BECOME A WESTON/METCO FAMILY FRIEND

Making new friends is great!

What is METCO?

METCO (Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity) is a state-funded, voluntary desegregation program. The Weston/METCO Program enrolls 158 Kindergarten through Grade 12 students each year. Over 30 other Massachusetts towns participate in the METCO program. Since 1967 the Boston and Weston communities have worked together to support three major goals:

* To provide local contacts for Boston students in the event of an emergency.

* To increase the cultural breadth of experience for Weston children.

* To provide a quality, integrated education for urban children of color in suburban schools.

What is the Family Friends Organization?

Weston/METCO Family Friends organization is made up of Boston and Weston families who share a commitment to educational opportunity and diversity.

Under the program, each Boston student who enters the Weston Public Schools is paired with a Weston student. Throughout the school year, the Weston/METCO office organizes a variety of activities that support Family Friends' relationships.

Look for current happenings and achievements of Boston students in the Habari Gani publication and at www.westonschools.org/admin/metco.

How Do We Participate?

There are two levels of participation for the program:

- Weston families provide local contacts for Boston students in the event of an emergency.

- Participate in activities such as after school field trips, play dates, Kindergarten lunch and potluck supper.

Hopefully, Boston and Weston families will participate on both levels. Please indicate on the sign up form if you are only interested in being or having just an emergency contact. Each spring, families are given an opportunity to renew their relationship for the coming school year or to make a change.

How Can I Become A Family Friend?

Families may volunteer by calling the Weston/METCO office at 781-529-8036 or by filling out this form.

Most of the Family Friends pairing is done in the Fall, and the Weston/METCO office tries very hard to pair students who are of the same gender and in the same homeroom (for younger or newer students).

Weston families who are not paired with a Boston family will hopefully still participate in Family Friends activities.

Family Friends Activities

The following are some of the events and activities sponsored by Family Friends:

Kindergarten Lunch Boston kindergartners invite their Weston Family Friends to stay after school, have lunch, and share in a planned activity.

Stay and Go Days Children can participate in occasional after school field trips to Boston and Metro-West locations.

Annual Family Friends Potluck Supper
Families join together to celebrate the Weston/METCO program.

For more information about the Weston/METCO Family Friends program, please contact the office at 781-529-8036.

Weston/METCO Family Friends Sign-Up Form

Child's Name_____School_____

Grade ___ Homeroom Teacher_____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Parents(s) Name(s)_____

e-mail address_____

Check here if you interested in having/being an emergency contact only.

Please return this form to:

Weston/METCO Program, 444 Wellesley Street, Weston, MA 02493

Questions? (781) 529-8036