

## Ways To Give!

Boston Partners in Education is grateful to our volunteer academic mentors who generously donate their time to mentor a Boston Public Schools student. We would especially like to thank those volunteers who not only donate their time, but also find a way to donate funds or give a special service. In order to match, train, place and support our volunteers we need to raise funds. From the volunteer who can give \$10.00 during our annual fundraising drive, to the corporate sponsors who donate thousands for our annual Big Cheese Reads Gala, we'd like you to know that every little bit counts—and all of the funds raised go into supporting our programs.

There are so many ways to give at every level:

- Already give through the United Way? Designate your donation to Boston Partners in Education
- Getting married? Set up a charitable gift registry
- Prefer to give a little at a time? Set up easy, recurring monthly donations

For more, visit our "Ways to Give" page at [www.bostonpartners.org](http://www.bostonpartners.org)

**Most companies will match your donation.**

**Donate Now!**  
**Did you know you could donate online by clicking the**  
**"Donate Now" button at**  
**[www.bostonpartners.org](http://www.bostonpartners.org)**

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Ways to Give

## Donate Now!

Click on the "Donate Now" button on our website: [www.bostonpartners.org](http://www.bostonpartners.org) and make a donation.

## Company Match

Some companies will match your donation, so any amount you give will double. Please take advantage of your company's match program!

## Give through United Way

Just designate Boston Partners in Education when making your United Way contribution. Our



designation number is: **M106750.**

**BOSTON PARTNERS**  
**IN EDUCATION**

*Lessons in learning. Lessons for life.*

**NEWS FLASH**  
**Spring 2010**

*The Volunteer Issue*

## From Power Lunch Reading Partners to Big Sister/Little Sister

Rachel and Ada met while Ada was in 2nd grade at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School. By the time Ada reached third grade, the two were inseparable. Rachel, an employee of State Street Corporation, was Ada's Power Lunch mentor from 2nd to 3rd grade. Now she is her Big Sister. Realizing that the two did not want to part ways when Power Lunch was over, they learned through a colleague of Rachel's that they could continue their mentor/mentee relationship through the Big Sister Association of Greater Boston.



Boston Partners in Education's Power Lunch program matches corporate volunteers with 1st through 3rd graders in need of extra help with reading. The volunteer academic mentor spends one hour a week during lunch. However, Power Lunch only extends to students in grades one through three. The Big Sister Association of Greater Boston has stepped up to help those Power Lunch volunteers and their mentees who qualify to continue their relationship.

Recently, Boston Partners in Education's Communications Manager, Faye Pantazopoulos and Big Sister Association's Director of Marketing & Communications, Maren Johnson, sat down with Rachel and Ada to discuss their relationship beginning with Power Lunch and continuing through Big Sister.

Rachel and Ada are currently enrolled in the School-Based Plus program where they see each other in school during the school year and out of school in the summer months.

*Q: How did the two of you initially bond during your first few Power Lunch sessions?*

Rachel: Ada loves to read Nancy Drew - which I remember reading as a girl.

*Q: Can you name a Power Lunch milestone?*

Rachel: I made a new friend while becoming a mentor and I was not really expecting that.

*Q: What types of things do you like to do together now that you're in the Big Sister program?*

Rachel: Ada's a fan of Martha Stewart and she likes to draw, read and use the computer. We make crafts like bottle cap magnets, take trips to museums - we saw the Shark 3-D movie at the Museum of Science, we make pottery, etc.

Ada: I enjoy just talking to Rachel the most - about school stuff, movies and books.

*Q: Ada, what is your favorite thing about Rachel?*

Ada: Everything! Recently, I won an award for scoring the highest on the MCAS and Rachel was the first person I told.

*Q: Ada, use three words to describe Rachel?*

Ada: She is a really good role model: nice, intelligent, funny and caring.

*Q: Do you admire Rachel?*

Ada: Yes, I look up to her because of how she treats me.

*Q: What makes Rachel different from family? From friends?*

Ada: Rachel is not much different from family, but maybe she knows more than my friends.

*Q: Rachel, why did you choose to continue mentoring Ada after Power Lunch was over?*

Rachel: I wanted to continue because I didn't want to lose touch with her. I wanted to see how Ada grew up.

*Q: How has having a little sister changed your perspective on your own life?*

Rachel: It's brought me down to being 10 years old again. I talk to Ada about what's important to her now and it's so refreshing to see Ada's point of view.

*Q: What's the best part about being a Big Sister?*

Rachel: Getting to do things with Ada that I wouldn't be doing at this point in my life.

*Q: What do you do to nurture Ada's strengths?*

Rachel: I try to explore and develop her many interests. We'll go to the ICA because Ada loves to draw, make crafts together or go see a movie or play basketball.

*Q: Do either of you have siblings?*

Rachel: I'm an only child.

Ada: I have a brother who is 2 1/2 years older.

Ada doesn't really know yet what she wants to be when she grows up but it may involve art. She does know that she wants to attend Boston Latin School for high school.

Rachel and Ada's time in the School-Based Plus program through Big Sister is almost over. They will continue to be Big Sister/Little Sister through the Community based program where they will see each other every two weeks outside of school.

Boston Partners in Education and The Big Sister Association of Greater Boston are happy to partner and allow Power Lunch volunteers to continue to be involved in their mentee's lives through the programs provided by The Big Sister Association of Greater Boston.

## Thank You for Attending The Big Cheese Reads 2010 Gala



On Thursday April 8, Boston Partners in Education celebrated its support of academic achievement and the personal growth of Boston Public School students at its Sixth Annual Big Cheese Reads Gala held at the Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel.

Thank you to all who attended and bid on silent and live auction items contributing to the success of our annual gala. For all who came, you know it's a great event and you heard how your support of our mission has contributed to the lives of Boston Public School students. Two 8th grade students from the Timilty School spoke about their experience with Big Cheese Readers. You also heard the inspiring words of honorees, Dr. Carol Johnson and Joseph and MaryLynn Antonellis and listened to Mayor Thomas M. Menino speak about public education in Boston. For those who could not be there, you were missed.

To the left is a photo collage from the evening. More photos can be found on our website: [www.bostonpartners.org](http://www.bostonpartners.org). We hope they will inspire you to come to next year's gala.

### Honorary Co-Chairs:

- Governor Deval & Mrs. Diane Patrick
- Mayor Thomas M. & Mrs. Angela Menino
- Mr. William & Mrs. Deborah Berman
- Mr. Gerald & Mrs. Kate Chertavian
- Mr. Joel & Mrs. Sarah Lamstein
- Mr. William A. & Mrs. Brooke Muggia
- Dr. Peter & Mrs. Betsy Nelson

### Honorees:

- Mr. Joseph C. Antonellis, Vice Chairman, State Street Corporation & Mrs. MaryLynn Antonellis, Auction Committee Chair, Boston Partners in Education
- Dr. Carol Johnson, Superintendent, Boston Public Schools

### Our "Future Big Cheeses" appreciate your support!



## Boston Partners in Education's Boston Marathon® Team Shines!

Congratulations to our 2010 Boston Partners in Education Boston Marathon Team who raised over \$75,000 that will go directly into supporting our programs and Boston Public School students in need of extra help.

## Volunteering at Every Level

During the month of June, we at Boston Partners in Education celebrate our volunteers for all their dedication and hard work over the school year.

We are proud to have many volunteers at every level - from corporate "Big Cheeses" who devote time and money to read to a middle school classroom and corporate employees who dedicate an hour a week of their lunch time to read to 1st through 3rd graders around the city to retirees, recent grads and career shifters who donate their time to be School Volunteer Program or Math Rules! volunteers.

Here are some stories about a few of our volunteers:

Megan L. Kearney from JP Morgan Chase spends her lunch hour once a week as a Power Lunch volunteer. She reads to Dylan who attends first grade at the Perry school. Megan wanted to share a story about Dylan. "I find it funny how much I'm actually learning from Dylan. It's so refreshing to be around someone young with such a clear mind that hasn't been clogged with stress and pressures of the adult world. Yesterday, Dylan told me the simplest story that was so genuinely nice, it reminded me how important it is to try and be a good person. Dylan was telling me about his friend who 'has trouble talking.' I'm assuming he has a stutter or other speech impediment. And when he told me this, he looked at me and said, 'but so what?? Other kids make fun of him, but I always stand up for him because he's my friend.' I was so proud of him at that moment for being a good friend, but also for reminding me that there is still a very great deal of good in the world."

Jordan Redding also works at JP Morgan Chase and is part of our Power Lunch program. He reads to Richard, a third grader at the Perry School. He has this to say about his experience as a Power Lunch volunteer, "Although it may take a little effort and

a couple of weeks of being there for the kids, you can really tell they enjoy the time spent reading and being read to. At first Richard seemed a little hesitant and distracted when it came to reading with me. After a little bit I knew he could tell I was there just to hang out and do some fun reading, and he really started enjoying himself. Breaking past the mold of being the straight-edged adult became a breeze. I'm pleased to say that not only the kids have a blast reading those creative books from childhood. Getting to re-experience all my favorite stories and laugh about them with Richard is something I look forward to each week. In the end, I almost feel like Richard is volunteering his time for me ... a fun and relaxing break from the grind of the office."

Ethel Roumeliotis is a Math Rules! volunteer who has been with us since 2006. Ethel has been volunteering at the Emerson School all along and has come to be really loved and respected for her efforts there. She works with her students until they graduate from 5th grade. Wendy Beninati, our Math Rules! Program Manager says, "In addition to her work with Boston Partners in Education, she also travels to Louisiana every year to help out with the continuing Katrina effort. Ethel has what I call a real calling for volunteering."

Jennifer Stange is part of our School Volunteer Program. Jennifer is a young, hard working woman who volunteers with Demetris, a 10th grade student at the Quincy Upper School. Not only has she been dedicated to Demetris since the very beginning of the year, but Jennifer also works for EdVestors, a company that believes in driving change in urban schools through smart, strategic, philanthropic investment. EdVestors is a major supporter of Boston Public Schools and the connection that Jennifer is making between Boston Partners in Education and EdVestors is truly inspiring. Jennifer is a wonderful example of how young professionals are becoming more involved in their communities and dedicating themselves to improving the lives of Boston's future leaders and community members.

## RSVP NOW! Volunteer Recognition Event

**Boston Partners in Education invites you to join us to celebrate everything you do as a volunteer!**

**Tuesday, June 8, 2010**

**6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

Museum of Science, Riverview Cafe  
One Science Park, Boston

Free parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Come enjoy light refreshments, our end of the year awards, and mingling with fellow volunteers in the Museum of Science's Riverview Cafe. While you're there, visit the Green Wing exhibits!

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[www.bostonpartners.org](http://www.bostonpartners.org)

RSVP to Hillary Chazen by Wednesday, May 26  
[hillary\\_chazen@bostonpartners.org](mailto:hillary_chazen@bostonpartners.org)  
617.451.6145