

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

**SCHOOL SYSTEMS' PROFILE - 2006-2007**

**Kind of Communities:** residential suburbs near Routes 2 and 495  
**Population:** Acton - approx. 20,049    Boxborough - approx. 5,195

**Total Student Enrollment** (October 1, 2006):  
Acton Public: 2,603    Acton-Boxborough: 2,941  
(includes APS School Choice: 0 and A-B School Choice: 74)

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Enrollment*</u>	<u>Specialty Programs**</u>
Conant	K-6	Philip Benincasa	489	ELL, Nature Program, School Chorus, ABA classes, Community Service Learning
Douglas	K-6	Christopher Whitbeck	499	ELL, Nature Program, Community Serv. Learning, Before/After-School Enrich. (incl. lang.), Japanese Language (K-2)
Gates	K-6	Walter McGrail	490	Nature Program, School Chorus, Before/After-School Enrichment
McCarthy-Towne	K-6	Marcia FitzGerald	490	ELL, Integrated Art Program, SLOYD, CASE classes, Before School Enrichment Program, After-School Drama Program
Merriam	K-6	Sandra Wilensky	564	ELL, Project-based Curriculum, Looping classes, Before/After-School Enrichment Program, After-School Drama

\* Does not include SPED PreSchool: 48, and SPED Out-of-District Placements: 23

\*\* *In all schools:* All-Day Kindergarten, Computer Lab & Classroom Assistants, 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: 64

<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	990	Adopt-a-Grandparent Club, AB Blue Print, Art Club, Chess/Board Games, Interscholastic and Intramural Sports, Jazz Band, Library Support, Math Counts, Peer Tutoring, School Store, Science Olympiad, Service Learning Projects, Speech & Debate, Star Wars Club, Student Council, String Ensemble, Theater Production, Yearbook

Teams of approx. 113-129 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	1,887	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 Champs - 14 yrs.), Science Olympiad (State Champs-2005, 2006)  
Girls' Swimming & Diving (State Champs - 13 yrs.)  
Football - State Record of 52 consec. wins, Superbowl participants (12 yrs.)  
Girls' Ice Hockey (State Champs-6 yrs.); Field Hockey (State Champs-Fall 2000)

**INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS**

<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Junior High</u>	<u>High School</u>
Language Arts	Art, Band, Chorus, English	English
Mathematics	Health	Industrial Technology
Science/Health Education	Computer Literacy	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 83.6% of instructional staff hold an M.A. or higher degree. Staff represents more than 3,505 years of teaching in Acton/AB.

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

<u>Level</u>	<u>Range</u>
Elementary	1:17 - 1:26
Junior High	1:13 - 1:34
High School	1:8 - 1:56

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

2004-05	\$7,600 (Acton)
2004-05	\$9,063 (Acton-Boxborough)
*** 'Day Programs' cost	

\*Does not include special subject teachers

**Average Teacher salary:**

2006-07 for A-B - \$63,192      2006-07 for Acton - \$62,162

# ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 2006

## SAT Reasoning Test Profile - Average Scores

Size of Class 432

Percentage attending:

4-yr. college	89%
2-yr. college/ other post-sec.	7%
Total continuing education	96%
Employment/Other	4%
Total class	100%

	A-B			National		
	Cr*	Math	Wr**	Cr*	Math	Wr**
2006	602	634	599	503	518	497
	* Cr = Critical Reading			** Wr = Writing		
	Verbal		Math	Verbal		Math
2005	613		634	508		520
2004	611		631	508		518

*Over the last three years an average of 99% of the seniors at A-B took SATs as compared to 48% nationally & 85% in MA*

## SAT Subject Test Scores, 2005-2006

Subject	Number of Students	Mean Score	Subject	Number of Students	Mean Score
		(Range is 200-800)			(Range is 200-800)
Biology E	91	679	French	16	598
Biology M	36	714	Mathematics Level I	111	647
Chemistry	100	694	Mathematics Level II	110	736
Chinese Listening	8	783	Spanish	25	654
English Literature	49	623	Spanish Listening	5	654
English Writing	26	667	US History	106	676
			World History	5	634

## Advanced Placement Test Scores - 2006

	Test Scores*	No. of Scores
375 ABRHS juniors & seniors took 728 exams in Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, English Literature & Composition, Environmental Science, European History, French, German, Music Theory, Physics, Psychology, Spanish, U.S. History	5	379
	4	240
	3	85
	2	21
	1	3

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

## National Merit Scholarships

(Class of 2006)  
Semi-Finalists - 6  
Letters of Commendation - 49

## MCAS Test Scores, Spring 2006

combined "Proficient" & "Advanced" level percentages\*

	Eng./L.A./Reading	Math	Science
Grade 3	81%	69%	-----
Grade 4	78%	71%	-----
Grade 5	89%	78%	79%
Grade 6	93%	83%	-----
Grade 7	90%	77%	-----
Grade 8	95%	80%	63%
Grade 10	94%	92%	-----

\*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 on reverse side).
- 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 \$1.3 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.
Thursdays	12:15 p.m. dismissal
Conant, McCarthy-Towne & Merriam	9:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Thursdays	1:00 p.m. dismissal

### 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.*  
Elizabeth Huber, *Director of Pupil Services*  
Sharon Summers, *Director of Finance*

## ACTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

John Ryder, *APS Chairperson*  
Marie Altieri  
Jonathan Chinitz  
Michael Coppolino, *AB Chairperson*  
Terry Lindgren  
Sharon Smith McManus

## A-B SCHOOL COMMITTEE

All Acton members plus the following  
Boxborough members:  
Brigid Bieber  
Rebecca Neville  
Bruce Sabot