

Dorchester Reporter

“The News and Values Around the Neighborhood”

April 14, 2016



Educators win plaudits— (front row, l-r: Tommy Chang, Superintendent BPS, Melissa Sanjeh, Dorchester Academy Headmaster; Marsha Girault-Macias, Clinical Coordinator at Dorchester Academy, Laura Perill, CEO EdVestors. Back row: Michael O’Neil, Chair BPS Committee, Rahn Dorsey, Chief of Education City of Boston, Wendell Knox, Chair Governing Board, EdVestors.

Dot Academy, ABCD win Phil Gordon Legacy Award

Dorchester Academy’s Restorative Justice initiative won a \$50,000 prize from the non-profit Edvestors at the initiative’s Urban Education Showcase on Monday in Boston. Dorchester Academy, along with eight other schools-based projects, received seed funding of \$10,000 each from EdVestors last year.

The school won the \$50,000 Phil Gordon Legacy award, which recognized the school’s Restorative Justice ap-

proach as an important school improvement effort that helps level the playing field in education.

Organized in concert with Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), and in partnership with Suffolk University, the Restorative Justice project trains faculty, staff and students to resolve small and large conflicts among students. It is meant to address a rate of school suspensions that was three times the district

average.

“The School Solutions Seed Fund cohort allows EdVestors to hear directly from frontline educators about overcoming challenges that are slowing progress in schools and to invest in effective approaches to support student learning,” said EdVestors CEO Laura Perille. “The schools and nonprofits in the 2016 Seed Fund are showing us the way forward in urban public education.”