

# MANS&C QUARTERLY

Massachusetts Association of Nonprofit Schools and Colleges

20 Newton St.

Brookline MA

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www.mansac.org

WINTER 2009

## Meet Your Legislators, Hear Noted Senator at MANS&C Day



Sen. Panagiotakos

Members and guests will have the opportunity to talk with their state legislators and hear an address by State Sen. Steven C. Panagiotakos at MANS&C Day at the State House on April 30. The event will be held in the building's historic Great Hall.

Panagiotakos is chairman of the powerful Senate Ways and Means Committee and is one of the state's most influential political leaders. The Lowell Democrat is a graduate of Phillips Academy in Andover and has a long

history of community and political involvement, particularly in education.

Registration for MANS&C Day will begin at 10:45 a.m. Starting at 11 a.m., guests will be able to visit their senators and representatives

in their State House offices. Panagiotakos will speak at a luncheon at noon that will include a performance by students of Walnut Hill School, an arts high school in Natick. Tours of the State House will be offered after lunch.

Students are welcome to attend with guests and to join the meetings with legislators.

"In these difficult economic times, it is imperative that we sit down with our state legislators and share our concerns," MANS&C Legislative Counsel John J. Spillane said. "MANS&C Day offers us the unique opportunity to explain how the economic downturn is affecting our members, the impact our institutions have in their local communities and how we can continue to assist our communities during these mutually challenging economic times."

To make reservations for MANS&C Day, please contact Julaine McInnis at [jmcinnis@walnuthillarts.org](mailto:jmcinnis@walnuthillarts.org) or 508-650-5015.

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## Start Planning Now to Help Your Local Communities, Senator Warns

"We are at an economic crossroads that will have a major impact on our communities, the state budget and your schools," State Sen. Harriette L. Chandler told MANS&C members and guests at a Jan. 21 meeting at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester.

Painting a stark picture of state and national fiscal problems, she urged nonprofit schools and colleges to share their financial concerns with state and local legislators and to immediately begin planning how to help shoulder their communities' heavy financial burdens.

According to the veteran legislator, in addition to transportation, ethics and pension reform, legislators this session will be considering new ways to allow communities to boost revenue. For nonprofit schools and colleges, this will include payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs), taxes on endowments and changes to the Dover Amendment.

"Everything is on the table," Chandler said. "This time, it's not going to go away."

Indicating the need to be "frank and forthright," she urged nonprofit schools and colleges to begin conversations "yesterday" with local officials and state legislators.



Left to right, Sen. Chandler, Bruce T. Amsbary, Julaine McInnis and John J. Spillane

"The dialog has to begin, because you have some angry forces at the city and state level and they're looking at your endowments. Don't wait until there is a bill before a committee," she added. "You can't just play a defensive game. You have to start thinking of what the opportunities are."

## PRESIDENTS' LETTER



"Everything is on the table." With those few words, State Sen. Harriette L. Chandler gave us a clear picture of what nonprofit schools and colleges will be facing on Beacon Hill in the coming weeks.

Due to the current financial crisis, our endowments and our Dover Amendment rights are in danger, and payments in lieu of taxes are a very dark cloud on the horizon.

Sitting back and waiting to see what happens next is not an option.

We agree with Sen. Chandler that each of us must have a frank conversation with our state legislators. They must be made aware that our institutions also are bearing the brunt of rising health premiums, increasing energy costs and so on in these challenging times. And they must understand the consequences that PILOT programs and taxes would have on the vast array of economic and social benefits we provide to our communities and the state.

On April 30, MANS&C Day at the State House will offer you the opportunity to have those conversations. Members and guests will have the chance to meet with their senators and representatives in their offices, tour the State House and hear from another influential political leader; State Sen. Steven C. Panagiotakos, chairman of the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

This is a rare and very important opportunity for us to make our voices heard by the people who will have a direct impact on the future of our institutions.

You also can help us advance the interests of nonprofit schools and colleges by completing the MANS&C Economic Impact Survey. Most of us have the required information readily available, and entering the data online is quick and easy. The compiled data will be an invaluable tool for our very capable legislative counsel, John J. Spillane, as he represents our institutions at the State House.

Articles in this newsletter and our Web site, [www.mansac.org](http://www.mansac.org), will provide you with more information about MANS&C Day and the Economic Impact Survey.

We are looking forward to seeing you at MANS&C Day on April 30 and to receiving your completed Economic Impact Survey. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either one of us or any board members at any time.

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*Sen. Chandler cont. from page 1*

Chandler, assistant vice-chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, said legislators are overwhelmed with public school issues and may consider nonprofit schools and colleges wealthy. She acknowledged that nonprofit institutions also are suffering from the national economic downturn, but added that state and local officials may not realize this.

"We need a better understanding of your situation and how you might begin to help," she said.

"And you can't just tell us once," Chandler added. "You have to tell us over and over again. Every year, remind us. Remind us of your 30,000 students."

She advised nonprofit institutions to first assess how they can best assist their communities, such as by offering the use of their facilities, tutoring or assisting in public school gifted and talented programs. They also should schedule legislative luncheons and invite state legislators and local officials to their campuses.

A Democrat, Chandler represents part of Worcester and several surrounding towns. She noted that in Worcester, WPI created the Mass. Academy of Math and Science, adding, "We need to replicate that across the state, and [your institutions] are perfect for that."

She pointed to indications that Massachusetts is in year one of a three-year economic downturn, adding, "You can only imagine what it will be like in two years."



## Economic Impact Survey is Underway

Members are being urged to fill out the new Economic Impact Survey, which will provide MANS&C with crucial data on the economic importance of nonprofit schools and colleges in Massachusetts. The information will help MANS&C advance the cause of our institutions in the state legislature.

It is important to note that the data will be presented only in aggregate form. The results from each individual school or college will be kept strictly confidential.

Members who have not already responded can take the survey by going to [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=lrK4H1uZ576umLBJZ\\_2bQqmQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=lrK4H1uZ576umLBJZ_2bQqmQ_3d_3d). Gathering the data and entering it online takes less than half an hour.

If your school or college creates an annual Community Impact Statement, please mail it to:

Bruce T. Amsbary and Julaine McInnis  
Co-Presidents  
Massachusetts Assn. of Nonprofit Schools and Colleges  
c/o The Rivers School  
333 Winter St.  
Weston, MA 02493-1040

If you would prefer to e-mail your Community Impact Statement to us or if you have any questions, please contact us at:

Bruce T. Amsbary, [b.amsbary@rivers.org](mailto:b.amsbary@rivers.org), 339-686-2221  
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# Brooks School Makes Major Economic and Social Contributions Locally



Brooks School has a proud history of economic and social contributions to North Andover and the surrounding communities that dates back to its founding.

The school's first headmaster, Frank Davis Ashburn, held a seat on the local School Committee for decades and helped shape curriculum and policy. He also spearheaded a number of initiatives that benefited the school and the town.

Today, Brooks School continues to provide major economic and social contributions to North Andover and the surrounding towns:

- In 2008 the school made purchases of more than \$350,000 from North Andover businesses and more than \$2.3 million from area vendors and contractors.
- Students, visiting parents, alumni and employees annually spend more than \$100,000 in North Andover.

The school also pays for many town services it receives:

- In 2008, it paid \$24,000 for trash hauling fees and \$140,000 for water and sewer.
- The school and its campus residents paid \$7,500 in local excise tax to North Andover in 2008.

In addition to its faculty and staff members living on campus, the school employs 110 residents of North Andover and neighboring communities. Its employees paid Massachusetts \$396,000 in state income tax in 2008, a portion of which is paid back to North Andover by the state.

Brooks School also is a major contributor to civic and community organizations:

- In 2008 the school donated a \$12,000 construction bond back to North Andover, which the town will use to fund this year's July 4th celebration.
- In 2006 the school made a gift of cash equivalent to the cost of two cruisers to North Andover Police Department.
- Gift certificates toward two-week summer camp sessions are regularly donated to raffles to benefit local churches and other community groups.
- Two hours of ice time each Sunday evening in the Brooks Rink are provided free of charge to North Andover Parks and Recreation in skating season.
- In the past four years, the summer camp swim-a-thon has raised \$36,300 for charity, including the Red Cross of the Merrimack Valley Disaster Relief.
- Fitness room equipment was donated to the Lawrence Housing Community Club in the winter of 2006.
- Cash donations are made annually to the North Andover Fire Department and Lawrence General Hospital.

This year, while 12 Brooks School faculty children attend local public schools, 37 North Andover students attend Brooks. This results in a net saving of \$194,000 to the town.

Brooks School provides need-based scholarships worth \$2.27 million to 21 percent of its student body, including many from North Andover and other towns in the area.

## Intangible Benefits

In addition to the financial benefits, Brooks provides important intangible benefits to the community that make it a more attractive place to live and have a positive impact on housing values.

The school preserves extensive open space and wetlands, and protects almost a half-mile of shoreline on Lake Cochichewick, the town's reservoir, from development. The Brooks summer camp program provides fun for hundreds of area youngsters, and the swim and tennis club is available to local residents during the summer.

## Use of Facilities

Brooks School also lends its facilities to a long list of sports teams for free or extremely reduced rates, including the local high school varsity basketball team, Boosters Basketball, the North Andover Little League, and a wide range of soccer, squash, basketball, rowing and lacrosse programs.

The Robert Lehman Art Center welcomes the general public and invites groups from nearby nursing homes to visit its many exhibits throughout the year.

A variety of community and civic organizations also benefit from the community spirit of the Brooks faculty and staff. One staff member is a volunteer and founding member of the Clean River Project, which is working on the cleanup of the Merrimack River. A faculty member founded a town youth lacrosse program.

## Faculty & Students

Other faculty and staff members serve as wrestling and lacrosse coaches, Girl Scout and Cub Scout leaders, Red Cross instructors and basketball referees for community groups. One faculty member coaches a creative problem-solving team at a local public school; another runs a soup van for Lazarus House.

Brooks students also understand the importance of community service.

Student groups regularly raise money for Lazarus House Ministries, Esperanza Academy, the MSPCA, the Northeast Animal Shelter and the Lawrence Girls' and Boys' Club.

Brooks students conducted a food drive for a North Andover food pantry and donated \$300 to the pantry this fall. They also helped establish a computer literacy program for senior citizens that now meets weekly on the Brooks campus for tutoring by students.

Brooks students visit nursing homes, sing for local groups, volunteer at a therapeutic riding program for children and adults with disabilities and raise money for a variety of charities.

Every week Brooks students visit several programs in Lawrence, including the Boys and Girls Clubs, Bellesini Academy Charter School and Esperanza Academy, where they assist with homework, teach basic academic skills, provide constructive support and serve as role models for the children.

# MAN&C

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## REGISTER TODAY!

MAN&C Day  
April 30, 2009  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Great Hall, State House

To register, contact Julaine  
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