

Education Public File December 2014

Date=12/3/2014

Time=0:55

Slug=GARDNER SCHOOL

PARENTS OF SOME GARDNER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION. HELEN MAE SAUTER ELEMENTARY'S PRINCIPAL, GUIDANCE COUNSELOR, AND A SECOND GRADE TEACHER WERE ALL PUT ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE ON NOVEMBER 21ST. BUT SOME PARENTS DIDN'T FIND OUT UNTIL YESTERDAY. THEY HEARD ABOUT IT THROUGH A P-T-O WEBSITE WHERE SOMEONE LEAKED WHAT WAS GOING ON AT THE SCHOOL. MANY ARE UPSET SCHOOL OFFICIALS NEVER CONTACTED THEM.

Date=12/8/2014

Time=0:53

Slug=COMPUTER SCIENCE

SIXTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS ACROSS THE NATION PLAN TO OFFER INTRODUCTORY COMPUTER PROGRAMMING CLASSES FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. IT'S PART OF PRESIDENT OBAMA'S PUSH TO BEEF UP COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION FOR K-THROUGH-12 STUDENTS. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED 20 MILLION DOLLARS IN PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO TRAIN 25 THOUSAND NEW SCIENCE TEACHERS BY 2016. AND NEW OUTREACH FOR WOMEN AND UNDER-REPRESENTED MINORITIES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE. THE PRESIDENT MADE A VIDEO MESSAGE TO INTRODUCE THE NEW INITIATIVES.

Date=12/15/2014

Time=0:35

Slug=BOSTON ENGLISH MCAS

TEST RESULTS RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT EFFECTIVENESS OF OUTSIDE PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS. THE BOSTON GLOBE REPORTS THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATION COMMISSIONER TOLD SEVEN UNDER-PERFORMING SCHOOLS THEY NEEDED TO HIRE AN OUTSIDE PARTNER TO INCREASE TEST SCORES TO AVOID A STATE TAKEOVER. AND ALL OF THESE SCHOOLS HAVE CONTINUED TO FALL SHORT ON THEIR M-C-A-S SCORES. THEY EACH ENACTED OUTSIDE PARTNERSHIPS LAST FALL. AND WHILE SOME THIRD PARTIES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MESH WITH THE SCHOOLS, OTHERS HAVEN'T. THE GLOBE SAYS THOSE PUSHED BY THE STATES HAVE ENCOUNTERED MORE ISSUES THAN THOSE PRO-ACTIVELY EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOLS.

Date=12/27/2014

Time=0:50

Slug=LONGER SCHOOL DAYS

THE SCHOOL DAY IN SOME BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS COULD SOON BE A LITTLE BIT LONGER. TODAY MAYOR MARTY WALSH NEGOTIATED A PROPOSAL WITH THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT AND TEACHER'S UNION TO ADD ABOUT 40-MINUTES TO EACH SCHOOL DAY IN CITY ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS. OVER TIME, THAT WOULD ADD ABOUT A MONTH OF INSTRUCTION TO THE SCHOOL YEAR. THE BOSTON TEACHERS

UNION STILL NEEDS TO VOTE ON THIS. IF APPROVED, IT WOULD START WITH ABOUT 20 SCHOOLS IN THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR.