



## CITY OF MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Margaret Adams, Ed.D.  
*Director of Literacy & Title I*

Patricia Fish, M.E.  
*Family Involvement Coordinator*

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200 Pleasant Street Malden, MA 02148    Tel. (781) 397-7332    Fax: (781) 397-7276    Email: [madams@malden.mec.edu](mailto:madams@malden.mec.edu)

July 30, 2011

Ms. Stacey Ellsworth  
Office Administrator  
Families First Parenting Programs, Inc.  
99 Bishop Allen Drive  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms. Ellsworth,

I am writing to let you know how pleased we were with the presenter who recently came to our Parents' Academy workshop for the Malden Public Schools. This was our first experience with Families First, and the parents that attended were engaged throughout the evening as the speaker, Beth Fredericks, addressed many issues on the subject of "Love and Limits". The audience consisted of parents of students of in kindergarten through grade 4. Beth was very organized and created a relaxed and non-intimidating atmosphere. Many parents responded by sharing stories of their own, and conversations were shared among parents with similar situations.

As a result of the Love and Limits presentation, several parents requested that we begin our own parent group in order for them to continue the types of conversations they were having and to support one another in their efforts to improve their parenting skills. This monthly program that we will operate on our own will begin in September and should be very helpful to many parents.

The population in Malden is made up of many cultures representing over 45 languages so our programs need to be presented by speakers who are friendly and open and can make them feel at ease. Beth succeeded, and it was obvious by the responses of the parents that discipline problems, large and small, are universal. We are very careful to select programs that work for this multicultural group, and this program was a big success.

In organizing the Parents' Academy programs for the Malden Public School parents for the 2011-2012 school year, we are asking Families First Inc. to provide the presentations for several of the workshops. We know that their expertise in the areas of discipline, communication in families, sibling rivalry, and other areas can provide the workshops that will help parents with the problems they face in their families.

Thank you again for providing this service for our families.

Sincerely,

Pat Fish  
Parent Coordinator, Title I  
Malden Public Schools