



The Massachusetts Appleseed Center for Law and Justice

Keep Kids in Class: Building Positive School Climates Conference

April 11, 2016

Agenda

Elevating Youth Voice! Mass. Appleseed has worked in partnership with Youth on Board to incorporate youth perspectives in the conference. For sessions that include youth panelists and facilitators, look for the Youth on Board logo.



Special thanks to the Mass. Juvenile Court, Youth on Board, Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Children's Law Center of Mass. and the Court Improvement Program of the Supreme Judicial Court for their guidance as Conference Planning Committee members.

8:00 Registration & Light Breakfast (Tilton Hall)

8:30 – 8:45 Welcome (Tilton Hall)



- ❖ *Welcome* by Sara Shanahan, Board Member, Massachusetts Appleseed Center for Law and Justice
- ❖ *Opening Remarks* by the Honorable Amy L. Nechtem, Chief Justice of the Mass. Juvenile Court

8:45 – 10:00 Keynote Address (Tilton Hall)

- ❖ *The Power of Mindsets: Creating a Positive School Climate* by Dr. Robert Brooks

10:00-10:15 **Movement Break Facilitated by Boston Student Advisory Council** (Tilton Hall)




10:15-12:00 Perspectives on School Discipline (Tilton Hall)

- ❖ *School Discipline in Massachusetts: A Look at the 2015 Data* by Rob Curtin, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- ❖ *School Discipline Law CH222: Implementation Successes and Challenges: Moderated Panel*
-  *Youth Perspectives on School Discipline* by Carlos Rojas, Rebecca Holland, and Fania Joseph, Youth on Board
-  *Restorative Circles at Worcester's North High School: Youth Panel*

12:00-12:45 Lunch and Presentation (Tilton Hall)

- ❖ *Remarks* by Susan Cole, Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative
- ❖ *Remarks* by Commissioner Chester, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

12:45 – 2:45 Breakout Sessions (Two 1-hour sessions; each presentation is repeated)

- A.  *Understanding, Assessing, and Improving School Climate*, Dr. Maria Pacheco, New England Equity Assistance Center at Brown University and Kalise Osula, Youth on Board (Tilton A)
- B.  *Restorative Practices*, Susan Maze Rothstein, Northeastern University School of Law and Teena-Marie Johnson, Youth on Board (Grace B)
- C.  *Policing in Schools: Improving Practice and Policy*, Liz Sullivan-Yuknis, Dignity in Schools and Rebecca Holland, Youth on Board, and Whitney A. Taylor, ACLU of Massachusetts (Grace A)
- D. *Deconstructing the School-to-Prison Pipeline: School-Court Collaborations*, Honorable Jay D. Blitzman, Middlesex Juvenile Court and Honorable Carol A. Erskine, Worcester Juvenile Court (Lurie)
- E. *Community Schools and Wraparound Zones: Creating a Safe and Supportive Context for Student Success*, Wraparound Coordinators, Worcester Public Schools; Dr. Claire Crane and Omar Longus, Center for Community Schools at Salem State University (Tilton B)
- F. *Recalibrating Schoolwide Discipline to Support a Healthy School Climate*, Larry Dieringer, Engaging Schools (Rosenblatt)

2:45 – 3:30 Facilitated Debrief (Tilton Hall)

- ❖ *Sharing, Reflecting, and Turning the Day's Lessons Into Action*