481	15	2496	108	23.1	27	116

2009-2010

	Proj	Aug 1 Enroll ment	Staff	Total	Secti ons	Class Size	Delta from Proj	Newly Enrolled	Withd rawn
K	287	333	7	340	16	21.3	46		
1	320	330	3	333	15	22.2	10	35	7
2	342	348	2	350	15	23.3	6	20	3
3	347	352	5	357	15	23.8	5	15	6
4	353	361	2	363	15	24.2	8	15	5
5	389	389	1	390	16	24.4	0	11	7
6	415	408	0	408	16	25.5	-7	10	6
						-			•
	2453	2521	20	2541	108	23.5	68	106	34

Projected Acton Public Schools 2009-2010 7/31/09

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K-22	22	21	21	64		22	22	21	65	22	19	22	63		22	21	21	64	22	2 20	21	21	84	0	340	16	21.3
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Gr. 1-21	22	22	23	67		21	22	22	65	22	22	23	67		22	22	22	66		22	22	23	67	1	333	15	22.2
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Gr. 2-20	23	23	24	70		23	23	23		23	23	23	69		24	24	24	72		23	23	3 24	70	0	350	15	23.3
Rm	9	10	17		9		10	77		7	9	17	1#	<u> </u>	-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	[3]	M	331	233	222	4#	<u></u>	5#		
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Gr. 4-18	24	25	25	74		·24	24	25	73	24	24	24	72	%·	24	_	_	t -		24	24	24	72	0	363	15	24.2
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New Enrollment 2009-2010

First Choice	56
Second Choice	21
Third Choice	14
Fourth Choice	6
Fifth Choice	9

	McCarthy								
	Conant	Douglas	Gates	Towne	Merriam	None	Total		
Gr. 1	9	7	3	6	10	0	35		
Gr. 2	5	0	4	4	7	0	20		
Gr. 3	4	4	1	3	3	0	15		
Gr. 4	1	3	3	5	3	0	15		
Gr. 5	2	2	0	4	3	0	11		
Gr. 6	0	1	4	4	1	0	10		
Total	21	17	15	26	27	0	106		

NEW PROFESSIONAL STAFF, K-12 2009-2010

Name	Position	<u>School</u>	Sal. Step	FTE
Jillian Andrews	Social Studies	JH	1M	1.0
Cheryl Beaudoin	Kindergarten	McT	1M	.5
Christopher Charig	Music	JH	9M	1.0
Catherine Christensen	Grade 6	Douglas	1M+60	1.0
Diane Cileno	Librarian	ABRHS	10M+30	1.0
Shelagh Conway	ABA Trainer	APS		.5
Katilyn Crowley	English	ABRHS	1M	.6
Jennifer DeLucia	Counselor	Gates	2M	1.0
Christina Harris	Music	APS	9M	.2
Suzanne Hogarty	World Language	ABRHS	10M+45	1.0
David Krane	Principal	McT		1.0
Mary Lee	Art	ABRHS	10M	.6
Lee Lentz	Chemistry	ABRHS	1B+15	1.0
Renee Luttati	Reading	Conant	7M	1.0
Kimberly Macey	Grade 6	Conant	8M/8M+15?	1.0
Kristin Penta	English	ABRHS	5M	1.0
Kelly Reed	Kindergarten	McT	10M+45	.5
Stephen Mills	Superintendent	APS/AB		1.0
Kerri Stoffel	Grade 4	Gates	7B+15	1.0
Susie Sweeting	French	ABRHS	1M	1.0
Leslie Wagner	French/Spanish	JH	3B	1.0

TOTAL: 21 new staff (as of 7/31/09)

ABRSD Schools - by school 2009-2010

Name	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>	Sal. Step	<u>FTE</u>
Junior High Jillian Andrews Christopher Charig	Social Studies Music	JH JH	1M 9M	1.0 1.0
Leslie Wagner	French/Spanish	JH	3B	1.0
Total JH 3 new staff				
Senior High				
Diane Cileno	Librarian	ABRHS	10M+30	1.0
Katilyn Crowley	English	ABRHS	1M	.6
Suzanne Hogarty	World Language	ABRHS	10M+45	1.0
Mary Lee	Art	ABRHS	10M	.6
Lee Lentz	Chemistry	ABRHS	1B+15	1.0
Kristin Penta	English	ABRHS	5M	1.0
Susie Sweeting	French	ABRHS	1M	1.0

Total HS: 7 new staff

Other ABRSD staff

Total ABRSD new staff: 10

APS Schools – by school 2009-2010

<u>Name</u>	Position	<u>School</u>	Sal. Step	FTE	
Conant Renee Luttati Kimberly Macey	Reading Grade 6	Conant Conant	7M 8M/8M+	1.0 15? 1.0	
Douglas Catherine Christensen	Grade 6	Douglas	1M+60	1.0	
<u>Gates</u> Jennifer DeLucia Kerri Stoffel	Counselor Grade 4	Gates Gates	2M 7B+15	1.0 1.0	
McCarthy-Towne Cheryl Beaudoin David Krane Kelly Reed	Kindergarten Principal Kindergarten	McT McT McT	1M	.5 1.0 .5	
<u>Merriam</u>					
Additional APS new staff: Shelagh Conway Christina Harris	ABA Trainer Music	APS APS	9M	.5 .2	

Total APS new staff: 10

APS/AB Staff: 1 - Dr. Stephen Mills

TOTAL APS/AB NEW STAFF: 21

Beaudoin, Cheryl

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09 Position: Kindergarten Teacher (.5 FTE) Location: McCarthy-Towne

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 355

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Nancy Kolb, Janet Merrigan

Recommended Candidate: Cheryl Beaudoin

Step/Salary: 1M, \$23,211

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

<u>College</u>

<u>Degree</u>

<u>Date</u>

<u>Major/Minor</u>

Lesley University Lesley University

M.Ed. B.S. 2009 2008

Early Childhood Education

American Studies

Certification Required: Yes

Early Childhood (PreK-2)

Certified: Yes

Experience:

1/09-6/09:

Associate Kindergarten Teacher, Belmont Day School, Belmont, MA

9/08-1/09:

Associate First Grade Teacher, Belmont Day School, Belmont, MA

9/07-6/08:

Classroom Assistant, Douglas School, Acton, MA

2004-2006:

Affairs in Bloom, Brookline, MA

6/99-8/04:

Flower Wagon, Acton, MA

Cheryl Beaudoin - Educational Philosophy

My educational philosophy is the assurance that each child receives a fair and equal opportunity to learn and grow in my classroom. I believe in the values of respect, responsibility, caring and friendship, honesty and leadership. I create a classroom which embraces and models these qualities and also provides a positive environment for learning.

I am committed and passionate about differentiated instruction in my classroom because I trust in order to be an outstanding teacher; you must be awaré and sensitive to the learning styles and needs of all of the children in your classroom. This includes practices in cooperative learning and grouping students when teaching content lessons. This makes certain every child has the opportunity to be able to participate academically in the classroom.

Recently I had the opportunity to observe an SEI kindergarten classroom as part of a Lesley graduate class in 1st and 2nd Language Acquisition. In that classroom I witnessed thoughtful, sheltered instruction which allowed these children to grasp a math concept using manipulatives, a community environment where all children participated, a nurturing setting where I could see evidence of children feeling safe to ask questions of their teacher and ask for assistance when they were feeling frustrated about a Writer's Workshop assignment. This experience exemplifies the atmosphere I would strive to see in my own classroom. A safe and nurturing situation where all children felt appreciated and able to learn the content presented to them. A classroom where they are able to work with peers as well as teachers to accomplish the goal at hand.

I also believe communication is an important factor in the domain of teaching.

Communication with parents, students, peers and administrators is critical within the school environment. I consider the home-school connection to be an integral part of the school community. I am committed to building a strong community within my classroom which offers my students an atmosphere of learning, warmth, creativity, caring and fun!

Christensen, Catherine

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09

Position: Classroom Teacher

Location: Douglas School

<u>Qualifications:</u> Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 27

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Chris Whitbeck, Melissa Hubbell, Katie Oxnard

Recommended Candidate: Catherine Christensen

Step/Salary: Masters +60, \$52,720

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

College Lesley University Graduate Institute of International Studies	<u>Degree</u> M.Ed. M.S.	<u>Date</u> 2008 1985	Major/Minor Elementary Education International Studies
Bucknell University	B.A.	1980	Political Science

Certification Required: Yes

Certified: Yes

Elementary Education (1-6)

Experience:

3/09-4/09:

Long Term Substitute, Gates School, Acton Public Schools, Acton, MA Long Term Substitute, Douglas School, Acton Public Schools, Acton, MA

11/08-1/09: 2007-2008:

Fall 2007:

Substitute Teacher, Acton Public Schools/Littleton Public Schools, MA Student Teacher, McCarthy-Towne School, Acton Public Schools, Acton,

MA

2005-2007:

Instructional Aide, Blanchard School, Boxborough, MA

Philosophy of Education

I believe that an excellent education consists of two basic parts: learning about the world beyond ourselves and learning about ourselves as individuals - who we are and how we learn. A teacher's special challenge is to foster meaningful interactions for and with her students by creating learning opportunities that draw on the best curriculum available as well as on the experiences that students bring to the classroom. All this while also fostering the social, emotional and intellectual growth of each individual, myself included.

I am grateful that we have district guidelines, based on state frameworks, for each discipline which clearly identify grade level expectations and expected learning outcomes. This elevates the teaching of subject matter from "covering" topics to aiming for individual student mastery of subject matter, whatever it takes. I understand the place of standardized testing in our schools today and seek to prepare my students accordingly, regarding them not as ends in themselves, but more as scheduled checkups along the way. That said, one of the most important goals I have as a teacher is to encourage my students to seek understanding - in all its possible meanings - over memorization and regurgitation, since I strongly believe this is the most lasting and meaningful way to acquire and retain knowledge.

Geography is a special interest of mine that I endeavor to weave into the curriculum wherever appropriate because it promotes deeper understanding. I have found that the five themes of geography - location, place, interaction, movement, and region - offer a very useful framework for investigation of many of the "where" and "why" questions that arise in discussions involving literature, history and current events. My classroom will always have plenty of maps so students can literally see where ideas, objects, and people come from and familiarize themselves with their location and interactions as they become increasingly aware of the world around them and their place in it. This is of paramount importance as we see more and more evidence of globalization and diversity in so many facets of our lives.

I wholeheartedly embrace four principles of teaching that I encountered in a course for sheltered English immersion because they apply to all teaching at the elementary level: increase comprehension, increase interaction, increase thinking and study skills, and make connections. One of the best ways to increase interest and comprehension is to use visuals, especially realia. Student interaction promotes engagement, allows participation at a variety of levels, particularly for more reticent students, and promotes respect for the ideas of others as well as good social skills. Activities that encourage students to make connections to their own experiences is the very essence of building understanding and knowledge. They already know quite a lot and the synergy of a roomful of learners making connections that can take the whole group to the next level is both satisfying and exhilarating. Lastly, activities that increase thinking and study skills both respect and encourage each student's capacity as a self-aware learner. I am constantly asking my students questions to get them thinking and equipping them with the tools they need

so they can ask questions, not just about the curriculum of the day but about how they can best access it and own it is as critical thinkers and learners.

This leads me to Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences (nine of them: linguistic, logical-mathematical, spatial, bodily-kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalist, and, most recently, existential) which is a cornerstone of my philosophy of education. If my students are not already aware of this taxonomy of intelligences, I introduce it to them, along with the oft-forgotten assertion that we possess all of them, to a greater or lesser degree. In this regard I see my role as one of respecting the various learning styles of my students, which tend to lie in the intelligence areas in which they excel, but also mixing it up a bit by challenging them to exercise their intelligence muscles in areas in which they do not yet or may never quite excel. Weaknesses may indeed become strengths (were it not so, I would never have come around to the notion of becoming a teacher!). In my classroom, there is always both something that each student can be good at and something that each student can become better at. We are all works in progress.

The essence of my job is to teach my students a well-rounded curriculum while helping them access their potential. The curriculum is, in a very strong sense, a means to an end: individuals realizing their potential by becoming self-aware lifelong learners. I will be most effective by getting to know my students early on in our relationship and in an ongoing way that encourages, acknowledges and celebrates their growth.

I consider it a great privilege to be joining the Acton Public Schools community.

N.B. Please see the attached graphic which I have used in the past to communicate my approach to students, parents and fellow educators.

Conway, Shelagh

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09

Position: A.B.A. Team Leader (.5 FTE)

Location: Preschool

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 5

Candidates Interviewed: 5

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Liza Huber, Lynn Mulrooney, Carol Huebner

Recommended Candidate: Shelagh Conway

Step/Salary: \$35,000

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

<u>College</u>

Degree

<u>Date</u>

Major/Minor

Northeastern University

M.S.

2000

Psychology-Applied Behavior

Analysis

Western New England College B.A.

1993

Psychology

Certification Required: Yes

B.C.B.A.

Certified: Yes

Experience:

2000-Present:

Behavioral Consultant, various Public Schools & private families, MA

1999-2000:

Program Coordinator, Salem Public Schools, Salem, MA

1997-1999:

Lead Behavior Therapist, Newton Public Schools, Newton, MA

1996-1997:

Residential Coordinator, New England Center for Children,

Southborough, MA

DeLucia, Jennifer

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09

Position: Guidance Counselor

Location: Gates School

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 59

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Lynne Newman, Lynn Mulrooney, Liza Huber

Recommended Candidate: Jennifer DeLucia

Step/Salary: Masters 2, \$48,373

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

College
Lesley University
St. Michael's College

<u>Degree</u> M.A.

B.A.

<u>Date</u> 2008 2002

Major/Minor
Psychology

Elementary Education

Certification Required: Yes

Guidance Counselor (PreK-8)

Certified: Yes

Experience:

9/08-6/09:

Guidance Counselor (Full year Long Term Substitute) Belmont Schools,

Belmont, MA

9/07-6/08:

Guidance Counselor (Full year Internship) Concord Public Schools,

Concord, MA

9/07-6/08:

Peer Mentor Supervisor, Concord Middle Schools, Concord, MA

9/06-6/07:

Counseling Intern, Academy of Physical & Social Development, Newton

MA

Educational Philosophy Jennifer DeLucia June 2009

It is my belief that the grander purpose of education in society is to provide a place where children can learn, grow and become independent contributing members of society. I believe that elementary schools are a place where we are gradually teaching students to be more independent every year. Because society is constantly changing teachers and counselors should be continually assessing their work and adapting it to meet the most current needs.

I believe that all children are capable of learning. In order for students to learn they must feel safe and comfortable at all times. As an elementary school counselor it is my job to help ensure that each student feels safe and comfortable by providing an outlet for students' behavioral, social, emotional and academic challenges.

My goal is to create an effective school guidance counseling program that will be part of the total school plan and will compliment learning in the classroom. It will be child-centered, preventative and developmentally based. The program will encourage students' social, emotional, and personal growth at each stage of development. These goals will be achieved through a variety of guidance and consultative services for children in grades K to 6. Services will include individual counseling, small group work, classroom guidance lessons and consultation with parents, teachers and outside providers. Each service will be in place in order to help all children learn and develop to their highest potential.

I will bring an open mind and an optimistic attitude to Gates School. I will aspire to be consistent, attentive and warm as I work with the Gates School Community.

Harris, Christina

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09

<u>Position:</u> Music Teacher (.2 FTE) <u>Location:</u> Elementary Schools

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 29

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Mark Hickey

Recommended Candidate: Christina Harris

Step/Salary: Masters 9, \$13,295.80

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

College	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Major/Minor</u>
University of Tennessee	M.S.	1992	Music Education
Appalachian State University	<i>B.M.</i>	1990	Music Education

Certification Required: Yes

Certified: Yes

Pending License in Massachusetts (Licensed in New Hampshire)

Experience:

2006-2008:

Elementary Music Specialist, Ursa Major Elementary School, Ft.

Richardson, AK

2005-2006:

Musikgarten Instructor, Arctic Oasis Community Center, Elmendorf AFB,

AK

2000-2003:

Band Director, Hampton Christian High School, Hampton, VA

1992-1996 & 1997-1999: Elementary Music Specialist, Central Elementary School, Johnson City, TN

My Statement of Philosophy of Music Education

Christina Harris

Music touches our lives in many ways, and is one of our most basic means of creative expression. As a music educator, I believe that every child is a special and unique individual that has the potential to contribute musically to our world, whether through singing, dancing, instrumental performance, or composing. I feel that it is important to instill a lifelong appreciation of the musical arts through hands-on activities, listening experiences, and creating with others. My desire is that each student will truly enjoy the process of making their "own" musical creations while gaining fundamental knowledge of music.

As a classroom guide, I will strive to create a safe and supportive environment for my classroom. It is important that the music classroom be a safe place for every student to express themselves in a variety of areas, such as singing, playing an instrument or moving to music, without the fear of ridicule or embarrassment. Students given high expectations for respectful behavior and those who are supportive of one another will be successful. I will incorporate a variety of positive discipline techniques such as team building activities and classroom discussion to accomplish this goal.

As a classroom facilitator, I believe that it is my responsibility to provide well-prepared and creative lessons in order to give a comprehensive music education to all students. By following National and State Standards, I will formulate lesson plans to accomplish this goal incorporating elements from a variety of teaching methods such as Orff, Kodaly, and others, in order to present musical concepts in different and exciting ways. I will use a variety of teaching styles to accommodate each student's ability and learning style.

Finally, as a musician, I hope to instill a positive attitude that "Music is for all." My desire is that each student will apply this attitude toward their future musical journeys, whether they become a professional, amateur, or simply a listening musician. Performing in ensembles such as local choirs, community bands, rock or jazz bands, composing, as well as other venues, is a great way to continue enjoying and participating in music that uses skills learned from their early musical education. Regardless of their musical achievements, music should be an enriching experience for every student.

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09 Position: Principal

Location: McCarthy-Towne School

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 60

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Marie Altieri, David James, Robyn Winick

Recommended Candidate: David Krane

Step/Salary: \$104,000

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

<u>College</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Date</u>	Major/Minor
Northeastern University	M.Ed.	2009	Education Leadership
Lesley University	M.Ed.	1997	Education
New York University	<i>B.A.</i>	1976	American History

Certification Required: Yes

Certified: Yes

Principal/Assistant Principal (PreK-6)

Experience:

1999-Present:

Teacher, Vinson-Owen Elementary School, Winchester, MA

1998-1999:

Teacher, Atrium School, Watertown, MA

1997-1998:

Teacher, Maria Hastings Elementary School, Lexington, MA

David Krane Philosophy Statement

The effective leader is foremost a teacher and a learner.

The most important qualities of an effective elementary leader cannot be taught; those qualities are intuitive and felt from the heart. An effective leader must have the ability and compassion to understand the issues facing a diverse group of constituents, including children, their families and staff. A true leader understands that not all problems can be solved with the same solution.

An educational leader must be a learner. Inspired and motivated by many of the professionals around me, I seek to bring that same excitement about learning to students and their teachers. The leader should lead teachers and staff in modeling what we want the student to be: highly motivated, visibly dedicated, life-long learners, who care about the community that surrounds us.

An educational leader should actively promote collaboration among staff members. A truly effective leader will always be a listener, a collaborator and a learner. Children who see that the adults around them are risk takers and problem solvers will follow suit.

An educational leader needs to make sure that the school is a natural and functioning part of the larger community around it. The leader must make sure that children are prepared to meet the challenges of citizenship in the community – by the practice of citizenship in the classroom and the school.

A good elementary school leader brings the skills and knowledge gained in the practice of teaching and administration. A great leader embodies compassion, excitement and vision.

The most important skills for a school leader to have are those learned in the classroom. In the end, the function of a strong leader is to support teachers as they raise both student achievement levels and social consciousness levels. Strong and effective teaching does not happen in a vacuum and neither does strong and effective leadership. Children benefit most when these paths converge, each supported by the other.

A good leader creates a safe environment conducive to learning. A safe environment is one where not only do children, staff and teachers feel physically safe, but also safe to take risks with thinking and learning and to expect constructive, non-judgmental feedback.

An effective school leader involves parents and the community that the school serves, teaching that good, involved citizenship starts with the community around us.

Luttati, Renee

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

<u>Date:</u> 8/31/09 <u>Position:</u> Reading Teacher

Location: Conant School

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 48

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Christine Price

Recommended Candidate: Renee Luttati

Step/Salary: Masters 7, \$61,163

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

<u>College</u> University of Mass.

Kean University

<u>Degree</u> M.Ed.

B.A.

<u>Date</u> 1999

1976

Major/Minor
Reading & Language

Elementary Education

Certification Required: Yes

Reading (All Levels) Elementary (1-6) **Certified:** Yes

Experience:

2005-Present: 1996-2005;

Reading Teacher, Hawley School, Newton, MA Classroom Teacher, Miller School, Westford, MA

1978-1979:

Reading Teacher, St. Anthony's Catholic School, Westland, MI

Educational Philosophy

Renee Luttati

I believe that each child who enters a classroom is a unique individual who comes to school with his or her strengths, background knowledge and capacity to learn. As a teacher, I believe it is my responsibility to meet each student's needs and help them to grow intellectually, emotionally and socially. I believe that building a classroom community where all students feel safe, respected and willing to take risks is essential to the learning experience.

Through differentiation of instruction each student will be able learn at the pace that will give them success and pride in their work. Students that enter my classroom will be assessed and instructed based on their individual strengths. This will be their "jump off" point from which they will continue to grow in subject area knowledge. Flexible grouping within a classroom is also important for student success. I believe the most important aspect of the flexible grouping is the fluidity and constant changing of groups as the needs of individual students change.

As a teacher, I believe it is important to model and scaffold instruction, so students have a clear understanding of what is expected of them. Once instruction is clearly demonstrated the students need repeated practice before they can be expected to have mastered the given task

Parent involvement is another aspect that I believe makes the classroom community a success. I strongly believe that the home-school connection is crucial. When a student knows that the teacher and parent are in communication and the parents understand what is going on in the classroom we are modeling a real partnership for students. Different ways to communicate are through weekly newsletters, monthly curriculum updates or even daily logs when needed.

I believe that as a life long learner I will challenge myself to always continue to look for and develop best practices in my teaching. Through professional development, continued education and professional exchange with colleagues I will always strive to grow as an educator

Macey, Kimberly

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09

Position: Classroom Teacher

Location: Conant School

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 355

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Chris Price

Recommended Candidate: Kimberly Macey

Step/Salary: Masters 9, \$13,295.80

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

<u>College</u>

Degree M.Ed. Major/Minor

Lesley University University of Rhode Island

M.Ed. B.S.. <u>Date</u> 1997 1993

Technology in Education
Elementary Education

Certification Required: Yes

Elementary (1-6)

Certified: Yes

Experience:

2000-2001:

Instructional Technology Specialist, Millennium School, Westford, MA

1999-2000:

Mathematics Lead Teacher, (K-8) Millennium School, Westford, MA

1994-1999:

Grade 5 Teacher, Abbot School, Westford, MA

Philosophy of Education

Kimberly Macey

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire. - William Butler Yeats

My goal as a teacher is to spark an interest for learning within my students while providing them with a classroom environment that is encouraging, and positive.

I believe that each child is a unique individual with his/her own interests, learning styles, motivations and cultural background. It is my desire to help each student meet his/her fullest potential. By designing instruction to address these multiple learning styles, I believe that all students can attain success and build self-confidence. These lessons must be engaging and meaningful to the children. For students to construct knowledge, they need to make a personal connection with the information taught, and apply the knowledge to a variety of experiences.

Through carefully planned lessons, students should be actively solving problems similar to those they will work through in the real world. This will provide them with the reasoning skills necessary to become flexible problem solvers and critical thinkers. I understand the importance of providing opportunities for students to make discoveries and practice skills in authentic situations.

Assessment is a valuable component of the educational process. It provides feedback to students and informs instructional practices and planning. I use a variety of methods to obtain information on student progress, both formally and informally. I also believe that students should be asked to reflect on their own learning progress; self-reflection develops independent and responsible learners.

The classroom is a community of ideas. It needs to be a safe environment where students feel willing to take risks. I feel students are more willing to take risks when expectations are clear and they feel supported. In allowing students to become responsible members of our classroom, I show them that I value each and every member. Students know that I respect them, listen to them and accept them as they are. My job, as a teacher, is to ensure students' academic and emotional needs are addressed.

One of the most important concepts I hope to impart to students is that learning is a process that never ends. By sharing my own passion for learning, I hope to instill a love of lifelong learning in my students and give them the confidence to use their knowledge outside of the classroom. In addition, I hope to provide the skills and tools necessary for the success of all my students, inspiring them to turn dreams into realities.

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

<u>Date:</u> 8/31/09 <u>Position:</u> Kindergarten Teacher (.5 FTE) <u>Location:</u> McCarthy-Towne School

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 355

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Nancy Kolb, Janet Merrigan

ς

Recommended Candidate: Kelly Reed

Step/Salary: Masters 10 +45, \$52,720

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

<u>College</u> Cambridge College <u>Degree</u> M.Ed.

Date <u>Major/Minor</u>
2002 Elementary Education

Springfield College

B.S.

1998

Early Childhood/Special Needs

Certification Required: Yes

Early Childhood (PreK-3)

Elementary (1-6)

Certified: Yes

Experience:

2008-Present:

Kindergarten Teacher, McCarthy School, Framingham, MA

1999-2008: Summer 2000: Classroom Teacher, Hemenway School, Framingham, MA Head Teacher, Children's Day School, San Francisco, CA

1998-1999:

Classroom Teacher - grade 4, Armory St. Elementary School, Springfield,

MA

My Philosophy of Education

Kelly Reed May 2009

I am committed to a collaborative and active approach to education, to promote community-productive, lifelong learners. I am dedicated to creating a classroom that is engaging, challenging, and meets the needs of all students. My classroom has a high level of energy and enthusiasm, where I model my love of learning. My goal is to utilize my creativity and enthusiasm to provide a stimulating environment, using staff, parents and community, to promote learning.

Various teaching experiences, an extensive background and professional development have given me flexibility in my teaching; including adapting for individual needs, communicating with parents, integrating curriculum, and teaming with other staff. Experience teaching children in various capacities has enabled me to work productively with children of diverse abilities. Children enter school with different strengths and weaknesses. One of my goals is to help them make progress from their individual starting points and work towards being more successful. A centers-based classroom allows me to differentiate content and process to meet the needs of students at different levels. Center activities allow students of different abilities to work at their individual points of readiness.

One of my best strengths as a teacher is my ability to apply brain-compatible learning techniques, including Multiple Intelligences, Accelerated Learning, and Research For Better Teaching. I use a holistic approach to educating the whole person as a multi-faceted individual. I tell my students that they are "smart in lots of ways". Students are given opportunities to show their understanding through a variety of products. Movement, music, group interaction, role-playing, and hands-on learning are commonplace in my classroom. I take the time to make sure that each child is engaged and has played an active role in the learning process.

I believe in stating clear objectives. Each student should know my expectations for a complete assignment. Expectations are routinely discussed and rubrics and criteria are displayed on walls and students' tables. Clear expectations and criteria for success allow students to be more independent learners, and provide a structure for all students to be successful. I use a gradual release of responsibility, where students see modeling, participate in shared and guided experiences, and then are given the opportunity to work independently. A classroom community of mutual respect and trust is my goal.

My students take an active role in their learning; implementing problem-solving strategies, checking criteria for success, and using technology. Making choices as leaders as well as members of a group, they develop social skills to succeed in the world. Brain-compatible learning, problem solving, and inquiry-based activities have enhanced interaction between the students I teach, created a secure environment for collaboration, and empowered each individual to learn, contribute, and shine.

As a lifelong learner, I participate in continuing professional development, college courses and workshops to remain current in research and strategies. I am also open to learning from colleagues, because I feel that outstanding teachers work in strong teaching teams, not independently. They maintain a perspective on not only their own goals, but also the goals of their grade level and their school so that together those goals will be reached.

Finally, my philosophy of education has been affected by my own children. Having twin boys has given me an appreciation of how different children the same age can be. They develop at different paces, while my job is to provide them with the guidance, support and encouragement to allow their unique abilities to develop. Children are naturally inquisitive and love to play. The importance of purposeful play in early childhood education is often not appreciated. Children learn through play and I use inquiry, games, and childhood exuberance as teaching tools.

I have devoted my life to my love of children and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to instill an appreciation of how unbelievably talented and unique each of my students are.

I am confident that you will find my qualifications, commitment, philosophy of teaching, and personality a great asset to your schools.

Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

School Committee Staff Recruitment Form (#4)

Date: 8/31/09

Position: Classroom Teacher

Location: Gates School

<u>Qualifications</u>: Massachusetts certification and successful supervised experience within the last five years as a teacher, student teacher, intern or apprentice in this discipline.

Posted: Yes

Advertised: Yes

#Applicants: 396

Candidates Interviewed: 10

Interviewers: William Ryan,

Lynne Newman

Recommended Candidate: Kerri Stoffel

Step/Salary: Bachelors 7 + 15, \$58,541

Resume: X

Application: X

References Checked: X

<u>College</u>
Lesley University
Bloomsburg University

<u>Degree</u> M.Ed.

B.S.

Date 2009 1991 Major/Minor
Curriculum & Instruction

Elementary Education

Certification Required: Yes

Pending

Certified: Yes

Experience:

1994-1997:

Teacher, Oak Grove Elementary School, Raleigh, NC

1993-1994:

Teacher, Hunter Elementary School, Raleigh, NC

1991-1993:

Teacher, Panorama Village Elementary School, State College, PA

Teaching Philosophy

By: Kerri Stoffel

My teaching philosophy encapsulates what it means to be an outstanding teacher. An outstanding teacher is an outstanding communicator with the ability to nurture. This teacher has the ability to differentiate instruction in a way that does not draw attention to the weaknesses of her students. Rather, instruction is individualized so that every student realizes his/her full potential.

Differentiating instruction is one of my strengths. Connecting with my students is the key to helping them realize that they are full of potential and capable of tremendous growth. This is done by creating a classroom environment that considers each student a necessary and capable member of the classroom.

Assessment is the next step to understanding where a student's strengths and weaknesses are. An outstanding teacher realizes that assessments should be formal and informal. They are a process that helps to determine teaching strategy but never defines the student.

An outstanding teacher nurtures a strong self esteem, curiosity, and love of learning within each of her students. An outstanding teacher builds a strong home-school link which is essential for optimum academic growth and success. An outstanding teacher realizes that she is part of a team that can provide her with opportunities for reflection, growth, and improvement. All she has to do is open her mind to another person's ideas, research, and methods. I am an outstanding teacher ready to begin again.

Acton Public Schools 2009-2010

Certified Staff Leaves of Absence

Rosemarie Begin
L. Vanessa Bergmann
Tina Bloom
Alexandra Ganss
Heather Matthews
Emily Murphy
Leah Robb
Elizabeth White

Returning To APS

Christiann Kelley Jill Reed

Certified Staff Not Returning

Amy Ancona Kimberly Brayton Florentien deRuiter Valerie Farley Allison Pinkin

Certified Staff Retirements

Frances Bitteker Mary Ann Brandt Maureen Brusie Sherrie Feinberg Judith Hause Patricia Metcalf Lynn Mulrooney

Office of the Superintendent Acton Public Schools/Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools 978-264-4700, x3211

Statement regarding the Appointment of

Lynne Laramie

to the position of Interim Elementary Pupil Services/ Special Education Coordinator, Acton Public Schools.

July 30, 2009

Superintendent of Schools Bill Ryan is pleased to announce the appointment of Lynne Laramie as Interim Elementary Pupil Services/Special Education Coordinator for the Acton Public Schools.

Lynne has been a Special Educator at Gates School since 1986 and has all the qualifications that the school district would like to see in an Interim Elementary Pupil Services/Special Education Coordinator.

We welcome her to our school community in this new leadership role.

Lynne Laramie will assume her official duties on August 31, 2009.

NEW BUSINESS

Acton-Boxborough Food Services



Serving Education Daily

Acton Public Schools
Acton-Boxborough Regional School District
Food Service Department
16 Charter Road
Acton, MA 01720-2995
Phone # 1-978-264-4700x3221
Fax # 1-978-264-3340
Kirsten Nelson, Director

TO:

William Ryan/Stephen Mills

FROM:

Kirsten Nelson

DATE:

June 15, 2009

RE:

Recommendation to award Food and Related Products Bids

The Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District participated with The Education Cooperative (TEC) in the following bid categories:

- 1) Paper Products
- 2) Groceries
- 3) Ice Cream
- 4) Vending
- 5) Bread Products
- 6) Milk & Milk Products

5Acton Public Schools Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Acton, MA

OUT-OF-STATE and/or OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP FORM and INTERNATIONAL TRIPS

Submit for Superintendent's and School Committee approval at least <u>60 days</u> before the proposed trip.

<u>Please TYPE or use COMPUTER FORM</u>
· Name of Teacher(s): Kate Fitzmaurice, Karen Shiebler, Caitlin Walsh
· School: Mc Carthy - Towne
• # of Students going: 73 # of Chaperones (gender): for 33 boys / 40 girls
Names of Chaperones: list provided in September
• Date(s) of Trip: October 28, 29, 30 School Time Involved: 3 School days
2.009
• Purpose of Trip/Destination: 5th grade outdoor science education/ build
• Have you taken this trip before? <u>yes</u>
• Any special arrangements required (such as extra insurance, ADA accommodations)? Yes, insurance certificate is requested
• Cost per Student: (Please describe how the cost is determined.) \$145.00 per student (including bus, nurse and extachapeone costs, as well as possible scholarship needs) after \$5,000 grant from AYF. • Who will pay for the trip? <u>families</u>
• Has any fundraising been done? Yes If so, what? Individual Students will create fundraising plans in the full. (over)



11 Charter Road, Acton, MA 01720 (978) 264-4700, Ext. 3751

July 13, 2009

To: Acton Public School Committee

From: Ed Kaufman

Re: Purchase of equipment

Please accept this requested approval to purchase the following equipment from the Merriam School After Hours program. The equipment will be available for the morning/afternoon programs as well as the regular day programs.

6 Smartboards and installation	\$23,568
Wireless Internet system and installation	\$12,500
Total purchase	\$36,068

Sincerely,

Ed Kaufman

C.T. Douglas School

21 Elm St. Acton, MA 01720 Tel: (978) 266-2560 Fax: (978) 266-2500

E-mail: cwhitbcck@mail.ab.mec.edu



July 8, 2009

To: Acton Public School Committee

From: Dr. Christopher Whitbeck

Re: Purchase of equipment

Please accept this requested approval to purchase the following equipment from the Douglas at Dawn & Dusk program. The equipment will be available for the morning/afternoon programs as well as the regular day programs.

2 Mobile computer labs (35 computers, carts, MS Office software, Wireless print server, adapters, carrying bags, Casper license, implementation services)

\$46,089.69

Wireless Internet system and installation \$12, 500.00

3 SmartBoard replacement bulbs \$912.00

Total purchase \$59,501.69

Sincerely,

Christopher Whitbeck

The bids were opened on April 15, 2009 and the following vendors were approved at the May 13th bid award meeting at TEC.

1) Paper Products

Mansfield Paper

2) Groceries

Costa Fruit & Produce Company, Thurston Foods,

Original Pizza

3) Ice Cream

New England Ice Cream

4) Vending

Coca Cola

New England Ice Cream

5) Bread Products

George's Bakery

6) Milk

Garelick Farms

The above named vendors have serviced the district in the past and their services have been satisfactory. The only new vendor to the district is George's Bakery who won the bread bid.

The administration recommends that the bids be awarded to the above named vendors.

Are any parents driving?
If so, have appropriate insurance forms been filled out?
Have you followed the procedure outlined in Policy IJOA (attached)?
Other comments: This will be our 2nd trip to
Other comments: This will be our 2nd trip to Merrowvista. The trip last year was fantastic in every way and we are excited the grant has been extended arlowing us to return
Approved Not Approved
Nancy Will 6.29.09 Principal Date
Principal Date
Approved Not Approved Lulianianianianianianianianianianianianiani
Approved Not Approved
School Committee Date

This form must be submitted to the Superintendent at least 60 days prior to the trip.

Revised 10/19/06

Acton-Boxborough Community Education

*** MEMO ***

TO: Steve Mills

FROM: Erin Bettez

RE: ADK Surplus

DATE: July 31, 2009

Enclosed please find a check for \$2,082.05 made payable to the Acton Public Schools. The check represents the additional surplus from the All Day Kindergarten Program for FY'09 and is a gift to the Acton Public Schools.

cc Sue Horn

Acton-Boxborough Community Education

*** MEMO ***

TO: Steve Mills

FROM: Erin Bettez 2015

RE: Conant Extended Day Surplus

DATE: July 31, 2009

Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$3,615.54 made payable to Conant School. The check represents the final disbursement of Conant's share in the surplus earned during FY09 by the Extended Day Program Community Education is operating at Conant and is a gift to the school.

cc: Susan Horn

Christine Price

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

June 19, 2009

To: Bill Ryan

From: Carol Huebner

Cc: Liza Huber

Subject: Donation from Peter and Mai Nguyen

Peter and Mai Nguyen have made a generous contribution of \$500 to the Acton Public Schools Preschool ABA Program where their son is a student.

I support this contribution and ask that you and the School Committee approve this as well. It is my recommendation that the donation be directed to APS Preschool Revolving Account and the monies be used toward the purchase of a DVD Player and related materials/programs to foster social skills growth through video modeling along with the purchase of the VB-MAPP Assessment, a tool used in evaluating students on the Autism Spectrum.

Thank you.

ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

2009-2010

No.	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Title</u>	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
APS-1	Eileen Sullivan	Review of Human Growth and Development Curriculum	\$1,335	\$1,602
APS-2 Debora	Deborah Bookis	Kathy Richardson's Mathematics Intervention Strategies and	\$2,040 stipends	\$2,240
		Activities	200 supplies	
APS-3	Deborah Bookis	Creating Math Center Cards	\$510	\$510
APS-4	Deborah Bookis	Art and Literature: Visual Images and Digital Literacy	\$1,020	\$1,020
APS-5	Karen Sonner	Math Curriculum Development with the new math program	\$1,530	\$1,530
	Maryann Ayers			
APS-6	Ed Kaufman Designing Support, Resources and Structures for Regular Education Support	Designing Support, Resources and Structures for Regular Education	\$2,720	\$2,720
		Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit	
APS-7	Ed Kaufman	Preparing Faculty Meetings and Staff Professional Development for the year	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-8	Ed Kaufman	Reviewing and Updating Merriam School Publications	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-9	Nancy May	Creating Grade-wide Portaportals	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-10	Diana Woodruff	Setting Curriculum Goals in Visual Arts for Gr. K-6	\$510	\$510
			Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-11	Peter Broggi	Digitizing Music Curriculum Materials for Outside-School Access	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-12	Priscilla Kotyk	K-6 Tech Camp: Using Technology with Classroom Instruction	\$2,520	\$2,520

No.	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Title</u>	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
APS-13	Ed Kaufman	The Big Backyard	\$2,816	\$2,816
	Nancy Kolb			
APS-14	Elise Simeone	Development and Integration of the new Reading Program	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-15	Maura Sharp	"Reading Street" Program Development and Technology Integration	\$510	\$510
			Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-16	Martha Bethel	Everyday Math Program/ Smartboard Development	\$510	\$510
			Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-17	Anne Littlefield	Opening, Studying, Organizing, and Practicing: New Reading Program Learning	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-18	Aurora Winters	Enrichment Lessons on Folk culture of U. S. Regions	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-19	Rebecca Acheson	Writing and Math Curriculum Planning	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-20	Loretta Crumlish	Curriculum Development - Kindergarten Schedule	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-21	Eileen Sullivan	Utilizing On-line Resources for Curriculum	\$1,360	\$1,360
APS-22	Melissa Hayes	Smartboard Notebook Files Development	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-23	Sarah Buck	Literature and Media Map	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-24	Abigail Dressler	Revised grade 2 Plant Growth and Development	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-25	Sharon Ryan	Children's Literature Analysis	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
APS-26	Betty Johns	School Nursing Updates	Inservice Credit	Inservice Credit
				TOTAL: \$18,048

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Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906

Telephone: (781) 338-3000 TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

June 8, 2009

William Ryan Superintendent Acton 16 Charter Road Acton, MA 01720

Dear Superintendent William Ryan:

Congratulations!

The Department has received and certified your district's 2008-2009 EPIMS data and we are pleased to see that your district has met the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) goal of 100%.

To ensure that poor or minority children are not taught by inexperienced, unqualified, or out-of-field teachers at higher rates than are other children, *all* school districts and charter schools will be required to submit an updated Teacher Quality Improvement Plan (TQIP) to the Department. The purpose of the TQIP for districts and charter schools with 100% HQT is to report on how they will continue to ensure the equitable distribution of highly qualified teachers across all schools within the district.

The district will outline its strategy for ensuring the equitable distribution of Highly Qualified teachers across the district in the Equitable Distribution Plan section of the TQIP. It is important that both the district and the Department are confident that this Plan effectively demonstrates how the district will maintain the goal of 100% HQT across the district.

Please review the following information crucial to completing the TQIP:

- The TQIP application is currently available to districts on the Department's Security Portal.
- Each school district's Directory Administrator must assign the 2008-2009 TQ Improvement Plan security role to provide the appropriate district level administrator (Superintendent, district HQT contact, etc.) access to the TQIP application. This individual should be aware of the HQT requirements and provide oversight in implementing these requirements at the district level.
- A list of Directory Administrators for each district is available at: http://www.doe.mass.edu/infoservices/data/diradmin/list.asp.

• The deadline for submitting this plan is July 10, 2009.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact our HQT office directly at <u>HQThelp@doe.mass.edu</u>.

We thank you in your continued efforts to improve student achievement.

Sincerely,

David Haselkorn

Associate Commissioner

David CHeselkon

Center for Educator Policy, Preparation, Licensure and Leadership Development

ISSUES FOR THE COMMITTEE