EVENT BRIEFING MEMO: BoSTEM Meeting
United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley ★ 51 Sleeper St ★ Boston, MA 02210

EVENT DATE AND TIME: May 9, 2018 | 2 hours
Commissioner Lead: Steve Barney

HOST: BoSTEM
Staff Lead: 

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:
The United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley, in collaboration with Boston After School & Beyond and Boston Public Schools (BPS) created BoSTEM to increase interest in STEM subjects. The program provides hands-on, high-quality learning opportunities, in partnership with out-of-school time programs and corporate volunteers, which give students the chance to apply STEM skills in exciting, real-world contexts. United Way of Massachusetts Bay was recently awarded a 5-year, $3.9 million grant from the U. S. Department of Education’s Education, Innovation and Research program to fuel the expansion of BoSTEM in the Boston Public Schools. The grant aims to increase student interest in STEM and STEM-related careers, as well as refine, scale, and evaluate BoSTEM as a best practice for quality STEM education and college/career readiness.

The purpose of this meeting is:
➢ To better understand how volunteerism is being leveraged to address educational needs in Boston
➢ To understand how the United Way is connecting with corporate partners to provide services for mentorships and creating public-private partnerships.

PARTICIPANTS:
Participants will be individuals representing community organizations, corporate managers, volunteers, and Boston Public School partners involved in the BoSTEM program. Key participants Include:
• Joe Rosenbaum, BoSTEM Director, United Way of Massachusetts Bay
• Lydia Emmons, Associate Director, Sociedad Latina
• Mallory Haeflich, Program Coordinator, Citizen Schools
• Kaniah Dixon-Dunn, Civic Engagement VISTA, Citizen Schools
• Arthur Pearson, Chief Executive Director, Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center
• Nikki Tabron, VP of Education, Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center
• Karley Ausiello, Senior Vice President of Community Impact, United Way of Massachusetts Bay
• Sunindiya Bhalla, Senior Director of Educational Success, United Way of Massachusetts Bay
• Cathleen Finn, New England Corporate Citizenship Manager, IBM
• Gary Pease, Principle, Nitsch Engineering

*Bios and additional information on participants and organizations can be found on Page 3 of this memo.
AGENDA:
2:30 - 2:35 PM Welcome remarks from BoSTEM Director Joe Rosenbaum
2:35 - 2:40 PM Brief remarks and Commission intro by Commissioner Steve Barney
2:40 - 2:55 PM Roundtable introductions (name, organization)
2:55 - 4:30 PM Roundtable discussion

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
The questions below are provided for guidance only and are not intended to serve as a protocol or script for the meeting.

General Questions on Service:
- What is the inherent value of service?
- What are the biggest barriers to service in the U.S. today?
- What is the right level of engagement in service for the entire population? Should all serve?
- Is the average American sufficiently exposed to all types of service opportunities?
- How can the U.S. increase the propensity for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve?
- How can the U.S. increase participation in service by individuals with skills critical to address the national security and other public service needs of the nation?
PARTICIPANT BIOS

Joe Rosenbaum, BoSTEM Director, United Way of Massachusetts Bay
Joe is the director of BoSTEM at the United Way of Massachusetts Bay. BoSTEM is a city-wide initiative aimed at increasing afterschool STEM programming for 6-8 graders in Boston who are typically underrepresented in STEM learning and careers. Launched in 2015 by Boston After School & Beyond and United Way of Massachusetts Bay, BoSTEM brings together a coalition of high performing nonprofits who are committed to closing the achievement and opportunity gaps for students who are traditionally underrepresented in STEM learning and to inspire and prepare Boston youth to succeed in 21st century careers. Through participation in BoSTEM, partners engage in a data-driven community of practice that supports continuous learning and improvement within a common framework, while providing partners autonomy for customized, site-specific strategies that work best for their students.

Lydia Emmons, Associate Director, Sociedad Latina
Lydia Emmons earned her undergraduate degree in Urban and Community Studies and Public Policy from the University of Connecticut, and she holds certificates in Youth Trauma Response and Non-Profit Leadership. Lydia was a participant of the 2016 Massachusetts Education Policy Fellowship Program through the Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy. She joined Sociedad Latina in 2009 as a Highland Street Corps Ambassador of Mentoring and was then hired as a Workforce Development Coordinator. As Associate Director, Lydia oversees all of our Pathway to Success programming, evaluates program components, and liaises with Boston Public Schools and higher education partners.

Mallory Haeflich, Program Coordinator, Citizen Schools
Citizen Schools is one of the BoSTEM program providers. At Citizen Schools, adolescents work side by side with experts to explore new fields, learn new skills, and build a foundation for their future. Citizen Schools partner with low-income communities that need additional support and resources. Their program supports academic achievement in core subjects like English Language Arts and Mathematics, while building important 21st Century and Social Emotional skills through real-world learning experiences.

Kaniah Dixon-Dunn, Civic Engagement VISTA, Citizen Schools
Kaniah supports Citizen Schools Massachusetts Civic Engagement team in volunteer recruitment, cultivation and stewardship. She manages LEAD calls and process for recruiting individual CT’s. Kaniah identifies gaps in volunteer training, support and stewardship and work with regional staff to build sustainable resources to address volunteer needs. She creates feedback loop with campus staff, teaching fellows,
regional staff and national staff. Kaniah supports Diversity Working Group members in development of Student, Family, Community Engagement/Voice committee and develops a plan for a regional wide needs assessment that includes student, family and community voice. She also creates a student feedback loop to inform the process of the curriculum audit.

**Arthur Pearson, Chief Executive Officer, Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center**

Arthur Pearson serves as Chief Executive Officer and is charged with leading the organization to deliver its mission, expand its impact, and find its highest and best use to Boston’s young people. In his ten years at Thompson Island he has led its expanded learning initiatives in out-of-school science education, character development, and summer learning. Arthur has been involved with the Outward Bound movement for four decades as an instructor, field supervisor, program director, trustee, and board chair. He spent fourteen years in the energy industry and played a key role in building a start-up company into a $300-million energy marketing enterprise. He holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a Bachelor of Arts from Dartmouth College. Boston’s Barr Foundation recently recognized Mr. Pearson’s leadership with an invitation to join the 2015 Class of Barr Fellows, who were selected for their outstanding contribution to the community and their potential to drive change for years to come.

**Nikki Tabron, Vice President of Education, Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center**

Nikki Tabron serves as Vice President of Education and is charged with overseeing all education programming, with a focus on doubling the number of public schools that partner with the Island for multi-year sequence programming. Dedicated to public service, Ms. Tabron arrives with 18 years of experience working with and meeting the needs of a diverse range of young people and educators. Most recently, Nikki served as the Senior Impact Director for City Year Boston. During her tenure at City Year, Nikki cultivated school, community and corporate partnerships in many capacities including once being an AmeriCorps member herself. Ms. Tabron received her graduate degree at the McCormack School of Policy and Global Studies at UMASS Boston. She has served on the boards of the Haley Pilot School, Tobin K-8 School, and the Deloitte Non-Profit Summit Board.

**Karley Ausiello, Senior Vice President of Community Impact, United Way**

Through my work at United Way, I'm building a future where all children, youth and families achieve all they can be regardless of their background or circumstances. I'm privileged to lead a team of smart, committed people responsible for the strategic investment of more than $30M annually toward improving the lives and opportunities for children, youth and families in the communities of Greater Boston, Merrimack Valley and the Greater Seacoast of New Hampshire. Karley’s specialties are: grant making, collective impact, public/private partnerships, civic engagement, youth development, facilitation,
Sunindiya Bhalla, Senior Director of Educational Success, United Way
Provides leadership and strategy for United Way’s community investments and initiatives focused on innovative early childhood and youth development, including: building a $6 million portfolio of investments in Educational Success for United Way’s three-year strategic grant making cycle; managing the complete process for developing RFPs, to reviewing/selecting grantees, to determining success metrics for annual reporting; growing and managing nationally renowned universal development screening initiative by leveraging $1M from PE/VC industry, resulting in aggregated early childhood data utilization to increase Kindergarten readiness.

Cathleen Finn, New England Corporate Citizenship Manager, IBM
Cathleen Fin is a Corporate Citizenship professional focused on Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island and Vermont. Her specialties are: Corporate Citizenship, Community Relations, Grantmaking to Nonprofit Organizations and Schools, Program Management, Employee Volunteerism, Event Management, Mentoring Programs, School - Business Partnerships, Employee Giving Campaigns, Conflict Resolution, Diversity, Mediation, Facilitation, Teaching, Coaching

Gary Pease, Principle, Nitsch Engineering
Gary Pease has 25 years of experience in civil engineering, principally in site and utility design and permitting. As a principal at Nitsch Engineering, Gary is responsible for overseeing the civil engineering department and is a member of the firm’s leadership team. He specializes in providing design, construction administration, and environmental permitting for large commercial and institutional projects. His experience has encompassed open space areas, commercial developments, private colleges/universities, public schools, and health centers. As a LEED Accredited Professional, he also has an in-depth understanding of green building practices and principles, which he has applied to a wide range of projects.

Gary is very active in NAIOP Massachusetts, where he has served on the Executive, Education, Environmental, Government Affairs, and Program Committees. He was the recipient of the 2001 Young Engineer of the Year award from the Massachusetts Society of Professional Engineers, and is the immediate Past-President of the Natick Soccer Club Board of Directors. Gary has a B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and an M.S. in civil engineering from Northeastern University.