



# School Partnerships Newsletter

November 2013



Mather Elementary School: The First and the Finest

## Special points of interest:

- \* Advancing Quality Partnerships
- \* Registration open for girls 4th & 5th grade Basketball (talk to Coach Dawn for info)
- \* Join the list serve to get our announcements.
- \* Boston City Singers, auditions now being held for 11-14 year old's. Call 617-825-0674 for details.
- \* **Nov 11th:** Thank you to The Mission Continues and Target for their help on community service day!!
- \* **Nov 30th:** Winter Carnival 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- \* Girl Scout Cookies for sale in Dec!!

## Advancing Quality Partnerships (AQP)

The Mather School was recently awarded a competitive grant on behalf of the Barr Foundation, Boston After School & Beyond, and the Boston Public Schools. This grant is focused on Advancing Quality Partnerships (AQP). We will be able to enhance the effectiveness of our partnerships by measuring their impact using tools made available to us through this grant.

The Mather School is currently working with 25 partners and counting, to provide academic and social/emotional supports for our students. We will be meeting regularly with partners to brainstorm ways to become more integrated within the school to ensure increased alignment with the Mather Mission, as well as identify possible ways to increase capacity in the school or between partners.

To facilitate and coordinate partnership development, we welcome Kim Connolly as the new Director of Partnerships & Development. She will be with the Mather 2 days a week, and is shared with the Trotter School in Dorchester. She is reachable at [kngo@boston.k12.ma.us](mailto:kngo@boston.k12.ma.us).



Thank you and we look forward to working with you and the school to keep Mather the First and Finest.

## After School Programs

### America SCORES:

Promotes health, academic advancement and development of the whole child through soccer, poetry and service-learning programming. Includes writing resources, uniform, snack, and transportation to games.

Coed, 3rd-5th grade, Monday-Friday Cost: \$25.00  
[khussey@boston.k12.ma.us](mailto:khussey@boston.k12.ma.us)

### BELL:

After school program to boost student achievement in a fun, engaging environment. Research-based strategies boost reading, writing and math skills. Enrichment, community time, positive behavior systems help build self-confidence and attitudes towards school.

Coed, 1st-5th grade, Monday-Thurs, Free  
[bernadette.thornton-giles@experiencebell.org](mailto:bernadette.thornton-giles@experiencebell.org)

### Boston City Singers:

Singing classes and chorus rehearsals ensure singers receive unparalleled music instruction coupled with performance, youth development, cultural exploration, leadership training and community service components. Singers develop progressive mastery of skills with children from different backgrounds.

Coed, K1-5th grade, Varied pricing  
[jmoney@bostoncitisingers.org](mailto:jmoney@bostoncitisingers.org)



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## After School Partners (con't)

### The Boy Scouts of America:

More than 110 million Americans have been members of the BSA. The BSA goal is to train youth in responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities and educational programs.

Boys, 1st-5th grade, free,  
Thurs 3:30-4:30.

### Boston Refugee Youth Enrichment (BRYE):

BRYE Extension teaches an academic enrichment curriculum to Vietnamese and Cape Verdean refugee children after school in a small classroom setting. All classes focus on improving English and reading skills with the older two classes also incorporating quantitative enrichment through interactive experiments and activities.

Coed, K2-5th grade, 4:00-5:30pm  
Fridays, Free

### Viet-AID's Scholarly Program for Youth:

This program provides daily homework help and one-on-one/small group tutoring, followed by one of the following activities each day: academic enrichment, book club, gender specific programming, student-led service learning projects, and student-selected rotating clubs. There is also a heavy emphasis on parent and family engagement.

Coed, 1st-8th, Monday-Friday 2-6pm  
emily@vietaid.org

Cost: Sliding Scale

**Girl Scouts of Eastern MA:** Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts help girls develop their team, leadership, and social skills.



Girls, K2-5th grade, Varied pricing  
Troop- Fridays 3:30-4:45pm  
Series- TBD  
Danielle- 857-453-5346

djoseph@girlscoutseasternmass.org



## Playworks Programs:

### Classroom and Recess program:

Playworks' vision is that one day every child in America will have access to safe, healthy play - every day. We create a place for every kid on the playground -- an essential opportunity for children to explore their imaginations, to connect with other people and to stretch and grow physically, emotionally and socially.

### Junior Coaches program:

This leadership development program revolves around service learning opportunities at recess and in the classroom. The responsibilities include maintaining and distributing the school sports equipment, leading recess stations for their peers and younger students, and helping to safely resolve conflicts both at recess and during the school day.

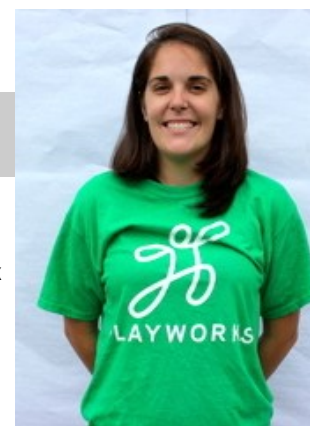
Coed, 5th grade, Free

### Basketball:

This girls basketball team practices once a week and plays games against other Playworks schools once a week. It is a developmental league, teaching girls basic basketball skills and good sporting behavior.

Girls, 4th & 5th grade, Thursdays Nov-Jan, \$10,  
Dawn Gadow 717-476-7078

**Volleyball:** This co-ed volleyball team practices once a week and plays games against other Playworks schools once a week. It is a developmental league, teaching students basic volleyball skills and good sporting behavior.



**Coach Dawn**

Students from the doctoral Physical Therapy program at Simmons College School of Health Sciences will work with a 4th grade class to address the social determination of health and major issues facing our society. Simmons students will form a project with the 4th grade students to examine the behavioral issues to reducing the incidence of these conditions and managing them when they are present.

## Mather Before and After School

### Mather Before School Program-

Focus on whole group activities like Playworks games and sports! Then at 9:00 we have breakfast together in the cafe.

Monday thru Friday 7:30-9:10am. Cost: \$7/day or \$35/week

### Mather After school Program-

We offer a variety of enrichment opportunities such as Music, Brookline Literacy tutors, The Winsor program, Tae Kwon Do, Hip Hop, Spanish Lessons and also a trained reading therapy dog!

Runs Monday-Friday 3:30-5:30. Cost: \$8/day or \$40/week

- Other Partners:
- Barr Foundation
- Boston Cares
- City Year
- First Parish Church of Dorchester
- Foundation of Children's Books
- Rebuilding Community
- Staples
- Stepping Stone
- Target
- The Mission Continues

## For Parents

### Reading, Discussion and Writing:

Class for Bilingual Parents-This 10-week class is for parents who speak some English and want to improve their skills and confidence while learning how they can best support their children to be strong readers and writers. All class sessions revolve around reading, discussing, and writing about rich children's literature on topics that are of interest to parents and the whole family. This is a BPS Parent University class. We are still accepting parents! Parents of Students K-5th, free alevine@boston.k12.ma.us 617/635-7750

## Before School

### Building Our Kids Success (BOKS):

BOKS is a before school physical activity program. We give kids the opportunity to get moving in the morning to help boost their academic and physical performance, in addition to their overall confidence and well-being. The BOKS program runs two to three mornings a week beginning an hour before school.

Coed, 3rd-5th grade, Free www.bokskids.org

## Saturdays

### Hope Academy:

HOPE worldwide and was developed to provide a safe environment for elementary school children. We include a variety of fun classes such as: Science & Technology, Drama, Arts & Crafts, Sports, and Civics. The program promotes character development; teaches conflict resolution skills; builds self-confidence, self-respect and responsibility.

Coed, 2nd-5th grade, Sat 9-12, Free bnajjarowens2@boston.k12.ma.us

## What partners are in the classroom?

**BalletRox:** In-school dance program provides creative movement once a week for K-1st graders.

**Boston Bikes:** Students learn how to ride bikes/bike safety

**Brookline Literacy Tutors:** tutoring, high school tutors, weekly

**City Dance:** Ballet Class (3rd grade)

**City Sprouts:** Support teachers with using Outdoor Classroom in their teaching; maintaining garden

**Faith Based Volunteers:** Tutor or volunteer in classrooms during the day

**Winsor School:** tutoring by high school girls

## Student Supports

### Home for Little Wanderers-

Individual mental health counseling services, TM, IHT, CBHI services

Coed-K1-5th grade, Insurance based cgiovanoni@thehome.org

### Arbour Counseling Services-

School, clinic, and home-based counseling provided to Children and Families. Also, TM, IHT, CBHI, Partial-Day Child and Adolescent Services. K-5

Tia Kimberk, LMHC, LMFT 617-782-6460, ext 213

### Connecting with Care-

Mental health partnership coordination for individual counseling, school-based in-home therapy team, and other therapeutic supports for families. In addition to counseling, clinicians work closely with teachers and staff, provide support in IEP meetings, SST

Coed, K1-5th, insurance based Dr. Lisa Baron, 617-849-7419



Mather Elementary School  
1 Parish St  
Dorchester, MA 02122

### The First and the Finest

#### Other Partners:

Ballet Rox

Boston Bikes

Boston Refugee Youth  
Enrichment (BRYE)

Brookline Literacy  
Partnership

Building Our Kids' Success  
(BOKS)

City Sprouts

Connecting with Care

Mass College of Art & Design

Technology Goes Home

UMASS Boston

Viet Aid Preschool

Winsor School

## Partner and School Calendar

### November:

7- SCORES GAME, Orchard Gardens, 3:30-6:00pm

School Site Council (SSC) 5-6:30pm

11 -Veterans' Day, No School

14-SCORES POETRY SLAM

15-TEACHERS VS. STUDENTS SOCCER GAME,

3:30-5:00PM

16- SCHOOL SHOWCASE 9-3PM

21-ALL PARTNER MEETING 8:00-9:30am, Trotter

PARENT COUNCIL MTG, 5:30 Mather Library

27-HALF DAY 28& 29-Thanksgiving Break

### December:

3- School Preview 5:30-7:00pm

12- School Site Council (SSC) 5-6:30pm

14-Boston City Singers Winter Stars Concert, 7pm,

St. Mark's Church, Free, but donations welcome

19- PARENT COUNCIL MTG, 5:30 Mather Library

School Preview 5:30-7:00pm

20- WINTER CONCERT

24- Jan 4 WINTER BREAK

### January:

9-School Site Council (SSC) 5-6:30pm

15-PARTNER MEETING 8:00-9:30am, Mather School

16-PARENT COUNCIL MTG, 5:30 Mather Library

20- Martin Luther King Day, No School

24- Lunar New Year Celebration

### February:

6-School Site Council (SSC) 5-6:30pm

12-PARTNER MEETING 8:00-9:30am, Mather School

17- Presidents' Day (No School)

19-21- February Break

27- PARENT COUNCIL MTG, 5:30 Mather Library

28- African Heritage Celebration

### March:

6-School Site Council (SSC) 5-6:30pm

12-PARTNER MEETING 8:00-9:30am, Mather School

17-St. Patrick's Day, Evacuation Day, No School

18- 20 MCAS ELA

20- PARENT COUNCIL MTG, 5:30 Mather Library

25 & 26 MCAS ELA, 4<sup>th</sup> grade

### April:

3- School Site Council (SSC) 5-6:30pm

9-PARTNER MEETING 8:00-9:30am, Mather School

17- PARENT COUNCIL MTG, 5:30 Mather Library

18-Good Friday, No School

21- Patriots' Day, No School

22 -25 April Break

### May:

6 & 7 -MCAS Math, 3&5<sup>th</sup>

12-MCAS 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

14- PARTNER MEETING 8:00-9:30am, Mather School

MCAS 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade

15- PARENT COUNCIL MTG, 5:30 Mather Library

26- Memorial Day, No School

29- Student Success Night

### June:

6- Multicultural Celebration

7- Spring Fling

12- SSC Retreat 5-7pm

13- PEAR/ SAYO DUE

17- Bunker Hill Day, No School

18- Half Day

19- Last Day of School



The Mather School benefits from Boston Bikes! Roll it Forward and Youth Cycling programs. Children learn to ride bikes and about bike safety during a 2 week program. Many children also receive bikes of their own through donations.



[www.matherelementary.org](http://www.matherelementary.org)