

**ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
 ACTON, MA 01720  
 978-264-4700  
 Web site address: <http://ab.mec.edu>

**SCHOOL SYSTEMS' PROFILE - 2004-2005**

**Kind of Communities:** residential suburbs near Routes 2 and 495  
**Population:** Acton - approx. 20,500    Boxborough - approx. 4,887

**Total Student Enrollment** (October 1, 2004):  
 Acton Public: 2,605    Acton-Boxborough: 2,698  
 (includes APS School Choice: 0 and A-B School Choice: 3)

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Enrollment*</u>	<u>Specialty Programs**</u>
Conant	K-6	Maureen Bingham	490	ELL, Nature Program, Gr. 1-4 Spanish Program
Douglas	K-6	Christopher Whitbeck	498	ELL, Nature Program, Japanese Lang. Program, Before/ After School Enrichment, including World Languages
Gates	K-6	Walter McGrail	492	Nature Program, Gr. 3-6 Spanish Language Program, Gr. 4 - 6 Chorus, Before/ After School Enrichment
McCarthy-Towne	K-6	Marcia FitzGerald	507	ELL, Integrated Art Program, SLOYD, CASE classes, Before School Enrichment Program, After School Drama Program
Merriam	K-6	Sandra Wilensky	549	ELL, Project-based Curriculum, Looping classes, Before/ After School Enrichment Program, After-School Drama

\* Does not include SPED PreSchool: 46, or SPED Out-of-District Placements: 23

\*\* *In all schools:* All-Day Kindergarten, Computer Lab & Classroom Ass'ts, DARE, BABES, Quit It, Fee-based Instrumental Music (gr. 5-6), School-Business Partnership

**JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS**

\*Enrollment numbers do not include SPED Out-of-District Placements, gr. 7-12: 56

<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Enrollment*</u>	<u>Extracurricular Programs</u>
R.J. Grey Junior High	7-8	Craig Hardimon	917	Adopt-a-Grandparent Club, Blue Print, Art Club, Chess/ Board Games, Interscholastic and Intramural Sports, Jazz Band, Library Support, Math Counts, Peer Tutoring, School Store, Science Olympiad, Select Chorus, Service Learning Projects, Speech & Debate, Student Council, Student Recital Club, String Ensemble, Theater Production, Tolkien Society, Yearbook Club

Teams of approx. 110-117 students with five teachers

Integrated curriculum

<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Enrollment*</u>	<u>Extracurricular Programs</u>
A-B Reg. High School	9-12	Stephen Donovan	1,725	Academic Teams, (including Decathlon, Math, Science, Speech & Debate), Performing Arts, Honor Societies, Publications, Student Government, Interscholastic Athletics, other organizations, e.g., ABCO (community service), Amnesty International, Peer Leadership Group SADD, Common Ground (Safe Schools), WHAB radio station  <i>Career Exploration Programs:</i> Job Shadowing, Senior Internships, Work Study, Career Speakers

**Awards received by students:**  
 Scholastic Art Awards (state & national), Choir, Band, Academic Decathlon (State Champions - 12 yrs.)  
 Girls' Swimming and Diving (State Champions - 13 yrs.)  
 Superbowl Participant (11 yrs.)  
 Girls' Ice Hockey (State Champions-6 yrs.); Field Hockey (State Champions-Fall 2000)

**INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS**

<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Junior High</u>	<u>High School</u>
Language Arts	Art, Band, Chorus, English	Drama, English
Mathematics	Health	Industrial Technology
Science/Health Education	Study Skills Technology	Mathematics
Social Studies	Life Skills, Mathematics	Performing Arts
Art	Minuteman Tech. Lab, Music	Physical Education/Health
Music	Physical Education, Science	Science
Physical Education	Social Studies	Social Studies
Library Skills/Media Center	Study Skills	Visual Arts
Technology	World Languages	World Languages
	plus other mini-courses	Communications

**SUPPORT PROGRAMS**

<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Junior High</u>	<u>High School</u>
Special Education Services	Special Education Services	Special Education Services
Counseling/Psychology/Health Services	Counseling/Psychology/Health Services	Counseling/Psychology/Health Services
Child Study Team, RLL (Reading/ Language Art/Literacy Specialist)	Academic Support Center: Reading	Academic Support Center
Crisis Team, ELL	ELL, Academic Support	ELL, Student Assistance Team
	Child Study Team, Crisis Team	Crisis Team

**SYSTEM RESOURCES**

Approximately 90.3% of instructional staff hold an M.A. or higher degree. Staff represents more than 3,256 years of teaching in Acton/AB.

**Classroom teacher-pupil ratio/range:\***

<u>Level</u>	<u>Range</u>
Elementary	1:20 - 1:27
Junior High	1:13 - 1:31
High School	1:7 - 1:50

**Per Pupil Expenditure\*\*\* :**

2001-02	\$6,481 (Acton)
2001-02	\$8,120 (Acton-Boxborough)
*** All day cost	

\*Does not include special subject teachers

**Average Teacher salary:**

2004-05 for A-B - \$59,696    2004-05 for Acton - \$58,936

## ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 2004

### SAT Profile - Average Scores

<b>Size of Class</b> 391 Percentage attending: 4-yr. college 87% 2-yr. college/other post-sec. 6% Total continuing education 93% Employment/Other 7% Total class 100%	<b>A-B</b> <u>Verbal</u> <u>Math</u> 2004 611      631 2003 601      626 2002 585      609	<b>National</b> <u>Verbal</u> <u>Math</u> 508      518 507      519 504      516
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*Over the last three years an average of 99% of the seniors at A-B took SATs as compared to 48% nationally & 82% in MA.*

### SAT Achievement Test Scores, 2003-2004

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Mean Score</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Mean Score</u>
		(Range is 200-800)			(Range is 200-800)
Biology	161	666	Mathematics Level I	127	643
Chemistry	80	680	Mathematics Level II	104	744
English Literature	27	623	Spanish	28	667
English Writing	229	652	US History	48	661
French	13	647	World History	8	643

### Advanced Placement Test Scores - 2004

	<u>Test Scores*</u>	<u>No. of Scores</u>
319 Juniors & Seniors took 699 exams in Art History, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, English Literature & Composition, Environmental Science, European History, French Language/Literature, Government & Politics-U.S., Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Spanish Language, U.S. History, World History	5	374
	4	204
	3	89
	2	28
	1	4

\* Scores of 3-4 qualify students for advanced placement in some colleges

### National Merit Scholarships

(Class of 2005)  
 Semi-Finalists - 18  
 Letters of Commendation - 51

### MCAS/Reading Test Scores, Spring 2004 combined "Proficient" & "Advanced" level percentages\*

Grade 3 - Reading	86%	
	<u>Eng./L.A.</u>	<u>Math</u>
Grade 4	86%	80%
Grade 6	-----	84%
Grade 7	91%	-----
Grade 8	-----	81%
Grade 10	89%	89%

\*This measure is used because "Proficient" & "Advanced" levels are the goals for performance.

### SPECIAL FEATURES OF SCHOOL SYSTEMS

- Administrators and School Committees set and regularly review mission, vision, short and long-range goals. Administrators attend Leadership Conference annually.
- Staff continuously pursue professional development.
- Open enrollment at elementary level (choice of school)
- Teaming at R.J. Grey Junior High School
- All seven schools are networked to each other and to the Internet; staff use current technology in management and instruction.
- Staff evaluate programs regularly; the districts support curriculum renewal through a research and development program.
- Community members actively participate in and support school programs, serve on advisory committees and task forces.
- Staff supervise a full range of extracurricular activities for students (*see listings*).
- School-Business Community Partnerships include working relationships with area businesses, institutions of higher education and the Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce.
- Local foundation for athletics/extracurricular activities: ABSAF (Acton-Boxborough Student Activities Fund)
- Last year, the schools received approximately \$1.2 million in grants and other resources.
- Schools work with town(s) in Acton Leadership Group, Boxborough Leadership Forum and Acton 2020 (planning process).
- Acton-Boxborough Community Education is an asset to the school districts, offering a wide variety of programs for children and adults.

### SCHOOL SCHEDULE AND HOURS

180 school days scheduled

#### Elementary Schools

Douglas & Gates	8:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>12:15 p.m. dismissal</i>
Conant, McCarthy-Towne & Merriam	9:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>1:00 p.m. dismissal</i>

#### Secondary Schools

A-B Regional High School	7:23 a.m. - 2:18 p.m.
R.J. Grey Junior High School	7:30 a.m. - 2:06 p.m.

### BUSING DISTANCE

(Busing provided by the school system)

#### Level

grades K-3	No minimum (all transported)
grades 4-6	Over 1 mile
grades 7-12	Over 2 miles

### CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

William L. Ryan, *Superintendent*  
 George Frost, *Deputy Superintendent*  
 Susan Horn, *Assistant Superintendent*  
     *for Curriculum & Instruction/Community Ed*  
 Nancy Kolb, *Director of Pupil Services*  
 Sharon Summers, *Director of Finance*

### ACTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Marie Altieri, *APS Chairperson*  
 Mary Ann Ashton  
 Jo-Ann Berry  
 Michael Coppolino  
 Terry Lindgren  
 Jeff Vandegrift

### A-B SCHOOL COMMITTEE

*All Acton members plus the following Boxborough members:*  
 Rebecca Neville, *AB Chairperson*  
 Elizabeth Markiewicz  
 Bruce Sabot