

MGH Institute of Health Professions Aims to Improve Pupils' Literacy Skills and Health at Boston Elementary School

Partnership strengthens existing relationship between the graduate school and the K-5 public school.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES, March 29, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- BOSTON – [MGH Institute of Health Professions](#) and Harvard-Kent Elementary School in the Charlestown neighborhood of Boston have created a formal partnership intended to improve pupils' literacy skills and health while increasing opportunities for MGH Institute graduate students to learn about the needs of elementary school children.

The collaboration will strengthen the existing relationship between the Boston health sciences graduate school and the K-5 public school. For the past several years, students from the MGH Institute's speech-language pathology program have done clinical rotations at the Harvard-Kent, assisting pupils with reading skills.



(L-R) Robert Consalvo from Boston Public Schools, MGH Institute President Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Harvard-Kent Principal Jason Gallagher, and state Rep. Dan Ryan celebrate the creation of the partnership between the two schools.

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For Harvard-Kent Principal Jason Gallagher, developing a stronger association with the MGH Institute is welcomed. “This partnership recognizes the importance of what the MGH Institute can do to help our students become better learners,” he said. “We’re very excited about it.”

Other anticipated benefits of the partnership include impacting the health and well-being of the Harvard-Kent community, and building an educational bridge that serves the Charlestown

and Greater Boston community. To assist in this effort, the Institute announced it will hire a part-time

coordinator to oversee the various activities and look for new opportunities in which the schools can collaborate.

“Partnerships like these are the glue that holds our schools together,” said Robert Consalvo, chief of staff for Boston Public Schools Superintendent Tommy Chang. “It’s crucial that the Institute is willing to invest in Harvard-Kent to bring it to new heights. It’s what makes our schools and the city of Boston so strong.”

Dr. Emily Zeman, an instructor of occupational therapy at the MGH Institute, during the past year has taught mindfulness techniques to many Harvard-Kent teachers and pupils. Dr. Joanna Christodoulou, an assistant professor of communication sciences and disorders, led a summer literacy program in 2017 that she will continue this summer using a grant from the school department. Also, for the past several years, Harvard-Kent has hosted students during the IHP’s annual Community IMPACT Day of service, while the graduate school has made several donations of books, games, and other supplies.

“The MGH Institute is a great resource for the community, and this is an example of what it does,” said state Representative Dan Ryan, whose district includes Charlestown. “This partnership will help to break down the walls in communities by teaching the next generation of learners.”

About MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston

Team-based care, delivered by clinicians skilled in collaboration and communication, leads to better outcomes for patients and clients. That’s why MGH Institute of Health Professions makes interprofessional learning a cornerstone of all its programs. Approximately 1,600 students at its Charlestown Navy Yard campus learn and collaborate in teams across disciplines as they pursue post-baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral degrees in nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, speech-language pathology, health professions education, and rehabilitation sciences. The interprofessional learning module extends to hundreds of hospital, clinical, community, and educational sites in Greater Boston and beyond.

Founded in 1977, the MGH Institute is the only degree-granting affiliate of Partners HealthCare, New England’s largest health provider, and is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Several programs are highly ranked by U.S. News & World Report. For the past four years, the IHP has been named to the Honor Roll in The Chronicle of Higher Education’s “Great College to Work For” annual survey, and has been named a Great College for eight consecutive years.

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