

B.R.A.C.E. Bullying Remediation and Court Education PROJECT



Bullying Prevention and Education Conference a Success

On Thursday, February 28th more than 350 educators, juvenile justice, and law enforcement professionals gathered for the Bullying Prevention and Education conference, organized and presented by the **B.R.A.C.E. Project**. Keynote Speaker for the conference, which was sponsored by the DCU for Kids foundation, was Massachusetts Attorney General **Martha Coakley**.

Representatives from each of the B.R.A.C.E. partner organizations facilitated panel discussions and grade-level working groups during the conference. Attendees also heard from Ryan Knowles, Community Outreach and Social Network Manager for The Bully Project, who outlined that organization's work in the bullying prevention field, and introduced clips from their newly-released documentary "Bully".

As a result of the success and impact of both the conference and the B.R.A.C.E., Project's work, Ryan recently notified Rob Pezzella, School Safety Liaison for the Worcester Public Schools, that the group has been nominated as a Bully Project **"Upstander of the Week"** Noted Ryan: "The award was created to highlight the work of parents, teachers, students, and advocates who have taken a proactive approach to preventing bullying in their schools, promote positive school climate, and have seen positive results accordingly. I have found in working with you over the past few months your dedication to this cause and ensuring your students feel safe and free of fear is undeniable, and embodies what The Bully Project works every day to promote."



Questions?

The **B.R.A.C.E. Project** partners are available to assist your school or organization with anti-bullying education, information, and programs.

To contact the B.R.A.C.E.
Project, please email:

Robert Pezzella
pezzella@worc.k12.ma.us

Sarah Montigny-Valois
ValoisS@youinc.org



Bully Project Educator Kits Now Available



The Bully Project's "Educator's DVD and Toolkit" is now available for purchase. As noted on the Bully Project website, this version of the DVD comes with "an in-school public screening license for elementary, middle and high schools, as well as tools and

resources designed to ignite meaningful dialogue, and prevent bullying by developing a respectful school community."

The kit is valued at over \$200, but by taking the Bully Project's online pledge at www.thebullyproject.com, you'll be qualified to purchase this comprehensive set of materials for just **\$29.99** plus shipping and handling. The Toolkit includes a long list of valuable resources including videos, posters, lesson plans, and more. Here's a sampling of what's in the kit:

- **Bully Theatrical DVD and DVD Extras** (PG-13 version)
- **BULLY for Younger Audiences**; this special version of BULLY excludes mature themed topics that are not appropriate for audiences under 13, including storylines involving suicide.
- **Facing History and Ourselves "Guide to the Film BULLY"**; the Facing History and Ourselves organization has developed materials to prepare educators for discussion with student both before and after screening BULLY.
- **Roadmap to Building a Caring and Respectful School Community**; this guide includes strategies shown to be effective in creating more positive social norms and cultures of caring.
- **Not In Our School Videos & Quick Start Guide**; these videos show inspiring examples of how educators and students have worked together to improve school climate, identify bullying hot-spots and raise awareness to end negative stereotyping.
- **Welcoming Schools on "What to Say to That's So Gay"**; resources to help schools embrace family diversity, avoid gender stereotyping and end bullying and name-calling in elementary schools
- **Bullying and Special Needs**; the National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) has developed these tips for educators, specifically aimed at protecting kids with learning disabilities and other special needs.



Visit the Bully Project website at www.thebullyproject.org to learn more!

A Generous Sponsor

In 2005, **Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU)** launched a foundation – **DCU for Kids** – that has gone on to donate nearly

\$5,000,000 to charities and organizations that are making a difference in the lives of children and families. With a desire to address the serious concerns around bullying in our schools, DCU for Kids stepped in with a grant to support the B.R.A.C.E. Project's education and prevention activities, including the February conference at South High Community School. On their involvement with the conference, **John LaHair**, DCU's Public Relations Manager stated, "By collaborating with organizations such as the B.R.A.C.E. Project partners, who are proactively making a difference in the lives of children, DCU for Kids can help to create and maintain a positive and respectful atmosphere that discourages bullying."



We're grateful for the foundation's generous support of our efforts, and confident that their investment in our work will yield tremendous results!

Bullying Prevention Program & Resources



As part of the B.R.A.C.E. conference in February, the partner agencies organized a comprehensive resource list for school systems and community agencies interested in expanding their bullying prevention efforts. In

addition to contacting the B.R.A.C.E. Project, the organizations below and on the following page are a great source of information and materials:

► **Let's Get Real**, a powerful documentary and curriculum where kids speak up about bullying, available from Women's Educational Media at www.respectforall.org/lgr_teachingguide.htm.

► **Operation Respect: Don't Laugh At Me**, founded by Peter Yarrow of the folk group Peter, Paul and Mary, the organization disseminates educational resources including the *Don't Laugh At Me* programs: one for grades 2-5, another for grades 6-8, and a third for summer camps and after-school programs. All the programs utilize inspiring music and video along with curriculum guides based on the conflict-resolution curricula developed by the Resolving Conflict Creatively Program of Educators for Social Responsibility. Available at www.don'tlaugh.org.

► **PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center** unites, engages and educates communities nationwide to address bullying through creative, relevant and interactive resources. PACER's bullying prevention resources are designed to benefit all students, including students with disabilities. PACER offers digital-based resources for parents, schools, teens and youth, including:

✓ **PACER.org/Bullying:** This is the portal page for parents and educators to access bullying resources, which include educational toolkits, awareness toolkits, contest ideas, promotional products and more.

✓ **PACERTeensAgainstBullying:** Created by and for teens, this website is a place for middle and high school students to find ways to address bullying, to take action, to be heard, and to own an important social cause.

✓ **PACERKidsAgainstBullying:** A creative, innovative and educational website designed for elementary school students to learn about bullying prevention, engage in activities and be inspired to take action.

► **The Committee for Children** creates research-based social-emotional learning materials (like the *Second Step Curriculum* used in schools across the state) to help children succeed in school and in life. We are a nonprofit. And we're helping create a world in which children can grow up to be peaceful, kind, responsible citizens. Available at www.cfchildren.org.

► **The Human Rights Campaign's Welcoming Schools** Program helps guide educators in learning how to end bullying and name-calling and to embrace family diversity to help create safe, inclusive schools. Available at www.welcoming-schools.org

► **The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program**, a multilevel, multicomponent program designed to reduce and prevent bully/victim problems among students at school. School staff is largely responsible for introducing and implementing the program. Available at www.clemson.edu/olweus.

► **The Ophelia Project** exists to empower all members of a community to recognize and address relational aggression through systemic change in the social culture. The Ophelia Project offers communities mentor programs, original curriculum and presentations and training. Available at www.OpheliaProject.org.

More online resources:

- www.preventbullying.worcesterschool.org (Worcester Public Schools)
- www.thebullyproject.com (Bully documentary and educational materials)
- www.worcesterda.com (Worcester County District Attorney's website)
- www.bnetsavvy.org
- www.bullyingawarenessweek.org
- www.pbis.org/school/bully_prevention (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports)
- www.bullyinginfo.org
- www.connectsafely.org (Has the FACEBOOK Parent Guide on this site)
- www.nasponline.org/resources/crisis_safety/crisis (warning signs for peers, parents and educators; strategies for preventing teen suicide and interventions)
- www.cybersmartcurriculum.org/cyberbullying/NSBA
- www.cyberbullyhelp.com
- www.cyberbully.org
- www.cyberbullying.us
- www.doe.mass.edu/bullying (The MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)
- www.eyesonbullying.org/toolkit.html
- www.fcsn.org (Federation for Children with Special Needs)
- www.inyahead.com.au/bookshop/the-bullying-intervention-toolkit
- www.itgetsbetter.org
- www.MARCcenter.org (The Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center)
- www.Massadvocates.org
- www.member.linksinc.org/ama/public/049/049/Programs-NTS---Anti-Bullying-Toolkit.pdf
- www.missingkids.com
- www.nccjtriad.org/anytown/programs.php
- www.netsmartz.org
- www.onguardonline.gov
- www.safeschools.info/bp_toolkit.pdf
- www.staysafeonline.org
- www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov
- www.thatsnotcool.com
- www.youtube.com/user/itgetsbetterproject
- www.school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/6-8.html#
- www.schooldiscoverededucation.com/lessonplans/9-12.html# (Lesson plans for helping children learn about a variety of subjects including eating disorders, drugs puberty sports, depression etc.)
- www.youinc.org (link to B.R.A.C.E. Project materials and all Y.O.U., Inc. programs)

Find more information and upcoming events from the **B.R.A.C.E. Project at www.youinc.org \ **BRACE****