

Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee Meeting

January 8, 2015

7:00 p.m.

at the R.J. Grey Junior High Library

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (ABRSC) MEETING

Library R.J. Grey Junior High School January 8, 2015 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order (7:00)
- 2. Chairman's Introduction
- Statement of Warrant and Approval of Minutes
 3.1. Minutes of School Committee Meetings: 12/18/14

4. Public Participation

- 5. Presentation of Independent Auditor Reports by Borgatti Harrison & Co. <u>VOTE</u> to accept *Clare Jeannotte, Tim Harrison*
 - 5.1. ABRSD Basic Financial Statements for Year Ending 6/30/14 (Draft)
 - 5.2. ABRSD Management Letter for Year Ending 6/30/14
 - 5.3. ABRSD OMB Circular A-133
 - 5.4. ABRSD Student Activity Funds for Year Ending 6/30/14
 - 5.5. ABRSD Independent Auditors' Reports for Year Ending 6/30/14
- 6. FY16 Budget Presentation #2 Glenn Brand, Clare Jeannotte
 - 6.1. Presentation slides
 - 6.2. Table 6
 - 6.3. Personnel Backup Material
- 7. Capital Planning Glenn Brand, JD Head
- 8. Recommendation to Approve FY'16 Carol Huebner Preschool Program Tuition <u>VOTE</u> Glenn Brand
 - 8.1. FY16 Program Alignment Memo
 - 8.2. Current Tuition Rates and Proposed FY16 Rates
 - 8.3. Staffing Costs FY15
 - 8.4. Tuition Comparables
 - 8.5. Community Correspondence
- 9. FY'16 School Calendar addition of early release days VOTE Marie Altieri

10. Subcommittee Updates

- 10.1. **Outreach** Kristina Rychlik
- 10.2. **Policy**
 - 10.2.1. Special Education Parent Advisory Council, File: BDFB SECOND READ <u>VOTE</u> Maria Neyland
 - 10.2.2. Enrollment of Students, File: JC FIRST READ
 - 10.2.3. Assignment of Students from Other Schools to Classes, File: JCAC FIRST READ
 - 10.2.4. Kindergarten Entrance, File: JEB FIRST READ

- 10.2.5. School Admissions, File: JF FIRST READ
 - 10.2.5.1. Proposed policy revision with exhibit

10.2.5.2. Current policy

11. School Committee Member Reports

- 11.1. Acton Leadership Group (ALG) Kristina Rychlik
- 11.1.1. Draft Minutes of 12/11/14 meeting
- 11.2. Boxborough Leadership Forum (BLF) Maria Neyland
- 11.3. Health Insurance Trust (HIT)– Mary Brolin
 - 11.3.1. Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013
- 11.4. Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Task Force– Dennis Bruce
- 11.5. Acton Finance Committee Kristina Rychlik
- 11.6. Acton Board of Selectmen Paul Murphy
- 11.7. Acton-Boxborough SpedPAC Paul Murphy
 - Update: Letter from ABRSC re Population Trends of High Needs Students
- 11.8. Boxborough Finance Committee- Maria Neyland
- 11.9. Boxborough Board of Selectmen Brigid Bieber
- 11.10. Joint PTO/PTSO/PTF Co-Chairs Deanne O'Sullivan

12. Response to 9C Cuts in Regional Transportation - Kristina Rychlik

- 12.1. ABRSC Letter to Governor Patrick and Governor-elect Baker requesting Restoration of 9C Cuts in Regional Transportation from ABRSC, 12/29/14
 - 12.1.1. Letters from other communities

13. Acton and Boxborough Local Elections – Kristina Rychlik

14. Superintendent's Report – Glenn Brand (oral)

15. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- 15.1. ABRHS Discipline Report, 12/31/14
- 15.2. RJGJHS Discipline Report, 12/31/14
- 15.3. ABRSC Statement of Purpose
- 15.4. ELL Student Population by School, 1/1/15
- 15.5. Early Childhood Student Population, Monthly Reporting and Projections, 1/1/15
- 15.6. MA Association of Mathematics Leagues Awards to ABRHS students
- 15.7. "Broadcasting Happiness, The Science of Igniting & Sustaining Positive Change", 1/15/15, 7 p.m. ABRHS Auditorium, sponsored by AB Regional PTSO, AB United Way, Danny's Place Youth Services

ADJOURN

NEXT MEETINGS:

Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee Meetings, 7:00 p.m. in the Junior High Library: 1/22/15 and 2/5/15

FY16 ABRSD Budget Saturday Presentations, 1/31/15 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Junior High Library

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (ABRSC) MEETING

Draft Minutes

Library		December 18, 2014
R.J. Grey Junior Hig	gh School	7:00 p.m.
_		
Members Present:	Brigid Bieber, Mary Brolin, Dennis Bruce, Michael Coppolin	o, Maya Minkin,
	Paul Murphy, Kathleen Neville, Maria Neyland, Deanne O'Su	ullivan, Kristina
	Rychlik	
Members Absent:	Amy Krishnamurthy	
Others:	Marie Altieri, Deborah Bookis, Glenn Brand, Mary Emmons,	Clare Jeannotte,
	Beth Petr	

Chair Kristina Rychlik called the Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Chairman's Introduction

Student Leaders Pamela Yan, Jenny Qiu, Vennela Pandaraboyina, and Tara Jawahar from the ABRHS *Spectrum* newspaper, shared their work covering events in the community and the world. Seven hundred copies are made for each issue. They plan to go completely online soon. Instead of 5 issues per year, they would like to do daily, weekly or monthly updates on school events. They have 30-40 writers and 20 students that copyedit and do layout.

2. Statement of Warrant and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of School Committee Meetings on 12/4/14 and 11/20/14 were approved. ABRSC warrant #15-012 dated 12/11/14 in the amount of \$3,067,612.42 was signed by the members.

- 3. Public Participation none
- 4. Carol Huebner Early Childhood Program Presentation and Recommendation to Approve FY16 Tuition - <u>VOTE</u>

Early Childhood Coordinator/Preschool Director Joe Gibowicz provided an overview of this integrated program and the services it provides for our students who are developing typically as well as those who have developmental delays. Currently, 124 children are in the program. Some differences need to be addressed to align the Acton and Boxborough programs involving tuition and school hours. This year, the first year of regionalization, it was decided not to make many changes, however as a regional district, it is important to have the same programs and access at both sites. Also all of the District's preschool teachers are covered by the same contract and should work the same number of hours.

The following tuition rates were proposed for the FY16 Early Childhood Program*:

Program	FY '14	FY '15	FY '16
Acton Full Day	\$6830	\$6830	
Acton Half Day	\$3530	\$3530	
Boxborough	\$5000	\$5000	
A-B Full Day			\$6830*
A-B Half Day			\$3530*

3.1

Joe noted that the Boxborough site increase in tuition also reflects an increased time in learning. Like tuition, for this first year of regionalization, no changes were made to the hours of the program at either site (Acton or Boxborough) for FY15. In an effort to provide consistency of programming, hours for next year will be:

All Day from 9:00 - 3:10 (Acton and Boxborough sites)

Half Day from 9:00 - 11:35 and another session from 12:35 - 3:10 (Acton and Boxborough sites) Previously, Boxborough's program offered 5 hour sessions from 9:00 - 2:00.

With many members of the public in attendance, the Committee questioned Joe, Mary Emmons and Glenn Brand about how and why this change to hours was decided on. All agreed the focus should be on what is best for serving the students. Joe described a number of meetings and public forums held with Boxborough's Principal/Superintendent, Dr. Bates, and some of his staff to talk about what unifying the District would mean and how programs would need to be aligned. Joe stated that every year the demand for Early Childhood Program services is different and very difficult to predict. He noted that all families who are currently enrolled in full day would be guaranteed full day next year if they choose.

Dennis Bruce questioned why the tuition has been the same for 3 years, assuming that the cost to deliver the services must have increased. Glenn Brand said that the program is fee-based but special education costs are not considered tuition because they are mandated services for students with identified needs. Marie Altieri explained that an analysis was done last year and the year before of local preschool tuitions. Based on that information, and that we were in transition due to regionalization, it was decided not to change the tuition.

Brigid Bieber noted that even with changing the hours, a jump in tuition of about 36% for Boxborough families is a big jump.

Kathleen Neville stated that her daughter is in her first year at the Blanchard program. She is concerned about how this decision was made and the change to the services provided to the students. She noted that Acton values diversity and to alter such a great program like Blanchard's because of regionalization is concerning to her.

Glenn Brand is sensitive to people feeling like Blanchard's programs are being aligned with Acton programs due to regionalization, but he asked that the School Committee vote on next year's tuition so the FY16 budgets can be prepared. Kristina thanked Joe for taking such a thoughtful approach meeting with Acton and Boxborough staff over the past 6 months.

Paul Murphy moved to approve the proposed tuition in the packet, and Deanne O'Sullivan seconded the motion,

A number of Boxborough parents spoke passionately in support of the program at Blanchard expressing concern and frustration about the tuition and timing decisions being made. Several comments were made that families most affected by these decisions have not had a chance to give input because they were unaware that changes were being considered.

The Committee discussed whether the vote could wait until their next meeting. Although tuition figures are needed for the FY16 budgets, and registration for these Fall programs begins in December (parents will want to know what they are signing up for), public feedback was important to the Committee as well.

Glenn Brand said that delaying the tuition vote is an option while feedback is solicited, but how the District wrestles with having one preschool program instead of two is part of regionalization.

Kristina Rychlik spoke against delaying the vote. She reminded the Committee that dedicated staff have worked hard to figure out the best way to meet the needs of our special education and regular education students and this is our staff's best recommendation. Maria Neyland emphasized that the vote is not on the program, but tuition. Feedback on the program goes to the Administration, not the Committee. She was struggling with the amount of the tuition increase and would feel better if tuition comparisons were provided. The recommended tuition is lower than what some local providers charge. Mary Brolin recommended further processing with the parents. She does not support the proposed tuition and would like to see a staged increase for the Blanchard program site.

It was the sense of the Committee to delay the tuition vote until January 8th. Paul Murphy withdrew his motion and Deanne O'Sullivan seconded the withdrawal.

The Committee asked the Administration to gather more data regarding the program although it is not needed by the School Committee. Comparative tuitions for local programs will be provided at the January 8 meeting prior to the vote.

5. All Day Kindergarten Presentation and Recommendation to Approve FY16 Tuition – <u>VOTE</u> Erin Bettez recommended that the FY16 All Day Kindergarten (ADK) tuition be set at \$4,300. There are currently 169 students across 9 ADK classes in the District. Future considerations include offering ADK to all students and having one full/one half day program at the Blanchard site. Erin was complimented on her clear, well organized presentation. A suggestion was made that credit card users absorb their fees for using a card.

Maria Neyland moved, Brigid Bieber seconded and it was unanimously,

<u>VOTED</u>: To set the All Day Kindergarten tuition at \$4,300 for the school year 2015 -2016.

6. Regionalization Update (taken out of order)

Blanchard Principal Dana Labb, Assistant Principal Dr. Karen Tower, and some of their staff presented on how regionalization has affected their school. Later in the year the other schools will present their perspectives. Dana described the 13 member Blanchard team that meets with the Superintendent every month. Eileen Barnett has taught art at Blanchard for the past 15 years. She enthusiastically described how regionalization has now made her part of the visual arts department at ABRSD and Diana Woodruff welcomes her to collaborative meetings of 15 colleagues every month. ABEA President Karen Sonner was thanked for reaching out to the Blanchard staff. Dana said that having a network of support with the other seven principals has been invaluable. When asked how the School Committee can help the Blanchard community with the transition, Dana replied that there are just a lot of little things that need to be addressed as time goes on. Dana was thanked for an excellent presentation.

7. FY16 Budget Presentation #1 - Setting the Stage

Glenn Brand, Clare Jeannotte and Marie Altieri set the stage for the start of the FY15 Budget Presentations. They described the District's priorities, enrollment highlights and trends, budget assumptions and the appropriated budget and turnback history. Budget drivers include: OPEB, Middlesex Retirement, Heath Insurance, Salaries, Debt Service, Sped Transportation and Sped Tuition.

In response to a question, Clare said the 17% increase in Middlesex Retirement is a lot but the Board met recently and although the average increase was 6%, Clare spoke with someone who had a 25%

increase. Clare is looking into this to be sure the allocation of people is correct. She wonders if the estimate for FY15 with full regionalization was based on the right number of employees.

The Health Insurance Trust just voted to approve EGWHP for July 1 implementation which should provide some cost savings. The Committee asked what salary level new staff was budgeted for. Marie stated that for FY16 they are looking at Masters level 3. She is comfortable with that if the vacancy factor comes down.

Dennis Bruce encouraged the Administration to be as realistic as possible with the numbers as the budget process proceeds. He wants to, "Get it all out up front and not find things out later on." Clare said that regarding the budget process, she is trying to understand what has been done in the past, but mainly due to regionalization, it is challenging to get comparable numbers. Also with a brand new chart of accounts this year, it is hard to pull some numbers. She highlights more details in the packet documents than found in the slides. The Committee looks forward to the next budget presentation.

8. ABRSD Athletic Director Announcement and Search Process

Glenn Brand thanked Steve Desy for his 30 years of service to the District. Marie Altieri described the search process. Coaches and parents can email Marie by January 6th if they would like to be on the Search Committee. Steve is retiring on June 30, 2015

9. Recommendation to Accept Donation from FOLF to ABRSD to offset bond costs related to Lower Fields per MOU – <u>VOTE</u>

Glenn Brand reminded the Committee that the MOU describes how this revenue is to be allocated. Mike Coppolino moved, Kathleen Neville seconded and it was

<u>VOTED</u>: to accept the \$25,000 donation as proposed.

10. Recommendation to Accept Donation from the Friends of the Acton Libraries to our 6 elementary schools, RJGJHS and ABRHS – <u>VOTE</u> Mary Brolin moved, Maria Neyland seconded and it was unanimously,

VOTED: to accept the \$16,100 donation to the libraries as proposed.

11. Recommendation to Accept Donation from IBM to Conant School - <u>VOTE</u> Mary Brolin moved, Maria Neyland seconded and it was unanimously,

<u>VOTED</u>: to accept the \$500 donation to Conant as proposed.

12. Subcommittee Updates

12.1. **Outreach** – Kathleen Neville

12.1.1. Draft ABRSC Mission Statement

Information was in today's Beacon regarding tonight's agenda.

The Committee was asked for comments on the proposed mission statement. Brigid suggested that it be called a statement of purpose because the District has a mission statement.

 Ind^{P}

Mary Brolin moved, Maria Neyland seconded and it was unanimously,

<u>VOTED</u>¹¹ to accept the proposed statement of purpose.

- 12.2. Budget Kristina Rychlik
 - 12.2.1. Restating Table 6

This new subcommittee met on 12/10/14. Kristina reported that Dennis will be the chair. They discussed making budget information more clear this year. Clare is considering how to restate Table 6 and break out some categories such as OPEB. She is going to try to draft this for a future ALG meeting.

12.3. Regionalization Financial Oversight

4

Mike Coppolino reported that they met an hour before the School Committee meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 27th.

12.4. **Policy**

12.4.1. Special Education Parent Advisory Council, File: BDFB – **FIRST READ** Maria Neyland reported that this draft revision was done with input from the SpedPAC's Nancy Sherburne. SpedPAC requested a policy about nine years ago because the PACs work could not be done without support from the Administration and there was no policy at that time. This revision adds the District Mission Statement and the sentence that it is the general goal of the District to foster relationships with parent/guardians which encourage cooperation between home and school. Procedures will be reviewed at a later date.

13. School Committee Member Reports

- 13.1. Acton Leadership Group (ALG) *Kristina Rychlik*
 - 13.1.1. Draft Minutes of 11/20/14 meeting (revision)
 - 13.1.2. Meeting materials for 12/11/14 meeting
 - Budget Timeline was presented to ALG. Cost savings items are requested by all participants.
- 13.2. Boxborough Leadership Forum (BLF) Brigid Bieber
- There is some interest in a combined Board meeting. Next meeting is Jan 28th

13.3. Health Insurance Trust (HIT)- Mary Brolin At the meeting this morning, Tess Summers was recognized for her work. An audit found some discrepancies and some issues have been identified and are being worked through. This will lead to improved practices. The audit report was approved as well as using EGWHIP for FY15.

- 13.4. Acton Finance Committee *Kristina Rychlik* A presentation was done by Clare and Glenn on the ABRSD FY14 closeout/FY15 update at the meeting on 12/9/14. There is concern about OPEB
- 13.5. Acton Board of Selectmen *Paul Murphy* Middlesex Retirement issues were discussed. Paul went to a meeting about potential changes to the Chapter 70 formula in Somerset. Another will be held nearby in the future.
- 13.6. Acton-Boxborough SpedPAC Paul Murphy

Update: Letter from ABRSC re Population Trends of High Needs Students Boxborough Board of Selectmen – Brigid Bieber

13.7. Boxborough Board of Selectmen – Brigid Bieber
 Public hearing was held for the lease for the cable from Boxborough. The lease was signed by the BOS and the District must review and sign now.

14. Response to 9C Cuts in Regional Transportation – Kristina Rychlik

14.1 Draft Letters to Gov. Patrick and Governor-elect Baker requesting Restoration of 9C Cuts in Regional Transportation from ABRSC

At the last meeting the School Committee agreed to do this letter. Kristina asked for final comments. She reviewed the delivery plan and aims to send it by winter break. Clare referred to the letter signed by the Legislators in the packet. MARS is also working hard on this issue, as well as MASC. The letter will be shared with them as well.

15. Acton and Boxborough Local Elections

Dennis Bruce and Deanne O'Sullivan's terms will be up in Acton. Last day to obtain nomination papers is Feb 6th. Brigid Bieber's term is up in Boxborough. Their deadline is March 30.

16. Superintendent's Report

The FY15 Interschool Council members are identified and the first meeting will be in January. The Kindergarten info night is January 13th. The registration information is on the website.

17. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Douglas School held their first Exhibition of Learning on 12/17/14 and it was very successful.

The ABRSC adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Beth Petr

List of Documents used: see agenda

, p

Norman No

()))،

NEXT MEETINGS:

Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee Meetings, 7:00 p.m. in the Junior High Library: 1/8/15 and 1/22/15

ABRSC FY16 Budget Saturday Presentations, 1/31/15 from 9:00 a m. in the Junior High Library

 $\mathbb{H}^{\mathcal{D}}$

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORTS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS AND OMB CIRCULAR A-133

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

See separate pdf posted.

5.1



6.1

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FY'16 SUPERINTENDENT'S PRELIMINARY BUDGET REQUEST See separately posted Budget Material.

School Committee Meeting January 8, 2015



Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Administration Building 15 Charter Road Acton, MA 01720 978-264-4700 fax: 978-264-3341 www.abschools.org

Office of Pupil Services

To: Superintendent, Glenn Brand Interim Director of Pupil Services, Mary Emmons

From: Early Childhood Coordinator, Joe Gibowicz

Re: FY '16 Alignment of Carol Huebner Early Childhood Program

Date: 1/2/15

In an effort to provide consistency of programming across the regionalized district, the Acton-Boxborough Early Childhood Program will be aligned for the FY '16 school year. Although program philosophy is consistent across the program, currently the Early Childhood Program is operating under different hours and tuition rates at the Acton and Boxborough Sites. Although there will be a yearly tuition increase for Boxborough residents, it is offset by the increase in hours. The tuition cost is consistent with other area preschool costs and also appropriate for the quality of service the program provides (for more detail, see attached tuition rate slides).

- FY '15 Hours & Regular Education Student Tuition Acton All Day; 8:45-3:15 (6.5 hrs) \$6830 Acton Half Day; 8:45-11:30, 12:30 – 3:15 (2 ¾ hrs) \$3530 Boxborough 3/4 Day; 9:00-2:00 (5 hrs) \$5000
- FY '16 Projected Hours & Proposed Regular Education Student Tuition Acton-Boxborough All Day; 8:30-3:00 (6.5 hrs) \$6830 both sites Acton-Boxborough Half Day; 8:30-11:15, 12:15-3:00 (2 ¾ hrs) \$3530 both sites

Aligning the program hours across both locations will:

- Allow the same access of special education programming opportunities at both sites.
- Provide more special education openings, enabling the district to address the increased referral rate of identified special education students from Early Intervention without the need to add additional staff.
- Adjust early childhood teaching hours to be consistent with their counterparts. Teachers are all considered 1.0 FTE, however, currently Acton All Day classes have a longer day than the Boxborough 3/4 Day.

Our Mission is to prepare all students to attain their full potential as life-long learners, critical thinkers, and productive citizens of our diverse community and global society. Throughout the 2013-2014 school year, the Early Childhood Coordinator worked with the Superintendent of Boxborough, Pupil Services Director of Acton-Boxborough and the Special Ed Coordinator of Boxborough to make thoughtful decisions regarding the phased unification of the 3 districts.

As the Acton and Boxborough Public Schools prepared to regionalize for July 1, 2014, Early Childhood Parent/Guardian Forums were held on 12/4/13 in Acton and 12/10/13 in Boxborough. These forums were presented in partnership with the Acton and Boxborough Public Schools. The Director of Pupil Services from Acton-Boxborough and the Early Childhood Coordinator presented information to families about the phased unification. As discussed at the forums and outlined on the preschool applications, hours and location were kept the same for the first year of unification upon the recommendation of staff and administrators from both Acton and Boxborough.

Staff members also worked together during the 2013-2104 school year to join the two exceptional early childhood programs from Acton and Boxborough. Staff from both programs toured each other's schools and met together to begin building relationships. Under the direction of Acton's Pupil Services Director and Boxborough's Special Education Coordinator, a grant was written to provide a professional development collaboration opportunity for staff from both programs. An Early Childhood Specialist provided two days of team building activities in June to facilitate the process of unifying our two programs into one.

During the 2014-2015 school year, administration has been investigating aligning the early childhood program school day with the elementary school day. In keeping with the gradual process of unification, administration has decided to hold off on the reduction of hours per day for the 2015-2016 school year. Administration is working towards aligning the early childhood program hours with the elementary school hours for the 2016-2017 school year.

FY '17 Projected Hours Acton-Boxborough All Day; 9:00-3:10 (6 hr 10m) **both sites** Acton-Boxborough Half Day; 9:00-11:35, 12:35-3:10 (2 hr 35m) **both sites**

As a unified school district it is important to have the same access of programming opportunities at both sites for all the families we serve. This alignment is supported by the staff from the early childhood program and administrators to meet the needs of our students in Acton-Boxborough.



Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Administration Building 15 Charter Road Acton, MA 01720 978-264-4700 fax: 978-264-3341 www.abschools.org

Office of Pupil Services

To: Superintendent, Glenn Brand Interim Director of Pupil Services, Mary Emmons
From: Early Childhood Coordinator, Joe Gibowicz
Re: Current FY'15 and Proposed FY'16 ABRSD Preschool Tuition Rates
Date: 1/5/15

Current Rates for FY '15

hourly/daily rate based on 145 days that regular education students attend

All Day Acton:

26 hrs per week / \$6830 \$6830 / 145 days = \$47.10 per day \$47.10 / 6.5 hrs = \$7.25 per hour

Half Day Acton:

11 hrs per week / \$3530 \$3530 / 145 days = \$24.34 per day \$24.34 / 2.75 hrs = \$8.85 per hour

3/4 Day Boxborough:

20 hrs per week / \$5000 \$5000 / 145 = \$34.48 per day \$34.48 / 5 hrs = \$6.89 per hour

If Rates stay the same for FY '16

based on 145 days that regular education students attend

All Day Acton-Boxborough: (both sites)

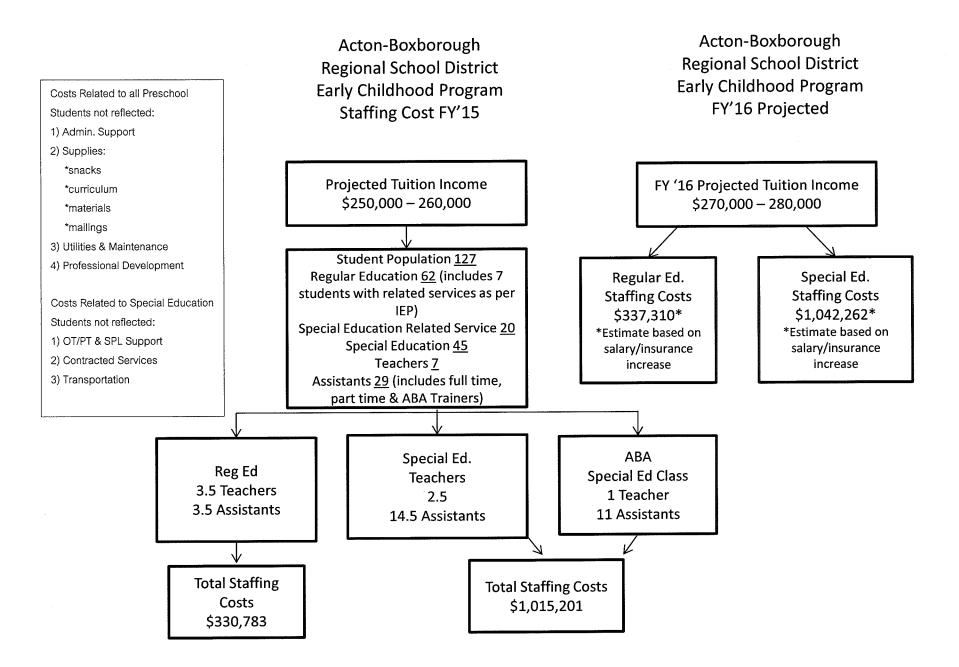
26 hrs per week / \$6830 \$6830 / 145 days = \$47.10 per day \$47.10 / 6.5 hrs = \$7.25 per hour

Half day Acton-Boxborough: (both sites)

11 hrs per week / \$3530 \$3530 / 145 days = \$24.34 per day \$24.34 / 2.75 hrs = \$8.85 per hour

Per calculations, although the yearly tuition increases for Boxborough residents, it is primarily reflective of the increased time on learning.

Our Mission is to prepare all students to attain their full potential as life-long learners, critical thinkers, and productive citizens of our diverse community and global society.



1/5/2015

Prek Program	Public/ Private	Yearly Tuition Half Day Days/Hrs	Full Day Tuition & Hours		
Acton-Boxborough Early Childhood Program	Public	\$3530 11 hrs / week (4 days – 2 hr 45 min)	\$6830 26 hrs / week (4 days – 6.5 hrs)		
Acton Coop	Private	\$3580* 10 hrs/ week (4 days – 2.5 hrs)	N/A		
Acton Barn	Private	\$4138* 10 hrs/week (4 days -2.5 hrs)	N/A		
Boxboro Children's Center	Private	\$3950 (estimate based on posted monthly rate) 9 hrs/week (3 days- 3 hrs)	\$10,000 (estimate based on posted monthly rate) 25 hrs/week (5 days – 5 hrs)		
Infant Toddler Center (ITC) 3 year olds	Private	\$4502 (calculated per posted hourly rate) 10 hrs, 20 min/week (4 days – 2 hr, 35 min)	\$10, 747 (based on posted hourly rate) 24 hrs 40 min/week (4 days – 6 hr, 10m)		
Infant Toddler Center (ITC) 4 year olds	Private	\$4419 (calculated per posted hourly rate) 10 hrs, 20 min/week (4 days – 2 hr, 35 min)	\$10, 550 (based on posted hourly rate) 24 hrs 40 min/week (4 days – 6 hr, 10m)		
*2013-2014 rates		1/5/15			

Prek Program	Public/ Private	Yearly Tuition Half Day Days/Hrs	Full Day Tuition & Hours
Acton-Boxborough Early Childhood Program	Public	\$3530 11 hrs / week (4 days – 2 hr 45 min)	\$6830 26 hrs / week (4 days – 6.5 hrs)
Concord Public Schools	Public	\$3000 10 hrs/week (4 days –2.5hrs)	\$6000 22 hrs/week (4 days – 5.5 hrs)
Maynard Public Schools	Public	\$3927 10 hrs/ week (4 days –2.5 hrs)	\$7854 24 hrs/week (4 days – 6 hrs)
Sudbury Public Schools	Public	\$4050 10 hrs/week (4 days – 2.5 hrs)	N/A
Bedford Public Schools	Public	\$3175 7.5 hrs/week (3 days – 2.5 hrs) \$4800 12.5 hrs/week (5 days – 2.5 hrs)	N/A
Harvard Public Schools	Public	\$4500 12.5 hrs/week	\$6000 28.5 hrs/wk
Devens residents		\$5000 12.5 hrs/week 1/5/15	\$6500* 28.5 hrs/wk



Acton Integrated Preschool Hours

Melissa Brown <

Reply-To:

Fri, Jan 2, 2015 at 9:16 AM

To: jgibowicz@abschools.org, memmons@abschools.org, abrsc@abschools.org

Dear Mr. Gibowicz, Ms. Emmons and members of the Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee,

Attached please find a petition signed by some of those concerned about the proposed cuts to the hours at the Carol Huebner Early Childhood Program Acton site for 2015-2016 and the lack of clear and open communication about these proposed changes. The text of the petition also follows below.

We know the school committee is scheduled only to vote on the tuition at the preschool sites. However, the tuition is linked to the hours. The school committee researches and discusses altering the start times for all other schools in the district. The preschool start time and hours are slated to be changed without discussion.

We want the ABRSC to be aware of the full effects of this proposal. The daily and cumulative weekly loss in instruction time will have a negative impact on this student population, among them the most vulnerable. This merits further consideration.

While we appreciate Pupil Services scheduling information sessions for the week after break, families deserve consideration as well as open and transparent communication when such changes are planned.

Sincerely,

Concerned Families of Acton Integrated Preschool Students



This petition has collected 61 signatures using the online tools at <u>iPetitions.com</u>

Printed on 2015-01-05

Do Not Cut Acton Integrated Preschool Hours

About this petition

We have raised this petition to request the following of Acton-Boxborough Pupil Services:

1) make no cut to the hours at the Carol Huebner Early Childhood Program Acton site for the 2015-2016 school year and beyond.

2) communicate future proposed preschool program changes to families in a clear and timely fashion.

Families with a stake in the Carol Huebner Early Childhood Program preschool have become aware of significant change being proposed to the structure at both the Acton and Boxborough sites starting next fall. While we appreciate the Early Childhood Coordinator's efforts to hold forums last winter to solicit parent and guardian input regarding regionalization, most seem unaware that these changes are occurring.

The changes for the Acton site include:

a **20-minute daily reduction in the full-day program hours** (This totals **80 fewer minutes per week** for full-day students and **100 fewer minutes per week** for those who also attend the ABA-based classroom all day on Fridays.)

a **10-minute daily reduction in the half-day program hours** (This totals **40 fewer minutes per week** for the a.m. and p.m. programs.)

None of the students at the Acton site benefit from the proposed reduction in instruction time. The most vulnerable population, those with needs meriting full-day, full-week services, will be hurt the most by this shift. Students who are pulled out of the integrated classrooms for speech, physical, occupational, behavioral therapy or a combination thereof will have even less time among typically developing peer models in the least restrictive environment available. There are already too few minutes in the instructional day for all half- and full-time students to get through all the skills they need to learn, practice, and generalize. Early, intensive intervention is the most effective for students' long-term outcomes and the most cost effective for the school district. This change takes neither into consideration.

Furthermore, it has been brought to our attention that some special education students have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) indicating they will receive services in excess of the proposed hours beyond the first day of school next year. This raises additional questions:

How will the district meet IEP obligations for students given these proposed reductions?

How will the individual IEP teams determine if the reduced hours as proposed are sufficient to meet student needs?

The Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee exhaustively researches and discusses altering the start times for all other schools in the district, but the preschool start time and hours are summarily slated to be changed. There is concern that these and other proposed changes relevant to regionalization were not made transparent to families. Open, direct, and timely communication about proposed changes to the preschool program should be extended to families as a courtesy to aid with planning around childcare and financial considerations.

We have subsequently raised this petition to request Acton-Boxborough Pupil Services

1) make no cut to the hours at the Carol Huebner Early Childhood Program Acton site for the 2015-2016 school year and beyond.

2) communicate future proposed preschool program changes to families in a clear and timely fashion.



Beth Petr

bpetr@abschools.org>

Feedback RE: 2015-2016 AB ECP alignment

1 message

Mon, Jan 5, 2015 at 11:41 AM

To: Joe Gibowicz <jgibowicz@abschools.org>, abrsc@abschools.org

Dr. Gibowicz and the School Committee,

As a family who's child is currently enrolled in the Acton Boxborough Early Childhood Program, I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts regarding the proposed program alignment for 2015-2016. I apologize that I am unable to attend the informational sessions as I will have my son during those times and would need to be back at home by 3PM for my daughter to get off the bus.

I am NOT opposed to the program alignment as it helps to serve the children with special needs by providing more opportunities to develop and learn. I am very concerned however about splitting the classes to one full time class and one half time class. As we currently already have a wait list for our 3/4 time class, I suggest simply making both classes full time to ensure that more families can enroll in the ECP at Blanchard.

Another concern is the sudden and steep increase in tuition. The Boxborough ECP tuition has been \$5,000 for quite a while and a sudden increase to \$6,830 may be very prohibitive to families here. While I understand it is only fair to charge the same amount as Acton for the same hours, I strongly recommend a step increase over the course of 2 years to help Boxborough families adjust and budget for this higher cost. Perhaps increase Boxborough full day tuition to \$6,000 for 2015-2016 and then to \$6,830 for 2016-2017.

Thank you very much for providing such an excellent program that my son adores and for reading my comments.

Acton-Boxborough Regional School District SCHOOL CALENDAR, 2015-2016 Bold Underlined Dates = No School Days

Elementary Schools will dismiss early on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month.

						,,,,,,, _	Jan.	м	Т	w	T	F	
Sept.	М	Т	w	Т	F	Teachers' mtgs. – Aug 31 & Sept 1						1	Schools Open - Jan 4
		1	2	3	4	Labor Day – Sept 4 & 7		4	5	6	7	8	JH Early Dis for confs – Jan 7
	<u>7</u>	8	9	10	11	Schools Open – Sept 2		11	12	13	14	15	Martin Luther King Day - Jan 18
	14	15	16	17	18	Rosh Hashanah – Sept 14		<u>18</u>	19	20	21	22	Kindergarten Change-over - Jan 25
	21	22	<u>23</u>	24	25	Yom Kippur – Sept 23		25	26	27	28	29	School Days - 19
	28	29	30			School Days - 17			ر ۲۰۰۰ ۲۰۰۰ میں ۲۰۰۰ - ۲۰۰۰ میں ۲۰۰۰ - ۲۰۰۰ میں		المراجع من المراجع من المراجع المراجع مراجع المراجع ا مراجع المراجع ا	2 1. 19 ^{30 -} 1. 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 - 1940 -	-
			•••				Feb.	М	Т	w	Т	in the second	
Oct.	м	т	w	Т	F			1	2	. 3	4	5	*K-12 Early Dis for prof dev – Feb 4
				1	2	*K-12 Early Dis for prof dev – Oct 1	and Sama Sa Sama Sama Sa	8	9	10	11	12	Presidents' Day - Feb 15
	5	6	7	8	9	Columbus Day – Oct 12	ar a sa a Tanàna Tanàna	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	18	<u>19</u>	Winter Recess - Feb 15-19
	12	13	14	15	16	Elem Early Dis for confs – Oct 22 & 29	ین مراجع و موروعیت ۱۹۹۹ - میری مراجع میرودی ۱۹۹۹ - میرو میرو میرودی ۱۹۹۹ - میرو میرو میرو میرو میرو میرو میرو	22	23		25	26	School Days – 16
	19	20	21	22	23	School Days - 21	and the second sec	29	. n.	n minin 1. minin 1. minin 1. minin 1. minin			 Notified any Provide a start
	26	27	28	29	30			anto de la Receberciónes entre contratos entre contratos entre contratos	مريم الامورد مرد المراجع الإمراح الم				- gan d' galan L
							Mar.	М	Т	W	т	F	
Nov.	М	т	w	т	F	60%, Norma 6		~	-1	. 2	3	4	
	2	3	4	5	6	Prof. Day - Nov. 3 (no school/students)		7	8	9	10	11	
	9	10	11	12	13	Veterans Day - Nov 11	ing Ngari San Again San Al	14	15	16	17	- 18	Good Friday – Mar 25
	16	17	18	19	20	Half Day – Nov 25	Noneman and and water of a second of a sec	21	22	23	-24	<u>25</u>	School Days - 22
	23	24	25	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	Thanksgiving Recess - Nov 26 & 27	(a) A set of the se	28	29	30	31		
	30					School Days - 17	دین بردر آری و رسیدی است از در مربوط است از در میرا است میرود	رد بی در در دارد این از ۲۰ ماه ۲۰ های دارد این سرد که ۲ ۲۰ در بردای این مهرد ۲۰ در برد در ۲۰	anan 1911 - Anana 1913 - Ananan Santara 1915 - Anan Angela, Santara Angela				
						ادها به بروی این این می می می می این این این این این این این این این ای	Apr.	M	T	W	Т	F	
Dec.	М	Т	W	т	F	ت بالاستان المراجع الم المراجع المراجع المراجع المراجع المراجع	gar yan han i Gartan Aran ya		- 1 mar 			1	*K-12 Early Dis for prof dev – Apr 7
		1	2	3	4	*Elem Early Dis for prof dev – Dec 3	ener, eg jaar mar engen e	4	5	6	7	8	Spring Recess - Apr 18-22
	7	8	9	10	11	Jr High Early Dis for conf – Dec 10 & 15	The sec provement of the second seco	11	12	13	14	15	Patriots Day – Apr 18
	14	15	16	17	18	Winter Recess Dec. 24 - Jan 3	in the second se	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	School Days - 16
	21	22	23	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	School Days - 17	ing the space and space and space and space	25	26	27	28	29	
	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	31	•	 McCountral Annual School (McCountral Annual Annual	ina 1996 - Anna 1996 - Anna Anna 1997 - Anna Anna 1997 - Anna Anna						
						المن المن المن المن المن المن المن المن	May	М	Т	W	Т	F	
					~~~~~~			2	3	4	5	6	
Note:	See a	ttach	ed D	ESE	list for	some major religious holidays,		9	10	11	12	13	Memorial Day - May 30
						Early Dismiss: Oct 1, Dec 3 (elem only), Feb 4, Apr 7		16	17	18	19	20	School Days - 21
				•		სალკალის არის არის არის არის არის არის არის არ		23	24	25	26	27	
No Sc	hool a	and D	elave	ed Or	ening	Announcements air on TV Channels 4, 5 and 7 and		<u>30</u>	31				
						ee postings at http://abschools.org							
						And the second s	June	М	Т	W	Т	F	Graduation – June 3
Acton	Town	Mee	tina t	beain	s April	X, 2016. Boxborough Meeting begins May X, 2016.				1	2	3	Last day – June 20
			J	U	•	e Collegaria (1975) e Collegaria (1975) de Collegaria Collegaria (1975) e Resta Spicher en constante e School		6	7	8	9	10	(plus one for each unscheduled no school day)
Acton-	Boxb	oroud	gh Re	gion	al Sch	ool Committee Meetings are held twice a month. See		13	14	15	16	17	School Days - 14
						-committee for more information.		20	21	22	23	24	
				60 B				27	28	29	30		Total Days = 180
<b>T</b> 7.	<b>, ,</b>	100	nc.	11/2	0/14								11/21/14
Votec	i bv z	4 <i>BK</i>	SC 1	(1/2)	)/14 (	(Earlv dismissal davs DRAFT 12/31/14)							11/21/14

9.

-5

# FIRSTREAD 12/18/14 SECOND READ 1/8/15

### File: BDFB

### SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

### <u>DRAFT</u>

The Acton-Boxborough Regional School District's Mission is to prepare all students to attain their full potential as life-long learners, critical thinkers and productive citizens of our diverse community and global society.

It is the general goal of the District to foster relationships with parents/guardians, which encourage cooperation between the home and school in establishing and achieving common educational goals for students.

The School Committees shall establish a parent advisory council on special education. Membership shall be offered to all parents/guardians of children with disabilities and other interested parties. The parent advisory council duties shall include but not be limited to: advising the school committee on matters that pertain to the education and safety of students with disabilities; meeting regularly with school officials to participate in the planning, development, and evaluation of the school committees's special education programs. The parent advisory council shall establish by-laws regarding officers and operational procedures. In the course of its duties under this policy, the parent advisory council shall receive assistance from the school committee without charge, upon reasonable notice, and subject to the availability of staff and resources.

LEGAL REFERENCE: M.G.L: 71B:3

CROSS REFERENCE: School/Parent Relations Goals, File: KBA

Mission, Values and Goals, File: AD

Approved by APS/AB School Committees: May 1, 2008

Approved:

Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

File: JC

### ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

The Acton Boxborough Regional Schools have a standard procedure, available from the Office of the Registrar, for the enrollment of students.

The Acton Public Schools have District has the following open enrollment enrollment policy for the elementary schools:

The Acton-School-Committee-District strives to provide high standards of educational excellence in all <u>of</u> its elementary schools. Since no single teaching method is best for all students, the <u>School</u> Committee supports the use of a variety of teaching methods and techniques which will achieve the prescribed curriculum objectives. It follows that parents should have the opportunity to choose the school they think best fits the needs of their children subject to the availability of space and staff.

The District has a standard procedure for enrolling students at the Junior High and High Schools. This procedure is available from the Office of the Registrar.

The School Committee may find it necessary or appropriate to relocate, expand, or contract the available classroom space, or to increase or decrease the number of classroom teachers due to changes in student enrollment, budget limitations, or other reasons. In such situations, parents will be allowed to request reassignment of their students to classes/schools that are not overcrowded. In the event that choices have to be made between reassignment requests, or should the School Committee determine that mandatory reassignment is necessary, the priorities listed in the Enrollment of Students Procedures will be utilized in assigning students. After those accommodations are made, the Committee will attempt to retain existing student groupings as much as possible.

Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

### ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

The District has the following enrollment policy for the elementary schools:

The School_District strives to provide high standards of educational excellence in all of its elementary schools. Since no single teaching method is best for all students, the School Committee supports the use of a variety of teaching methods and techniques which will achieve the prescribed curriculum objectives. It follows that parents should have the opportunity to choose the school they think best fits the needs of their children subject to the availability of space and staff.

The District has a standard procedure for enrolling students at the Junior High and High Schools. This procedure is available from the Office of the Registrar.

The School Committee may find it necessary or appropriate to relocate, expand, or contract the available classroom space, or to increase or decrease the number of classroom teachers due to changes in student enrollment, budget limitations, or other reasons. In such situations, parents will be allowed to request reassignment of their students to classes/schools that are not overcrowded. In the event that choices have to be made between reassignment requests, or should the School Committee determine that mandatory reassignment is necessary, the priorities listed in the <u>Enrollment of Students Procedures</u> will be utilized in assigning students.

Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

File: JC

File: JC-R

### ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

### 1. Kindergarten Registration

Students are placed in the school of the parents' first choice, according to the priorities listed below. In the event there is an over-enrollment in any school after the above indicated children with priority have been placed, a lottery will be held which will provide a fair way for all other children to be placed in the school of their highest choice.

#### 2. Students Moving into Acton or Boxborough

Every effort will be made to place students (K-6) who move to Acton<u>or Boxborough</u> in the schools requested by their parents, with preference given, if necessary, according to the priorities below. However, in certain circumstances it may not be possible to place these students in the school of their first choice.

### 3. Transfers between Elementary Schools

A parent or guardian who wishes to transfer his or her child from one elementary school to another shall write a letter to the Superintendent or designee stating the request. Normally  $\underline{t}$ Transfer requests should be initiated by July 1 for the following school year. The Superintendent shall make a decision by the end of the third week in AugustJuly and communicate it to the parent or guardian. Normally, transfers of enrolled students during the school year take priority over new residents to the town. Students will rarely be transferred during the school year to minimize disruptions.

### 4. Priorities to be Used in Assigning Students

- a. Providing for children with special program-needs and/or accessibility accommodations_---Some-students requiring English Literacy Learner services may need the special programs/staff support or building accommodations offered at particular schools. These students will be placed appropriately upon the recommendation of Pupil Services.
- b. Keeping Ffamilies trogether It is important to build a strong core of families who can devote their energies to their school's activities. Volunteerism, active parent/teacher organizations, and parent involvement in advisory groups and the like are valuable school resources. So is a long-term family connection to their school community. Therefore, if the newly enrolling student has a sibling in the Acton or Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools and that sibling attended an Acton or Boxborough elementary school, the newly enrolling student will be given school selection preference at that same school.
  - * A sibling is defined as: "a relative (by birth, adoption or guardianship) who is living in the same home."
- c. Encouraginge Wwalking to school Children should walk to school wherever possible for economic and energy-saving reasons. Therefore, walkers students who live within a one mile safe walk will be given preference when placing students. A safe walk will include sidewalks on major roads and crossing guards when students need to cross a major road.
- d. Children who are retained in kindergarten receive priority for all day kindergarten. If they request to transfer to another school, they receive priority to attend that school.

e. Children who live in Boxborough are guaranteed a spot at the Blanchard School if they

Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5", Hanging: 0.25", Tab stops: 0.75", Left File: JC-R

Choose, and children who live in Acton are guaranteed a spot at an Acton school if they choose. Exceptions to this may be made for special education reasons or for other reasons as determined by the Superintendent.

Additional procedures for enrollment of students are established by the Superintendent, in accordance with State law, and shall cover such topics as:

school choice

- establishing residence eligibility students living with relatives
- students in foster homes
- homeless students students living on their own. .

They are available from the Office of the Registrar.

Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

File: JC-R

### ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

### 1. Kindergarten Registration

Students are placed in the school of the parents' first choice, according to the priorities listed below. In the event there is an over-enrollment in any school after children with priority have been placed, a lottery will be held which will provide a fair way for all other children to be placed in the school of their highest choice.

### 2. Students Moving into Acton or Boxborough

Every effort will be made to place students (K-6) who move to Acton or Boxborough in the schools requested by their parents, with preference given, if necessary, according to the priorities below. However, in certain circumstances it may not be possible to place these students in the school of their first choice.

#### 3. Transfers between Elementary Schools

A parent or guardian who wishes to transfer his or her child from one elementary school to another shall write a letter to the Superintendent or designee stating the request. Transfer requests should be initiated by July 1 for the following school year. The Superintendent shall make a decision by the end of July and communicate it to the parent or guardian. Students will rarely be transferred during the school year to minimize disruptions.

#### 4. Priorities to be Used in Assigning Students

- a. Providing for children with special needs and/or accessibility accommodations These students will be placed appropriately upon the recommendation of Pupil Services.
- b. Keeping families together It is important to build a strong core of families who can devote their energies to their school's activities. Volunteerism, active parent/teacher organizations, and parent involvement in advisory groups and the like are valuable school resources. So is a long-term family connection to their school community. Therefore, if the newly enrolling student has a sibling in the Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools and that sibling attended an Acton or Boxborough elementary school, the newly enrolling student will be given school selection preference at that same school.
  - * A sibling is defined as: "a relative (by birth, adoption or guardianship) who is living in the same home."
- c. Encouraging walking to school Children should walk to school wherever possible for economic and energy-saving reasons. Therefore, students who live within a one mile safe walk will be given preference when placing students. A safe walk will include sidewalks on major roads and crossing guards when students need to cross a major road.
- d. Children who are retained in kindergarten receive priority for all day kindergarten. If they request to transfer to another school, they receive priority to attend that school.
- e. Children who live in Boxborough are guaranteed a spot at the Blanchard School if they Choose, and children who live in Acton are guaranteed a spot at an Acton school if they choose. Exceptions to this may be made for special education reasons or for other reasons as determined by the Superintendent.

Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

# File: JCAC

# ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS FROM OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Students transferring from another school or district into the Acton Public or Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools will be placed in a grade based on their age on or before September 1 of the current school year.

A student enrolling who is five years old on or before September 1 of the current school year will be placed in Kindergarten.

A student enrolling who is six years old on or before September 1 of the current school year and who has completed kindergarten will be placed in first grade.

A student enrolling who is seven years old or older on or before September 1 of the current school year will be placed in the age appropriate grade unless the student has attended a different grade level in his or her previous school district. In this case, the student will be placed according to the building principal's evaluation for a grade placement.

Students enrolling in grades 7 through 12 will be placed based on placement testing and a review of records from the student's previous school(s). <u>Students enrolled in school elsewhere will not be permitted to enroll in the ABRSD</u>. Students who have earned a diploma or the equivalent from another secondary school will not be permitted to enroll in the ABRSD.

Ref: JEB Kindergarten Entrance Policy MGL Chapter 76 Section 1

Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

# File: JCAC

# ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS FROM OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Students transferring from another school or district into the Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools will be placed in a grade based on their age on or before September 1 of the current school year.

A student enrolling who is five years old on or before September 1 of the current school year will be placed in Kindergarten.

A student enrolling who is six years old on or before September 1 of the current school year and who has completed kindergarten will be placed in first grade.

A student enrolling who is seven years old or older on or before September 1 of the current school year will be placed in the age appropriate grade unless the student has attended a different grade level in his or her previous school district. In this case, the student will be placed according to the building principal's evaluation for a grade placement.

Students enrolling in grades 7 through 12 will be placed based on placement testing and a review of records from the student's previous school(s). Students enrolled in school elsewhere will not be permitted to enroll in the ABRSD. Students who have earned a diploma or the equivalent from another secondary school will not be permitted to enroll in the ABRSD.

Ref: JEB Kindergarten Entrance Policy MGL Chapter 76 Section 1

Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

<u>File</u>: JEB

## KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE POLICY

The policy and procedures are designed to reduce the age span and therefore, normally, the developmental span in a classroom in order to enable instruction more suitably tailored to the children in the class.

Children reaching the age of five on or before September 1 are eligible and expected to be enrolled in Kindergarten in September of that calendar year.

If a parent feels the child is not ready to enter Kindergarten at the age appropriate time, they may withhold their child from kindergarten with the recommendation of the child's preschool teacher. If a parent would like the school district to assess the child for kindergarten readiness, he/she should contact the Early Childhood Coordinator.

the parent-must make formal written request to the Superintendent of Schools by March 1 of the same calendar year which will be reviewed by a standing review committee of staff. That review procedure may include testing by the school system at the parent's expense.

Children reaching the age of 6 by September 1 are eligible and must be enrolled in school by September of that calendar year.

APPROVED: 12/16/10

File: JEB

# KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE POLICY

The policy and procedures are designed to reduce the age span and therefore, normally, the developmental span in a classroom in order to enable instruction more suitably tailored to the children in the class.

Children reaching the age of five on or before September 1 are eligible to be enrolled in Kindergarten in September of that calendar year.

If a parent feels the child is not ready to enter Kindergarten at the age appropriate time, they may withhold their child from kindergarten with the recommendation of the child's preschool teacher. If a parent would like the school district to assess the child for kindergarten readiness, he/she should contact the Early Childhood Coordinator.

APPROVED: 12/16/10

## File: JF

# **Residency and Student Enrollment**

(replaces "School Admissions") FIRST READING 1/8/15

In order to attend the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District, a student must actually reside in the town of Acton or the town of Boxborough. The residence of a minor child is presumed to be the legal, primary residence of the parents or legal guardians who have physical custody of the child, "Residency" is defined as the place where a person has his/her permanent home, not temporarily, and is the center of his/her domestic, social, and civic life.

In determining residency, the Acton Boxborough Regional Schools reserves the right to request a variety of documentation when students are initially enrolled in the schools, or in the course of any investigation intended to verify residency.

# I. Registration Process and Residency Verification

Before any student is to be enrolled in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District, his or her parent or legal guardian must provide to the school(s) proof of residency, proof of legal guardianship of the child being registered, and other documentation pertaining to academic and medical records. Families should be prepared to furnish all of the following during the registration process:

- a. Copy of birth certificate for student
- b. Copy of student's current immunization record and physical examination (within the last year)
- c. Copies of previous school records report pards or transcripts, MCAS scores if moving within the state of MA
- d. A signed and notarized Statement/Affidavit of Occupancy
- e. Copy of photo identification of parent/guardian
  - i. *Evidence of Identification*: including, but not limited to valid driver's license, MA Photo ID card, valid passport, other government issued photo ID
- f. Proof of residency & occupancy in Acton or Boxborough note that parent/guardian name must be listed:
  - i. *Evidence of Residency*: including but not limited to recent mortgage payment or property tax bill, fully signed and executed lease and/or rental agreement, fully signed and executed purchase and sale (P&S) agreement (provided occupancy date occurs before a student can be registered), Section 8 agreement
  - ii. *Evidence of Occupancy*: Including but not limited to gas/Oil bill, electric bill, home (not cell) telephone bill, cable bill, water bill (note: bill must be dated within the past 45 days and address and name must be stated)

When applicable, families must also provide the District with:

# Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

- g. Copies of any IEP or 504 Plan documentation for the student
- h. Parenting plan for divorced or separated parents/guardians

# II. Enforcement

Questions concerning any student's residency in Acton or Boxborough will be subject to further inquiry and/or investigation. Such questions concerning residency may arise on the basis of incomplete, suspicious, or contradictory proofs of address; anonymous tips; correspondence that is returned because of an invalid or unknown address, or other grounds.

The Director of Personnel and Administrative Services or his/her designee may request additional documentation and may use the assistance of the District's School Resource Officer to assist with or conduct investigations into student residency. A report of findings will be provided to the Director of Personnel and Administrative Services, who shall make an initial determination of residency.

Upon an initial determination that a student is not actually residing in Acton or Boxborough, the student's enrollment in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District shall be terminated. In additional to termination of enrollment and the imposition of other penalties permitted by law, the Acton Boxborough Regional Schools reserves the right to recover restitution based upon the costs of educational services during the period of non-residency.

# III. Exceptions & Extraordinary Circumstances

The residency requirements listed above shall not apply to the following:

- a. Students who are entitled to attend the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- b. Students enrolled in the High School under special programs approved by the School Committee, such as educational exchange programs
- c. Children of non-resident employees of the Acton Boxborough Regional Schools, who meet the conditions established by the School Committee in the policy pertaining to such students
- d. Students accepted and/or grandfathered into the District through the School Choice program
- e. Students whose parents divorce or separate and share physical custody, provided one custodial parent remains a resident of Acton or Boxborough, and the student resides at least 4 nights a week with the parent who resides in Acton or Boxborough. The most current custody agreement and/or approved parenting plan must be provided in these circumstances.
- f. For children whose families have signed and accepted a Purchase and Sale Agreement to purchase and reside in a dwelling in Acton or Boxborough, they may be enrolled up to 60 calendar days in advance of the time actual physical residency occurs. This exception may only be granted with prior written approval from the Superintendent.

The below are extraordinary circumstances in which exceptions may be considered, and is at the discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee. In all circumstances, if the request is granted, student transportation during the period of non-residency shall be the responsibility of the parents or legal guardians:

- g. If a student's family moves from Acton or Boxborough on or after April 1st of a given school year, the parents or legal guardians may place a request in writing to the Superintendent to have their student(s) remain in the Acton-Boxborough School District for the completion of the academic year. To be considered for this exception, families must make the request to the Superintendent at least two weeks prior to such a move.
- h. If a student is a senior at Acton-Boxborough High School, and his/her family moves out of the District on or after October 1st of a given school year, the parents or legal guardians may submit a request in writing to the Superintendent to have their student(s) remain in Acton-Boxborough for the completion of the academic year.
- i. Current students who move out of Acton or Boxborough because of the severe or chronic illness of the student or immediate family member; the death of an immediate family member; disaster to the residence; or other circumstances having a significant impact upon the student.

Special requests and extraordinary circumstances that are not specifically articulated above, must be presented in writing to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The Superintendent has sole discretion in rendering a decision for these requests, and those decisions are final.

# IV. Notification

The Acton-Boxborough Regional School District residency requirements, verification procedures, and consequences for falsifying or misrepresenting residency will be posted on the District's website, individual school websites, and the District's policy manual.

REF: JF-E Proof of Residency Affidavit

#### Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Proof of Residency Affidavit

I/We, the parent(s), legal guardian(s) of _____

(Print student's full name)

hereby certify as follows:

- 1. I/We wish to enroll the above named student in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District. I/We understand that pursuant to Massachusetts General Law (Chapter 76, Section 5) and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District's Policy, students who actually reside in the Towns of Acton and Boxborough may attend school in the Acton-Boxborough Regional District and students who do not actually reside in the Towns of Acton or Boxborough may not attend school in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District.
- 2. I/We hereby certify that effective_____, 20____, the above named student is/will be residing at the following address in Acton or Boxborough Massachusetts, with:

Printed N	lames (s) of Parent(s)/G	uardians(s)	
			Acton or Boxborough, MA 01720/01719
No.	Street	Apt. No.	
Home Te	lephone:		
Cell Phon	ie:		Work Phone:

- 3. I/We acknowledge that I am/we are required to notify the Acton-Boxborough Regional District or the above student's school in writing, of any change in said student's address within five (5) business days of such change of address.
- 4. I/We understand that this Occupancy Statement will be relied upon by the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District for the purpose of determining the above student's eligibility to attend school in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District on the basis of residency. If said student is enrolled in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District based upon the information provided and it is subsequently determined that the student does not actually reside in Acton or Boxborough, I/We understand that the student's enrollment in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District will be promptly terminated and I/We will be jointly liable to the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District for the student's tuition for the full academic year(s).
- 5. I/We further certify that I am/we are the parent(s), legal guardians(s), or responsible adult of the above student.
- 6. I/We understand that all applicants must reside in the Towns of Acton or Boxborough as outlined in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 76, Section 5 which states:

Every person shall have a aright to attend the public schools of the town where he/she actually resides, subject to the following section. No school committee is required to enroll a person who does not actually reside in the town unless said enrollment is authorized by law or by the school committee. Any person who violates or assists in the violation of this provision may be required to remit full restitution to the town of the improperly-attended public schools. No person shall be excused from or discriminated against in admission to a public school of any town, or in obtaining that advantages privileges and courses of study of such public school on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. (amended by st. 1971, c622, c.1; st. 1973 c. 925, s 9A, st. 1993, c. 282; st. 2004, c.352, s.33)

#### Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Proof of Residency Affidavit

Column A	Column B	Column C
Evidence of Residency	Evidence of Occupancy	Evidence of Identification Photo ID
Record of recent Mortgage payment and/or property tax bill	Gas/Oil Electric Bill, Home (not cell) Telephone Bill, Cable Bill, Water Bill (Note: Bill must be dated within the past 45 days and address and name must be stated)	Valid MA Driver's License
Fully Signed and Executed Lease and/or Rental Agreement (Must be Executed by both Parties)	Recent bill dated within the past 45 days showing Acton or Boxborough address and name (Note: A Residency Statement/Affidavit is required with this option	Valid MA Photo ID Card
Fully signed and Executed Purchase and Sale (P&S) Agreement (provided occupancy date occurs before a student can be registered)	Occupancy Statement/Affidavit must be notarized if a bill can not be provided prior to student's enrollment	Other Government issued Photo ID
Section 8 Agreement	h	I

Signed under the pain and penalties of perjury on this ______day of _____, 201____;

Parent /Guardian (Please circle relationship)

Parent/Guardian (Please circle relationship)

Review by Acton Boxborough Schools:_____

Acton Boxborough Staff Member's Initials

Current Policy

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

All children of school age who reside in the town⁵ will be entitled to attend the public schools, as will certain children who do not reside in the town⁵ but who are admitted under School Committee policies relating to nonresident students or by specific action of the School Committee.

Advance registration for prospective Kindergarten students will take place in January and March. Every student seeking admission to school for the first time must present a birth certificate or equivalent proof of age acceptable to the school administration and proof of vaccination and immunizations as required by the state and the School Committee. Proof of residency and legal guardianship may also be required by the school administration.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 15:1G; 76:1; 76:5; 76:15; 76:15A 603 CMR 26:01; 26:02; 26:03

CROSS REFS.:

JLCA, Physical Examination of Students JLCB, Inoculations of Students JFBB, School Choice File: JF

10.2.5.2

-Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

### ALG Minutes December 11, 2014

Present: Bart Wendell, facilitator; Mike Gowing & Katie Green, BoS; Kristina Rychlik, SC; Steve Noone & Mike Majors, FC; Steve Ledoux, Glenn Brand, Steve Barrett & Marie Altieri, staff. Absent: Dennis Bruce.

Audience: Peter Berry, Janet Adachi & Franny Osman, BoS; Brian McMullen & Clare Jeannotte, Staff; Lauren Rosenzweig, facilitator in-waiting and Charlie Kadlec.

Extra Info: ALG multi-year financial model; Minuteman FY 16 revenue estimate plan; finance committee's revenue summaries for 2.5% tax levy and 2%

Minutes were accepted as corrected.

#### 2. Update of FY15 Revenues and expenses

SL: Nothing much, revenues and expenses are on track. We have yet to see any impact on the governor's 9C cuts. House Speaker has vowed not to make cuts in local aid. The innovation challenge grant that has funded our transportation program has been removed from the budget. We are OK for this year but, not sure for next. The FY 16 budget will be presented to the BoS on Monday.

Glenn: There are concerns about the one-time credits; we are following the proposed 9C cuts and looking for means to shore up the expected shortfalls. FY16 will start next week with a broad foundation; budget will be rolled out on Jan. 8 and Budget Saturday is set for Jan 31.

The FY 16 assessment numbers will be put out on Jan. 8, because you need to know.

#### 3. Cost savings sub committee

SL: Three major boards were to discuss it. The BoS did discuss forming a cost savings subcommittee.

Kristina: The SC did talk about it. At the moment the reaction was not positive. They thought that another committee would not be the most efficient or effective way...."we have a budget subcommittee and that's where we can talk about cost savings."

MG: I was on the original committee and it was a lot of work---we got some good cost savings but we have already picked the low hanging fruit. If we look at the return for the time invested it will take a lot of staff time too when they are working on the budget.

Katie: I think it's something we should revisit in the late spring---after ATM. Meanwhile each board can work on it on their own.

#### Bart: Is there a specific focus and time?

SN: In the last study there was a recommendation about merging the town's rec. department with Community Ed. Now that there is regionalization that will never happen. In the three boards meeting no one suggested raising taxes. But there are gaps between the boards but I'm not about ready to call another three board meeting.

Kristina: Do you have a specific date?

SN: March, before the April Town Meeting. If we do not do something about FY 17 & 18—it's [the ALG model] not going to look good.

Katie: Perhaps we can flesh out ideas in March.

Bart could not get an agreement on this.

Kristina noted that she felt that it would be a real stretch to find cost savings in three months

The discussion centered on the idea that any real cost savings would take a far more extensive committee work than could be accomplished in three months.

***It was finally agreed that each board would work on its own costs savings during the budget process without a separate committee.

#### 4. OPEB

SN: We have reconstituted the OPEB working group with Janet Adachi (BoS) and Clare Jeannotte (SC staff) and we worked on the rationale for the \$1.4M charge which is the point of contention. We will not get a new actuarial study before town meeting. We do expect a better return on investment but the mortality tables have changed, we are living longer and health care costs will continue longer and there will be a shortfall.

I understand the SC wants to change the \$1.4M amount since they now have to pay 2/3 of the costs rather than the 1/3. I hate to see us step back, the FC will accept nothing less than \$1.1M We have agreed to meet again in January and review the costs.

Kristina: Thank you for reconvening the committee and looking into the concerns we noted at last meeting.

Bart: Does that mean the \$1.4M will stand for now? Yes.

### 5. Spreadsheet

SB: The DOR has certified our new growth numbers at \$948k. This is a big part of nailing down our total revenues.

I met with Marie and we retrofitted the town meeting votes for the schools into the plan. In the FY 15 Column we put \$49,835 M as the first shot

By this means we may be able to eliminate the FC's score card. This summary now has the costs hidden which make up the numbers [the numbers are on the back pages]

Once the tax rate is set on Monday we will fill in the actuals; we will have the town budget; free cash and there will be a lot of quality control we will have to work on before the next ALG meeting

Marie: We tried to keep it simple---we did not change the revenue; just changed the old format to get the assessment numbers

SB: We pulled out the regional revenue for the Acton side, trying to make the model more user –friendly. We will have to spend some "quality time" with the sheet over the break.

SN: I like the approach—in and out with the debt I'd rather have that consistent. Either put it in or out.

SB: We inherited this model and we've worked with it for a long time and perhaps it's time to get a better format.

Mike G: It might be a good time to do a holistic change rather than modifying it every year. We have changes on top of changes---will there be time? It's a working tool for us it's not what we take to Town Meeting.

SB: Going back to changes, Row G there is a positive \$223k balance from the ATM plan. That might be something to mitigate the coming 9C cuts. If we carry out the plan for three years, all we'll have is tax revenue, some expenses and tax rate.

Bart: Are you open to the idea of looking for ways to refresh the spreadsheet rather than revise it?

SN: The document is embedded in the FC's message---it's the only thing we [FC] give to the taxpayers. If the changes make it clearer and simpler---I'm all for it.

Marie: I'm open to look at it. Four- five years ago we made it simpler with around 12 back pages. It's good for the ALG to look at the whole model [and not just the first sheet]. It's premature to add the 9C cuts. We have not yet made the change in the transportation costs

from the state approved \$1.7M down to the \$1.3M. In the next couple of weeks we will have the town and SC budget numbers and we have to put those in.

SB: Do we have to wait for the budgets to be released to the public?

Katie: Does that mean budget Saturday?

SL: Monday night I'll present the budget to the selectmen, it's public then.

Mike G: That's just the first pass. On budget Saturday we grind down and see what we're spending the money on and we will get the perspective for the ALG FY16 column. The 9C cuts are in FY 15. There'll be a reduction in the Town Meeting number and the shortfall will increase the percentages for FY16.

Bart: Marie and Steve B. Do you have a clear idea on what you're to do?

SN: It's not specifically on the spreadsheet but the FC's POV has a blending of a 2% and a 2.5% tax. We don't have to talk about it now, but we will later.

#### 6. Minuteman

Steve Ledoux went to a breakfast meeting for district Town Managers at Minuteman with the superintendent who reported the preliminary budget is increasing by 1.64%. This will increase the assessments for the member towns. Acton's assessment at this point will be \$918,833k. Of that \$150,253 is for the middle school program. Enrollment at the school is dropping; 25 fewer in-district students and 20 fewer from out-of-district. OPEB is \$150k with a liability of \$16M. Reimbursement for Community Ed is dropping from 134% of the foundation budget to 125%.

Chapter 74 will only pay for non-members if there is not a similar program in their home district. Ch. 74 given a capital fee charge of 75%/student for out-of district and 100%/student for towns where there is no Voc. Ed opportunities.

The MMSC has tried to make changes in the regional agreement; 10 towns have passed it; six have deferred. There are many hang-ups. It's very difficult to get 16 towns to agree to anything. Right now Lincoln is the biggest problem; new construction will be on land in Lincoln and they want "host community" guarantees---otherwise they will pull out.

Renovating the present building is \$10M more than building a new one.---There are a lot of moving parts and nothing is settled.

Mike G: Are the other community enrollment numbers increasing?

SL: Right now we have 26 students and four post graduate.

SN: We passed the regionalization agreement. Boxboro did not. They may consider withdrawing.

Marie: Boxboro will vote at their next town meeting. We could run the Explorer classes ourselves and that would be part of our assessment [as well as Boxboro's].

SL: Five towns have passed over the vote. The problem right now is Lincoln who could defeat the whole thing.

Bart: Comments on the process: "I know that every year there are new folks at the table and they ask what the purpose of the ALG is. It's not my place to advocate, but the collection of data which starts coming in now makes Jan and Feb. the months where the real work starts. Once it does start, I think you'll understand why you have an ALG."

#### 7. Public Comment:

Mr. Kadlec: There are two distinct purposes for the spreadsheet: for this group the only thing that matters is the revenue available for appropriation. It doesn't matter if the debt is in or out.

2nd is far more important; to get the information into the warrant so people can see and understand. To help them understand it would be good if a FY14 actuals column was added. It's a very simple thing to correct and it would make the sheet easier to understand."

#### 8. Next meeting

Jan 15, 7:30 AM Lauren will be the facilitator

After some discussion it was agreed to have two meetings in February and only one in January.

So the pattern: Jan. 15 7:40 AM; Feb. 5 & 26.

Adjourned 8:30

Ann Chang

## BF

## Bill Fraher, CPA

ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 and 2013 WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 and 2013

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS ON:

Financial statements	1
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	3
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
Statement of net position	6
Statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position	7
Statement of cash flows	8
Notes to financial statements	9



Bill Fraher, CPA 1313 Washington Street Unit 225 Boston, MA 02118 Tel: 617-699-2877 Fax: 617-830-9393 bfraher2877@aol.com

#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Trustees of the Acton Health Insurance Trust:

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Acton Health Insurance Trust (the Trust), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on my audits. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of a material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Trust's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control. Accordingly, I express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting principles used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### **Opinions**

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Acton Health Insurance Trust as of June 30, 2014 and 2013, and the changes in financial position and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Other Matters**

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 3 through 5 be presented to supplement the financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by the Government Auditing Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. I have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the financial statements and other knowledge obtained during the audit of the financial statements. I do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted ten year claims development information that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by the Government Auditing Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. My opinion on the financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

in

Bill Fraher, CPA December 23, 2014

#### Acton Health Insurance Trust Management's Discussion & Analysis June 30, 2014

The management of Acton Health Insurance Trust (the Trust) offers readers of our financial statements the following narrative overview and analysis of our financial activities for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Please read this discussion and analysis in conjunction with the Trust's basic financial statements on the accompanying pages.

#### The Trust

The Health Insurance Trust offers a variety of health insurance products to employees and retirees of the general government and schools (K-6) of Acton and of the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District.

<u>Plan</u>	FY 14 <u>Individuals</u>	FY 14 <u>Families</u>	FY 13 <u>Individuals</u>	FY 13 <u>Families</u>
Blue Cross Master Health (Indemnity Plan)	10	3	10	4
Blue Cross Elect (PPO)	8	1	10	1
Blue Cross (HMO)	150	287	155	282
Harvard Pilgrim (HMO)	94	252	93	248
Blue Cross Medex (Medicare Supplement)	382	-	370	-
Medicare Plans (Premium Based)	<u>87</u>	=	<u>72</u>	=
Total	<u>731</u>	<u>543</u>	<u>710</u>	<u>535</u>

(Enrollment for FY 13 and for FY 14 from June Cash Flow Report)

#### **Basic Financial Statements**

The basic financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when received or earned and expenses are recorded when incurred. The basic financial statements include a statement of net position, a statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position; a statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements.

The statement of net position presents information on the assets and liabilities of the Trust, with the difference being reported as net position.

The statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position reports the operating and nonoperating revenues and expenses of the Trust for the fiscal year 2014. The net result of these activities combined with the beginning of the year net position reconciles to the net position at the end of the current fiscal year. Health insurance claims and administrative charges are presented net of reimbursements received from reinsurance.

#### Acton Health Insurance Trust Management's Discussion & Analysis June 30, 2014

The statement of cash flows reports the changes in cash for the year resulting from operating and investing activities. Cash at the end of the year is the net result of changes in cash for the year when added to the balance of cash at the beginning of the year.

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements. The notes to the financial statements follow the basic financial statements described above.

#### <u>Financial Highlights</u>

- Revenues in the form of participant contributions and intergovernmental receipts rose in FY 14 to \$14,823,830 compared to \$13,718,280 in FY 13, an increase of 8.1%. Revenue from the federal government was \$145,877 from Medicare part D, which was \$19,087 less than in FY 13.
- Health claims and administration charges in FY 14 were \$13,865,732, an increase of \$11,424 compared to FY 13. This was an increase of less than 1 percent. Total operating expenses (including the cost of stop-loss insurance and consulting services) were \$14,573,052, an increase of 0.7 percent compared to FY 13.
- Assets exceeded liabilities by \$2,562,528 at the end of the fiscal year. This did not include funds (IBNR) held to pay claims incurred during fiscal 14 but not yet submitted to the Trust for payments.
- For the year ended June 30, 2014, net position increased by \$262.920. This largely reflects the operating income of \$250,778. This profit and subsequent increase in net position represented a reversal of last year's situation.
- Net assets as a percentage of operating expenses were 17.6% at the close of FY 14, slightly higher than in the previous year.

#### Actuarial Assumptions

Each year the Trustees make actuarial assumptions to project annual claims costs for each health plan. These are on a-per member/per month basis. The Trust establishes rates on a plan by plan basis, though it treats the two HMO plans as if they were a single plan.

Beginning in FY 05 the Trustees attempted to establish rates that would fund anticipated costs. Extraordinary claims costs led to a deficit in FY 05. In FY 07 the Trustees increased rates to cover not only expenses but also to begin to rebuild net position. This continued in FY 08. In FY 09 and FY 10 the increased rates were designed to only cover increased expenses while the forecast for FY 13 had been for a modest decrease in net position to counter the previous year's unexpected increase in net position. That the decline was much larger than expected reflects an overly optimistic expectation of the impact on the Trust's finances stemming from the agreement with employees for their paying a greater proportion of the "premiums" and a standardized system for co-pays, as well as significant claims for a number of members' claims which did not reach the threshold for re-insurance. Rates for FY 14 were designed to stabilize the ratio o

#### Acton Health Insurance Trust Management's Discussion & Analysis June 30, 2014

#### **Condensed Financial Information**

#### Acton Health Insurance Trust Comparative Summary 2013 to 2014

	2014	2013	Change	% Change
Cash	4,726,588	\$3,818,978	\$907,610	23.8
Other Assets	735,967	790,942	(54,975)	(7.0)
Total Assets	5,462,555	4,609,920	852,635	18.5
Claims liabilities	850,000	850,000	-	-
Other current liabilities	2,050,027	1,460,312	589,715	40.4
Total Liabilities	2,900,027	2,310,312	589,715	25.5
Unrestricted net position	2,562,528	2,299,606	262,920	11.4
Member contributions	14,677,953	13,553,316	1,124,637	8.3
Medicare Part D & ERRP	145,877	164,964	(19,087)	(11.6)
Claims expense	13,865,732	13,854,308	11,424	0.1
Other expenses	707,320	611,065	96,255	15.8
Operating income	250,778	(747,093)	997,871	133.6
Investment income	12,142	15,540	(3,398)	(21.9)
Change in net position	\$262,920	\$(731,553)	\$994,473	135.9

#### Economic Factors Affecting the Subsequent Year

The Trust is operating in an environment of continuing rapid changes in health care costs and health insurance plans. The advent of the Affordable Care Act will present the Trust with unknown issues. The Trust will attempt to anticipate their impact rather than just react.

#### **Requests for information**

This financial report is intended to provide an overview of the finances of the Trust. Any questions concerning this report, or for additional information, please contact the Trust's Chair, Robert Evans Jr., or through the Treasurer of the Acton-Boxborough Regional District School System at 978-264-4700.

#### ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST

,

#### Statement of Net Position June 30, 2014 and 2013

	2014 <u>Total</u>	2013 <u>Total</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,726,588	\$ 3,818,978
Receivables:		
Member accounts	2,195	-
Reinsurance claims	452,804	14,564
Total receivables	454,999	14,564
Prepaid expenses	280,968	776,378
Total assets	\$ 5,462,555	\$ 4,609,920
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	472,788	825
Claims liabilities	850,000	850,000
Participants' advance contributions	1,577,239	1,459,487
Total liabilities	2,900,027	2,310,312
NET POSITION		
Unrestricted	2,562,528	2,299,608
Total net position	2,562,528	2,299,608
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$ 5,462,555</u>	<u>\$ 4,609,920</u>

See the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

#### ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST

#### Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position Years Ended June 30, 2014 and 2013

	2014 <u>Total</u>	2013 <u>Total</u>
Operating revenues:		
Participants' contributions	\$ 14,677,953	\$ 13,553,316
Intergovernmental revenue - Medicare Part D	<u>145,877</u>	164,964
Total operating revenues	14,823,830	13,718,280
Operating expenses:		
Health claims and administration charges	13,865,732	13,854,308
Stop loss insurance premiums	627,725	535,540
Consulting services and other	79,595	75,525
Total operating expenses	14,573,052	14,465,373
Operating income (loss)	250,778	(747,093)
Nonoperating revenues:		
Investment income	12,142	15,540
Changes in net position	262,920	(731,553)
Net position, beginning of year	2,299,608	3,031,161
Net position, end of year	<u>\$ 2,562,528</u>	\$ 2,299,608

See the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

#### ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST Statement of Cash Flows Years Ended June 30, 2014 and 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash received from participants	\$ 14,939,387	\$ 13,788,994
Cash paid to insurance providers and other vendors	(14,043,919)	(15,432,298)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	895,468	(1,643,304)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest on deposits	12,142	15,540
Net cash provided by investing activities	12,142	15,540
Net increase (decrease) in cash	907,610	(1,627,764)
Cash, beginning of year	3,818,978	5,446,742
Cash, end of year	\$4,726,588	\$3,818,978
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Operating income (loss)	\$250,778	(\$747,093)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(2,195)	-
Prepaid expenses	495,410	(776,378)
Accounts payable	471,963	(1,341,649)
Reinsurance receivable	(438,240)	2,151,102
Claims liabilities	-	(1,000,000)
Participant advanced contributions	117,752	70,714
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	\$895,468	(\$1,643,304)

See the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

•

#### ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2014 and 2013

#### Note 1. Organization

The Acton Health Insurance Trust (the Trust) Acton, Massachusetts, is a Massachusetts Municipal Joint Health Insurance Purchase Trust formed pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Section 12 and Chapter 40, Section 4A under a certain joint purchase agreement which became effective in July 2003. As a governmental entity, the Trust is not subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 nor is it subject to federal and state income taxes.

The Trust offers health benefits to all eligible employees and retirees of its two participating governmental units, the Town of Acton and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District. The number of subscribers in the self-funded medical plans was 1,185 at June 30, 2014 and 1,170 at June 30, 2013.

Governmental units may apply for membership and be added to the Trust, commencing on a date mutually agreed upon, provided that no less than two-thirds of the Board representatives present at a duly called meeting of the Board vote to accept such additional participants.

Any participating governmental unit may withdraw participation at its discretion. A governmental unit that elects to terminate participation in the Trust must notify the Trustees of such intent to withdraw 60 days prior to the end of the fiscal year, to be effective at the end of the fiscal year.

There is no liability for premium or administrative expense following the effective date of termination of a participating governmental unit's coverage under a contract purchased through the Trust except for the governmental unit's proportionate share of any deficit in the Trust as of its termination date, or of any premium expense or any subsequent expense for its covered individuals continued on the plan after termination. Any net position is apportioned to the terminating member on a pro rata basis.

Contributions to the Trust's trust fund from participating governmental units are on a monthly basis. The payment is calculated by the Board and is determined to be 100% of the cost of coverage of the Trust as a whole (including, but not limited to, anticipated incurred claims, retention, risk, and Trust administration expenses) as established through underwriting and/or actuarial estimates.

The Trust's plans consist of a traditional medical indemnity program with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Massachusetts, an Exclusive Provider Organization plan with Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Blue Cross/Blue Shield and an Optional Medicare Extension plan with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. All of these plans are self-funded. Medicare plans with Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Tufts Health Care are premium based plans.

The Trust has a specific excess medical reinsurance contract with an insurance carrier covering claims paid in excess of \$125,000, without a lifetime maximum amount payable. The policy covers claims incurred, on a yearly basis, within twelve months and paid within twenty four months. Amounts recoverable through reinsurance are recorded as a receivable and a reduction of claims expense.

The Trust employs the services of Cook & Company, Marshfield, Massachusetts, to provide certain management, consulting, and technical functions and to review medical claims paid. The current agreement with Cook & Company is for a one-year term ending June 30, 2015, and provides for an annual fee based on the number of subscribers. The Trust also employs the Certified Public Accounting firm of Borgatti Harrison & Co. to provide Treasury services under a contract that expires June 30, 2015.

#### ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2014 and 2013

#### Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Financial statements present net position at June 30, 2014 and 2013 and revenues, expenses, and changes in net position and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which recognize revenues from contributions and earnings when earned and expenditures when liabilities are incurred.

Contributions to the plans from participating governmental units are determined annually for the next fiscal year based on current operating results and estimated program costs for that year. Participants make contributions approximately twice a month in conjunction with related employee payrolls. Participant advance contributions are recorded as liabilities until earned.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Generally, the Trust is authorized to invest in the following investments: term deposits or certificates of deposit, trust companies, national banks, savings banks or banking companies, or obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the United States Government or an agency thereof and having a maturity from date of purchase of one year or less with certain other limitations, or such securities as are legal for the investment of funds of savings banks under the bank's laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts based on a legal opinion received by the Trust.

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and cash in checking, savings, money market or certificate of deposit accounts.

#### **Claims' Liabilities**

The Trust's obligations include estimated health claims incurred but not reported at June 30th. The Trust uses the latest reported claims to record the Trust's payable of reported claims and to estimate health claims incurred but not reported as of that date. Actual claims reported differ from claims estimated, but the stop-loss coverage minimizes the risk of a significant difference. Claims' liabilities are reviewed periodically using claims data adjusted for the Trust's current experience. Adjustments to claims' liabilities are charged or credited to expense in the periods in which they are made.

#### **Reinsurance**

The Trust does not include reinsured risks as liabilities unless it is probable that those risks will not be covered by the reinsurer. Amounts recoverable through reinsurers on paid claims are classified as receivable and as a reduction of claims expense.

#### Advanced Contributions

The Trust collects some participant contributions in advance of the month they are due. At the end of the year, this amount can be significant as it includes contributions from teaching employees for the months of July and August. At the end of the year, any amounts collected by the Trust that relate to contributions for the subsequent year are reported as advanced contributions (liabilities) in the financial statements.

#### ACTON HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2014 and 2013

#### Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Prepaid Expenses and Accounts Payable

Prepaid expenses and accounts payable consist primarily of amounts either paid in advance or due to insurance providers for the final quarter of the fiscal year. The Trust pays an estimated amount each month to insurance providers and a quarterly settlement calculates any amounts prepaid or due based on actual claims paid in the quarter.

#### Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results will differ from estimates.

#### Note 3. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

The Trust maintains deposits in authorized financial institutions. In the case of deposits, custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Trust's deposits may not be returned. The Trust does not have a formal deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At June 30, 2014 deposits in the financial institution totaled \$4,726,870 and had a carrying amount of \$4,726,588. Of the deposit amounts at June 30, 2014, \$500,000 was covered by FDIC insurance, leaving \$4,226,870 exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized. At June 30, 2013 deposits in the financial institution totaled \$3,701,363 and had a carrying amount of \$3,818,978. Of the deposit amounts at June 30, 2013, \$1,263,134 was covered by FDIC insurance, leaving \$2,438,229 exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized. The difference between deposit amounts and carrying amounts generally represents outstanding checks and deposits in transit.

#### Note 4. Unpaid Claims

The Trust establishes a liability for both reported and unreported incurred events which includes estimates of both future payments of losses and related adjustment expenses, if any. The following represents changes in claims liabilities during the years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Unpaid claims and claims administration expenses – beginning of year	\$ 850,000	\$ 3,192,474
Incurred claims and claims administration expenses:		
Provision for insured events and admin. expenses - current fiscal year	13 <b>,906,80</b> 4	13,854,308
Increase (decrease) in provision for insured events of prior fiscal years	<u>(41,072)</u>	-
	<u>13,865,732</u>	<u>13,854,308</u>
Payments:		
Claims and expenses attributable to insured events - current year	(12,584,016)	(13,004,308)
Claims and expenses attributable to insured events – prior years	<u>(808,928)</u>	<u>(3,192,474)</u>
	(13,392,944)	(16,196,782)
Total unpaid claims and claims adjustment expenses – end of year	<u>\$1,322,788</u>	<u>\$ 850,000</u>



Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee 16 Charter Road Acton, MA 01720 978-264-4700 www.abschools.org

December 29, 2014

His Excellency Deval Patrick, Governor His Excellency Charles Baker, Governor Elect State House, Room 105 Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick and Governor Elect Baker:

I am writing in response to concerns with the budget cuts announced in Governor Patrick's November 19th letter to the Senate and House of Representatives. In particular, I am concerned with the 9C cuts announced in areas that impact our school district's budget during this current fiscal year: regional transportation reimbursement, and to a lesser extent, circuit breaker and charter school reimbursement.

As our first year in a fully regionalized Pre-K to Grade 12 district, these cuts have significantly impacted our budget and will negatively affect our operations this year: at the announced level of a 26.6% cut in regional transportation reimbursement, our district now anticipates a budget shortfall of \$432,933. This is money that we expected to receive and without it, cuts must be made elsewhere in our budget mid-year, a particularly difficult task. It is most distressing for our district at this time, as the financial benefit of full regionalization for our towns is in large part due to the regional transportation aid provided by the state.

The Acton Boxborough Regional School Committee strongly believes that these cuts, while legal in a technical sense, violate the spirit of the law in which they are intended to come under. There was an outside section included in the 2010 Achievement Gap Bill (<u>Chapter 12 of the Acts of 2010</u>) that prohibits regional school transportation funding from being cut by a larger percentage than any reduction in Chapter 70 aid (see Section 15 language below). We realize that this does not apply to 9C cuts as Chapter 70 aid is not being cut at this time. However, we do believe that, because Chapter 70 aid is not being cut yet regional transportation is, regional school districts that rely on these funds are being unfairly targeted over non-regional districts.

Our Mission is to prepare all students to attain their full potential as life-long learners, critical thinkers, and productive citizens of our diverse community and global society. Section 15. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, regional school transportation payments made by the state in any fiscal year through the general appropriations act shall not be lowered by a greater percentage than any reduction made to state chapter 70 payments in that fiscal year

Governor Elect Baker, I appreciate your consideration of this issue and urge you to act to restore our regional transportation aid to previously announced levels. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Kistna Rychlell

Kristina Rychlik Chairwoman Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee <u>Krychlik@abschools.org</u>

Cc: Representative Cory Atkins Representative Jennifer E. Benson Senator James B. Eldridge Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools (MARS) Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee Glenn A. Brand, ABRSD Superintendent of Schools

## BERKSHIRE HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREAT BARRINGTON · STOCKBRIDGE · WEST STOCKBRIDGE

50 MAIN STREET . P.O. BOX 617 . STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262 . (413) 298-4017

December 11, 2014

Massachusetts State House Office of the Governor Room 280 Boston, MA 02133

Governor Patrick,

We are writing to express our disappointment in another round of 9C reductions that unfairly impact regional school districts and the many students we serve throughout the state.

Your letter to the legislature stating that you have avoided negatively impacting education through your 9C reductions is unfortunately untrue. For districts like the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, we have struggled with the State's unfulfilled promises around Regional Transportation for years. While we have budgeted conservatively, paying more for buses reduces what we spend on instruction. For the Berkshire Hills District, this single reduction amounts to approximately \$257,876 less than we budgeted -- certainly a significant amount in a budget that's been reduced consistently since 2004. That amount translates into 4 teachers' positions.

As we wrote to our legislators, we are also deeply concerned on the apparent 'interpretation' of a law which was clearly intended to tie any reduction in Regional Transportation Reimbursement with a decrease in Chapter 70 Aid to schools by stating "Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, regional school transportation payments made by the state in any fiscal year through the general appropriations act shall not be lowered by a greater percentage than any reduction made to state chapter 70 payments in that fiscal year" - St. 2010, c.12, sec. 15.

Our on-going concern is the mixed message that your office is sending to the state. On one hand, you speak about the need for regionalization of services and increasing the regionalization of schools (even to the point of providing 'regionalization incentives') yet this is not the first time you've cut the only consistent incentive, regional transportation reimbursement during 9C reductions. We share this concern, having spent the last several months forming the Southern Berkshire Shared Services Project (SBSSP), a collaboration between 6 districts – Berkshire Hills, Farmington River, Lee, Lenox, Richmond and Southern Berkshires. The goal of the SBSSP is to support high quality education through shared services.

From a regional school district standpoint, it would have been more equitable and less of an imposition to reduce Chapter 70 across all schools in the Commonwealth rather than reduce regional transportation reimbursement as you did. While you would need the approval of the legislature (and we'd argue that you also need it to unilaterally disregard the law implemented after your last 9C reductions), it would have been less difficult to implement such a reduction and have spread this reduction across all students rather than targeting those students attending a regional school district. We are concerned that if this cut remains, then once again regional schools will be forced to bear the brunt of 9C reductions and that the law awarding 100% reimbursement for regional transportation will once again be ignored and we'll look at lower reimbursement amounts for years into the future.

We hope that in your final month in office, you can look at your actions in a new light and determine that there is a more fair and equitable way to reach the reductions necessary given the budget shortfall than to make the regional schools bear the brunt of your decisions.

> Sincerely, Representatives of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District

Peter W. Dillon, Ed. D. Superintendent

Richard Bradway, School Committee

stine Shelton, School Committee

Richard Dohoney, School Committee

Jason St. Peter, School Committee

Kristin Piasecki, School Committee

Stephen Bannon, School/Committee Chair

Weston, School Committee Daniel

William Fields, School Committee

Frederick Clark, School Committee

Andrew Potter, School Committee

## TOWN OF ACTON 2015 ELECTION CALENDAR

## Annual Town Election is March 31, 2015 Annual Town Meeting is April 6, 2015

Last day to obtain nomination papers February 6, 2015 Last day to file nomination papers with Board of Registrars February 10, 2015 Last day to object / withdraw February 26, 2015 Last day to register voters March 11, 2015 Last day to post town warrant March 17, 2015

## TOWN OFFICIALS TO BE ELECTED IN 2015 - TERM OF OFFICE

#### **Moderator**

1 Member – 1 year term

#### Acton Board of Selectmen

1 Member- 3 year term

#### School Committee

2 Members- 3 year term

#### **Trustees Memorial Library**

2 Members- 3 year term

#### Acton Housing Authority

1 Member – 5 years

#### Water Supply District of Acton

1 Commissioner – 3 year term

1 Moderator – 3 year term

## **TRUSTEES** --- TO BE ELECTED AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING **MUST BE NOMINATED AT TOWN MEETING**

#### Trustees, West Acton Citizen's Library

1 Member – 3 year term

#### **Trustees, Elizabeth White Fund**

1 Member- 3 year term

#### Trustees, New Fireman's Relief Fund Acton

1 Member- 3 year term

#### Trustees, Charlotte Goodnow Fund

2 Members – 3 year term



BOXBOROUGH TOWN CLERK 29 Middle Road, Boxborough, Massachusetts 01719 Phone: (978) 264-1727 · Fax: (978) 264-3127 <u>emarkiewicz@boxborough-ma.gov</u>

#### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING/ELECTION CALENDAR 2015

#### Currently there is only one election planned for 2015—the annual town election.

Annual Town Meeting: Monday, May 11 Annual Town Election: Monday, May 18

**January 19:** Nomination papers for town offices available in the Town Clerk's office. The following offices will be on the ballot:

- Moderator, one-year term: 1 seat
- Selectman, three-year term: 2 seats
- School Committee, three-year term: ^B/₂ seats
- Planning Board, three-year term: 2 seats
- Library Trustees, three-year term: 2 seats
- Board of Health, one-year term: 1 seat
- Constable, three-year term: 1 seat

**March 30:** Last day to file nomination papers with the Board of Registers/Town Clerk in order to be on the ballot for the May 18 Annual Town Election. Papers are due in the Town Clerk's office by 5:00pm. A minimum of 25 signatures is required.

**April 21:** Last day to register to vote in order to be eligible to vote at Annual Town Meeting and the Annual Town Election. The Town Clerk's office will be open from 9:00am-8:00pm on that day.

May 11: Annual Town Meeting begins at 7:00pm at the Blanchard Memorial School gym.

May 18: Annual Town Election. Polls open at Boxborough Town Hall from 7:00am – 8:00pm.

To: Glenn Brand From: Larry Dorey Re: Discipline Report for December, 2014 Date: 12/30/14

There were 11 discipline referrals to the administration during the month of December, 2014. This total is down from 22 last year. 2 students were suspended this month, while 7 students were suspended during December, 2013.

Infraction	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Abusive/Obscene Language	2				
Alcohol Use			1		
Drug Paraphernalia		3			
Drug Possession		· 1		2	1
Drug Use					1
Harassment				1	
Other		2			
Physical Assault	1				
* Poss. with intent to distribute		1		enderlichter Charles als die Standarden Bernelen.	An on the production of a state of the state
Sexual Harassment		1			
Stealing				2	
Truancy Issues	2	1	a deservation of all 2 do not story on a low of the	1	
Under the Influence		1			Anna 2000 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1
Weapons				1	er als als diskte als an ad the first field of shaked blicker and a disk
Total	5	10	1	7	2

Suspensions for December, 2014

A list of all infractions for the month of December, 2014 appears on the backside of this page.

c: JoAnn Campbell

15.1

Infraction	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Abusive/Obscene Language	3				
Academic Integrity		1			
Alcohol Use			1		
Bus Discipline Issues			3		
C.H. Alcohol	20	2			
Computer Use	1				
Disrespectful		2		2	
Disruptive/Uncooperative Behav	. 1	6		1	2
Drug Paraphernalia	A.M. 449462	3			
Drug Possession	1	1		2	1
Drug Use					1
Forgery	3				
Harassment	5		5	1	1
Leaving School Grounds	4	1	2		
Other	4	5		2	
Out of School Issue	1				1
Parking Violations		1			
Physical Aggression	1				
Physical Assault	1				
Poss. with intent to distribute		1			
School Rules				- " management to de visio de circo de la compañía	1
Sexual Harassment		1		<b>1111111111111111111111111111111111111</b>	ייינט אינט אינט אינט אינט אינט אינט אינט
Stealing				2	
Tardy		1	2		
Teasing	4		2		2
Threatening	1		W102 12 Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y		1
Truancy	7	4	2	11	1
Under the influence of drugs		1			
Weapons				1	
Total	57	30 <b>°</b>	17	22	11

## Other Infractions for December, 2014

## R.J. Grey Junior High School

To: Glenn Brand

From: Allison Warren and James Marcotte

Re: Discipline Report for December 2014

Date: January 5, 2015

There were 14 discipline referrals/concerns (including requests from teachers for assistance) reported to the Administration during the month of December. There was 1 suspension this past month.

	Dec-10	<u>Dec-11</u>	<u>Dec-12</u>	Dec-13	Dec-14
Total Discipline Referrals Reported	31	22	25	8	14

	<u>Dec-10</u>	Dec-11	Dec-12	Dec-13	<u>Dec-14</u>
Total Suspensions	6	1	0	2	1
Alcohol Use					
Vandalism					
Drug-related incident					
Fighting		,		2	
Harassment (non-sexual)					
Inappropriate/disruptive/disrespectfu l behavior	2	1			
Physical aggression	4				
Sexual harassment					1
Stealing					
Threatening					

	<u>Dec-10</u>	Dec-11	Dec-12	<u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Dec-14</u>
Total Other Infractions	6	21	25	6	13
Abusive language/profanity					
Alcohol use/possession					
Bus discipline		1	2		
Academic Integrity					
Class/school truancies		1			
Computer violation	2				
Disruptive behavior (classroom, cafeteria, hallway)	4	8	2	4	7
Harassment (non-sexual)/bullying/teasing		3	8		2
Non-compliance with school rules		4	4		2
Out of school issue					
Physical aggression			2	2	
Sexual harassment					

Stealing			
Threatening			
Tardy to class			
Uncooperative/disrespectful behavior	4	7	2

The referrals/concerns generally were quickly resolved and no further intervention was required.



Acton-Boxborough Regional School District 16 Charter Road Acton, MA 01720 978-264-4700 www.abschools.org

## Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee

### **Statement of Purpose**

Approved 12/18/14

The Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee strives to support the district in its mission to create an educational environment that prepares all students to attain their full potential as life-long learners, critical thinkers, and productive citizens of our diverse community and global society by:

- setting and adapting policy
- hiring and overseeing the superintendent, and
- developing a thoughtful budget considering the needs of our students and the fiscal realities of the communities of Acton and Boxborough.

#### MONTHLY REPORTING OF ELL STUDENT POPULATION BY SCHOOL Acton-Boxborough Regional School District January 1, 2015

Category	Total as of 12/1/2014	Additions	Subtractions	Total as of 1/1/2015
ABRHS	15	0	0	15
Blanchard	9	0	-1	8
Conant	41	0	0	41
Douglas	40	0	0	40
Gates	26	0	0	26
McCarthy-Towne	41	0	0	41
Merriam	28	0	0	28
RJG JHS	12	+1	0	13
TOTAL	212	+1	-1	212

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENT POPULATION MONTHLY REPORTING & PROJECTIONS Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

January 1, 2015

	December 1, 2014	Additions/ Subtractions December 1, 2014	Final Total As of December 1, 2014	January 1, 2014	Additions/ Subtractions January 1, 2014	Final Total As of January 1, 2014	End of Year Projection**
SPED (In-District) 3-5 Year Olds - Acton	34	+2	36	36	+1	37	46
SPED (In-District) 3-5 Year Olds - Boxborough	5	+1	6	6	+1	7	14
SPED Students In Class TOTAL	39	+3	42	42	+2	44	60
Itinerant - Acton	17	0	17	17	0	17	22
Itinerant - Boxborough	3	0	3	3	0	3	5
OOD - Acton Preschool	1	0	1	1	0	1	2
SPED TOTAL	60	+3	63	63	+2	65	88-90
*TYPICAL - Acton 3-4 Year Olds (In-District)	47	-1	46	46	0	46	48
* <i>TYPICAL – Boxborough</i> 3-4 Year Olds (In-District)	16	0	16	16	0	16	16
TOTAL	123	+2	125	125	+2	127	152**

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

5.5

## MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF MATHEMATICS LEAGUES

#### SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS CONFERENCE MATHEMATICS LEAGUE SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE WORCESTER COUNTY MATHEMATICS LEAGUE GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

December 2014

President Ben DeLorio Belmont High School Belmont 02478

Contest Director Michael Curry Canton High School Canton 02021

Contest Coordinator William Noeth Acton Boxborough Regional High School Acton 01720

First Vice President Emmanuel Sodbinow Sharon High School Sharon 02067

Second Vice President Beth Blumberg Western Mass ARML Westborough 01581

Secretary Stephen Gregory St. John's High School Shrewsbury 01545

Treasurer Martin J. Badoian Canton High School Canton 02021

Parliamentarian Alfred Galante Bentley University Waltham 02452

Technology Coordinator Michael Curry Canton High School Canton 02021 Seven Acton-Boxborough students were finalists and six others were semifinalists in this year's Mathematics Olympiad competition. This examination, consisting of questions from all areas of high school mathematics - Arithmetic, Number Theory, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, Probability, and Logic, is co-sponsored annually by the Massachusetts Association of Mathematics Leagues and the Actuaries Club of Boston.

Andrew Li, Kenneth Wang, and Joshua Xiong led Acton-Boxborough as the top school scorers, as well as tying as the #1 scorers in Massachusetts. Also, placing in the top 100 statewide were Niket Gowravaram (#7), Akshay Karthik(#40), Steven Jin(#69), and Aaron Chen(#97). These seven students will be invited to take the second level contest examination on March 3, 2015.

Nicholas Han, Gopi Rao, Eric Shan, Kevin Hu, Anmol Sakarda, and Mason Liu were named as semi-finalists by placing in the top 12% statewide.

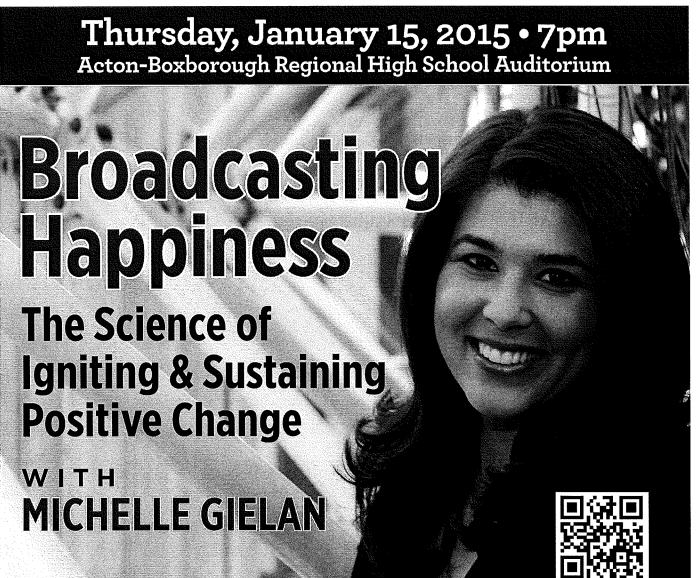
The results of this examination are used to identify students with exceptionally strong mathematical ability, as well as to stimulate student interest in mathematics.

The finalists will receive awards from the Massachusetts Association of Math Leagues at the Annual Awards Night presentation in May 2015.

Villia

William Noeth Regional Department Leader Mathematics, Grades 7-12

AB Regional PTSO, Acton-Boxborough United Way, and Danny's Place Youth Services present . . .



# AS FEATURED ON CBSO NDT OPBS

Visit ABUW.org, ABRPTSO.abschools.org, or dannys-place.org for more information on this free event.





Acton-Boxborough United Way Local Dollars for Local Impact

