



THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT FRAMEWORK



Information for Parents – March 2011

Dear Parent,

We are happy to announce that your child’s school is one of more than 60 across BPS to be the first to implement a new student success model called the Academic Achievement Framework, or AAF.

You will notice the AAF at work in a number of different ways. It is a system that takes a lot of the work that is already happening in our schools, and focuses on helping students get exactly what they need to succeed. Teachers and school leaders will meet regularly to discuss a student’s strengths, success, and learning needs, and to plan and deliver instruction and services as needed.

AAF is a research-based approach to support teaching and learning that is being used in some of the most successful schools across the country. It supports our five-year Acceleration Agenda, our ambitious plan to improve student achievement and get all our students ready for college and career success.

We are pleased your child’s school is among the first to embrace AAF. Throughout the year, we will provide you with updates about this initiative. In the meantime, you can find detailed information about AAF on the BPS website, and please feel free to speak with your child’s teacher or principal about this exciting, student-focused work.

Sincerely,
Dr. Carol R. Johnson
Superintendent

What is AAF?

The Academic Achievement Framework is a multi-tier system of supports to address the academic, behavioral, and English language development of all BPS students. AAF involves continuous monitoring of students’ academic progress, identifying areas where students are struggling, and applying appropriately intensive interventions until the barriers to learning are addressed.

AAF in Action!

Schools participating this year:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Agassiz | Boston Arts Academy | Dorchester Academy | Haley |
| Alighieri | Boston International/
Newcomers | East Boston HS | Harbor |
| Bates | Boston Latin Academy | Edison | Haynes |
| Beethoven | Brighton HS | Eliot | Hennigan |
| Blackstone | Burke HS | Ellison/Parks | Hernandez |
| Boston Adult Technical
Academy | Conley | English HS | Holland |
| | Curley | Everett | Higginson/ Lewis |
| | Dearborn | Gardner | Hurley |
| | Dever/McCormack | Greenwood | J.F. Kennedy |
| | | Grew | |

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How Does AAF Work?

AAF is a team-based approach to instruction and services that brings together all the resources of BPS. The model is a series of student supports, with the student in the middle, surrounded by various school and district-level teams of educators. The Service Team is a group of teachers and school staff working as the first line of support for your child. The team meets regularly to discuss individual student progress, identify areas of concern, and develop specific action plans to improve student growth, both academically and emotionally. The School Management Group, Cross-Functional Rapid Support Team and District Design Team support the Service Team by removing educational obstacles to student success through developing guiding policies for AAF, and by providing additional expertise to solve problems.



What Can I Do to Help My Child Succeed?

Parents play a critical role in supporting their child's success at school. Here are some things you can do to help:

- Read and talk about books together
- Help your child get to school on time
- Help with homework assignments
- Agree on a regular time to do homework
- Celebrate your child's successes
- Attend parent/teacher conferences and other meetings
- Participate in school-family activities
- Review the Family Guides to Learning (www.bpsfamilies.org)

Where can I go to learn more?

- Contact your school principal or visit the website: www.bostonpublicschools.org/aaf

"I better understand the progress my child is making in school."

—Mendell Elementary Parent

What Are the Benefits of AAF?

- Improved instructional assessment and record keeping
- Earlier and more effective interventions and services
- Shared understanding of student needs
- Enhanced teacher collaboration to monitor student progress

What Are the Goals of AAF?

1. Improve academic and social competence
2. Increase academic performance on statewide assessments
3. Increase graduation rates
4. Decrease problem behavior
5. Reduce dropout rates

... Schools Continued

King

Lee Academy

Lee Elementary

Madison Park

Manning

Mary Lyon

Mason

Mather

Mattahunt

Mendell

Mission Hill

Mozart

O'Bryant School

Odyssey HS

Ohrenberger

Orchard Gardens

Philbrick

P.J. Kennedy

Quincy Elementary

Quincy Upper

Rogers

Roosevelt

Russell

Sumner

Tobin

Trotter

Umana

West Zone ELC

Winship

Winthrop

Young Achievers