

**MONTHLY REPORTING OF
ELL STUDENT POPULATION**Acton Public Schools
November 1, 2013

Category	Total as of 10/1/2013	Additions	Subtractions	Total as of 11/1/2013
Conant	37	0	0	37
Douglas	30	0	0	30
Gates	21	+1	0	22
McCarthy-Towne	40	0	-1	39
Merriam	22	+2	0	24
APS TOTAL	150	+3	-1	152

**EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENT POPULATION
MONTHLY REPORTING & PROJECTIONS**

Acton Public Schools
November 1, 2013

	September 1, 2013	Additions/ Subtractions September 1, 2013	Final Total As of September 1, 2013	October 1, 2013	Additions/ Subtractions October 1, 2013	Final Total As of October 1, 2013	November 1, 2013	Additions/ Subtractions November 1, 2013	Final Total As of November 1, 2013	End of Year Projection**
<i>SPED</i> 3-Year Olds (In-District)	17	0	17	17	0	17	17	0	17	26
<i>SPED</i> 4-Year Old (In-District)	17	0	17	17	0	17	17	0	17	19
<i>SPED</i> 5-Year Old (In-District)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
SPED 3-Year Old <i>Tuition in From Boxborough</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SPED 4-Year Old <i>Tuition in From Boxborough</i>	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	1
SPED Student In Class TOTAL	36	0	36	36	0	36	36	0	36	
Itinerant	9	0	9	9	-1	8	8	0	8	20
OOD Preschool	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
SPED TOTAL	45	0	45	45	-1	44	44	0	44	
<i>*TYPICAL</i> 3-year old (In-District)	21	0	21	21	0	21	21	0	21	24
<i>*TYPICAL</i> 4-Year Olds (In-District)	26	0	26	26	0	26	26	0	26	28
TOTAL	92	0	92	92	-1	91	91	0	91	121**

The school district must ensure that programs are available for eligible students 3 and 4 years of age. The programs must developmentally appropriate and located in a setting that includes student with and without disabilities (State Requirement 603 CMR 28.06 (7) and Federal Requirement 34 CFR 300.101 (b); 300.124(b); 300.323(b))

**Projections may be impacted by move-ins and/or Department of Public Health referrals

Office of the Superintendent
Acton Public Schools
Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools
978-264-4700 x 3206
ab.mec.edu

TO: All Schools
FROM: Steve Mills
DATE: November 15, 2013
RE: **Dismissal Schedule for November 27, 2013**

On Wednesday, November 27, the day before Thanksgiving, dismissal times for the schools will be as follows:

Junior High:	11:06 a.m.
Senior High:	11:18 a.m.
Conant/McT/Merriam	12:15 p.m.
Douglas/Gates	1:00 p.m.

Please note: Elementary dismissal follows the usual Thursday schedule.

Office of the Director of Curriculum and Assessment

Acton Public Schools

Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

(978) 264-4700 x 3213

<http://ab.mec.edu/curriculum/curriculum.shtml>

TO: Dr. Stephen Mills, Superintendent
FROM: Deborah Bookis, Director of Curriculum and Assessment
DATE: November 15, 2013
RE: Report on Professional Learning Day, November 5, 2013

This year, Professional Learning Day was planned and organized by individual schools and/or departments to support the learning and work of their respective goals. Below are the Professional Day summaries from the schools and departments of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District.

Conant and Gates Schools: Submitted by Damian Sugrue and Lynne Newman

The Gates and Conant school faculties met together at the Conant School. The focus of the day was to explore informational writing across the curriculum. Materials from Lucy Calkins, the Common Core, and a variety of web-based resources were utilized to provide background information. The small and large group protocols and group discussions that were used allowed teachers to explore the materials and select lessons and topics to use with students in the near future. Plans were discussed to have teachers continue to work together to develop their own writing instruction practice, as well as holistically score writing samples within the grade levels. Overall it was a very well-received and productive day.

Douglas School: Submitted by Chris Whitbeck

Professional Learning Day at Douglas was described by one teacher as a "breath of fresh air." We studied the ideas of Yong Zhao and Ken Robinson and used them as a foundation of our school vision. We analyzed the results of a school vision survey and engaged in deep discussion of trying to identify what we believe and how we want to approach education. After lunch, teachers applied this thinking to crafting curricular experiences that might lead to harnessing student creativity and passion.

McCarthy-Towne School: Submitted by David Krane

The recent Professional Learning Day was a great success. There are always issues for a school to explore thoughtfully and having this be designated a building-based day was very helpful. We spent the morning looking at our End-of-the-Year Summary Reporting document, using a Charrette protocol. The committee members who had developed the document over the course of last year facilitated the conversation in six small groups. One result that emerged was an interest in looking more carefully at what McCarthy-Towne calls portfolio assessment and making some adjustments. The afternoon was spent taking a closer look, as a whole school, at Read Aloud and Purposeful Talk and the implications for instruction across the grade levels. Sharon Ryan presented a slide show, *Purposeful Talk to Enhance Comprehension*, which incorporated the work of Kathy Collins, Ginny Lockwood,

Lucy Calkins, and Maria Nichols, among other scholars and practitioners. As we, as a school, move more deeply into the Reader's Workshop, use of specific language in conversation, both teacher and student, becomes more important in the teaching of critical comprehension strategies. This was the work of the afternoon. Finally, we took some time for colleagues to share their summer learning experiences in the context of the Reader's Workshop and Sharon Ryan's presentation. Although some of the sharing was planned as part of the afternoon, other teachers spontaneously spoke about their work at Teachers College or at the Summer Homegrown Institute. We are truly a learning community!

Merriam School: Submitted by Ed Kaufman

At Merriam School we divided the day into two parts. In the morning we took a look at our school philosophy, and the structures and strategies we use to implement that philosophy. We looked back at a handbook from 1994 – as a way to analyze how we've grown and changed over the years. This work will be brought back to a committee that will study the aspects of our programs that need to be energized and those that require less emphasis. We also will be planning 20th anniversary celebration as a way to mark this important year in the school's history.

After a delicious "Teacher Appreciation Lunch" provided by the PTO parents, we took a close look at our new "End-of-Year Document." Our committee worked several years creating this document, and in this meeting it was shared with the whole staff. We reviewed how to make the completion and delivery of the document as consistent as possible. Ed will write up a summary of our document guidelines to be handed out to the staff, and the document will be presented to parents at an upcoming PTO meeting. It was a productive and enjoyable day!

R.J. Grey Junior High: Submitted by Andrew Shen

This year, our Professional Day was divided into two sessions for most of the certified professional staff. In the morning session, the majority of departments continued to develop and refine the common assessments that they anticipate using next year as District Determined Measures (DDMs). The majority of departments has completed at least one, if not both, of their DDMs and will be prepared to pilot those assessments at some point this year.

In the afternoon, we continued our emphasis on integrating technology into the curriculum – both as an instructional tool and as a skill for students to learn. The technology workshops were facilitated by members of the RJ Grey staff (colleagues teaching colleagues), as well as members of the AB EdTech staff. Some of the workshops provided additional guidance with the AB Schools platform, and others were led by teachers who demonstrated their use of various Web 2.0 applications in their instruction. In addition to these activities, members of the RJ Grey staff who are participating in the District's literacy initiative met to continue a very important interdisciplinary dialogue about literacy and reading strategies within each subject area. Finally, our classroom assistants joined other support staff from around the District to participate in a training offered by Pupil Services on student engagement strategies and de-escalating difficult student situations.

Acton-Boxborough Regional High School: Submitted by JoAnn Campbell

The morning of November 5 was dedicated to mental health education and awareness at the high school. Faculty and staff heard presentations from members of the counseling department, as well as an interview with a former student who shared his experiences as a high school student who struggled with depression. Information in the morning session included the following:

- Current statistics related to hospitalizations and students who are accessing STAR services to transition back to school post-hospitalization.
- Statistics based on the most recent Youth Behavior Risk Survey.
- A presentation on the impact of depression and anxiety on student learning and how students might present in class while struggling with one or both.
- An overview of current supports and structures at the high school, including Student Support Team (SST), STAR, and the roles that counselors and school psychologists play in supporting students.
- Suggested strategies for classroom teachers to use in supporting students, as well as best practices to partner with the counseling department.
- An overview of next steps for the year, including joint planning with the PTSO on parent forums and student-led initiatives.

During the afternoon session, faculty met by departments with consultant Deb Merriam to continue work on District Determined Measures of Student Growth (DDMs). Groups were able to ask clarifying questions about the construction of DDMs, and Deb provided models for alternative measures of student growth beyond the test/quiz form of assessment. This work will continue for the course of the year.

Performing Arts 7-12: Submitted by Mark Hickey

All members of the performing arts department attended their assigned school's morning professional learning sessions. During the afternoon we came together at the high school, where I met with them as three different groups (drama / elementary music / regional music) to provide each with some training and further development of the DDMs that will be used for the teacher evaluation process beginning next year.

Visual Arts 7-12: Submitted by Diana Woodruff

During the morning the high school art staff attended sessions on mental health and during the afternoon worked with a consultant on DDMs. The art staff also worked together to develop DDMs for high school art courses.

Junior high art teachers met with other exploratory teachers at RJG to discuss and brainstorm ideas for DDMs in the morning session. They participated in Technology Workshops for the afternoon session.

Elementary art staff from Douglas, Conant and Gates worked on DDMs for both morning and afternoon sessions. Art faculty at Parker Damon met in their respective buildings for morning sessions (McCarthy-Towne: Protocols and Literacy; Merriam: Old and New

Structures) and then joined other elementary art staff at Gates School to develop a DDM for grade 1 Visual Memory Drawings.

Physical Education and Health: Submitted by David James

The K-6 Physical Education Department met to discuss the Elementary Physical Education Family Nights and District Determined Measures (DDMs) and worked on updating our K-6 learning goals. The discussion of the PE Family Nights centered on how successful and well attended they were this year and planning and preparing for an additional elementary school PE Night next year. We shared the progress of our DDM implementation of jump rope, half-mile run, and overhand throw and how we will determine growth in the spring. Finally, we collaborated on modifying our K-6 learning goal to be more current.

Nursing: Submitted by Diana McNicholas

Both Acton and Acton-Boxborough nurses attended Northeastern University's School Health Institute program: *An Update for School Nurses*. This well-attended school nurse program included the following topics and discussion: critical thinking, lice policy and procedures, adolescent reproductive health, the SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) program, latest trends in tuberculosis response, the American with Disabilities 504 implementation, community gang updates, and most currently, a flu update: H7N9. The high school nurses also attended the early morning counseling presentation on Mental Health and Wellness.

Educational Technology: Submitted by Amy Bisiewicz

For Professional Day 2013, the EDTech Operations divided into two groups in which one group went to an Apple Tech Update conference to learn about iOS7, iPad Management, and the new Volume Voucher Program. The second group stayed on campus to support district-wide break out sessions on technology and to begin renovations on the old Cisco lab at the High School. The EDTech Academics team supported the Junior High as their staff embarked on a technology-infused Professional Learning Day. Our staff presented and/or led breakout workshops in Podcasting, iPads in the Classroom, and Google Drive/Sites.

Carol P. Huebner Early Childhood Program: Submitted by Joe Gibowicz

Twenty-eight members of the Acton Public Schools preschool staff participated in three professional learning workshops. In attendance were special educators, classroom assistants, speech and language pathologists, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) trainers, the preschool BCBA, and the Early Childhood Coordinator. The first workshop, led by Dorry Brown, Director of Emerson College's Group Language Therapy Program, focused on facilitating language use for preschool-aged students and how music can be an integral part of pretend play for children. Dorry Brown has directed the Language Therapy program for more than 30 years with the assistance of graduate students from Emerson's Communication Sciences and Disorders Department. Dorry was able to share her expertise with the preschool staff in this interactive workshop.

Tammy Kucharski, Occupational Therapist, and Anne Dempsey, Physical Therapist, led the second workshop. They focused their presentation on posture, strength and tone, specifically, how motor skill development affects participation during preschool activities.

Finally, all staff met to discuss the process of regionalization and the direct effect on preschool programming. Discussions focused on the differences of the two programs (philosophies, hours, days, physical space, location, number of students) and how the merger will affect a new, integrated preschool program moving forward. As part of the discussion, the staff was asked to share “pros” and “cons,” as well as questions they might have regarding program relocation and other relevant issues. Through constructive discussion and a true commitment to forging new partnerships, ideas and action plans were generated for the future.

Support Staff: Submitted by Liza Huber and Julie Towell

Acton and Acton-Boxborough support staff attended a full-day workshop in behavioral safety presented by Quality Behavior Solutions, Inc. Customized to the district needs, a variety of guidelines and strategies were shared to use when dealing with behaviorally challenging situations, including an understanding of why crisis events happen and how crises can be prevented using a variety of supportive interaction techniques.

Feedback from staff indicated that the emphasis on prevention over intervention was a critical element for de-escalating disruptive and/or dangerous behavior and that the simple, evidence-based de-escalation strategies were effective for all populations of students. Moreover, interventions suggested and practiced could be flexibly adapted to a range of circumstances. Feedback confirmed that presenter David Rourke, M.S., provided respectful, non-coercive interventions that empowered staff to reduce risk in our schools.

Community Education, Extended Day Staff: Submitted by Erin O'Brien Bettez

Over the past year, Extended Day Coordinator Sally Cunningham earned Safety-Care Behavior Safety Trainer status. On Professional Day she led a daylong workshop for our Extended Day teachers, covering several key aspects of the Safety-Care curriculum. Teachers learned about the reasons behind challenging behaviors and how to prevent incidents. They were trained in de-escalation techniques. They reviewed good safety practices and how staff behavior enhances safe environments. It was a very productive day, part of an ongoing effort to provide Extended Day teachers with knowledge and tools needed to run a supportive and safe childcare program.

MONTHLY ENROLLMENT
ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS
2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR

Table with columns for months (Sept. 1 to Jun 1) and rows for enrollment levels (Levels K-12, Pre-sch, O.D. SPED, A.P.S., J.H.S., H.S., Total JHS & HS, O.D. SPED 7-12, Reg. Total, A.P.S. Total, Grand Total). Each cell contains enrollment counts for categories A, B(1), C, and Tot.

A = ACTON
B = BOXBOROUGH
C = Choice/Staff/Tuition In

Pre-School = SPED
P.G. = Post Graduates
Ungr. = Ungraded
O.D. = SPED Out of District

In D. = In District

Distribution:

S. Mills
M. Altieri
D. Bookis
L. Huber

D. Aicardi
A. Bisewicz
K. Nelson
E. Weiner
R. Cvitkovich

C. Bates

All Principals (2)

Students other than Choice counted under column C:
Staff Students -
Tuition In Students -
Sped Tuition in Students

Actual
Acton Public Schools
2013-2014

November 1, 2013

Grade YO	Conant				Douglas				Gates				McCarthy-Towne				Merriam				Total	#Sec.	Avg. Siz			
Rm	CAD	CAM	CPM	2#	DAD1	DAD2	DAM		GAD	GAM	1#		TAD1	TAD2	TAM	[1]3#		MAD	MAM	MPM	1#	7#				
K-26	21	21	21	63	20	20	20	60	21	20	41		21	20	21	62		20	21	21	62	288	14	20.6		
Rm 3	4	5	1#	3	4	5	2#	3	5			310	311	312	[1]2#		133	231	334	1#	6#					
												Case	22	20	21	63										
Gr. 1-2	21	22	22	65	22	22	23	67	22	22	44		21	22	22	65		22	22	21	65	306	14	21.9		
Rm 6	7	8		6	7	8		6	8	10	3#		301	302	303	[1]1#		224	234	323	2#	6#				
												Case	22	22	22	66										
Gr. 2-2	22	21	20	63	22	20	22	64	21	21	22	64		23	21	22	66		22	22	22	66	323	15	21.5	
Rm 9	10	20		9	10	11		17	7	9	3#		313	314	315	[4]2#	230	324	330	331	4#	9#				
												Case	23	22	22	67										
Gr. 3-2	24	24	23	71	23	24	24	71	23	23	24	70		23	24	23	70		23	23	24	22	92	374	16	23.4
Rm 17	18	19	1#	12	13	14	2#	18	19	20	1#		213	214	215	[3]3#	233	321	322	332		7#				
												Case	26	23	24	73										
Gr. 4-2	24	24	24	72	25	24	23	72	25	23	24	72		23	23	24	70		24	24	24	24	96	382	16	23.9
Rm 14	15	16		19	20	21		13	15	16	1#		210	211	212	[3]		135	232	333	1#	2#				
												Case	24	27	24	75										
Gr. 5-2	24	24	24	72	23	25	25	73	23	24	24	71		24	24	24	72		23	23	23	69	357	15	23.8	
Rm 11	12	13		15	16	17		11	12	14			113	114	115	1#		223	235	335	1#	2#				
												Case	24	27	24	75										
Gr. 6-2	24	24	24	72	24	24	24	72	24	24	24	72		24	24	25	73		25	24	24	73	362	15	24.1	
Total Staff				4#				4#				9#					12#					10#	39#			
													Case	[13]	Average	23.6	495									
Total	21 Sec	Average	22.8	478	21 Sec	Average	22.8	479	19 Sec	Average	22.8	434		21 Sec	Average	22.8	478		23 Sec	Average	22.7	523	2392	105	22.8	
Range	20	24			20	25			20	25				20	25					20	25			20	25	

ALL DAY K - CAD, DAD1, DAD2, GAD, TAD1, TAD2, and MAD



ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ❖ ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

16 Charter Road Acton, MA 01720-2995 Phone: 978-264-4700 x3206 Fax: 978-264-3340 Email: smills@abschools.org

Stephen E. Mills, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

November 13, 2013

Maura O. Banta, Chairperson,
and members of the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
boe@doe.mass.edu

Matthew H. Malone, Ph.D , Secretary of Education
MMalone@doe.mass.edu

Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D. Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
MChester@doe.mass.edu

Senator James B. Eldridge
James.Eldridge@masenate.gov

Representative Jennifer E. Benson
Jennifer.Benson@mahouse.gov

Representative Cory Atkins
Cory.Atkins@mahouse.gov

Dear Ms. Banta and members of the Board, Secretary Malone, Commissioner Chester, Senator Eldridge, Representative Benson and Representative Atkins,

At the November 7, 2013 Joint School Committee Meeting, Dr. Stephen Mills, Superintendent of Schools, and Deborah Bookis, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, suggested that the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District consider voicing their concern regarding the upcoming vote by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education on the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments.

The Administration and the School Committees are particularly troubled that the Board will vote to field test this new assessment before a thorough analysis has been completed, including its comparison to MCAS, its effect on School and District Accountability Ratings, and its impact on the Educator Evaluation Process.

The following motion was unanimously approved by the Acton Public School Committee, the Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee and the Acton-Boxborough Transitional School Committee on November 7, 2013:

WHEREAS: the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District question the reliability, validity, and equivalency of the PARCC assessment when compared to MCAS.

WHEREAS: the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District question why the State has not also pursued its option to make changes

to MCAS to be fully aligned with the MA 2010 standards, in case PARCC does not meet expectations.

-DESE MASS Drive-in Conference, October 2013 slide 10

WHEREAS: the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District have not been fully apprised as to "all indications to date that PARCC will provide a better assessment system than MCAS."

-DESE MASS Drive-in Conference, October 2013 slide 12

WHEREAS: the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District have not been fully apprised as to the criteria and analysis that will be used to determine if PARCC is "as comprehensive and rigorous as our current assessment system (MCAS)."

-2010 Memorandum of Agreement signed by Governor Patrick, Secretary Reville, and Commissioner Chester

WHEREAS: the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District question why DESE did not request feedback from districts about accountability options before agreeing to field test PARCC and has yet to adequately reconcile this issue.

-Requesting input October-November 2013, DESE MASS Drive-in Conference, October 2013 slide 19

WHEREAS: the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District have serious concerns as to how student exemptions from MCAS this year will impact educator evaluations, as DESE has not informed districts how it will use PARCC to calculate a reliable growth score.

-DESE MASS Drive-in Conference, October 2013 slides 34-36

NOW, THEREFORE: the School Committees of the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District voice their opposition to the field-test plans for PARCC and request that the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education delay the decision to field test PARCC this year and to delay the decision to adopt PARCC for one year from 2015 to 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Petr

Secretary to the Acton Public and Acton-Boxborough School Committees

Cc: Stephen E. Mills, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools
Deborah Bookis, Director of Curriculum and Assessment
Marc Lewis, President, Acton Education Association (AEA)
Members of the Acton Public School Committee, Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee and the Acton-Boxborough Transitional School Committee:
Brigid Bieber, Mary Brolin, Dennis Bruce, Michael Coppolino, Kim McOsker, Paul Murphy, Maria Neyland, Deanne O'Sullivan, Kristina Rychlik

Attachment: Letter from Marc Lewis, AEA President, 11/8/13



Acton Education Association
PO Box 2354 · Acton, MA 01720

November 8, 2013

Dear Superintendent Mills and School Committee members,

Thank you very much for proposing and unanimously adopting the motion at last night's school committee meeting concerning the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments.

For each of the reasons cited in the motion, we are proud to stand beside you and proudly echo the sentiment so powerfully and eloquently expressed last night.

When school districts as respected as ours make such a public statement, it sends a very powerful message to the Department and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and to your colleagues around the Commonwealth. I hope that the action you took last night will provide others the motivation and courage to pass similar motions. Perhaps the power of those numbers will have the influence we desire.

As you may know, Deborah Bookis and I met last year with Senator Eldridge and Representative Benson to discuss these very concerns, and they expressed their support for our position. The actions you took last evening will certainly serve to embolden their advocacy and hopefully encourage them to seek a legislative remedy if that proves to be necessary.

Many of the recent actions and decisions from our state's educational leaders have been troubling. It is appalling that the state has decided to release to the public school-by-school educator evaluation ratings. Further, those ratings are going to be divided by educators with and without Professional Teacher Status. We can only imagine the unnecessary damage that will come from such a shortsighted decision and how especially troubling this will be for a district like ours with school choice. I look forward to our working together in the near future to address this issue as well.

On behalf of my over 30 colleagues who came out last night to demonstrate their support and gratitude, and our entire membership, I thank you for your leadership and for passing such a powerful and important motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Marc Lewis'.

Marc Lewis
AEA President

CC: Marie Altieri, Deborah Bookis, principals

Office of the Superintendent
Acton Public Schools/ Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools
978-264-4700, x3206

**Statement regarding the Appointment
of
Dr. JoAnn Campbell
to the position of
Principal
Acton-Boxborough Regional High School**

November 5, 2013

Dr. Stephen Mills, Superintendent of Schools, is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. JoAnn Campbell as the Principal of the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School.

Dr. Campbell has been serving as Interim Principal at the High School, following a thorough search process last spring. Prior to this year, Dr. Campbell served as Assistant Principal at the High School. For the previous four years, Dr. Campbell was the English Department Head and Dean of Students at Lexington High School. From 2005 – 2008 she was Assistant Principal at ABRHS. Dr. Campbell taught English for several years prior to that. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont, a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) from Simmons College and a doctorate of education from Boston University.

Dr. Campbell has all the qualifications that the school district and the Acton Boxborough Community would like to see in a principal. We are very happy to welcome her in her role on the Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools' administrative team.

Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

SCHOOL CALENDAR, 2014-2015

Bold Underlined Dates = No School Days

***Parent/Guardian Conferences**

**** Professional Learning for Staff**

Sept.	M	T	W	T	F
	<u>1</u>	2	3	4	5
	8	9	10	11	12
	15	16	17	18	19
	22	23	24	<u>25</u>	26
	29	30			

Labor Day – Sept 1
 Teachers' mtg. – Sept 2
 Schools Open – Sept 3
 Rosh Hashanah – Sept 25
 School Days - 19

Jan.	M	T	W	T	F
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	5	6	7	8	9
	12	13	14	15	16
	<u>19</u>	20	21	22	23
	26	27	28	29	30

Schools Open - Jan. 5
 **JH AND HS Early Dis. –
 Martin Luther King Day - Jan. 19
 Kindergarten Change-over - Jan. 20
 School Days - 19

Oct.	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	3
	6	7	8	9	10
	<u>13</u>	14	15	16	17
	20	21	22	23	24
	27	28	29	30	31

Columbus Day - Oct. 13
 *Elem Early Dismissal –
 School Days -22

Feb.	M	T	W	T	F
	2	3	4	5	6
	9	10	11	12	13
	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
	23	24	25	26	27

**JH AND HS Late Start –
 Presidents' Day - Feb. 16
 Winter Recess - Feb. 16-20
 School Days - 15

Nov.	M	T	W	T	F
	3	<u>4</u>	5	6	7
	10	<u>11</u>	12	13	14
	17	18	19	20	21
	24	25	26	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>

**Prof. Day - Nov. 4 (no school/students)
 *Elem Early Dismissal –
 Veterans Day - Nov. 11
 Half Day - Nov. 26
 Thanksgiving Recess - Nov. 27-28
 School Days - 16

Mar.	M	T	W	T	F
	2	3	4	5	6
	9	10	11	12	13
	16	17	18	19	20
	23	24	25	26	27
	30	31			

School Days - 22

Dec.	M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4	5
	8	9	10	11	12
	15	16	17	18	19
	22	23	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>
	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>		

*Jr. High. Early Dis –
 Winter Recess - Dec. 24 - Jan. 4
 School Days - 17

Apr.	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	<u>3</u>
	6	7	8	9	10
	13	14	15	16	17
	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
	27	28	29	30	

**JH AND HS Late Start –
 Good Friday – April 3
 Spring Recess - April 20-24
 Patriots Day – April 20
 School Days - 16

Note: Yom Kippur is Saturday, October 4, 2014. See DESE list attached.

No School and Delayed Opening Announcements air on: <http://ab.mec.edu>,
 TV Channels 4, 5, and 7 and radio stations WBZ and WEIM

Acton Town Meeting begins April 7, 2014.
 Boxborough Town Meeting begins May 12, 2014.

Monthly Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee Meetings are held. See <http://ab.mec.edu/about/meetings.shtml> for more information.

May	M	T	W	T	F
					1
	4	5	6	7	8
	11	12	13	14	15
	18	19	20	21	22
	<u>25</u>	26	27	28	29

Memorial Day - May 25
 School Days - 20

June	M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4	5
	8	9	10	11	12
	15	16	17	18	19
	22	23	24	25	26
	29	30			

Graduation – June 5
 Last day – June 18
 (plus one for each unscheduled no school day)
 School Days - 14

Total Days = 180

8.3

October 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Statewide Legal Holidays, Other Holidays, and Major Religious Observances in Massachusetts

The following list includes statewide legal holidays, other holidays, and some major religious holidays. The list does not include all religious holidays observed by every faith. State and federal law require schools to make reasonable accommodation to the religious needs of students and employees. For information on other religious holidays observed by members of religions represented in your school community, please see <http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/> or contact local clergy. School vacations are determined by school districts and charter schools. Please contact the local school administration office for details. Contact information can be found at [Massachusetts Schools and Districts](#).

Statewide Legal Holidays¹:

	2013-2014 School Yr.	2014-2015 School Yr.	2015-2016 School Yr.
Labor Day	Mon., Sept. 2	Mon., Sept. 1	Mon., Sept. 7
Columbus Day	Mon., Oct. 14	Mon., Oct. 13	Mon., Oct. 12
Veterans' Day	Mon., Nov. 11	Tues., Nov. 11	Wed., Nov. 11
Thanksgiving	Thurs., Nov. 28	Thurs., Nov. 27	Thurs., Nov. 26
Christmas Day	Wed., Dec. 25	Thurs., Dec. 25	Fri., Dec. 25
New Year's Day	Wed., Jan. 1	Thurs., Jan. 1	Fri., Jan. 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Mon., Jan. 20	Mon., Jan. 19	Mon., Jan. 18
Presidents' Day	Mon., Feb. 17	Mon., Feb. 16	Mon., Feb. 15
Patriots' Day	Mon., April 21	Mon., April 20	Mon., April 18
Memorial Day	Mon., May 26	Mon., May 25	Mon., May 30
Independence Day	Fri., July 4	Sat., July 4	Mon., July 4

Other Holidays and Major Religious Observances:

	2013-2014 School Yr.	2014-2015 School Yr.	2015-2016 School Yr.
Eid al-Fitr**	Thurs., Aug. 8	Tues., July 29	Sat., July 18
Rosh Hashanah*	Sept. 5-Sept. 6	Sept. 25-Sept. 26	Sept. 14-Sept. 15
Yom Kippur*	Sat., Sept. 14	Sat., Oct. 4	Wed., Sept. 23
Sukkot*	Thurs., Sept. 19	Thurs., Oct. 9	Mon., Sept. 28
Ramadan**	July 9-Aug. 7	June 29-July 28	June 18-July 17
Diwali	Wed., Nov. 3	Thurs., Oct. 23	Wed., Nov. 11
Thanksgiving	Thurs., Nov. 28	Thurs., Nov. 27	Thurs., Nov. 26
Eid al-Adha**	Tues., Oct. 15	Sun., Oct. 5	Wed., Sept. 23

Chanukah*	Thurs., Nov. 28	Wed., Dec. 17	Mon., Dec. 7
Kwanzaa	Thurs., Dec. 26	Fri., Dec. 26	Sat., Dec. 26
Chinese New Year	Tues., Jan. 31	Thurs., Feb. 19	Tues., Mar. 8
Ash Wednesday	Wed., Mar. 5	Wed., Feb. 18	Wed., Feb 10
Vernal Equinox	Thurs., Mar. 20	Fri., Mar. 20	Sun., Mar. 20
Evacuation Day***	Mon., Mar. 17	Tues., Mar. 17	Thurs., Mar. 17
Palm Sunday	Sun., April 13	Sun. Mar. 29	Sun., Mar. 20
Passover *	Tues., April 15	Sat. April 4	Sat., April 23
Good Friday	Fri., April 18	Fri., April 3	Fri., Mar. 25
Easter	Sun., April 20	Sun., April 5	Sun., Mar. 27
Orthodox Good Friday	Fri., April 18	Fri., April 10	Fri., April 29
Orthodox Easter	Sun., April 20	Sun., April 12	Sun., May 1
Shavuot*	Wed., June 4	Sun., May 24	Sun., June 12
Bunker Hill Day***	Tues., June 17	Wed., June 17	Fri., June 17

*

All Jewish holidays begin at sundown on the evening prior to the day of the holiday. In addition to dates noted, observant Jews celebrate the second, seventh and eighth days of Passover; the second, eighth and ninth days of Sukkot; and two days of Shavuot. Mass. Lawyers Diary and Manual.

** Due to the lunar calendar, these are only approximate dates.

*** Previous legal holiday in Suffolk County

¹ Government offices, including schools, are required to close on these dates.

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS
2014-2015 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION SCHEDULE

The following are important dates for parents/guardians of children who will be entering Kindergarten in September, 2014 (5 years old on or before September 1, 2014). See also: <http://ab.mec.edu/sturegister.shtml>

GENERAL MEETING*

Our Superintendent, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Director of Personnel, Director of Pupil Services, Principals, Registrar, Kindergarten staff and School Nurse will be on hand to answer questions.

Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., R.J. Grey Junior High Auditorium
immediately followed at 8:15 by K-6 Before and After School Programs Overview

SCHOOL TOURS

All schools will be open for tours on the following dates: January 24; January 28, February 3, February 5 (Snowdate February 11). Please call individual schools after January 2, 2014 to reserve tour times. You may reserve more than one tour per day. If school is canceled or delayed on a tour day, parents should call to reschedule.

Tour hours for Conant, McCarthy-Towne & Merriam: 8:45 - 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
Tour hours for Blanchard, Douglas & Gates: 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. and 11:00 - 12:15 p.m.
Please do not bring young children with you on the tour.

EARLY REGISTRATION for SIBLINGS and WALKERS

Families who are eligible, or who believe they may be eligible for priority admission status (siblings of current students, walkers), are urged to register early. Both sessions will be at the Central Office located in the R.J. Grey Junior High School

You must bring a copy of your child's birth certificate/passport, most recent physical examination & immunization record.

Tuesday, January 21: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 22: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING MEETINGS*

Tuesday, January 21, 7:00 p.m. @ Douglas - Cafetorium
Tuesday, January 28, 7:00 p.m. @ McCarthy-Towne - Cafetorium
Tuesday, February 4, 7:00 p.m. @ Merriam - Cafetorium
Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 p.m. @ Blanchard - Cafetorium
Tuesday, February 25, 7:00 p.m. @ Gates - Cafetorium
Tuesday, March 4, 7:00 p.m. @ Conant - Cafetorium

** In case of snow, ANY postponed evening meeting will be held the next evening (Wednesday)*

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

You must bring a copy of your child's birth certificate/passport, most recent physical examination & immunization record. Both sessions will be at the Central Office located in the R.J. Grey Junior High School.

Tuesday, March 11: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 12: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

INFORMATION SESSION for K-6 BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE PROGRAMS

Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 8:15 p.m., R.J. Grey Junior High School Auditorium

If you are interested in K-6 before and after school childcare programs, representatives from Community Education Extended Day and school-based before and after school programs will be available to describe their programs, enrollment process, fee structure, etc. following the General Meeting that begins at 7:00 (see above).

REGISTRATION PROCESS for COMMUNITY ED EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM, K-6

Registration forms for new families will be accepted February 28 - March 7 by mail or walk-in. Lottery will be held on Monday, March 10, at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Education Office, Administration Building, 15 Charter Rd., Acton

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Late April - School Placement & All-Day Kindergarten Lotteries held (as necessary). Notification letters sent out.

May 15 - All Day K non-refundable deposit (\$450) due.

May 31 - Parent-released/teacher-completed Pre-K Assessment Form due at Registrar's Office, R.J. Grey Junior High

July 1 - (Approx. date) Schools assign students to either AM or PM sessions and notify Transportation Office.

July 31 - Children's medical forms (complete immunization history, physical exam completed after 1/1/14) due at school nurse's office.

August 1 - September tuition for children registered in All-Day K (\$450) due at the Community Ed. Office.

11/15/13