Panel of Experts to Discuss Engaging Families to Improve Children’s Literacy

November 8, 2012 -- In Massachusetts, 39% of third graders are not proficient readers, according to MCAS results of the 2012 MCAS. Performance in reading on the third grade MCAS has remained stagnant since 2001, when 38% of third graders scored below proficient in reading. Among children from low-income families, 60% are not proficient readers.

To help address this problem, Strategies for Children is launching a five-part series of events on research-based strategies to improve the language and literacy development of children from birth to age 9. The events feature on-the-ground examples of implementation of the recommendations in “Turning the Page: Refocusing Massachusetts for Reading Success,” which Strategies for Children commissioned in 2010 from Nonie Lesaux, Ph.D., a nationally recognized expert in literacy at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

The first event in the series – Leading the Conversation: Turning the Page – will focus on family engagement and family literacy and feature a panel of experts on the topic.

Leading the Conversation: Turning the Page

What: Family Engagement and Family Literacy

When: Tuesday, November 13, 9:30-11 a.m.

Where: Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge

Who: The event features Dr. Karen Mapp and Joan Kelly of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Maryellen Coffey of Build the Out-of-School Time Network (BOSTnet), Theresa Lynn of ReadBoston, and parents Tanisha Harris and Francheska Reveroin of Springfield.

Future events in the series will focus on professional development, program design and impact, assessment and curriculum.

Strategies for Children and its Early Education for All Campaign work to ensure that children in Massachusetts have access to high-quality early education and become proficient readers by the end of third grade. Read our blog, Eye on Early Education. Find us on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter. View us on YouTube.