

## SECTION II

# PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES UPDATE

Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services Nancy Houle continues to work directly with schools on various student programs and with Central Office staff coordinating programs District-wide. She oversees the MA Municipal Medicaid Program which coordinates claims by local education authorities for partial federal reimbursement of qualifying direct health services provided to MassHealth members in schools, and of administrative support expenditures incurred in providing those services. One component of administrative claiming is the completion of a time study. A valid study consists of a random sample of school direct service and direct support personnel. The sample must have a 95% (+/- 5%) confidence level and an 85% completion rate. Time studies are held for three quarters of each school year, October through June. Administrative claiming for the 4th quarter (July, August and September) is an average of the previous three quarters. Other factors considered in calculating reimbursement include quarterly salary payments; student roster; materials & supplies expense report; District-wide FTE; specialized transportation expense reports; out-of-District tuition expense; annual District-wide salaries and fringe benefits report, and the annual capital cost report.

Total reimbursement from Medicaid claims, ARRA monies and amendments (6/10 to date) total \$98,620.06. The District anticipates additional quarterly payments through July 2011.

The District continues to receive funding through the federally funded Safe, Drug-Free and Disciplined Schools and Communities Grant. This year the District received \$7,658.00 in funding. Schools continue to implement Second Step, Steps to Respect and Responsive Classroom curricula. Again this summer, the District sent six elementary teachers from three elementary schools to a week-long Responsive Classroom Summer Institute professional development workshop. All elementary schools have at least 90% of their classrooms supplied with Second Step and/or Responsive Classroom materials. As well, some elementary schools have implemented PBIS anti-bullying curricula to complement already existing social skills programs.

Pupil Personnel Services has remained active in monitoring

and researching anti-bullying legislation, and continues to attend workshops focusing on cyber-bullying, train-the-trainer programs, investigative procedures and interventions. Pupil Personnel Services also provides support and information to building administrators regarding the reporting and documenting of bullying incidences, responses to parents, and plans for targets and perpetrators. One highlight of the year is the attendance by 7th and 8th grade girls District-wide at a speaking engagement by Rachel Simmons, the author of *Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls* and *The Curse of the Good Girl: Raising Authentic Girls with Courage and Confidence*. Ms. Simmons “works internationally to develop strategies to address bullying, and empower girls.” This program was offered free-of-charge by the Women’s Initiative of the United Way, and the Investing in Girls Alliance.

Pupil Personnel Services continues to work with schools to procure interpreters and translators for our English Language Learner (ELL) students and families. This year, the District facilitated the provision of interpreters/translators for the following languages: Korean, Spanish, and Albanian.

Although the District did not receive grant funding through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, District nurses have been active in many arenas. All District nurses are certified through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; all nurses hold current first aid, CPR, and AED certification; nurses have participated in the following UMass Medical-sponsored professional development workshops: Urology; Pediatric Food Allergies; The Nurse’s Role in IEPs/504s/Health Care Plans/DNR Orders; Bullying; Pediatric Rashes; The Psychological Impact of Loss; Playground Traumas; and the Joselin Diabetes Center Annual Conference. They have also participated in in-house professional development focusing on 504 accommodation plans; bullying, and the nurse’s role in critical incidences.

A variety of reports are prepared by Pupil Personnel Services, reports which provide information used by the DESE to calculate financial reimbursement to the District.

### District Students Educated Outside the District Schools

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| Seven hundred ninety-one (791) K-12 students attend schools outside the District. |  |     |
| In-state Private and Parochial Schools  |  | 454 |
| Vocational Technical Schools (including Agricultural)                             |  | 169 |
| Other Public Schools (not including Charter Schools)                              |  | 168 |
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