

# UXBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Department of Pupil Personnel Services  
“Minimizing Obstacles, Maximizing Opportunities...  
For Every Student!”

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## Monthly Report – April 2008

### Overview of Activities

- The Department of Pupil Personnel Services is responsible for the following activities throughout the month of April: prepare yearly reports, post vacancies after budget approval, recruit new faculty/staff, implement MCAS supports for May assessment(s), prepare contracts/bids for next year, plan extended year programs, and advertise/promote outreach to the community of Uxbridge, Massachusetts.
- The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has recently released the New Special Education Notice of Procedural Safeguards. The latest version of the Safeguards can be found on the Uxbridge Public Schools PPS website front page at: [http://www.uxbridgeschools.com/pupilservices\\_default.shtml](http://www.uxbridgeschools.com/pupilservices_default.shtml)
- The USEPAC Special Education Conference was held on April 5, 2008 at the Taft Elementary School from 8:30a.m. until 1:30p.m.

### Subject Activities

Throughout the month of April, the Director of Pupil Personnel Services met with Uxbridge Public School service providers in the areas of special education, English language education, 504 compliance, nursing and guidance/wellness.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to be an active member of the Administrative Team meeting process twice per month.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services attended out-of-district IEP meetings in the following communities: Franklin, Attleboro, Harvard, and Southbridge, Massachusetts.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to examine the special education budget on a monthly basis - in cooperation with the School Business Manager and Superintendent of Schools.

The Department of Pupil Personnel Services continues to work in partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Education in the area of grant writing as a means of improving programs and services for ALL students.

### Professional Development Activities

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to offer department support in the areas of relicensure guidance/technical support – so that Uxbridge Public Schools special education faculty/staff remain current in the ever-changing laws of the Commonwealth. This technical support

and guidance is offered throughout the academic year in partnership with the Department of Education and Framingham State College.

The Assabet Valley Educational Collaborative is providing a leadership workshop series on maintaining compliant programs and services in the delivery of English Language Education. Members of the administrative team are actively participating in this workshop series.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to participate in the Blackstone Valley Educational Collaborative Regional monthly meeting for special education programs and services as well as ELL Low Incidence Districts Support Group – as a means of remaining current with local, state and federal legal mandates.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services is participating in a full year federally funded Department of Education Special Education Leadership Academy for New Administrators.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education hosted an Office of Special Education Programming Indicator Focus Group Task Force Meeting on April 1, 2008 at the Courtyard Marriott in Westborough, MA.

The Council for Exceptional Children National Conference took place in Boston, MA. from April 2-5, 2008. The Director of Pupil Personnel Services attended all four days of this informative conference.

On April 8, 2008, the special education team chairs participated in a DOE sponsored conference call to address questions they had around the newly released Specific Learning Disability Evaluation/Eligibility Criteria.

On April 11 & 18, 2008, the Department of Pupil Personnel Services sponsored through the use of a grant a workshop series on Keys to Literacy. This two day training took place at the Whitin Middle School and involved regular education and special education teachers in grades 5 -8. Subsequent follow up sessions are in the planning stages for the month of June 2008 – after MCAS.

On April 12, 2008, the Director of Pupil Personnel Services along with a team of Uxbridge Public Schools' administrators and teachers - attended a day long professional development series on Gifted and Talented Education.

The newly formed Professional Development Team met on April 28, 2008 with the primary focus of planning professional development activities for faculty and staff for the 2008-2009 academic year.

### **PAC Reports**

The website for the Parent Advisory Council has been updated and contains numerous items of interest, and support materials for families of children with disabilities. To access this website, go to: [http://www.uxbridgeschools.com/pupilservices\\_pac.shtml](http://www.uxbridgeschools.com/pupilservices_pac.shtml)

The Uxbridge Public Schools Parent Advisory Council continues to expand its “Lending Library” for Parents/Families with exceptional children. Anyone interested in adding/borrowing an item from the lending library can come to the Central Office location, Suite 207, of Town Hall.

The USEPAC Special Education Conference was held on April 5, 2008 at the Taft Elementary School from 8:30a.m. until 1:30p.m.

On Tuesday, May 6, 2008, from 7 – 9 p.m., the communities of Mendon-Upton, Hopedale, and Uxbridge, MA. will be holding a Basic Rights Workshop at the Miscoe Hill Middle School Library/Media Center in Mendon, MA. The USEPAC in conjunction with the Department of Pupil Personnel Services will be sponsoring Mrs. Ann Ferioli of the Federation for Children with Special Needs, to speak at this event.

Tentatively, the next meeting of the Uxbridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at 7p.m. in the library of the Whitin Middle School.

### **General Department Information**

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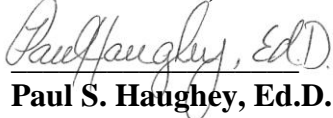
[http://www.uxbridgeschools.com/pupilservices\\_default.shtml](http://www.uxbridgeschools.com/pupilservices_default.shtml)

### **Upcoming Events**

On Thursday, May 1, 2008, Uxbridge Public School students will be participating in the Special Olympics Track & Field Meet at North Attleboro High School from 9a.m. – 2p.m.

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**Administrator,**

  
**Paul S. Haughey, Ed.D.**