Eliot-Pearson Children’s School

December 5, 2012

Dear Eliot Pearson Children's School Community,

The end of the first semester is upon us. It seems like just yesterday when your children walked through the doors ready for a new school year. We had many new families and staff members join our community this fall. The transition of welcoming and integrating the new with the old has been a major task and accomplishment for all of us. There has been much growth and learning in our community that gives us pause to celebrate. The children are at the heart of our work and it is evident that each and everyone have worked hard at both learning and play. All should be proud of their accomplishments, large and small. Our adult community, including parents, teachers, graduate teaching assistants, staff and field work students have spent the fall connecting and learning from each other. While all this connecting takes time and effort, it certainly enriches our program.

At this time of year, families often want to show their appreciation for the hard work that teachers do on a daily basis through gift giving. In lieu of gifts, the PTAB organizes the teacher appreciation luncheon twice a year and a mid-year school service day. (Last week’s banquet on Parent Conference Day was phenomenal! Thank you to all who contributed.) Please see information below about the mid-year family service day. Natalia Harthorne is the Mid-year Service Day Coordinator.

We realize that all families want to show their gratitude and appreciation for their children’s wonderful and hardworking teachers. Typically there are several times each year when parents and classrooms like to come together to express their appreciation for their teachers. For the first semester gift, we ask families to participate in a Mid-Year School Service Day. This is something that we started a few years ago as a gift of appreciation for our teachers in lieu of a purchased gift, and the teachers were very appreciative and thankful. Of course, as always, heartfelt individual notes of thanks and homemade treats from families and children are encouraged--and deeply appreciated!

**Mid Year School Service Day**
Saturday, January 5, 2013
9am – 12 noon
Adult only event

**There will be a sign up on the board in the Lobby.** If you prefer to sign up electronically, there is also a doodle poll sign up [http://www.doodle.com/cmn27f5ztt7sv8dh](http://www.doodle.com/cmn27f5ztt7sv8dh). We encourage all families to participate. There will be take home projects from the teachers to be done over the break, as well as many jobs to do on the day of the event! Please remember that this is an Adult Only working (and social!) event. Coffee and refreshments will be provided.

Below is a list of important announcements and upcoming special events. On a final note, I would like to thank everyone for the hard work, effort and dedication that you all bring to your jobs as teachers, parents and as members of the community. Have a wonderful December and winter vacation and best wishes for the New Year!

Warmly yours,
Debbie LeeKeenan, Director
Please note: In January, current families will be asked to make decisions about re-enrollment for the next school year. Re-enrollment forms will be distributed January 8 and will be due back by January 24 with a non-refundable deposit of $650, required to hold your child's spot for the next year. We encourage any of you who have questions about other classes in the school, to observe, talk to the teachers, Maryann or me.

Important announcements:

• Friday, December 7, 8:45-10:15 AM Friends and Families of Children with Special Rights Meeting in the Library. Open to all families.

• Thursday, December 13, 11:30 AM: All School Sing along in the Curriculum Lab. Last day of school before winter vacation. Families welcome. No lunch and school closes at 12 noon.

• December Vacation: Dec. 14-Jan. 1 (Staff return Wed., Jan. 2 for staff day)

• All children return Thursday, January 3, 2013.

Please note the upcoming events in the new year. Hold the dates More details TBA.

• Saturday, January 5, 2013, 9-12 noon: Family Service Day (in lieu of gifts for teachers)

• Monday, January 14, 2013, 7:00-8:30 PM: Life After Eliot-Pearson-What's Next? This discussion will focus on issues such as transitioning from Eliot-Pearson to another school. We will have a panel of former EP parents share their experiences.

• Wednesday, January 23, 2013, 6:00-7:30 PM. Special Workshop on Social Media and Technology, by Dr. Julie Dobrow, Director and Lecturer, Communication and Media Studies Program. Sponsored by the Parent Teacher Learning Group on SM&T.

• Monday, Jan. 28, 2013, 7:00-9:00 PM: PTAB Meeting: Discussion: “Front Courtyard Politics: Keeping Peace When There Are Different Parenting Styles, Expectations And Values.”

• Friday, Feb. 1, 2013: Parent Night Out, more detail coming.

• Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013: Tanglewood Marionettes, Cinderella: Two shows @ 1:00 and 3:00 performances at Cohen Auditorium. Benefit to our scholarship fund.

• Tuesday, February 12, Dual Language Learner Speakers Series: Dr. Nonie Lesaux, Harvard University, 4:00-5:30 PM.

• Monday, March 4, 2013, 5:00-7:00 PM, PTAB, Parent Teacher Learning Groups (Dinner and childcare provided)

• Saturday, March 23, 2013, 5:00-7:30 PM: Seventeenth Annual Family Dance - A community family dance party with food, games and raffle a major community building and fund-raiser for the school scholarship fund.

*****HOLD THE DATE: Friday, April 5, 2013, 7:00 PM in Goddard Chapel. The Beezlebubs, Tufts award-winning, oldest, all male a cappella has agreed to do a benefit concert for the Eliot-
Pearson Children’s School scholarship fund! This is sure to be a highlight of the year, don’t miss it and tell your friends...more details next year!