

**ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACTON, MA 01720
978-264-4700
Web site address: <http://ab.mec.edu>**

SCHOOL SYSTEMS' PROFILE - 2004-2005

Kind of Communities: residential suburbs near Routes 2 and 495
Population: Acton - approx. 20,500 Boxborough - approx. 4,887

Total Student Enrollment (October 1, 2004):
Acton Public: 2,605 Acton-Boxborough: 2,698
(includes APS School Choice: 0 and A-B School Choice: 3)

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

| <u>School</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Principal</u> | <u>Enrollment*</u> | <u>Specialty Programs**</u> |
|----------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Conant | K-6 | Maureen Bingham | 490 | ELL, Nature Program, Gr. 1-4 Spanish Program |
| Douglas | K-6 | Christopher Whitbeck | 498 | ELL, Nature Program, Japanese Lang. Program, Before/ After School Enrichment, including World Languages |
| Gates | K-6 | Walter McGrail | 492 | Nature Program, Gr. 3-6 Spanish Language Program, Gr. 4 - 6 Chorus, Before/ After School Enrichment |
| McCarthy-Towne | K-6 | Marcia FitzGerald | 507 | ELL, Integrated Art Program, SLOYD, CASE classes, Before School Enrichment Program, After School Drama Program |
| Merriam | K-6 | Sandra Wilensky | 549 | ELL, Project-based Curriculum, Looping classes, Before/ After School Enrichment Program, After-School Drama |

* Does not include SPED PreSchool: 46, or SPED Out-of-District Placements: 23

** *In all schools:* All-Day Kindergarten., Computer Lab & Classroom Ass'ts, DARE, BABES, Quit It, Fee-based Instrumental Music (gr. 5-6), School-Business Partnership

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

*Enrollment numbers do not include SPED Out-of-District Placements, gr. 7-12: 56

| <u>School</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Principal</u> | <u>Enrollment*</u> | <u>Extracurricular Programs</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|--|
| R.J. Grey Junior High | 7-8 | Craig Hardimon | 917 | Adopt-a-Grandparent Club, Blue Print, Art Club, Chess/ Board Games, Interscholastic and Intramural Sports, Jazz Band, Library Support, Math Counts, Peer Tutoring, School Store, Science Olympiad, Select Chorus, Service Learning Projects, Speech & Debate, Student Council, Student Recital Club, String Ensemble, Theater Production, Tolkien Society, Yearbook Club |
| A-B Reg. High School | 9-12 | Stephen Donovan | 1,725 | Academic Teams, (including Decathlon, Math, Science, Speech & Debate), Performing Arts, Honor Societies, Publications, Student Government, Interscholastic Athletics, other organizations, e.g., ABCO (community service), Amnesty International, Peer Leadership Group SADD, Common Ground (Safe Schools), WHAB radio station <i>Career Exploration Programs:</i> Job Shadowing, Senior Internships, Work Study, Career Speakers |

Teams of approx. 110-117 students with five teachers

Integrated curriculum

Awards received by students:
Scholastic Art Awards (state & national), Choir, Band, Academic Decathlon (State Champions - 12 yrs.), Girls' Swimming and Diving (State Champions - 13 yrs.), Superbowl Participant (11 yrs.), Girls' Ice Hockey (State Champions-6 yrs.); Field Hockey (State Champions-Fall 2000)

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

| <u>Elementary</u> | <u>Junior High</u> | <u>High School</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Language Arts | Art, Band, Chorus, English | Drama, English |
| Mathematics | Health | Industrial Technology |
| Science/Health Education | Study Skills Technology | Mathematics |
| Social Studies | Life Skills, Mathematics | Performing Arts |
| Art | Minuteman Tech. Lab, Music | Physical Education/Health |
| Music | Physical Education, Science | Science |
| Physical Education | Social Studies | Social Studies |
| Library Skills/Media Center | Study Skills | Visual Arts |
| Technology | World Languages | World Languages |
| | plus other mini-courses | Communications |

SUPPORT PROGRAMS

| <u>Elementary</u> | <u>Junior High</u> | <u>High School</u> |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Special Education Services | Special Education Services | Special Education Services |
| Counseling/Psychology/Health Services | Counseling/Psychology/Health Services | Counseling/Psychology/Health Services |
| Child Study Team, RLL (Reading/ Language Art/Literacy Specialist) | Academic Support Center: Reading | Academic Support Center |
| Crisis Team, ELL | ELL, Academic Support | ELL, Student Assistance Team |
| | Child Study Team, Crisis Team | Crisis Team |

SYSTEM RESOURCES

Approximately 90.3% of instructional staff hold an M.A. or higher degree. Staff represents more than 3,256 years of teaching in Acton/AB.

Classroom teacher-pupil ratio/range:*

| <u>Level</u> | <u>Range</u> |
|--------------|--------------|
| Elementary | 1:20 - 1:27 |
| Junior High | 1:13 - 1:31 |
| High School | 1:7 - 1:50 |

Per Pupil Expenditure* :**

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 2001-02 | \$6,481 (Acton) |
| 2001-02 | \$8,120 (Acton-Boxborough) |
| *** All day cost | |

*Does not include special subject teachers

Average Teacher salary:

2004-05 for A-B - \$59,696 2004-05 for Acton - \$58,936

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 2004

SAT Profile - Average Scores

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|
| <p>Size of Class 391 Percentage attending: 4-yr. college 87% 2-yr. college/other post-sec. 6% Total continuing education 93% Employment/Other 7% Total class 100%</p> | <p>A-B</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Verbal</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Math</u></td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Verbal</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Math</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2004</td> <td style="text-align: center;">611</td> <td style="text-align: center;">631</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">508</td> <td style="text-align: center;">518</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2003</td> <td style="text-align: center;">601</td> <td style="text-align: center;">626</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">507</td> <td style="text-align: center;">519</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2002</td> <td style="text-align: center;">585</td> <td style="text-align: center;">609</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">504</td> <td style="text-align: center;">516</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Over the last three years an average of 99% of the seniors at A-B took SATs as compared to 48% nationally & 82% in MA.</i></p> | | <u>Verbal</u> | <u>Math</u> | | <u>Verbal</u> | <u>Math</u> | 2004 | 611 | 631 | | 508 | 518 | 2003 | 601 | 626 | | 507 | 519 | 2002 | 585 | 609 | | 504 | 516 |
| | <u>Verbal</u> | <u>Math</u> | | <u>Verbal</u> | <u>Math</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2004 | 611 | 631 | | 508 | 518 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2003 | 601 | 626 | | 507 | 519 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | 585 | 609 | | 504 | 516 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

SAT Achievement Test Scores, 2003-2004

| <u>Subject</u> | <u>Number of Students</u> | <u>Mean Score</u> | (Range is 200-800) | <u>Subject</u> | <u>Number of Students</u> | <u>Mean Score</u> | (Range is 200-800) |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Biology | 161 | 666 | | Mathematics Level I | 127 | 643 | |
| Chemistry | 80 | 680 | | Mathematics Level II | 104 | 744 | |
| English Literature | 27 | 623 | | Spanish | 28 | 667 | |
| English Writing | 229 | 652 | | US History | 48 | 661 | |
| French | 13 | 647 | | World History | 8 | 643 | |

Advanced Placement Test Scores - 2004

| | <u>Test Scores*</u> | <u>No. of Scores</u> |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| 319 Juniors & Seniors took 699 exams in Art History, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, English Literature & Composition, Environmental Science, European History, French Language/Literature, Government & Politics-U.S., Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Spanish Language, U.S. History, World History | 5 | 374 |
| | 4 | 204 |
| | 3 | 89 |
| | 2 | 28 |
| | 1 | 4 |

* Scores of 3-4 qualify students for advanced placement in some colleges

National Merit Scholarships

(Class of 2005)
 Semi-Finalists - 18
 Letters of Commendation - 51

MCAS/Reading Test Scores, Spring 2004 combined "Proficient" & "Advanced" level percentages*

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Grade 3 - Reading | 86% | |
| | <u>Eng./L.A.</u> | <u>Math</u> |
| Grade 4 | 86% | 80% |
| Grade 6 | ----- | 84% |
| Grade 7 | 91% | ----- |
| Grade 8 | ----- | 81% |
| Grade 10 | 89% | 89% |

*This measure is used because "Proficient" & "Advanced" levels are the goals for performance.

SPECIAL FEATURES OF SCHOOL SYSTEMS

- Administrators and School Committees set and regularly review mission, vision, short and long-range goals. Administrators attend Leadership Conference annually.
- Staff continuously pursue professional development.
- Open enrollment at elementary level (choice of school)
- Teaming at R.J. Grey Junior High School
- All seven schools are networked to each other and to the Internet; staff use current technology in management and instruction.
- Staff evaluate programs regularly; the districts support curriculum renewal through a research and development program.
- Community members actively participate in and support school programs, serve on advisory committees and task forces.
- Staff supervise a full range of extracurricular activities for students (*see listings*).
- School-Business Community Partnerships include working relationships with area businesses, institutions of higher education and the Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce.
- Local foundation for athletics/extracurricular activities: ABSAF (Acton-Boxborough Student Activities Fund)
- Last year, the schools received approximately \$1.2 million in grants and other resources.
- Schools work with town(s) in Acton Leadership Group, Boxborough Leadership Forum and Acton 2020 (planning process).
- Acton-Boxborough Community Education is an asset to the school districts, offering a wide variety of programs for children and adults.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE AND HOURS

180 school days scheduled

Elementary Schools

| | |
|--|---|
| Douglas & Gates <i>Thursdays</i> | 8:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. 12:15 p.m. dismissal |
| Conant, McCarthy-Towne & Merriam <i>Thursdays</i> | 9:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. dismissal |

Secondary Schools

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A-B Regional High School | 7:23 a.m. - 2:18 p.m. |
| R.J. Grey Junior High School | 7:30 a.m. - 2:06 p.m. |

BUSING DISTANCE

(Busing provided by the school system)

Level

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| grades K-3 | No minimum (all transported) |
| grades 4-6 | Over 1 mile |
| grades 7-12 | Over 2 miles |

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

William L. Ryan, *Superintendent*
 George Frost, *Deputy Superintendent*
 Susan Horn, *Assistant Superintendent*
for Curriculum & Instruction/Community Ed
 Nancy Kolb, *Director of Pupil Services*
 Sharon Summers, *Director of Finance*

ACTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Marie Altieri, *APS Chairperson*
 Mary Ann Ashton
 Jo-Ann Berry
 Michael Coppolino
 Terry Lindgren
 Jeff Vandegrift

A-B SCHOOL COMMITTEE

All Acton members plus the following Boxborough members:
 Rebecca Neville, *AB Chairperson*
 Elizabeth Markiewicz
 Bruce Sabot