

Spotlighting Organizations that Support Academic Success for All Our Students



2012-2013 City Year corps members serving at Young Achievers

City Year Boston

For each of the past four years, City Year has provided Young Achievers with 14 young adults who role model leadership for our students and enhance academic programs. They staff our before and after school programs, provide one-to-one tutoring and serve as extra adults in classrooms.

Corps members complete projects around the building such as playing a leadership role for the planning and implementation of the Mattapan Day of Service, implementing student parties recognizing positive behavior, and painting inspiring murals.

City Year site supervisor Myk Malesardi notes, "Corps members are dedicated to their work and want to connect to the school where they are placed. YA has been welcoming and as a result our corps members are invested."

We look forward to a continued partnership that benefits the school in so many ways.



2012-2013 BELL staff supporting Young Achievers Extended Learning, Enrichment, and Academic Programs.

Good Sports

In early October, we asked our school PE teachers and basketball team coaches: "What improvement could we make to the gym to best support our students and the basketball teams?"

They unanimously said get rid of the dingy basketball backboards from the 1950s and replace them with state of the art glass backboards. Coach Correia pointed out, "We want our kids to play on a court that shows we respect the hard work they put into being student athletes and team players."

About that same time, Young Achievers received an invitation sent out to Boston Public Schools from Good Sports to apply for capital improvement funding. We could not believe our "good fortune."

Upon receiving notice that Good Sports would fund the purchase and installation of glass backboards, our coaches and students could hardly contain their enthusiasm. Coach Barros noted, "Word travels fast, we have never had so many students and staff stop by the gym just to take a look at our backboards. The sense of school pride is awesome!"

The students and staff look forward to their first game on what is now a very official looking basketball court.



Tejija Kerr of the Young Achievers girls basketball team warms up prior to the team's first scrimmage of the year.

BELL – Building Educated Leaders for Life

The Young Achievers partnership with the BELL program started six years ago as a way to expand our summer school services.

When our funding was cut back for the school year Extended Learning, Enrichment and Academic Programs (ELEAP), we were thrilled to have BELL step in and run our before school curriculum. Their great work inspired an ever-growing partnership.

"BELL has a great track record of running our summer programs," said ELEAP Director Venecia Mumford. "They know our kids and know our teachers. It was a real win for us."

Running a before school program is a pilot initiative for BELL. In addition to providing seven core staff members to the program, they are partnering with City Year and an environmental organization called "e" inc. to add staffing and experiences for students.

BELL plans curriculum for the morning with teachers to support what is happening during the school day. They plan enriching experiences such as "college day" for the students, and jump in where needed, such as helping with regular school day arrival in the cafeteria.

The Young Achievers staff and students are hugely grateful for the many contributions BELL makes to our school.