



open circle®

getting to the heart of learning<sup>SM</sup>

# NEWSLINE

Fall, 2007

a program of the Wellesley Centers for Women, with support from Roche Bros. Supermarkets, Inc.

## Circles of the Heart

By *Kristen Handricken, Ed.M., Director*

I am honored and excited to begin this journey with you as the new Director of the Open Circle Program at the Wellesley Centers for Women at Wellesley College. Circles are amazing phenomena. They are overlapping and ever expanding. Circles seem to come around again and link together in an endless web, invisible yet tangibly connected. And here, they are *always* open.

Approximately 20 years ago my mother Linda Handricken became a second grade teacher at the age of 44, adding to an already long list of incredible accomplishments. *"Why start anything so new, so challenging, so late in life?"* so many people asked her at the time. Her answer was clear; of all things important in life *teaching and learning* were sacred. She believed deeply that neither could be fully achieved outside a circle of love. Love for self, for others, the environment, the world. It was her life's calling. She was a brilliant woman and inspiring role model who opened circles of learning, and circles of the heart everywhere she went and in whose footsteps I strive daily to walk. Had she not passed away in June of 2006, this September would have marked her 21<sup>st</sup> year in the classroom.

Also twenty years ago, just a few circles out, Pamela Seigle, another amazing woman, counselor, educator and mother answered a slightly different call. That call was to *support* the teaching and learning environments in school classrooms through inclusive and open dialogues that build community and strengthen the social and emotional bond between students, their peers and the adults who care for them. This is what Pamela considered *the heart of learning*, and what grew to be the Open

Circle Program. My mother, Linda, connected deeply with this idea, becoming an Open Circle teacher and forever after a staunch advocate and fan of the program. My mother and Pamela never met but their circles intertwined.

For the next 20 years, Pamela Seigle and her dedicated staff led Open Circle to new heights in the worlds of Social Emotional Learning and Elementary Education, achieving recognition as a program of excellence locally and nationally. Pamela then took another huge leap of faith. Following her love of supporting and nurturing teachers, she created Courage and Renewal Northeast. Her departure from Open Circle was a loss as well as an opportunity. Opening the circle yet again, the program embarked on a yearlong director search and our circles came together.

Marilyn Ferguson once said, *"It's not so much that we are afraid of change or so in love with all the old ways, but it is that place in between that we fear... like being between trapezes."* This is exactly where Open Circle has been for the past year, hanging midair between bars. I fondly call this "the tension of suspension" and they have lived that tension beautifully, trusting the momentum of what came before to be the catalyst that propels them into the future. During this challenging period Needham-based consultant Kim Comart skillfully served as Open Circle's Interim Director, providing steady and insightful leadership to the program. I would like to extend to Kim a passionate and heartfelt thank you for keeping things running smoothly and helping staff maintain that midair suspension without



falling or losing momentum. Open Circle never missed a beat in its work of training and serving teachers and schools and the program has continued to grow and mature. Kim – for all of that and more, we are eternally grateful.

So here we are with our hands firmly on the trapeze bar, swinging into the next 20 years of Open Circle! With an abundance of recent research in education, science and neurobiology supporting the need for educational initiatives that more deeply serve the social emotional learning and development of young people, Open Circle is poised for growth. It is a privilege to lead the incredible team of staff and advisory board members that make up the Open Circle Program. It is an equal honor to join the esteemed scholars, researchers and faculty of the Wellesley Centers for Women. Finally, it is exciting to link my circles in the fields of Education, Public Health, Community Development, Social Emotional Learning, and Peace and Justice with those of Open Circle and the Wellesley Centers for Women. Together we will strengthen collaborations and forge new partnerships within and across these groups as well as outward from them.

Drawing from the brilliance, faith, passion and courage of the Pamelas and Lindas of the world I look forward to a bright and exciting future for Open Circle. I invite you to contact me, say hello, share insights and pose questions as we move ahead. I can be reached via email at [khandric@wellesley.edu](mailto:khandric@wellesley.edu). Together we will continue opening circles and supporting *the heart of learning* everywhere that we can!

## Growing the Circle: From 6 Teachers to 7,000

In 1987 Pamela Seigle, a former teacher and school psychologist, came to the Stone Center to direct an action-research project with six teachers from two of the most diverse schools in Framingham, MA. The teachers, anticipating difficult classes the following year, took a leap of faith and signed up to pilot what was then described as a “coping skills” program. Using the Quality School Life curriculum developed in Michigan, they collaborated to help young school children develop critical communication, self-control, and problem-solving skills and develop caring classroom environments. The program soon evolved into a whole school approach, involving other school staff and parents, and over the course of two decades developed into the current Open Circle Program.

Initial funding came from Grace and Robert Stone, founders of the Stone

Center at the Wellesley Centers for Women (WCW), who were committed to the importance of prevention programs to address emotional problems. Robert Stone, in particular, hoped that one of the Center’s projects would involve working with children in school settings.

A year later, generous support from Roche Bros. Supermarkets, Inc. and Pat and Barbara Roche then enabled the work to expand to other schools and communities. Over the first five years, a number of additional people joined on to help design and conduct teacher trainings, including 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Betsy Nordell and Pamela’s friend and school colleague Cathy Pastan (see *Cathy’s article below*), who continue to work at Open Circle today. Jean Krasnow and Kathy Stone Kaufmann, also involved since almost the beginning,

are now both members of the Open Circle Advisory Board.

In 1987 only a few months after the initial pilot began, early results (later confirmed by several research studies) were so encouraging that Robert Stone wrote, “We all...dream about successfully disseminating nationally your good work.” Our program’s focus on building deep long-term relationships within schools led us to concentrate in nearby areas in New England and parts of New York and New Jersey. We have now trained more than 7,000 teachers and reached over 400,000 students. Open Circle’s impact is felt even more widely as a leading social and emotional learning (SEL) program, at the forefront on topics including program sustainability and the links between SEL and new teacher retention.

## Reminiscing: 20+ Years of Joy from a Somewhat Older Open Circler

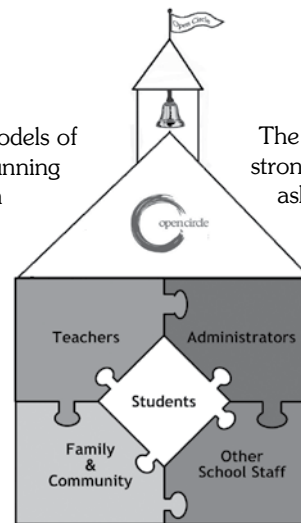
By **Cathy Pastan**

My part in this history started over slurping a Tab and listening to *Walk Like an Egyptian* while running like a harried mother/teacher to the mailbox to get the day’s letters (written exchanges of friendly information requiring in those days a 24-cent stamp). Buried in the stack was a flyer inviting the Winn Brook School community to hear Dr. Robert Brooks talk about increasing self-esteem in children. I followed up by sending for a curriculum he recommended that sounded promising. It focused on creating a community of learners while teaching and reinforcing social skills.

So my good friend and school psychologist Pamela Seigle and I tried out the curriculum in our friend Judy Shannon’s un-gelled 2nd grade classroom at the Hunnewell School in Wellesley. Pamela had already been thinking about social emotional learning and supporting teachers to facilitate classroom meetings but for me it was my first awareness that social skills, particularly problem-solving skills, could be taught and learned. We soon offered the “Blue Book” of creative problem solving and

experimented with different models of implementation. I helped by running a problem-solving radio station and a kid patrol of playground problem solvers.

In 1987, Pamela moved to the Stone Center at Wellesley College, while I remained at the Wellesley schools but we soon reconnected. Pamela and other colleagues and friends were developing a social and emotional learning curriculum. We began training a few teachers, then more teachers, and then a lot more teachers. Our staff grew and grew and grew to support the increased volume of work. The Stone family believed a program like ours (initially the Framingham Schools Project, then the Reach Out to Schools Program, and then the Open Circle Program) would be good for Wellesley College and good for children as we reached out beyond the walls of the Stone Center.



The Roche family believed so strongly in our work that they asked each of the *Roche Bros.* department heads in Wellesley to visit a classroom and join a circle. The company even printed *Reach Out to Schools* grocery bags! I wish I could remember each and every step of the way and everyone who passed through the fourth floor of the Stone Center, before and after it became part of the Wellesley Centers for

Women. I wish I could recall all the faces who participated in our many and varied programs. I learned so much from you. I do know that everyone who contributed to our program thought, and we still think, that Open Circle makes an important difference for children, teachers, and school communities. I know that Open Circle made a huge difference to me and made me different in so many ways. Here’s to another 20 years!

# LITERATURE CONNECTIONS UPDATE – Stories that Get to the Heart of Relationships

By **Peg Sawyer**

*“Jessie rested the book on her stomach and stared at the ceiling. People were confusing. She’d rather do a hundred math problems than try to figure out someone else’s mixed-up feelings, any day of the week.”*  
– from *The Lemonade War*, by Jacqueline Davies

Figuring out other people’s feelings and dealing with relationships – especially in a school setting – can be complicated for both children and adults. The following books examine some positive and negative dynamics in relationships. Whether you share these stories with children during morning meeting, read-aloud time, or as part of an Open Circle meeting, you and your students will have a rich, shared experience from which to launch discussions about how we treat one another.



*“I felt a little sick to my stomach when I said it. But only for a minute, because Rolinda smiled a big welcome-to-my-club smile...”*

*Our Friendship Rules*, by Peggy Moss and Dee Dee Tardiff. Tilbury House Publishers, 2007. (Picture Book, Grades 2-3)

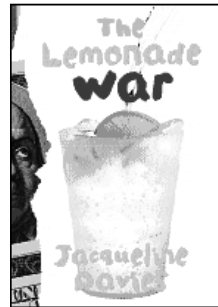
When Alexandra betrays her friend’s confidence in order to win the admiration of the new girl at school, she breaks one of the major rules of friendship. Using the authentic format of a young girl’s journal, the author weaves together the concepts of friendship, emotionally destructive behavior, and reconciliation. This story invites students to reflect on and write their own guidelines for being a friend.

*“It’s golden because it’s so valuable and because it’s a way of living your life that’s so simple. It shines.”*



*The Golden Rule*, by Ilene Cooper. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2007. (Picture Book, Grades K-5)

A boy and his grandfather discuss the meaning of the Golden Rule, a concept that goes to the heart of maintaining strong relationships, and preventing bullying. Grandfather describes the many versions of the Golden Rule in different religions and cultures, from Christianity, to Hinduism, to the Shawnee tribe.

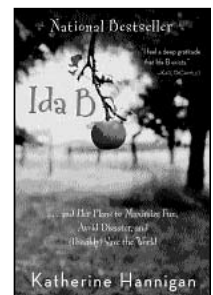


*“People tell you things, Evan had told her once, with their hands and their faces and the way they stand. It’s not just what they say. You gotta pay attention, Jess. You gotta watch for the things they’re saying, not with their words.”*

*The Lemonade War*, by Jacqueline Davies. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2007. (Fiction, Grades 3-4)

Evan struggles in school, but he has good instincts when it comes to people. His younger sister, Jessie, is a math whiz, but has to work hard to make friends. When Evan learns that Jessie is skipping a grade and has been placed in his fourth grade class, he is humiliated and upset. In an effort to prove his superiority over his sister, Evan challenges Jessie to a lemonade-stand competition. When their friends are drawn into this “Lemonade War,” anger, miscommunication, jealousy, and betrayal cause emotions to blind a brother and sister to their deep feelings of loyalty towards each other.

*“Because I’ll tell you something about myself: I believe good plans are the best way to maximize fun, avoid disaster, and, possibly, save the world. I spend a lot of my time making them.”*



*Ida B. ...and her plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster and (Possibly) Save the World*, by Katherine Hannigan. Scholastic Inc., 2004. (Fiction, Grades 4-5)

Ida B. Applegate is creative, energetic, and optimistic. Despite all her positive traits, she can’t avoid disaster. When her mother’s illness brings about difficult changes in Ida’s life, her heart feels like it “turns to a sharp black stone...hard enough so nobody could break it and so sharp it would hurt anybody who touched it.” Over time, the love of her parents, and the support and care of her insightful teacher help to heal her broken heart, and she accepts the hand of friendship extended to her by her new neighbor.

# New Faces at Open Circle!

## Nova Biro

### Director of Finance and Operations



Nova brings more than ten years of finance, technology, marketing and general management experience from the nonprofit and corporate

sectors to her role at Open Circle. Most recently she worked as a consultant providing financial, marketing and website research and analysis to several Boston area nonprofits and schools. Prior to that she worked in product management at Yahoo, co-founded an Internet startup, and worked as a strategy consultant at Gemini Consulting.

Nova earned her MBA and a Certificate in Public Management at the Stanford Graduate School of Business and also holds bachelor's degrees in Finance and Computer Systems from the University of Pennsylvania. She is the proud mother of twin 4-year-old girls, who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2008 at the Hardy School in Wellesley, one of the first schools to implement Open Circle.

"I am thrilled to be part of a program aimed at helping children be successful, and I look forward to helping Open Circle grow its reach and impact in the coming years."

## Michele Cunningham

### Trainer and School Consultant



Michele graduated from the Ada Comstock Program at Smith College and taught for two years at the Smith College Campus School. She then moved

to Westport, Connecticut where she taught third grade for 12 years. The Westport schools embraced Open Circle as well as Responsive Classroom, and Michele worked on a committee that blended these two approaches into a workable social skills program for the district.

Four years ago, Michele moved back to Massachusetts. Since then she has worked for Lesley College and the University of Massachusetts, teaching and supervising in their Masters in Education programs, as well as with the Northeast Foundation for Children, teaching Responsive Classroom workshops.

Most recently Michele accepted a long term substitute position in Shutesbury, MA, the town where she presently lives, teaching a combined first/second grade class. "It was fun and challenging to get back into the classroom and continue honing the skills I had been teaching others. I believe it was the focus on community and social emotional skills that enabled me to create a smooth transition for this group of kids."

Michele is the mother of two grown boys, enjoys the outdoors and yoga, and is very eager and excited to begin working at Open Circle this fall.

## Lina Dodge

### Student Employee



Lina joined Open Circle in June as a Student Employee. Originally from Mexico City, Lina has been living in the Boston area for four years. She is a senior

and Davis Scholar at Wellesley College, majoring in International Relations and Economics. Lina has a strong interest in international development and thinks that education is a critical tool in promoting it, especially with programs like Open Circle.

## Barkley Shafer

### Billing Coordinator & Administrative Assistant

Barkley brings to Open Circle 13 years of experience in administrative support at the Wellesley Centers for Women (WCW). Her involvement with the Work, Families and Children



studies at WCW has given her a broad understanding of the research and action necessary to secure change in the lives of children and families. Her past projects at the WCW include the Boston After-School Experiences Study, NICHD Study of Early Child Care and Youth Development, and Massachusetts Early Care and Education and School Readiness Study. Barkley has also worked with the WCW Project on Teasing and Bullying, the Project on Sexual Harassment in Schools, and with WCW's Development Office.

In her role at Open Circle, Barkley assists program administrators and operations staff and serves as billing coordinator for the program. "Being the parent of two Open Circle students, I am thrilled to be part of a program that brings out the best in young students and their teachers to ensure a positive learning environment."

## Meredith Shaw

### Trainer and School Consultant

Meredith originally became involved with Open Circle through her work as a fourth and fifth grade teacher in the Newton Public School



System. She was trained in Open Circle in her own classroom. Later, Meredith became a consulting teacher (supporting her colleagues with the program) and an Open Circle trainer in her own community. She left the classroom to begin a family and is the proud (and tired) mother of two youngsters, aged 4 and 2. Meredith recently joined our staff as a part-time trainer and consultant. "I am thrilled to be working with Open Circle again, training and coaching teachers in their work on social and emotional learning."

# Upcoming Training Opportunities

## Specialists Introductory Workshop

The Specialists Introductory Workshop is for teachers of special education, art, music, foreign language, physical education, and health in schools that actively use Open Circle. This one-day workshop provides an overview of the Open Circle Program, an understanding of Open Circle concepts and vocabulary, and a discussion of specific ways specialists can use these tools to enhance their own work and connect with grade-level teachers.

The three sessions options are **Friday, November 16, 2007; Thursday, February 14, 2008; or Friday, February 15, 2008.**

All sessions will occur from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Wellesley College Club. The fee for this program is \$150 and includes one day of training, one Specialist Resource Guide, and continental breakfast and lunch.

**Registration and payment by check or purchase order must be received by November 9, 2007 for the November session or February 7, 2008 for either of the February sessions.**

## Parent Program Leader Training for School Counselors

The Parent Program Leader Training is for mental health professionals in schools that actively use Open Circle. This training program meets for three afternoons and prepares these professionals to lead a five-week Parent Program that familiarizes parents and caregivers with the social and emotional vocabulary, skills, and approaches that their children are learning in Open Circle classrooms. The Parent Program helps families support the use of Open Circle skills at home – adapting and extending Open Circle approaches into techniques for effective parenting.

The next three-part training series will occur on **Thursday, February 7, 2008; Thursday, April 10, 2008; and Thursday, May 15, 2008** from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Stone Center Solarium at Wellesley College. Attendance at all three trainings is mandatory. The fee for this program is \$400 and includes three afternoons of training and consultation, one Parent Program Leader Manual, two training videotapes and 15 Parent Program workbooks. **Registration and payment by check or purchase order are due by January 24, 2007.**

**For more information or to register for these programs, visit our website at [www.open-circle.org](http://www.open-circle.org). Questions? Contact Training Coordinator Heather Gallant at 781-283-2847 or [info@open-circle.org](mailto:info@open-circle.org).**

## Open Circle Newsline

*Newsline* is published in the spring and fall by Open Circle, a program of the Wellesley Centers for Women. We warmly welcome contributions of articles and photographs from teachers, students, parents and others in school communities.

Open Circle is a comprehensive, grade-differentiated social and emotional learning program for grades K-5 children, their teachers, administrators, other school staff, parents and other caregivers. Our mission is to work with school communities to help children become ethical people, contributing citizens and successful learners. By helping schools implement Open Circle, we foster the development of relationships that support safe, caring and respectful learning communities of children and adults.

Recognized as a leader in addressing social and emotional learning in schools, Open Circle is listed in the U.S. Department of Education Expert Panel guidebook of Exemplary and Promising Safe, Disciplined, and Drug-Free Schools Programs and has been designated as a "Select" program by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning. Open Circle has trained more than 7,000 teachers and reached over 400,000 students in public, independent, parochial, urban, suburban, and rural schools in New England, New York and New Jersey.

For more information about the *Open Circle Curriculum* or training for teachers, administrators, parents or other school community members, visit [www.open-circle.org](http://www.open-circle.org).

Open Circle  
Wellesley Centers for Women—STC  
Wellesley College  
106 Central Street  
Wellesley, MA 02481-8203  
Phone: 781-283-3277  
Fax: 781-283-3717  
Email: [info@open-circle.org](mailto:info@open-circle.org)  
Website: [www.open-circle.org](http://www.open-circle.org)

## Make a Difference for Children — Donate to Open Circle Today

Open Circle relies on contributions from individuals like you to sustain our important work. Program fees cover only half of our costs. We hope you will use the enclosed contribution envelope to make a generous gift to Open Circle today. With your support, we can reach out to more schools and serve more children and families. Thank you!



## OPEN CIRCLE STAFF

### **Nova Biro**

Director of Finance and Operations

### **Marilyn Buckler**

Parent Program Trainer & Consultant

### **Meenakshi Chhabra**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Ellen Cohen**

School Consultant

### **Michelle Cunningham**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Jennifer Dirga**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Lina Dodge**

Student Employee

### **Sallie Dunning**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Heather Gallant**

Training Coordinator

### **Kristen Handricken**

Director of Open Circle

### **Nancy MacKay**

Training Director

### **Lynn Margolis**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Betsy McCarthy**

School Consultant

### **Betsy Nordell**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Cathy Pastan**

Consulting Director

### **Erica Plunkett**

Administrative Assistant

### **Peg Sawyer**

Literature Specialist & School Consultant

### **Barkley Shafer**

Administrative Assistant

### **Meredith Shaw**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Anita Silverstein**

Trainer & School Consultant

### **Carol Van Cleave**

School Consultant

### **Jim Vetter**

Director of Programs

### **Linda Wolk**

School Consultant

## Community-Based Trainers

### **Nancy Carey**

Franklin

Franklin

### **Marie Jutkiewicz**

Framingham

Framingham

### **Sally Benbasset**

Charlotte Klein

Leslie Skornick

Newton

## Other Interesting Events

### **Mix It Up at Lunch Day**

**November 13, 2007**

*Mix It Up at Lunch Day* offers a simple call to action: take a new seat in the cafeteria. By making the move, students can cross the lines of division, meet new people and make new friends. Open Circle schools have participated in the past, making connections with Open Circle ideas of getting to know one another and valuing differences. Visit [www.tolerance.org/teach/mix\\_it\\_up](http://www.tolerance.org/teach/mix_it_up) for information, free resources, and a mini-grant application.

### **Choosing to Participate Exhibition**

**January 20 – May 20, 2008**

Open Circle is a community partner with the *Facing History and Ourselves* program as their *Choosing to Participate* multimedia exhibition returns to the Boston Public Library. *Choosing to Participate* showcases difficult choices made by four communities and individuals confronting racial and ethnic prejudice. Exhibit themes tie to Open Circle concepts and lessons, including the importance of recognizing discrimination and speaking up. For more information, visit [www.choosingtoparticipate.org](http://www.choosingtoparticipate.org).

### **No Name-Calling Week**

**January 21 – 25, 2008**

*No Name-Calling Week* is an annual week of educational activities aimed at ending name-calling of all kinds and launching an ongoing dialogue about ways to eliminate bullying in our school communities. For information and free resources, including elementary level lesson plans and suggested literature connections, visit [www.nonamecallingweek.org](http://www.nonamecallingweek.org).

### Open Circle Funders

Open Circle is a program of the Wellesley Centers for Women at Wellesley College and was originally made possible through a founding gift from Grace W. and Robert S. Stone.

Roche Bros. Supermarkets, Inc., and Patrick and Barbara Roche are sustaining funders.

Our thanks to all the generous individuals and foundations that have supported Open Circle this year:

The DuBarry Foundation

E. Franklin Robbins Charitable Trust

Seth A. & Beth S. Klarman

Open Circle's Advisory Board

Vanderbilt Family Foundation

### Open Circle Advisory Board

as of September 1, 2007

Janet Coleman, Chair

Susan Bear

Sheldon Berman

Patricia Byrne

Ellen Cohen

Loretto Crane

Robert Evans

Janice Jackson

Kathy Stone Kaufmann

Donna Knight

Jean Krasnow

Barbara Roche

Patrick Roche

Rick Roche

Gary Smith

Chris Stokes

Richard Warren



# Schools Using Open Circle In 2007-2008

We would like to recognize the 266 schools in 93 communities in the Northeast that will use the *Open Circle Curriculum* in their classrooms this year. A warm welcome to the 10 schools new to Open Circle, noted by asterisks (\*).

**Massachusetts**

- Acton, MA**  
Merriam School\*
- Andover, MA**  
Bancroft Elementary School  
Henry C. Sanborn School  
High Plain Elementary School  
Shawsheen School  
South Elementary School  
The Pike School  
West Elementary School
- Arlington, MA**  
Brackett Elementary School  
Cyrus E. Dallin Elementary School  
Hardy Elementary School  
John Bishop Elementary School  
Peirce Elementary School  
Stratton Elementary School  
Thompson Elementary School
- Ashland, MA**  
Pincushion Hill Montessori School
- Attleboro, MA**  
Studley Elementary School
- Bedford, MA**  
Davis School
- Belmont, MA**  
Winn Brook School
- Beverly Farms, MA**  
Glen Urquhart School
- Billerica, MA**  
Parker School
- Blackstone, MA**  
John F. Kennedy Elementary School
- Boston, MA**  
Conservatory Lab Charter School  
Everett School  
Horace Mann School  
Kingsley Montessori School  
Lee Academy Pilot School  
Lee School\*  
Lucy Stone School  
Phineas Bates School  
William E. Russell School  
William Monroe Trotter School
- Bridgewater, MA**  
Burnell Campus School  
George H. Mitchell School
- Brookline, MA**  
Runkle School
- Cambridge, MA**  
Cambridge Friends School  
Maria L. Baldwin School
- Carlisle, MA**  
Carlisle School
- Concord, MA**  
Alcott School  
Barn Cooperative Nursery School  
Carousel Preschool  
Concord Children's Center  
Concord Public Integrated Preschool Program  
Milldam Nursery School  
Thoreau School  
Willard Elementary School
- Danvers, MA**  
Great Oak School  
Highlands School  
Ivan G. Smith School  
Riverside School  
Willis E. Thorpe
- Dedham, MA**  
Dedham Country Day School
- Dover, MA**  
Chickering School

- Dunstable, MA**  
Swallow Union School
- Easton, MA**  
Center School  
F. L. Olmsted School  
H. H. Richardson School  
Moreau Hall School  
Parkview School
- Essex, MA**  
Essex Elementary & Middle School
- Fairhaven, MA**  
LeRoy L. Wood  
Saint Joseph's School
- Framingham, MA**  
Barbieri School  
Blocks Preschool  
Brophy School  
Charlotte A. Dunning School  
Hemenway School  
McCarthy School  
Potter Road School  
Saint Tarcisius School  
Stapleton School  
Woodrow Wilson School
- Franklin, MA**  
Davis Thayer School  
Gerald M. Parmenter Elementary School  
Helen Keller Elementary School  
J. F. Kennedy School  
Jefferson School  
Oak Street Elementary School
- Groton, MA**  
Florence Roche Elementary School  
Prescott School
- Harvard, MA**  
Harvard Elementary School
- Holbrook, MA**  
John F. Kennedy School  
South Elementary School
- Holliston, MA**  
Fred W. Miller Elementary School  
Sam Placentino Elementary School
- Hopedale, MA**  
Memorial School
- Lakeville, MA**  
Assawompset Elementary School  
Austin Intermediate School
- Lexington, MA**  
Bowman School  
Bridge Elementary School  
Fiske Elementary School  
Harrington School  
Joseph Estabrook School  
Maria Hastings School
- Lincoln, MA**  
Hanscom Middle School
- Longmeadow, MA**  
Heritage Academy
- Lowell, MA**  
McAvinnue Schools
- Mansfield, MA**  
Jordan/Jackson Elementary School  
Robinson Elementary School
- Medfield, MA**  
Memorial School  
Whealock School
- Medway, MA**  
Burke School  
John D. McGovern Elementary School  
Memorial Elementary School
- Millis, MA**  
Clyde Brown School
- Millville, MA**  
Millville Elementary School

- Milton, MA**  
Thacher Montessori School
- Natick, MA**  
Bennett-Hemenway School  
Brown School  
Johnson School  
Lilja Elementary School  
Memorial School  
Natick Montessori School  
The Eliot Montessori School
- Newburyport, MA**  
River Valley Charter School
- Newton, MA**  
Angier School  
Bowen Elementary School  
Brimmer & May School  
Burr School  
Cabot School  
Countryside School  
Franklin Elementary School  
Horace Mann School  
John Ward School  
Lincoln-Eliot School  
Mason-Rice Elementary School  
Memorial Spaulding School  
Peirce School  
Rashi School  
The Chestnut Hill School  
Underwood Elementary School  
Williams School  
Zervas Elementary School
- Norfolk, MA**  
Freeman-Centennial School  
H. Olive Day School
- North Attleborough, MA**  
Allen Avenue School
- North Reading, MA**  
Batchelder School  
E. Ethel Little School  
J.T. Hood School
- Northborough, MA**  
Marion E. Zeh Elementary School
- Norwell, MA**  
South Shore Charter Public School
- Norwood, MA**  
Balch School  
Callahan Elementary School  
Cleveland Elementary School  
Oldham Elementary School  
Prescott Elementary School  
Willett Elementary School
- Quincy, MA**  
Wollaston School
- Randolph, MA**  
Charles G. Devine Early Education Center  
Donovan School  
John F. Kennedy School  
Lyons Elementary School  
Martin E. Young School
- Raynham, MA**  
L. B. Merrill School
- Reading, MA**  
A. M. Barrows School  
Birch Meadow School  
J. Warren Killam Elementary School  
Joshua Eaton School  
Wood End School
- Sandwich, MA**  
Forestdale School
- Scituate, MA**  
Cushing Elementary School  
Hatherly Elementary School  
Jenkins Elementary School  
Scituate Early Childhood Center  
Wampatuck Elementary School

- Sharon, MA**  
Striar Hebrew Academy
- Sherborn, MA**  
Pine Hill School
- Somerville, MA**  
Benjamin G. Brown School  
Cummings School  
East Somerville Community School  
Healey School  
J F Kennedy School  
Lincoln Park Community School  
West Somerville Neighborhood School  
Winter Hill Community School
- Southborough, MA**  
Albert S. Woodward Memorial School  
Fay School  
Margaret A. Neary School  
Mary Finn School
- Stoneham, MA**  
Central School\*  
South School
- Sudbury, MA**  
General John Nixon School  
Israel Loring Elementary School  
Josiah Haynes School  
Peter Noyes School
- Taunton, MA**  
East Taunton Elementary School  
Edmund Hatch Bennett School  
Edward F. Leddy School  
Elizabeth Pole School  
H. H. Galligan School  
Hopewell School\*  
Joseph C. Chamberlain School
- Uxbridge, MA**  
Taft Elementary School
- Waltham, MA**  
Bartlett School  
Douglas MacArthur School  
James Fitzgerald Elementary School  
Jonathan Bright Elementary School  
Northeast Elementary School  
Saint Jude School  
Stanley Elementary School  
T.R. Plympton Elementary School  
Whittemore School
- Wareham, MA**  
East Wareham School  
Ethel E. Hammond Elementary School  
Minot Forest School
- Watertown, MA**  
St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School
- Wayland, MA**  
Claypit Hill School  
Happy Hollow School  
Loker School
- Wellesley, MA**  
Fiske School  
Hunnewell School  
John D. Hardy School  
Katharine Lee Bates School  
Schofield School  
Sprague Elementary School  
Upham School
- Westborough, MA**  
Armstrong Elementary School  
Fales Elementary School  
Hastings Elementary School
- Weston, MA**  
Country School  
Field School\*  
Meadowbrook School  
Woodland School

- Westwood, MA**  
Deerfield School  
Downey School  
Martha Jones School  
Paul Hanlon School  
Sheehan School
- Whitinsville, MA**  
Northbridge Primary School  
W. Edward Balmer School
- Winchester, MA**  
Lincoln Elementary School  
Lynch Elementary School
- Worcester, MA**  
Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School  
Columbus Park Preparatory Academy  
Seven Hills Charter Public School
- Wrentham, MA**  
Charles E. Roderick\*  
Frederick J. Delaney\*
- New Hampshire**
- Dover, NH**  
St. Mary Academy
- Exeter, NH**  
Seacoast Charter School
- Portsmouth, NH**  
Dondero Elementary School
- New Jersey**
- Califon, NJ**  
Califon Elementary School  
Tewksbury Elementary School
- Emerson, NJ**  
Memorial School  
Patrick M. Villano School\*
- Franklin Lakes, NJ**  
Colonial Road School  
High Mountain Road School  
Woodside Avenue School
- Montclair, NJ**  
Watchung Elementary School
- New Milford, NJ**  
Solomon Schechter Day School  
Bergen County
- Paterson, NJ**  
Charles J. Riley School No. 9
- Ridgewood, NJ**  
Hawes Elementary School  
Orchard School  
Ridge School  
Somerville School  
Travell School  
Willard School
- Upper Saddle River, NJ**  
Edith A. Bogert Elementary School  
Reynolds Elementary School
- New York**
- Buffalo, NY**  
Charter School for Applied Technologies
- Jericho, NY**  
Solomon Schechter Nassau
- White Plains, NY**  
Solomon Schechter Westchester
- Rhode Island**
- East Providence, RI**  
The Gordon School
- Portsmouth, RI**  
Elmhurst Elementary School  
Howard W. Hathaway\*  
Melville Elementary\*
- Providence, RI**  
Jewish Community Day School of RI

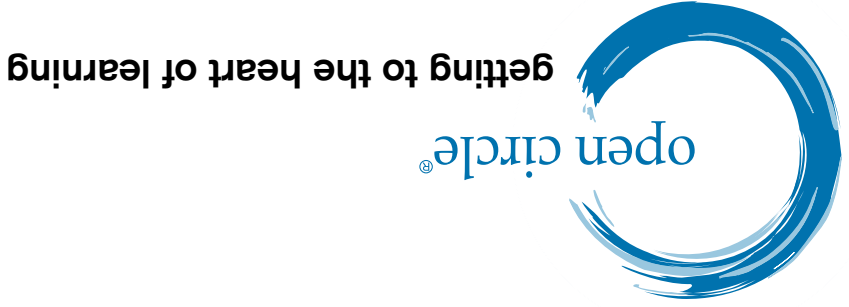
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### ***Inside this Issue:***

- **Circles of the Heart – a Message from our New Director**
- **Reminiscing 20+ Years of Joy from a Somewhat Older Open Circler**
- **Stories that Get to the Heart of Relationships – a Literature Connections Update**
- **Upcoming Training Opportunities**
- **And more!**



### ***Moving?***

***Have you moved?  
Changed schools?  
Have a new phone number  
or email address?***

### ***Contact us!***

***These updates are crucial  
to keeping you informed of  
Open Circle trainings, special  
events and announcements.  
Please send updates to  
info@open-circle.org.***