

Office of the Superintendent
Acton Public Schools
www.ab.mec.edu
(978) 264-4700 x3211

TO: Acton Public School Committee Members
FROM: Dr. Stephen Mills
ON: October 15, 2009
RE: **ADDENDUM**

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Recommendation to Approve FY'10 Integrated Preschool Tuition Rate – **VOTE** – Liza Huber

VIII. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

1. Acton Family Flu Clinic Day, 10/24/09
3. c. Budget Status Summary – SPED
8. ABRHS Student Photography Exhibits:
 - a. State Transportation Building in Boston, 10/15 - 11/27
 - b. “Our Town Through Student Eyes” at ABRHS 10/30 – 11/7
9. OnTeam – October, 2009
10. 4th Annual Special Education Parent Workshop – “Helping the Child with Disabilities Find Social Success” with Rick Lavoie, 11/6/09
11. “Strengthening Schools through the Prevention of Bullying” with Dr. Elizabeth Englander, 10/20/09, sponsored by Pupil Services, CAFY, AB SpEd PAC, and Acton No Place for Hate

*Acton Public Schools/Acton Boxborough Regional School District
15 Charter Road, Acton, MA 01720*

978-264-4700 x3265

Date: October 13, 2009

To: Steve Mills

From: Liza Huber

Subject: 2009-2010 Integrated Preschool Tuitions

I am recommending the following tuition rate for the Integrated Preschool programs for the current school year. This tuition is charged to public school districts who tuition special education preschool students into our program.

Acton Public School Preschool Program: \$20,182

Acton Public Schools Preschool ABA Program: \$38,274

Acton Family Flu Clinic Day

Sponsored by:

Acton Board of Health
Acton Public Health Nursing Service
Acton Public Health Department
Acton Medical Reserve Corps
Acton and Acton-Boxborough
Regional Schools



The purpose of this clinic is to provide seasonal influenza protection to all ages of citizens in Acton.

The vaccines will be provided while people remain in their cars to provide an Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) drill for the participants. Having people remain in their cars provides “social distancing” to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. This is a method of dispensing medications that might be required in an emergency situation and all towns are encouraged to practice. We appreciate your willingness to join us and see this as an opportunity to help yourself and your town.

The following forms of vaccine will be available:

Flu Vaccine

Ages 6 mos. and above, including pregnant women.

Flu Mist Inhalant

Ages 2-49 years who are healthy.

Date: Saturday, October 24

Time: 9-12 PM

Acton Highway Department

14 Forest St. (off Minot St.)

Seasonal flu vaccine will be available for adults and children aged 6 months and up. Charge: \$20 per person, \$40 per family. Medicare recipients are free of charge. No one will be turned away due to inability to pay.

Questions: Call 978-264-9653

AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2009

FOR 2010 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENC/REQ	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED

1005 GENERAL FUND SCHOOL							

05 SW SPECIAL EDUCATION							

05010501 52401 SPED LEGAL SERVICES	45,000	0	45,000	8,371.98	34,128.02	2,500.00	94.4%
11040501 51502 PS:SECRETARY	47,020	0	47,020	11,805.86	35,049.97	164.17	99.7%
14040501 51411 SPED CHAIRPERSON	88,013	0	88,013	14,311.21	70,688.79	3,013.00	96.6%
14050503 51433 SUMMER PROGRAM STIPE	40,000	0	40,000	38,432.28	.00	1,567.72	96.1%
14050504 51615 SUMMER SPED ASST	20,000	20,000	40,000	35,016.12	.00	4,983.88	87.5%
14050509 54305 SPED TEXTBOOKS	2,444	0	2,444	2,443.35	1,370.00	-1,369.35	156.0%*
14050510 54302 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	847	0	847	494.89	355.00	-2.89	100.3%*
14050511 52409 IN SERVICE CONFERENC	1,188	0	1,188	.00	285.00	903.00	24.0%
14050520 51409 REFERRAL TO SPECIALI	0	0	0	741.66	4,375.00	-5,116.66	100.0%*
14050521 52443 SPED REFERRAL TO SPE	118,130	0	118,130	15,541.99	68,018.01	34,570.00	70.7%
14050521 52452 SUMMER PROGRAM, CS	65,000	-20,000	45,000	11,705.75	30,952.00	2,342.25	94.8%
14050522 52462 PS SEC 504 CONTR SVC	1,025	0	1,025	.00	.00	1,025.00	.0%
14050524 51419 COORDINATOR	27,571	0	27,571	24,569.15	19,834.35	-16,832.50	161.1%*
TOTAL SW SPECIAL EDUCATION	456,238	0	456,238	163,434.24	265,056.14	27,747.62	93.9%
18 SPECIAL EDUCATION							

05051801 52416 SPED INDEP EVALUATIO	4,990	0	4,990	.00	.00	4,990.00	.0%
05051802 52404 SPED PERIODICALS/SUB	808	0	808	.00	703.00	105.00	87.0%
05051802 52406 SPED POSTAGE	2,695	0	2,695	2,100.68	667.32	-73.00	102.7%*
05051802 52407 SPED INSVC CONFERENC	352	0	352	.00	360.00	-8.00	102.3%
05051802 52408 SPED TRAVEL - LOCAL	181	0	181	.00	.00	181.00	.0%
05051802 52410 SPED DUES & FEES	305	0	305	43.57	.00	261.43	14.3%
05051802 52455 SPED MNT COPY EQUIP	3,475	0	3,475	2,946.79	811.21	-283.00	108.1%*
05051802 52456 SPED MNT OFFICE EQUI	283	0	283	.00	.00	283.00	.0%
05051803 54301 SPED OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,507	0	3,507	379.71	1,885.22	1,242.07	64.6%
05051804 58708 SPED OUTLAY EQUIP	10,979	0	10,979	9,087.69	2,190.00	-298.69	102.7%
05051805 52424 MEDICAID SERVICES	1,072	0	1,072	.00	.00	1,072.00	.0%
05051806 52413 SPED MEDICAL SERVICE	2,496	0	2,496	.00	.00	2,496.00	.0%
05051807 52425 SPED TUITION - CASE	645,131	0	645,131	349,656.00	.00	295,475.00	54.2%
05051808 52426 SPED TUITION PRIVATE	1,278,435	0	1,278,435	212,357.74	1,106,935.67	-40,858.41	103.2%*
05051808 52465 CIRCUIT BREAKER TUIT	-500,738	0	-500,738	.00	.00	-500,738.00	.0%*
05051809 51614 SPED TRANSP ASST	5,000	0	5,000	62.50	.00	4,937.50	1.3%
05051809 51627 SPED DRIVERS	3,500	0	3,500	.00	.00	3,500.00	.0%

AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2009

FOR 2010 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENC/REQ	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
05051810 52430 CO: SPED CASE TRANSP	517,997	0	517,997	258,998.50	258,998.50	.00	100.0%
06041801 51408 SPED TEACHER	278,571	0	278,571	32,142.81	246,428.19	.00	100.0%
06041802 51418 SPEECH TEACHER	72,202	0	72,202	8,331.03	63,871.22	-.25	100.0%*
06041803 51624 SPED EDUCATION ASST	229,855	0	229,855	18,170.68	145,535.11	66,149.21	71.2%
06051801 54305 RES TEXTBOOKS	537	0	537	649.14	38.50	-150.64	128.1%*
06051802 54332 EDUC NEEDS SUPPLIES	593	0	593	316.97	280.34	-4.31	100.7%*
06051802 54333 SPEECH SUPPLIES	442	0	442	233.60	86.48	121.92	72.4%
07041801 51408 SPED TEACHER	154,147	0	154,147	19,827.42	134,319.58	.00	100.0%
07041802 51418 SPEECH TEACHER	86,723	0	86,723	10,362.69	79,447.31	-3,087.00	103.6%*
07041803 51624 SPED EDUCATION ASST	68,272	0	68,272	6,840.29	54,005.17	7,426.54	89.1%
07051801 54305 RES TEXTBOOKS	537	0	537	329.96	101.13	105.91	80.3%
07051801 54334 EDUC NEEDS TEXTS	0	0	0	246.45	93.93	-340.38	100.0%*
07051802 54332 EDUC NEEDS SUPPLIES	593	0	593	625.68	53.00	-85.68	114.4%*
07051802 54333 SPEECH SUPPLIES	436	0	436	302.35	294.09	-160.44	136.8%*
08041801 51408 SPED TEACHER	230,758	0	230,758	26,769.27	175,307.76	28,680.97	87.6%
08041802 51418 SPEECH TEACHER	86,218	0	86,218	9,948.24	76,269.76	.00	100.0%
08041803 51624 SPED EDUCATION ASST	114,698	0	114,698	12,815.84	97,044.00	4,838.16	95.8%
08051801 54305 RES TEXTBOOKS	537	0	537	71.74	364.31	100.95	81.2%
08051802 54332 EDUC NEEDS SUPPLIES	494	0	494	390.61	137.83	-34.44	107.0%*
08051802 54333 SPEECH SUPPLIES	442	0	442	532.10	.00	-90.10	120.4%*
09041801 51408 SPED TEACHER	249,070	0	249,070	29,025.93	222,532.07	-2,488.00	101.0%*
09041802 51418 SPEECH TEACHER	85,341	0	85,341	10,352.10	76,027.50	-1,038.60	101.2%*
09041803 51624 SPED EDUCATION ASST	56,005	0	56,005	6,469.09	53,553.54	-4,017.63	107.2%*
09051801 54334 EDUC NEEDS TEXTS	641	0	641	662.91	.00	-21.91	103.4%*
09051802 54330 RESOURCE SUPPLIES	494	0	494	425.91	.00	68.09	86.2%
09051802 54333 SPEECH SUPPLIES	442	0	442	477.26	.00	-35.26	108.0%*
10041801 51408 SPED TEACHER	285,529	0	285,529	32,945.64	252,583.36	.00	100.0%
10041802 51418 SPEECH TEACHER	75,295	0	75,295	8,687.88	66,607.12	.00	100.0%
10041803 51624 SPED EDUCATION ASST	150,574	0	150,574	21,558.30	165,240.28	-36,224.58	124.1%*
10051801 54334 EDUC NEEDS TEXTS	641	0	641	414.85	219.00	7.15	98.9%
10051802 54332 EDUC NEEDS SUPPLIES	589	0	589	1,490.82	.00	-901.82	253.1%*
10051802 54333 SPEECH SUPPLIES	442	0	442	478.90	.00	-36.90	108.3%*
14041801 51416 SPED OCCUP THERAPIST	205,399	0	205,399	24,116.04	183,734.88	-2,451.92	101.2%*
14041801 51417 PHYSICAL THERAPIST	74,398	0	74,398	8,584.47	65,813.78	-.25	100.0%*
14051801 51407 HOME INSTRUCT TEACHE	1,051	0	1,051	.00	.00	1,051.00	.0%
14051803 54338 SPED EDUC SUPPLIES	3,200	0	3,200	2,271.31	1,217.85	-289.16	109.0%*
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	4,495,634	0	4,495,634	1,132,501.46	3,533,758.01	-170,625.47	103.8%

51 AUTISTIC SERVICES

14055101 51436 AUTISTIC COORDINATOR	63,833	0	63,833	9,387.00	25,613.00	28,833.00	54.8%
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AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2009

FOR 2010 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENC/REQ	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
14055102 51616 TRAINER	658,220	0	658,220	61,256.89	538,537.68	58,425.43	91.1%
14055103 52463 AUTISTIC CONTRACT SE	0	0	0	1,140.00	.00	-1,140.00	100.0%
TOTAL AUTISTIC SERVICES	722,053	0	722,053	71,783.89	564,150.68	86,118.43	88.1%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND SCHOOL	5,673,925	0	5,673,925	1,367,719.59	4,362,964.83	-56,759.42	101.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,673,925	0	5,673,925	1,367,719.59	4,362,964.83	-56,759.42	
GRAND TOTAL	5,673,925	0	5,673,925	1,367,719.59	4,362,964.83	-56,759.42	101.0%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Sharon Summers **

Student Photography Exhibit:
State Transportation Building, Boston

The following ABRHS students' work is included in a photography exhibit at the State Transportation Building's 2nd floor gallery space, October 15 through November 27, 2009. This exhibit is sponsored by the Massachusetts Art Education Association.

-
- Mikayla Rud Grade 10
- Ben Sanderson Grade 12
- Julia Legler Grade 12
- Chris Hardie Grade 12
- Hannah Hong Grade 12
- Craig Boland Grade 11
- Sarah Willis Grade 12
- Jesse Stecklow Grade 11
- Jinji Zhang Grade 10
- Ryan Cullen Grade 11
- Katie Bartow Grade 12

- **Photography Exhibit: "Our Town Through Student Eyes"**

- The following ABRHS photography students' work will be in the show: "**Our Town: Through Student Eyes**". The show will be on view before performances and during intermission of ABRHS Proscenium Circus' production of "Our Town" (October 30 and 31, November 1, 6, 7). The work will also be on display for the entire school day on Nov. 6.

- Katie Bartow (Grade 12)
Meghna Batra (Grade 10)
Andrew Chang (Grade 10)
Erin Fitzmaurice (Grade 11)
Chloe Goodnough (Grade 11)
Amanda Hayes (Grade 11)
Max Hoffman (Grade 10)
Dan Keller (Grade 12)
Julia Legler (Grade 12)
Dan Markman (Grade 11)
Erin Richard (Grade 12)
Michele Russell (Grade 12)
Mengli Shi (Grade 10)
Sedona Stewart (Grade 10)
Chinemenma Udokwu (Grade 12)
Sarah Willis (Grade 12)
Dominic Abacherli (Grade 10)
Madeline Cote (Grade 12)
Alexandra Egge (Grade 10)
Emily Foster (Grade 10)
Michelle Ives (Grade 10)
Caitlin Klockner (Grade 10)
Mikayla Rud (Grade 10)
Ben Sanderson (Grade 12)
Maya Wolf (Grade 10)
Morgan Wolf (Grade 12)
Michelle Abacherli (Grade 12)
Craig Boland (Grade 11)
Amelia Brandon (Grade 12)
Ryan Cullen (Grade 11)
Kelly Donovan (Grade 11)
Katherine Faulkner (Grade 10)
Deborah Fetterman (Grade 10)
Allison Flannery (Grade 12)
Chris Hardie (Grade 12)
Hannah Hong (Grade 12)
Hannah Kembel (Grade 11)
Halley McVeigh (Grade 11)
MJ Miller (Grade 11)
Katherine Mubarek (Grade 11)
Abby Pfister (Grade 12)
Anna Samiljan (Grade 11)
Jesse Stecklow (Grade 11)
Elspeth Vandegrift (Grade 10)
Diana Watson (Grade 10)
Jinji Zhang (Grade 10)



October, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we become continuously more focused on student health and safety, reducing stress and promoting the sense of well-being in our Acton and Acton-Boxborough Schools, building partnerships and enhancing communication continue to be paramount to our organization's effectiveness.

Our school district believes that outstanding internal and external connectedness is key in facilitating information before we face challenges or even a crisis. Utilizing our teams and partnerships with our community ensures a safe environment for our children and our students. These resources offer information, refuge, and healing for families and children.

Experts in violence and substance abuse prevention agree that simply passing on facts about the dangers of alcohol, illegal drugs, or other risky behavior (bullying, cyber bullying, etc.) will not necessarily change behavior. Behavioral change is the result of changes in attitudes and beliefs; these changes take discussion, peer and adult modeling, self-awareness, internal goal setting, and positive reinforcement – to mention a few characteristics.

We were particularly proud this month to be partners with our Acton-Boxborough Coalition for Healthy Youth (ABCHY), our Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SpEd PAC), and the No Room for Hate Committee in our first annual Youth Advocacy Community Symposium. This symposium provided a forum where our young people, parents, school and town leaders and community members identified the supports, opportunities, places and space, and services to help all young people develop and thrive. Dr. Stephen Mills, our newly appointed Superintendent shared his vision for collaboration and a commitment for schools and communities to work together. Joining him for a panel discussion were students from the Acton-Boxborough Student Council, and Bruce Oetinger, School to Work Coordinator.

On a personal note, I immensely appreciated the time that everyone gave to this important topic and am cognizant that everyone who attended came with a shared common purpose ~ a sense of responsibility and obligation to our children and to the community at large. Many businesses and organizations were represented; all who attended made equally important contributions by collaborating and brainstorming potential resources in the community.

Moreover, growing up is hard to do! Families want their children to grow up in an environment in which they become independent, make good choices, now and in the future, but in an environment in which knowing that one can make mistakes and fail, pick up the pieces constructively, learn from the mistakes, and grow from the experience. This is called resiliency – an essential element for becoming an independent young adult - and on this journey, the family is a support and in many cases, a refuge.

In schools, we want our students to be critical and self-learners; we want independent and analytical thinkers. We offer support in their thinking; we redirect, when necessary. For our students, we want them to continuously grow with intact self and body images, an inquisitive mind, a thirst for life long learning and with a duty for citizenship. But we know too well, that sometimes, youngsters block this natural learning and anticipated but expected steps in development; dependency, failure to think independently and critically, and sometimes holding secrets work against these developmental stages and create their own lifetime challenges. That's where homes and schools can help – as a refuge, as a guide, as a listening ear, as a healer.

When the home, community, and schools work together, these interdependent organizations help further and assist significantly. Creating positive environments for students in their homes, in schools, and in the community assists in learning new strategies for self-development, solid social and academic learning, and committed and dutiful citizenship, now and in adulthood. These positive and interdependent networks of school, home, community will become the long lasting landscape for our next generation.

Our goal is not to focus only on treatment post incident, but also to develop strategies for reducing unacceptable social behavior and enhancing student safety. That said, as child advocates, we know that the realities often require an immediate response. What do we need to know?

Emergency Preparedness

Did you know that all of our schools have developed and practiced emergency response plans -- well articulated and clearly understood by all? We hold drills that include police and fire personnel as the best approach to emergencies in effective collaboration between agencies. All schools have voluntary crisis intervention teams, led by building principals, that respond to both state and national emergencies, unexpected loss or tragedy within the community, and more.

51A Mandated Reporting

You may or may not be aware that all school-based staff participants, as mandated reporters, are trained annually for the legal responsibilities for reporting alleged child abuse and neglect. Topics covered include: the Mandated Reporter statute, the reporting process, recognizing indicators of child abuse and neglect, the role of the Department of Children and Family Services, and the support of school counselors and psychologists in each school. As reporters, we must report what was said, told, or observed; we do not make judgments. Investigations are done by the Department of Children and Families to substantiate or not to substantiate what has been reported.

Connectedness with Pupil Services

The schools have designed instructional programs for our students to best equip them for the many years of future learning. As part of this paradigm, classroom teachers and staff are available to students to enhance the learning process. Specialized programs assist the unique needs of students in many areas of learning, socialization, and behavior. Behind all these programs, major supports for families and students are the specialists, counselors, school psychologists, and nurses connected to all our schools. These trained professionals help families and students to sort out all types of situations in a confidential and safe way.

Final Thoughts

Children come into their school communities with diverse histories and experiences and our school community serves a critical function in addressing the diverse needs of our young people. Utilizing our teams and partnerships with continuous strong communication goes a long way to keep our children and students safe.

Sincerely,

Liza Huber

Director of Pupil Services



Co-Chair: Nancy Sherburne (978) 635-0968 nsherburne@mindspring.com

Co-Chair: Bill Guthlein (978) 263-0610 guthw@aol.com

AB SpEd PAC Website <http://www.abspedpac.org>

For Your Information
School and Community Based Resources

Support for Families and Child Advocacy	
<p>Acton-Boxborough Coalition for Healthy Youth (ABCHY) <i>Specific Contact: Jan Stewart</i> 978-844-4588 abcforhealthyyouth@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Acton and Acton-Boxborough School Resource Officers <i>Specific Contacts: Jim Goodemote, Keith Campbell & Dan Silva</i> 978-264-9638</p>
<p>Acton-Boxborough United Way <i>Specific Contacts: Carolyn Randolph and Shelley Sherman</i> 8 Whittier Dr. Acton, MA 01720</p>	<p>Acton-Boxborough United Way PO Box 2258 Acton, MA 978-263-1777</p>
<p>Acton Community Services <i>Specific Contact: Laura Ducharme</i> 978-264-9653 lducharme@acton-ma.gov</p>	<p>Community Alliance for Youth (CAFY) <i>Specific Contact: Bob McGowan</i> 169 Main Street Acton, MA 01720</p>
<p>Danny's Place for Youth <i>Specific Contact: Cindy McCarthy</i> 16 Vineyard Reach Mashpee, MA 02649</p>	<p>Department of Children and Families <i>Framingham Area Office</i> 63 Fountain Street Framingham, MA 508-424-0100</p>
<p>Acton Public Schools <i>Counseling Chair: Ginny Conway</i> 978-264-4700, ext. 3762 Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools <i>Counseling Chair: Stephen Hitzrot</i> 978-264-4700, ext. 3430</p>	<p>Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Program 978-318-3421 www.dvvap.org</p>
<p>Child-at-Risk Hotline 1-800-792-5200 Parental Stress Line 800-632-8188</p>	<p>Acton Medical Associates <i>School Physicians: Chris Cooper & Jessica Rubinstein</i> 978-263-1131</p>

For Your Information
School and Community Based Resources

Intervention Programs for Children and Young Adults	
<p>Boundaries Therapy Center <i>518 Great Road</i> <i>Acton, MA</i> <i>978-263-4878</i></p>	<p>CBC Fitness and Wellness Center <i>Specific Contact: Armand Chery</i> <i>525 Main Street</i> <i>Acton, MA</i></p>
<p>Department of Developmental Services (formerly Department of Mental Retardation) <i>One Ashburton Place</i> <i>Boston, MA 02108</i> <i>617-572-1600</i></p>	<p>Department of Mental Health <i>25 Stanfield Street</i> <i>Boston, MA</i> <i>617-626-8000</i></p>
<p>Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission <i>27 Wormwood Street</i> <i>Boston, MA 02210</i> <i>800-245-6543</i></p>	<p>Recreation Department <i>Specific Contact: Cathy Fochtman</i> <i>472 Main Street</i> <i>Acton, MA</i></p>
<p>Disabled Persons Protection Hotline <i>800-426-9009</i></p>	<p>Elliot Community Human Services <i>111 ORNAC</i> <i>Concord, MA</i></p>

Acton & Acton-Boxborough Schools
Pupil Services

Cordially invites you to our

Fourth Annual Special Education Parent Workshop

Friday, November 6, 2009

At

Congregation Beth Elohim
133 Prospect Street, Acton, MA

Guest Speaker

Rick Lavoie

Renowned Author, Education Consultant, and Filmmaker

Helping the Child with Disabilities Find Social Success



Co-hosted by

Boxborough Public Schools

Acton-Boxborough Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Workshop Overview

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM (Sign-in 7:45 – 8:00 AM)

Navigating the Team Meeting Process

Liza Huber, Director of Pupil Services,
Acton, Acton-Boxborough Schools

Sandra Daigneault, Director of Pupil Services,
Boxborough Public Schools

9:00 AM – 1:00PM (Sign-in 8:30 – 9:00 AM)

Helping the Child with Disabilities Find Social Success

Rick Lavoie



* Please note: Food items may not be brought into the Temple. Thank you for your consideration

Helping the Child with Disabilities Find Social Success

Richard D. Lavoie, M.A., M.Ed.



Rick Lavoie served as an administrator of residential programs for children with special needs for 30 years. He holds three degrees in Special Education and two Honorary Doctorates in Education from the University of Massachusetts (2003) and Mitchell College (CT – 2007). He has served as a visiting lecturer at numerous universities including Syracuse, Harvard, Manhattanville College, University of Alabama, University of Melbourne and

Georgetown. His numerous national television appearances include The TODAY Show, CBS Morning Show, Good Morning America, ABC Evening News, and Walt Disney Presents. In 2009, Rick was the recipient of the Learning Disabilities Associations of America's Samuel Kirk award.

Rick's intensive experiences at residential schools provided him with a "living laboratory" in which he developed and refined his methods and philosophies related to the education of children and adolescents with special needs.

Rick has written several books including *"It's So Much Work to Be Your Friend: Helping the Child with Learning Disabilities Find Social Success"* (Touchstone/ Simon and Schuster, 2005). The book addresses the direct link between learning disabilities and social skills issues that many children face.

Rick has served as a consultant on Learning Disabilities to several agencies and organizations including the Public Broadcasting Service, New York Times, National Center for Learning Disabilities, USA Today, Girl Scouts of America, Child Magazine, INSTRUCTOR Magazine and National Public Radio.

Today's Workshop

By working together, the schools and parents/guardians can do a great deal to detect and prevent bullying at school and in the community. The average student in Massachusetts spends approximately 1080 hours annually in the classroom. This represents merely 5% of his/her waking time. Ninety-five percent of a child's life is spent in social settings...at school, at home and in the community. Many students have difficulty developing the "social skills" that they need in order to create and maintain positive social relationships with peers. These skills are not merely "manners", but involve a complex set of interaction skills that allow the child to make friends. When a child lacks these skills, he often becomes isolated from and rejected by his peers. This workshop will explore these interactions with particular emphasis on bullying.

In addition

Navigating the Team Meeting Process

Liza Huber, Director of Pupil Services

Acton, Acton-Boxborough Schools

Sandra Daigneault, Director of Pupil Services

Boxborough Public Schools

This informative workshop provides families with information regarding their rights and responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Massachusetts Special Education Law and No Child Left Behind (NCLB) as well as the current policies, procedures, and guidelines of the school district. Information provided will help you make informed decisions in supporting your children and to enhance your role as a knowledgeable and effective partner in the special education process.



REGISTRATION

Deadline October 30, 2009

Acton & Boxborough School Districts and Community

This is a FREE workshop for Acton and Boxborough parents/guardians, residents, school faculties and staff.

Name _____

Home/Cell Phone # _____

Work Phone # _____

Email _____

Address _____

I would like to attend:

Navigating the Team Meeting Process _____

Helping the Child with Disabilities Find Social Success _____

How many will attend? _____

Other School Districts and Communities

There is a nominal fee of **\$35.00 per person**. Checks should be made payable to: **Acton-Boxborough Schools**

Name _____

School District/Community _____

I am a: Parent/Guardian _____ Educator _____ Other _____

Home/Cell Phone # _____

Work Phone # _____

Address _____

How many will attend? _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please print and send the registration form to

Julie Towell

Administration Building

15 Charter Road

Acton, MA 01720

OR

Register by email or telephone

jtowell@mail.ab.mec.edu

978 264 4700 ext 3267

Space is Limited – Register Early!



Strengthening Schools through the Prevention of Bullying

A program on bullying prevention will take place on Tuesday, October 20th, from 7 – 9 PM in the auditorium of the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School. The evening will include a presentation by Dr. Elizabeth Englander, a student produced video, and a panel discussion including professional staff from the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District. There will be time for questions and answers.

Dr. Englander, a professor of psychology, is the founder and director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (MARC). She is an author and frequent speaker on the topics of bullying, including cyber bullying. In addition, Dr. Englander has trained teachers, administrators, parents, community groups, and students.

The program is sponsored by Pupil Services, and co-sponsored by the Community Alliance for Youth (CAFY), the Acton-Boxborough SpEd PAC, and the Acton No Place for Hate Committee. The target audience is parents and guardians of elementary and junior high students, but all those interested are welcome to attend.

For further information, contact Sal Lopes, No Place for Hate Committee Chair at 978 263 4178 or sal.t.lopes@gmail.com